

Women's National Book Association Inc.

Los Angeles Chapter - The Ultimate Resource for the Book Community

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Don't Forget!

Don't forget to **RENEW** your
WNBA/LA Membership!
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NOT A MEMBER YET?
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Check our Website directory
for the latest member
information.
www.wnba-books.org/la/

For information about the
Judy Lopez Memorial Award
for Children's Literature
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Local sponsoring membership
is available to any individual,
local organization, or agency
that desires to make an initial
or additional annual
contribution to the chapter.
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Dates to Remember

Jan. 20: Pannell Deadline
Jan. 20-21: Alva Sach Signing
Feb. 7: Alva Sach Presents

From our President



Dear Members,

Happy New Year! I hope the first days of 2012 are treating you well. After we concluded 2011 with a wonderful holiday party at Joan Jackson's house, we're now gearing up for one of our signature events--Book Savvy 2012. This all-day conference on book publishing in 2012 will take place Sunday, March 4 at beautiful Marina Del Rey Hotel, and feature various expert panels with industry professionals, including agents, managers, editors, publishers, publicists, and other publishing professionals. You will learn everything you need to know to successfully approach your writing goals for this year.

Please check your inbox for upcoming details, because there will be a significant discount for those who sign up early!

Here's to an exciting 2012!

Cheers,
Julia Drake, President

Chapter News

HOLIDAY POT LUCK



Great food...lively conversations...delightful location...all these made for a wonderful WNBA/LA Holiday Pot Luck! Our December 4th holiday get-together was well-attended, and Joan Jackson (chapter vice-president) and her husband welcomed us into their beautifully decorated home for an early kick-off to the season.

During the party we handed out the new chapter directories, we introduced the members of the executive board, and we welcomed a new board member, Rosalind Myatt, who volunteered that evening to become a member-at-large. Thanks, Rosalind!

Feb. 12: Bernadine Coleman
Mar. 4: Book Savvy 2012

BOARD MEMBERS

WNBA-LA Chapter Officers

President:
Julia Drake
Vice President:
Joan Jackson
Recording Secretary:
Rachelle Yousef
Treasurer:
Suzanne Kleinbub
Corresponding Secretary:
Helen Ross
Immediate Past President:
Michelle Gilstrap

Committee and Representatives

Membership Chairs:
Suzanne Kleinbub and
Ruth Light
The Bookwoman Coordinator:
Position Open
Parliamentarian:
Ruth Klein
Auditor:
Holly Shaffer
e-commerce:
Liora Mendeloff
Judy Lopez Award Liaison:
Meg Flanders
Hospitality:
Position Open
Judy Lopez Memorial
Foundation Representative:
Jeff Slottow
Members at Large:
Jovita Jenkins
Rosalind Myatt

Newsletter Editors:

Editor: **Ruth Light**
Chapter News Editor:
Barbara Cherne
Member News Editor:
Jovita Jenkins
WNBA/LA Web Mistress:
Terri Negron

[Join our Mailing List!](#)

As usual, our annual, completely social evening was a very enjoyable one.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE UNITED NATIONS??

Did you know that WNBA is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) within the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations? Well, we are. We have a long history of being affiliated with the UN, and **we are looking for a chapter member** to help us with supporting and documenting our UN activities. Are you that person? Please contact Ruth Light at ruthlight3@gmail.com and she will give you more information. Thanks!!

Ruth Light
Women's National Book Association, Inc.
WNBA/LA Newsletter Editor
WNBA National Secretary
310-397-4503
ruthlight3@gmail.com

KNOW YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD...and what they are reading!

Julia Drake-WNBA/LA President

Julia grew up in Germany, has been our chapter president for a year, and has her own PR company! She is reading *A Hole in the Ground Owned by a Liar*, by Daniel Pyne.

Joan Jackson-WNBA/LA Vice-President

Joan travels a lot and is now working on her second book. She is reading *Time to Be in Earnest* by P.D. James (her memoir of one year).

Suzanne Kleinbub-WNBA/LA Treasurer

Suzanne has been a community and WNBA/LA volunteer for many years, and she has been reading books by Lee Child...the Jack Reacher series. She thinks they are OK, but "rather violent".

Rachelle Yousef-WNBA/LA Recording Secretary

Rachelle is a fairly new chapter member, but volunteered right away to be the secretary! She has been in a book-into-movie mood and has just read *Bridget Jones's Diary* by Helen Fielding. And she just re-read some books by Jenny Crusie including *Bet Me*, *Faking It*, and *Tell Me Lies*. Not very intellectual but very fun, says Rachelle!

Helen Ross-WNBA/LA Corresponding Secretary

Helen is a past president of our chapter, and she reads *The New Yorker* for contemporary articles, and the *Tricycle* for peace of mind.

Ruth Klein-WNBA/LA Parliamentarian

Ruth has been bringing clarity and order to our board meetings for 2 years, and she is actually reading SEVERAL books, but the one she loves the most right now is *The Power of Intuition* by Carolyn Myss.

Ruth Light-WNBA/LA Newsletter Editor & WNBA National Secretary

Ruth has been a member of WNBA for almost 20 years. She just finished reading *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay, and is starting *Family* by Ian Frazier.

Jovita Jenkins---WNBA/LA Member News editor & Member-At-Large

After a 30-year aerospace career, plus teaching college level Advanced Calculus, Jovita brings her talents and expertise to our WNBA/LA board. She is reading *Life Visioning* by Michael Beckwith, and *I Moved Your Cheese* by Deepak Malhotra.

Barbara Cherne---WNBA/LA Chapter News Editor

Barbara is a quiet person.....who writes and publishes wild novels! She has just finished *THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS* by Isabel Wilkerson and *PICTURES OF PERFECTION* by Reginald Hill. She is now reading *A MOUNTAIN OF CRUMBS* by Elena Gorokhova.

Jeff Slottow---Judy Lopez Memorial Foundation Liaison

Jeff has been a WNBA/LA member longer than most of us, and he is the former chapter treasurer. He is reading *L. Ron Hubbard Presents Writers of the Future the First 25 Years*. His next "book" will be the May-June issue of "The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction" (he has a lifetime subscription).

Member News

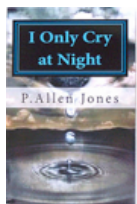


WNBA-LA member, Barbara Meltzer, has been elected to serve as Vice President of the Friends of the West Hollywood Library (FOL) Board of Directors. In addition, she was appointed as Chair of the FOL Program Committee, which will produce book signings, author readings and other special events for the new library. Barbara is interested in hearing from WNBA members about programming ideas.

Barbara is founder and president of the LA-based Public Relations and Marketing agency Barbara Meltzer & Associates (BM&A) that provides services to nonprofit organizations, authors, businesses and clients targeting Boomers and beyond. Visit www.meltzerpr.com or contact Barbara at barbara@meltzerpr.com.



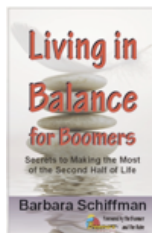
The Laderians' of Ladera Heights will present WNBA Member, Bernadene Coleman, at their February Luncheon in a poetic tribute celebrating Black History Month, President's Month and Love. Details: February 12, 2012, 11:30AM; 5840 La Tijera Blvd. Los Angeles, 90056 (Church Social Hall); \$20 for an excellent lunch. Call Angela @ 310-677-6974 for reservations; deadline 2/6/12.



WNBA-LA member P. Allen Jones' non-fiction memoir, *I Only Cry at Night, Living With Sickle Cell Disease*, is a testament to living past disease and disability, and being more than what's expected or allowed. Through personal anecdotes of her own experience, and clear insight, Jones uses *I Only Cry at Night, living with Sickle Cell Disease* as a narrative that takes the reader on a journey toward self-acceptance.



Tricia Stewart Shiu (author & WNBA-LA Member) and her seven-year-old daughter, Sydney (cover photo and illustrator) have collaborated on a new YA Sci-Fi/Fantasy novel *MOA* about Hillary Hause, an energetic eighteen-year-old who receives a trip to Hawaii for graduation. She anticipates adventure but gets more than she bargained for when Moa, an ancient Hawaiian spirit, pays her an unexpected visit. Hillary embarks on a journey in which she not only saves herself, her family and Moa, but also the Hawaiian Islands. In the end, she learns to accept herself and her spiritual gifts warts and all. 50% Off for all WNBA Members! Smashwords.com Coupon Code: CB74F



Barbara Schiffman's new ebook, *LIVING IN BALANCE FOR BOOMERS*, was recently published by BoomerSeriesBooks.com. Read a sample on Amazon at <http://Amazon.com/dp/B006IKEJWG> or purchase for only \$3.99 for all Kindle devices or apps. This ebook is not just for baby boomers as it shares fresh ways to stay centered no matter your age by using Nature's Four Elements to boost energy and maintain Body, Mind, Heart and Soul balance. Visit Barbara's ebook FB page to get Four Elements tips on staying centered week by week:

<http://www.facebook.com/boomerbalance>. She's also available for

interviews on staying balanced in 2012; email her at:
BoomerBalance@gmail.com.



Upcoming Events for Alva Sachs:

Alva Sachs, new WNBA/LA member and children's book author, will participate in the 6th annual Authors and Illustrators Night at the Lowell Bayside Academy in Long Beach on January 20-21. She will work with students on how stories become books, and hold a special workshop about her newest book, *I'm 5!* On Saturday, January 21, she will sign and sell her books at the Apostrophe Bookstore in Long Beach.

Alva is also an honorary "Author in Residence" for the Alhambra Educational Foundation, and as such, on February 7th, will present her 3 children's picture books to the students at Brightside Elementary School. Alva's 3 books are *Circus Fever*, *I'm 5*, and *On Your mark, Get set, Go!*

Nationally Speaking

WNBA Pannell Award...for bookstores

In 1981, WNBA established the WNBA Pannell Award to recognize and applaud the work of booksellers who stimulate, promote and encourage children's and young people's interest in books. This prestigious award is WNBA's way of honoring Lucille Micheels Pannell, who, although she had no children of her own, spent her life in education, library work, managing a bookstore and introducing children to the world of books.

WNBA Pannell Award Call for Nominations!

WNBA will present the annual WNBA Pannell Award to two bookstores - one a general bookstore, and one a children's specialty bookstore - at BookExpo America in June.

Each recipient will receive a check for \$1,000 and a framed piece of original art by a noted children's book illustrator.

Deadline for nominations is January 20.

Do you have know a bookstore, either a children's bookstore or a general bookstore with a strong children's section, that is special? One that should apply for this award? There is no work for you---if you know a bookstore that you would like to see receive this award, just email Ruth Light at ruthlight3@gmail.com. I can give you the simple details for nominating the store.

UN Corner

By Marilyn Berman & Jill Tardiff

The Women's National Book Association is a Non-Governmental Organization member of the United Nations, supporting the United Nation in its goals. [Shop UNICEF](#) Cards & Gifts
Special offers from UNICEF corporate partners
Visit the UNICEF Snowflake (NYC)

Current Highlights By Jill Tardiff [World AIDS Day](#) - December 1
DYK 34 million people were living with HIV at the end of 2010.
UNAIDS releases global guidelines to monitor progress on the implementation of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS. [More details here.](#)

[International Year of Volunteers](#) (IYV+10) - December 5
UN celebrates 10th anniversary while launching the first State of the World's Volunteerism Report. [webcast](#)
Volunteerism worldwide: [news, views & resources](#).

[Human Rights Day](#) - December 10
[Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) (UDHR), which was adopted on 10 December 1948.

Fall/Winter Report

DPI-NGO Annual Orientation 2011

By Marilyn Berkman



Marilyn Berkman

On June 1 and 2, 2011, I attended the annual orientation programme for Non-Governmental Organizations given by the United Nations Department of Public Information at the New York UN headquarters. I am the Women's National Book Association's Second Alternate Representative, and Jill Tardiff is our Chief Representative. Participating were representatives from over forty NGOs, including those from as far off as Mali and Australia, who came to learn about and speak to the evolving relationship between the DPI and NGOs.

The relationship is a two-way street. NGOs serve as liaisons between the UN and civil society. They bring issues to the attention of the UN and help focus UN activities in the areas of their concern, giving a voice to those who do not have 'a seat at the table.' The DPI provides information services online and on site in New York, issues publications and conducts programmes, forums and conferences that highlight issues worldwide and solutions NGOs have found, often working with other NGOs and/or the UN. In turn, NGOs are expected to disseminate information about the UN and work toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals. In particular, this year, NGOs are asked to mark [IY+10](#), the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Volunteer.

The DPI is becoming more proactive in facilitating the development and work of NGOs. This was reflected in the 2011 orientation. Participants were addressed by Maria-Luisa Chavez, Chief, NGO Relations, Outreach Division, DPI, and others on the growing facets of the Resource Centre (www.ngodpiexcom.org) and the UN System Focal Points. We learned we could access webcasts, photographs and reports from UN agencies and programmes. There was hands-on instruction on how to navigate the general website (go to www.un.org/dpi/ngosection or www.un.org and click on the site index). UN News Centre photos can also be found on Flickr, Twitter, Facebook and YouTube. Live sessions are broadcast via UN Radio on Facebook and Twitter.

There are also weekly briefing sessions that NGO representatives may attend. Some of the UN System Focal Points that may be of interest to WNBA members are the Division of Social Policy ([DSPD](#)); Division for the Advancement of Women ([DAW](#)); UNICEF; and the [United States Fund for UNICEF](#); United Nations Development Fund for Women ([UN Women](#)); and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization ([UNESCO](#)).

NGOs were urged to include youth representatives and to reach out to and work with other NGOs to maximize chances for success. A networking workshop was held the second afternoon of the orientation programme. Participants were split into three groups, where we were guided by DPI staff members to articulate our areas of interest and attempt to find a common ground for action. I wasn't able to pair up with anyone on literacy within my group, but I did have informative conversations with other participants on the topic outside of the workshop, including representatives from NGOs concerned with autism and with women in the arts. A list of affiliated NGOs [here](#) could provide partners for the WNBA in the future.

Marilyn Berkman, a writer and freelance editor, has been a WNBA-NYC member for seven years. She has accompanied Jill Tardiff to several UN conferences, and was this year appointed Second Alternate Representative to the UN for the WNBA. A native New Yorker, Marilyn lives in Manhattan with her husband, a bookseller. She is currently writing a novel about misadventures in the 60s and 70s. Marilyn is currently reading *The Tiger's Wife* by Tea Obreht, and *Knocking on Heaven's Door* by Lisa Randall.

Jill A. Tardiff is currently a cheesemonger at Beecher's Handmade Cheese (900 Broadway, NYC). She is also the Women's National Book Association current National Reading Group Month Chair and UN DPI/NGO Chief Representative. Jill is currently reading [*The Housekeeper and the Professor*](#) by Yoko Ogawa.

Happy New Year! Look for us in your inbox in 2012 mid-March, and remember...

"When I am reading a book, whether wise or silly, it seems to me to be alive and talking to me." Jonathan Swift

[Forward email](#)



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