

# The Branch

—Next meeting—  
Tuesday  
May 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM  
at the TT Country Club



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

Volume 8, Issue 5 May 2008 [www.flpw.org](http://www.flpw.org)

Editor, Marcia Wilson with Shirley Adema, Roving Reporter

Website & Yearbook: Caroline McKeon

### Our May 20<sup>th</sup> program:

- Installation of officers and
- Our guest speaker—**Mary DeAmbrose**

**Mary DeAmbrose** is both an artist and writer. She recently returned from a seminar in Italy. She has combined colors and music in a unique way that is fascinating. In the past few years, Mary has worked on conferences in the mid-west, bridging science, medicine and spirituality with Dr. Rita Melisanno, Assistant Director of the Trinity Enrichment Center in Iowa.

Mary has also been working with a new project of healing arts at the Oncology Department at the Trinity Hospital that is affiliated with Mayo Clinic. I have personally known Mary over 20 years and have been fascinated with the evolvement of her many talents.

—Shirley Adema

### President's Corner



Having spent two years in her shoes, I can now say I have a greater appreciation for the selfless service of Meletha Everett. I believe she is much more comfortable in the shoes of Presidency than I am.

This has made me realize something about myself: I can better serve an organization behind the scenes than I can as the face and voice behind the microphone. It will be my extreme pleasure to pass the gavel her way on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

It's been a great two years though. While Yvonne Crissey has left us, Eleanore McDade has simply moved to Georgia but remains a Tampa Pen Woman. When I joined Pen Women in 2003, there were two writers in the mix; today we have nine. Certainly I appreciate the outstanding ART talent that surrounds me at our meetings, but it is rather nice to have more wordsmiths now.

### Tampa Branch Pen Women

**Reminder:** our National, State, and Branch dues are payable by **May 15<sup>th</sup>**. Checks are payable to NLAPW (\$40 and \$15).

This year National is processing payments through a lockbox. As a result of this change, please send **two** checks to Judy Freeman—one in the amount of **\$40** for National dues and the other in the amount of **\$15** for State and Branch dues (or \$16 if you want to add \$1 to the Scholarship Fund).

Send two NLAPW checks (\$40 and \$15) to:

Judy Freeman  
8507 Tidal Bay Lane  
Tampa, FL 33635

### Spring happiness . . .



Punkin poses with Susan's beautiful orchids and flowers!

As we break for the summer and welcome in the new administration, just remember ladies: step up to the plate when asked to serve. While the rewards might seem few, the satisfaction is great. I'll see you on May 20<sup>th</sup>!

—Caroline McKeon

*We thank Caroline for two outstanding years of service!*



## What's Up in Art, Music, and Letters

**Brigitte** Mailahn will have a demo on “Window Screen Art” at the May BLFA meeting, May 19th, 7 PM at Center Place—open to the public. She will demonstrate painting on a screen and show how to replace house screens.

**Caroline** McKeon (writer) is designing a website for members of the Clearwater Branch of Pen Women. When completed, the site may be seen at [www.clearwaterpenwomen.com](http://www.clearwaterpenwomen.com). Additionally, she also designed an individual website for Clearwater’s President, Charrie Moscardini. The site can be seen at [www.spoonbillcove.com](http://www.spoonbillcove.com).

During the summer, Caroline will be revamping the website for the FSA/NLAPW. The existing website, designed by Joleen Gonzalez of the Ocala Branch, will remain housed at [www.floridapenwomen.com](http://www.floridapenwomen.com).

**Gainor** Roberts is busy with two shows in the works.

**Judith** Johnson has works on exhibits in four galleries: The Snow Goose Gallery in Bethlehem, PA; El Dorado Gallery in Colorado Springs, CO; Seaside Art Gallery in Nags Head, NC; and Parkland Gallery in Kirkland, WA.

Judith plans to spend the summer working on fall shows and cleaning her studio.

**Marcia** Wilson completed and submitted five writing projects and two design projects in the past three weeks. Her clients are delighted and ongoing projects are progressing nicely. Marcia was asked to be the guest speaker for the Old Hyde Park Art Center evening meeting on Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. She will deliver her PowerPoint presentation *Promoting Yourself and Your Work*.

**Meletha** Everett was juried into the NLAPW art show with “Pears.”

The National Elections Committee met at her house the last of March and counted ballots. Those participating from our Branch were Peggy Little and Judith Johnson. Meletha will be giving the results at the National business meeting at the convention.

Meletha hand printed all the name tags for the National Convention. Since the packet they were to fit into was not a standard size, all tags had to be cut and then hand lettered. Thankfully they are all finished and ready to go.

She exhibited some of her Florida themed art work at the Invitational Nature’s Classroom a few weekends ago. The facility is owned and run by the Hillsborough County School System. She sold three original paintings and some packets of cards—very successful indeed!

**Minnette Webster**’s show of students’ work, *Beauty Behind the Bars*, will be held at Center Place for the month of July. The opening celebration will be Sunday, July 13 from 3:30 to 5:50 PM. Donations to AOE for inmate art supplies will graciously be accepted. These artists may not sell their work; however, after the exhibit *adoptions* of the artwork will be available for a donation to AOE.

**Nelida** DiLorenzo sends greetings from the Andes mountains in the Argentinian Patagonia. She hopes to have photographs to share with us.

**Roxanne** Tobaison will be recognized at an opening reception at the Kotler Gallery (John F. Germany Library), 900 N. Ashley Dr. on May 8 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The solo exhibit, “A Journey Through Florida in Watercolor,” will be on display throughout the month of May.

As a result of this show, Roxanne has been asked by the Hillsborough County Arts Council to use her image, “The Sounds of Music – Historic Tampa Theatre,” on the cover (in color) of the Summer Cultural Calendar.

And the Roxanne beat goes on . . . she is one of eight artists whose work will be on permanent exhibit at the Creative Native Gallery (see page 4 for more info). The Gallery grand opening was the last weekend in April.

**Susan** Weilbacher completed her first nonrealistic painting. (See events for Susan’s Christian Community fundraiser.)

## Our April Meeting - Stampin' with Janet Casto



*Stamping* was a great way to be creative – instantly! Everyone made a card, adding their own flair and expression. Another enjoyable ending to a great meeting!



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.

From our members:

## ~ Saturday, May 3rd Event Opportunities ~



Sat., 7 to 10 PM  
Members - Free  
\$10 suggested donation for non-members

Winthrop Barn Theatre, 11349 Bloomingdale Avenue  
(between Watson & Providence roads)

Music, dance, theatre, and visual arts  
Food, drink, a silent auction, and charming people

For more information: [info@brandonarts.org](mailto:info@brandonarts.org)



Sat., 6:30 PM *"Working together to change the world!"*  
\$45 per person

Christ the King Catholic Church, Mary Martha House Parish Ctr  
821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL 33609

Raising funds to send high school students and adult volunteers to  
Allendale, MS this summer to help repair storm damaged homes.

Featuring: Pipo's Catering and Mainstreet Band  
For more information visit: [www.tampa-action.org](http://www.tampa-action.org)

## NLAPW Tampa Branch Minutes Summary, April 15, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Caroline McKeon at 11:35 AM at the Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club. 18 members were present and our guest speaker, Janet Casto. Our treasury balance was reported as \$1318.94.

Shirley Adema presented the following slate of officers for 2008-2010: Pres. Meletha Everett, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Judy Freeman, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Carol Karow, Sec. Barbara Routen, Treas. Caroline McKeon

There were no nominations from the floor, so Shirley Adema moved that we accept the slate as presented. Mary Ellen O'Brien seconded, and motion was passed unanimously by members present.

**Old Business:** Thanks to Gainor Roberts we now have new name tags—very attractive and legible.

Caroline reminded us of the Quilt project that was started some time ago and is now nearing its deadline. Each branch is to do one square, and **Sandra Cameron** volunteered to do one for ours—and it is due *May 1st!*

**New Business:** Roxanne Tobiason reported on the proposed January 2009 member show at Center Place. The date was found to be unacceptable: members felt it is too close to our Nov. 2007 show, and too close to holidays for adequate planning. There is a great deal of work involved and chairing the event is time consuming—Roxanne is not available to be the chair again. After much discussion it was decided to postpone the event.

The National League of Pen Women has many writers and a great idea has been suggested: publish under the name of *Pen Women Press*. The individual writer would cover her own publishing cost, but using the PW name would be great publicity for the organization as a whole and ease the burden of self-publishing for the writer.

Mary Ellen announced the ground breaking ceremony for Tampa's new Museum of Art on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. (**Note:** more announcements are posted on page 2, *What's Up in Art, Music, and Letters* plus page 3, *Event Opportunities*.)

Our 50/50 was different this time. We had no tickets to sell, so Shirley suggested something new: to enter the drawing, put a dollar and your name tag in a bag, and the name tag drawn is the winner. Worked great, and Caroline won \$9.50 (as did our treasury).

Janet Casto gave an informative, hands-on presentation on "Stamping," a great way to be creative – instantly! Another enjoyable ending to a great meeting. (See photos on page 3)

– Dot Setlow, Secretary



This is the *new* local gallery where **Roxanne Tobiason** is a permanent exhibitor. I thought you would all enjoy knowing a little more . . .

The Creative Native Gallery  
5307 N. Falkenburg Rd, Tampa  
(813) 841-3038

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 AM to 5 PM  
By appointment on weekends.

Ceramic sculptor, Pam Moody, opened the Gallery to have a venue to show her work on a continual basis. She recognizes that it's the colorful palette of nine artists that makes her Gallery a vibrant space.

The renovated bungalow is decorated with art of sculptors, painters, and photographers. The "eclectic collection," as many have coined it, is displayed in every room of the house. Pam welcomes the opportunity to support others and add new artists.

### May / June / July Birthdays (B) & Anniversaries (A)

5/12	B	Shirley Adema
5/15	A	Mary Ellen O'Brien
5/16	B	Carolyn Matheny
5/18	B	Roxanne Tobiason
5/22	B	Carol Karow
6/1	A	Peggy Little
6/10	A	Carlene Earl
7/4	B	Brigitte Mailahn
7/8	B	Antonia Robbins
7/17	B	Staci Backauskas
7/20	A	Carol Karow
7/25	A	Carolyn Matheny
7/28	A	Susan Weillbacher
7/30	A	Mariam Vidal