

The Branch

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

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Website & Yearbook: Caroline McKeon

–Summer break–
Stay connected and
continue to email Shirley
your summer news!



Our New President

Meletha Everett and Tanya



Beginning Next Month

~ Interviews with our "Birthday Ladies" ~
The goal is to get to know one another better – share a little something that we might not know about your other interests and activities.

Event Reminder

Minnette Webster's show of students' work, **Beauty Behind the Bars**, will be held at Center Place for the month of July.

Opening Celebration

Date: Sunday, July 13

Time: 3:30 to 5:50 PM.

NOTE: Donations to AOE for inmate art supplies will graciously be accepted. These artists may not sell their work; however, after the exhibit adoptions of artwork will be available for a donation to AOE.

Meletha Everett and her sidekick, Tanya, begin our sharing for this issue . . .

Meletha had a busy time at the Biennial conference in Alexandria, VA. She hand lettered all the name tags because they were an odd size and wouldn't fit the holders. She had most of them done before the conference; however, people kept showing up so on she went.

Those of you who were at our May 20th meeting had an opportunity to see the beautiful ring she won in a raffle prize at the Biennial. While she was at the conference she toured the Pen Arts building and played the antique grand piano that FSA financed its restoration.

She was asked to write and deliver the proclamation but fell short on time so the National Parliamentarian wrote it and Meletha delivered the message to close down the convention.

Meletha has been accepted into Cambridge, England Who's Who registry of executives, professionals and entrepreneurs for the 2008-2009 edition.

Finally, she is busy working on the Everett reunion. If you have ever worked on a reunion, you know there is a lot of work getting it organized, planning the agenda and program set up, working with the family booklet. She has included information on each member and their families in her booklet. She also included stories told over the years which are in the back of the booklet.



What's Up in Art, Music, and Letters

Our Artists create, teach, and more . . .

Brigitte Mailahn received an award with the Brandon League of Fine Arts member show "From the Heart," from the Bay Area Cardiologists. She will be involved in a new portrait class starting this month at the Life Enrichment Center.

Brigitte is still very busy with the ATC cards which she finds relaxing and motivating. She says the size of the cards are limited to 3 ½" x 2 ½" and they must be sturdy and original. Any media is acceptable. She says anyone can get started with ATCs every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Tampa Realistic Artists at 705 Swann Ave. There is also a monthly swap at TRA. This month's theme is "Landscape/Seascape." The due date to mail or deliver six ATC cards is June 27. Each participant brings 6 cards and receives 5 others back. One card is for sale for the fundraising for renovating the old building, which is now in progress. Brigitte invites calls from anyone with questions.

Robbie Miles will be teaching Oriental Brush Painting (Sumi-e) through Hillsborough Community College Continuing Education program. Her classes begin Saturday, July 12th and run through August 16th. Classes will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the Dale Mabry Campus of HCC in Science Room 115. Cost for the 18-hours of instruction is \$49. For more information or to register, call 253-7980 or go online to www.hccfl.edu. Then click on Campus Continuing Education.

Robbie is a member of a show featuring artists from the Enspirati group at the Centre Club which will run from May to November. The Centre Club is located in downtown Tampa. To learn more about Enspirati and the Global Arts Movement, go online to www.globalartsmovement.org/index.php, "Connecting Cultures Around the World Through Art."

Sheila Blow is enjoying the benefits of repeat business. She has been commissioned by a previous client for a major painting commission this summer. The client loved the octagonal window she painted for him. Now he has enlarged his office space and added four large cathedral ceiling windows (3' x 4') and 4 smaller windows. He has hired Sheila to paint glass panels for each window. The painted panels will be hung on the inside over the existing glass windows and held in place with a molding thus creating a shadow box effect. Lighting will be installed between the exterior and interior painted glass allowing the paintings to be illuminated.

Our Writers write . . .

Caroline McKeon passed the President's gavel to Meletha; however, she will continue to maintain our branch website and yearbook. (And we say, thank YOU!) The term summer vacation isn't in everyone's vocabulary, namely Caroline's. Instead of going on vacation, she has tutored Gainor Roberts in QuickBooks and will soon be teaching her FrontPage™, a Microsoft program used to build internet websites. Still finishing up the 83+ tax returns on which she filed extensions, she also has contracted to build two new websites for referred clients. Summer vacation . . . what's that?

Marcia Wilson has written and optimized the new web content for an elite senior living community right here in Tampa. The site will launch before the end of June. She continues to write their marketing newsletter plus one for Masterpiece Living—a cultural initiative that promotes successful aging.

Shirley Adema continues to write her weekly column for the Beacon as well as her affiliation with numerous other Temple Terrace organizations. We thank Shirley for editing and compiling your monthly news for this column. **Please keep sending your information to Shirley throughout the summer as we continue our branch communications. Email - shirleyadema@verizon.net**

Staci Backauskas has returned full time to her business, *Jai Creations – The Language of Light*. She was chosen as the first blogger on the *Skirt Magazine* website. *Skirt Magazine* is a print publication which began almost 15 years ago in Charleston, SC and is now publishing in Tampa. *Skirt's* web site is www.tampabayskirt.com.

Staci has been working with author, Jan Evans, to promote and market her book ***Repetitive Rhonda***, a children's story about obsessive compulsive disorder. In addition, Staci is compiling a book of Haiku poetry that she is also placing on cards, tee shirts and magnets.

Our May Meeting



Celebrating . . .

we thank our outgoing officers for their leadership, creativity, and devotion. We appreciate all of your contributions!

Pres. Caroline McKeon
1st VP Shirley Adema
2nd VP Eleanore McDade
Sec. Dot Setlow
Treas. Judy Freeman



We welcomed in our 2008-2010 officers:

Pres. Meletha Everett
1st VP Judy Freeman
2nd VP Carol Karow
Sec. Barbara Routen
Treas. Caroline McKeon



Our guest speaker,
Mary DeAmbrose

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, May 20, 2008

The meeting was called to order by president Caroline McKeon at 11:36 AM. After a moment of silent prayer, special prayers were offered for member Minnette Webster and Dee DeVane's daughter Michelle. There was no flag to salute.

Dot Setlow introduced her visitor, Jacqueline San Pedro.

Treasurer Judy Freeman reported a balance of \$1,692.22. She also read a note from our Home bound member Miriam Vidal's husband, who paid her dues. She is aware enough to want to continue, and enjoys those great newsletters we send out.

Last month's minutes stand as emailed.

Old Business: A picture of the quilt square that member Sandra Cameron volunteered to do was passed around. Very appropriate: a rendition of Brigitte's owl from the cover of our year book with an outline of Tampa University in the background. Great work, Sandra!

Meletha Everett gave us a very detailed report of the State Convention in Washington. She was one busy lady, but managed to have some fun, too. The many pictures she took included a tour of the Pen Arts Building – something really worth seeing. She won a raffle (the ring is gorgeous!) She entertained us with a conversation with her "Muppet" style puppet, Tanya. Altogether informative and enjoyable (as Roxanne's pictures will attest).

Marcia Wilson reported that she and Shirley plan to continue the newsletter through the summer, with personal interviews of members – "Snippets" – the better to get to know each other. For instance; Gainor Roberts tutors computer! Yours truly certainly needs to take advantage of THAT!

We broke for lunch while Meletha's great pictures were passed around, and she and Tanya continued to entertain us.

New Business: Mary Ellen O'Brien presented pictures of the architect's rendering of the new Art Museum. To help cover cost, a group called "The Square Foot Society" was formed, selling footage by the square for \$400.00, which would include a 2 year free admission. She then moved that our branch purchase a square foot. Judy Freeman seconded, but after much discussion the motion was defeated. Roxanne then moved that we purchase a quarter of a square foot for \$100.00. This motion was seconded and passed.

Judy then presented gifts to our outgoing president, Caroline McKeon: a necklace, a photo frame, and a special frame that will be signed and will contain a picture of branch members. Posing for the picture was a hoot!

Barbara Routen's sister, Debbi O'Reilly, presented her credentials for membership, and was accepted unanimously. With National's approval we will have yet another writer in our midst.

Our new slate of officers was installed by Shirley Adema;

Pres. Meletha Everett
1st VP Judy Freeman
2nd VP Carol Karow
Sec. Barbara Routen
Treas. Caroline McKeon

The meeting was adjourned and our guest, Mary DeAmbrose, presented a lovely program on how she uses art and music for therapy, relaxation, insights, and breakthroughs. Very exciting!

– Dot Setlow, Secretary

June / July / August Birthdays (B) & Anniversaries (A)

6/1	A	Peggy Little
6/10	A	Carlene Earl
6/20	A	Carol Karow
7/4	B	Brigitte Mailahn
7/8	B	Antonia Robbins
7/17	B	Staci Backauskas
7/25	A	Carolyn Matheny
7/28	A	Susan Weillbacher
7/30	A	Mariam Vidal
8/17	A	Roxanne Tobaison
8/21	B	Val Titus
8/22	A	Val Titus
8/28	A	Claire Gardiner
8/30	A	Antonia Robbins Abbott