

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN WOMEN

HONOLULU BRANCH

www.nlapwhonolulu.org

January 2011 Newsletter

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A. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Relativity rides again. My favorite quote of the week comes from one of twin sisters celebrating her 100th birthday. CNN had visited their birthday bash and both were vibrant and beautiful, silver-haired and donning matching black and white sequined dresses. When asked how old they actually felt, one hesitated for a brief moment and smiled. "Oh, about 80 I guess." Admittedly, I exploded with laughter...not *at* her of course, but at the wisdom of her attitude and the relativity of our individual point of view. They were living full lives and professing the benefits of staying active. Both faces shone with delight, health, love and an enviable presence - at any age. It reminded me that our teachers in life are everywhere ... oh, how much more I get to learn!

Susan Killeen

~ The spiritual eyesight improves as the physical eyesight declines. Plato

~ Oh to be only half as wonderful as my child thought I was when he was small, and only half as stupid as my teenager now thinks I am. Rebecca Richards

~ In the last few years everything I'd done up to sixty or so has seemed very childish. T.S. Eliot

~ It takes a long time to become young. Pablo Picasso

B. DELECTABLE DETOUR

None scheduled.

C. PEN WOMEN IN THE NEWS

Carol Egan attended and participated in the four-day Maui Tap Experience tap dance festival held at the Maui Arts & Culture Center in mid-November. Teachers included world-renowned dancers Jason Samuels-Smith and Chloe Arnold. As Hawai'i's representative to the International Tap Association, Carol plans to write a follow-up report for the ITA's newsletter.

Pen Women are invited to participate in the Honolulu Academy of Art's spring, 2011, "Make Learn Live Art" workshops and classes. Pen Women Liz Train will offer fiber arts and weaving instruction, and Tamara Moen will teach "The Art of Collaboration" and "Recording Your Journey."

Corresponding Secretary Shan Correa would very much appreciate donations of cards from our artists for sending our official thank you notes and other correspondence in a beautiful, more personal way. Even a few cards would be more than welcome, as Shan's now down to Hallmarks and other inferior greeting cards! She plans to be at the February meeting, if you're able share some of your art.

Friend Connie DeDonna was featured this month several times on Olelo with her recent work, *Letters to a Prisoner*.

Friend Joyce Torrey's business, Seams Sew Fantastic, was featured in Nadine Kam's Star Advertiser article. Sometimes a simple alteration can give an older piece of clothing a contemporary look or create a more flattering fit or style for your body type.

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D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

E. NOVEMBER MINUTES

November 3, 2010

The November meeting of the National League of American Pen Women Honolulu Branch took place at Alan Wong's Pineapple Room. Attendees included 26 members, 18 friends, 18 guests, and 7 visitors for a total of 69.

President Susan Killeen opened the meeting with the words, “We’re all about appreciation,” and told a brief story from the book, *Art and Fear*, in which a young child wants to know what kind of job her father has. He tells her, “I teach university students how to paint and draw,” and the child replies, “You mean they forgot?”

Susan invited first time guests to introduce themselves. She then introduced New Member Maya Leland (letters) and New Friend Anne Ho.

Susan announced news of some of our members: Pam Gibson wrote lyrics to a song being used in an educational video to help teach children about the endangered Hawaiian Stilt. Kaethe Kauffman has a three-color photo of her art piece in a new book, *Digital Art Revolution*, by Scott Ligon. Connie DeDona just had two books published, *Letters to a Prisoner* and *Saturdays with Lillian*. The latter is about work created in Lillian Cunningham’s Saturday Writing Retreats, in which a number of our members have participated.

Susan said that the Big Island Pen Women group has received its charter. She reminded us that people can no longer pay for luncheons at the door, and she announced the co-directors of the 2011 Art Exhibit: Margo Goodwill and Elsha Bohnert.

One of our guests spoke about some special productions coming from the National Theatre, which she said are fabulous and very well performed. These are being shown every now and then at the Kahala theaters. They don’t seem to be advertised, so anyone interested in being on a special email list to be notified about them should email Norma Nichols at norman@hawaii.rr.com.

Vice President Victoria Gail-White announced our annual Christmas Party. After saying, “We’ve reached such phenomenal numbers that not even a house can hold us,” she told us that the party will be a Champagne Lunch at the Outrigger Canoe Club, at noon on Wednesday, December 8. The cost will be \$30.00 per person, and checks should be given or sent to our treasurer, Pam Sakamoto.

Victoria then introduced our speaker, Jan McGrath. Jan, a Pen Women Friend, is a playwright, writer, editor, and actor. At age twelve she played Muriel in Eugene O’Neill’s “Ah Wilderness.” She edited both Dante’s “Inferno” and Milton’s “Paradise Lost” for performances at ACT Reader’s Theatre, and both played to good reviews.

Following Victoria’s introduction, Jan took the stage, and in a magical moment she became Emily Dickinson, the Belle of Amherst. Jan held us mesmerized as Emily told us about her life, her family, her shyness, her fondness for cooking, and her love of words. A number of Dickinson’s poems were scattered through her dialogue. Jan McGrath brought us sometimes to laughter and sometimes to tears, and when she finished, we gave her a standing ovation. It was the first time anyone could remember one of our luncheon speakers receiving a standing ovation.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Alpert Mower

Recording Secretary

F. NEXT MEETING

DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2, 2011

TIME: 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: PINEAPPLE ROOM (MACY'S, ALA MOANA)

SPEAKERS: YUKIE SHIROMA and NYLA FUJII-BABB

G. CONTACT THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

If you have news to share, please email editor Glenda Hinchey by the 13th of the month:

glendahinchey@yahoo.com.