

# The Branch

–February Meeting & Luncheon–  
Join us at 11 a.m. on Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>  
at TT Golf & Country Club  
RSVP to Dot by Wed. NOON 2/11/09

## The National League of American Pen Women, Inc. Tampa Branch #88

Volume 9, Issue 2 February 2009

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## President's Corner

We are so happy to welcome Melinda Albritten into our branch as a prospective new member. We are waiting on her certificate approval from national but I am sure it will come soon. Keep seeking qualifying prospects and invite them to our meetings.

We already have March and April workshops booked. It has been suggested we continue the workshops through the summer and I will get your feedback on that at our February meeting. We are so fortunate to have so many willing members to share their talents with each other. We learn something new and get to know each other better at the same time.

As national planning chair, I presented three pages of proposals for the short and long term to help make the Pen Women have more continuity between administrations. The national board accepted all of them. A couple of the proposals have been taken by the publication committee so they are already being set into motion.

I attended the Florida State Association Council meeting last Saturday where plans were made for the state conference. It will be in Sarasota this fall and will have a circus theme. I hope we will have some of our members go since it isn't that far from here. Start writing, painting, and composing so you will be ready to enter the contest that is always offered.

Hope all that were ill are well on the road to recovery. I visited with Minnette yesterday. She is planning on going home today (Monday). Her daughter came from WY to help with the transition. She has good color in her face; however, she still says she is very tired. I can't imagine why. I think she thought she would be ready to swim three laps in the pool in less than a minute by now! Get well everyone. We need you back with us.

*Meletha*



### Digital Camera Workshop – February 27<sup>th</sup>

This will be a six-hour interactive workshop by Gainor Roberts. You will be “using your camera, putting your pictures into the computer, and maneuvering them around.”

**Date:** Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>

**Tentative time:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (includes 4 hrs of computer lab time)

**Bring:** a digital camera, a notebook, and a bag lunch.

**Location:** 4537 Lowell Road, Tampa, FL 33618

**Center phone:** 813.269.1310

[www.carrollwoodcenter.org](http://www.carrollwoodcenter.org)



Gainor contacted the *Carrollwood Cultural Center* about using their classroom plus a computer lab for four hours. The lab fee is \$45 per hour – it will be approximately \$15 to \$18 per person if 10 to 12 members participate. They are offering us a great deal, plus Gaynor is donating her expertise.

**Please call Meletha to enroll (813) 685-1675.** Confirmations are needed to finalize with the Center.



## Pen Women News

**34th International Exhibit of the Miniature Art Society of Florida** opened January 18th at the Dunedin Fine Arts Center. This juried show will run until February 8th. Tampa Branch Pen Women exhibiting are Judith Johnson, Meletha Everett, Virginia Holloway, and Angela Santos. Our Georgia friend, Yvonne Crissey, also has four paintings in the exhibit.

Carlene, Judy, Melinda, Peggy, and Meletha worked the miniature show on Friday. It takes a lot of volunteers to put this show together and do the sales during the show.

**Caroline** McKeon bought a painting from Mary Ellen O'Brien – a gorgeous happy sun that is now smiling down on her living room! She also has picked up two new website design jobs.

As the State Treasurer for Florida Pen Women, Caroline attended the 2-day Council Meeting in Ormond Beach and reports that her room was RIGHT SMACK DAB on the ocean! Awesome!

**Judy** Freeman is participating in the Westchase Artists Society Show, *For the Love of Art*. Ten artists from the W.A.S. are exhibiting their work in clay and photography. Everyone's invited to the opening reception with lots of goodies to eat and enjoy.

**Opening Reception:** Meet the Artists, Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>

**Tentative time:** 7 to 9 p.m.

**Location:** 4537 Lowell Road, Tampa, FL 33618

**Phone:** 813.269.1310 [www.carrollwoodcenter.org](http://www.carrollwoodcenter.org)

Two of Judy's teapots have been accepted into the Mad Hatter's Tea Party in West Palm Beach. The opening is February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Armory Art Center.

Plus some of Judy's work will be part of the Artisan Gallery show at the Woman Made Gallery in Chicago, IL. The show is called *Whimsicality*. I think the shoe fits!

**Judith** Johnson was awarded Judge's Second Choice at the 34th International Exhibit of the Miniature Art Society of Florida with her oil on ivory painting "Frutta e Verdure Fresche." (This is the second highest award in the show; 823 pieces of artwork are on exhibit.) She was also honored with a Life Membership.

**Meletha** Everett judged an Art Club exhibition. Meletha's website is up and running and she invites you to check it out – [www.Melethaeverettart.com](http://www.Melethaeverettart.com).

Meletha has two paintings in the Florida International Exhibition.

**Melinda** Albritton is coordinating an upcoming watercolor workshop.

**Watercolor Workshop on March 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Watercolor artist:** Ken Austin; view [www.kenaustinartist.com](http://www.kenaustinartist.com) to view Ken's work and read more about his workshops.

**Location:** Old Hyde Park Art Center, 705 Swann Ave.

**Class limit:** 15 students

**If interested:** call Melinda at 813 681-1131 or email her at [apache403@verizon.net](mailto:apache403@verizon.net)

**Wksp fee:** \$50 per person for this one-day workshop payable by February 21<sup>st</sup>

**Mail payment to:** Brandon League of Fine Arts, P.O. Box 451, Brandon, FL 33509-0451

**Nelida** Dilorenzo reports that she is busier than ever at this time of the year with art classes, the opening of the new Gallery in Dade City, and taking care of workshops for the Zephyrhills Art Club which hosts many wonderful activities.

## Photos from The Tampa Branch Meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>

Marcia Wilson's presentation focused on setting positive intentions for our creative work in 2009.



Carol's shoulder was tender, so Marcia gave her a few minutes of Jin Shin Jyutsu healing energy.



Marcia explained that one part of her vision circle this year is gratitude. "I want to focus on the great clients I have, and how grateful I am for that . . . Speak gratitude. Be grateful. Focus on gratitude."

### Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>

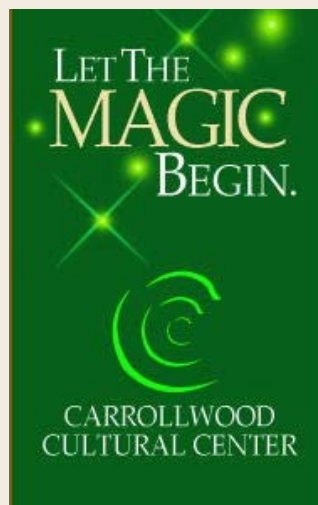
**Program guest speaker:** Debora M. Coty; writer and author; visit: [www.deboracoty.com](http://www.deboracoty.com)

"A Writer's Journey" Debora will share her story and lots of tips on getting published. Humorous and informative – for writers and aspiring writers. Be sure to invite guests!

Debora Coty was Barbara Routen's guest last September. Barb says's –"she's funny, very animated, and has a lot of writing wisdom to offer."



*Sassy is the purrfect camera model!*



**Tampa Branch Pen Women present – Digital Camera Workshop on February 27<sup>th</sup>**

**RSVP to Meletha** to enroll in this six-hour workshop conducted by Gainor. Call Meletha (813) 685-1675 or email [artwiz2000@aol.com](mailto:artwiz2000@aol.com).

Bring your camera (or borrow one), a notebook, and a bag lunch. Gainor will share her expertise and you'll go home with new skills and ready to create great photos!

The **Tampa Branch of the NLAPW** meets the third Tuesday of each month from September through May. Location: Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club, 200 Inverness Avenue, Temple Terrace, FL 33617

We gather at 11 AM to socialize and our meeting starts promptly at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is \$7.50 per person. Please join us and bring a guest. Reservations are requested by the Thursday prior to the meeting.

## NLAPW Tampa Branch Minutes

January 20, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Meletha Everett at 11:38 a.m., Jan. 20, at the Temple Terrace Golf and Country Club. (The meeting took place at the same time as the President Barack Obama's inauguration, and only 13 women attended the meeting.)

Meletha called the New Year a time for new ideas, beginnings, new directions, ways of being creative, friendships, and members. The food was blessed, allegiance to the flag pledged, and a moment of silence held in memory of member Antonia Robbins who recently passed away. Prospective member Melinda Albritton was introduced.

Meletha announced Staci Backauskas's offer to fill the first Vice President position left vacant by Judy Freeman. "Staci's a dynamic individual," said Meletha. "With her on the board, she'll push us forward and present fresh, new ideas."

There will be a NLAPW-Tampa Branch exhibit in January 2010 at Center Place Fine Arts and Civic Association, 619 Vonderburg Drive, Brandon. Meletha suggested hanging framed poems and pictures on walls, placing books and other written pieces in cases, and displaying copies of members' books for sale on tables the day of the reception. **ACTION: Produce new work for the exhibit!**

Gainor Roberts will present a digital photography workshop in February: date, time, place TBA. (Thank you, Gainor!) Get-well cards were signed (and sent) to Minnette Webster, Susan Weilbacher, and Virginia Halloway. Hopefully all are now feeling better.

On each table a *Table Topics* placard asked, "How and where do you get ideas to create your project, story, or painting?" Members were asked to share and learn from each other.

From her recent trip to the NLAPW in D.C., Meletha, National's planning committee chairwoman, brought back a copy of the first book published by the Pen Women Press, *Happy Birthday, Mr. Lincoln: A Commemorative Collage*. It was just released for purchase. Meletha participated in an inner-city childrens' program called Martha's Table. NLAPW was the guest cultural organization for January.

NLAPW will honor women who have been members 30, 50 and 60 years or more at the 2010 Biennial Convention April 7-11, 2010, at The Peabody Little Rock (hotel) in Little Rock, Arkansas.

National is sponsoring a membership contest. The branch that brings in the most new members for this administration will receive \$100. **ACTION: Invite women to join! Get the word out about who and what we are!**

Carlene Earl won the 50/50, \$5.50. Melinda Albritton was voted into the branch. Welcome, Melinda! The meeting ended at 12:02 for lunch and *Table Topic* discussions.

Marcia Wilson's presentation focused on setting positive intentions for our creative work in 2009.

Barbara Routen, Secretary

### ~ REMINDER ~

#### February 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting & Luncheon

Please join us for our February meeting and luncheon. Debora M. Coty will share her writing wisdom.

**Date:** February 17<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club

**RSVP by NOON on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>**

Dot Setlow: 813-238-0127 or [d3dbyrd@hotmail.com](mailto:d3dbyrd@hotmail.com)



Brigitte Mailahn

#### February & March Birthdays (B) & Anniversaries (A)

2/3	B	Miriam Vidal
2/5	B	Pat Tully
2/29	B	Lenny Freeman
3/18	B	Dee DeVane
3/20	B	Carlene Earl