

**NATIONAL LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN WOMEN  
HONOLULU BRANCH**  
[www.nlapwhonolulu.org](http://www.nlapwhonolulu.org)

May 2011 Newsletter

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**A. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

With lazy summer days upon us, the Pen Women fold up the linen napkins and put away the lunch tables until September 7<sup>th</sup> when we gather again at the Pineapple Room, eager to share stories of travels, summer reads and family reunions. Many of our members have taken on the recent theme of "When I Was A Kid" to enter some exquisite work in the Biennial Art Show. Some have ventured into deep, dark, fertile memories and others offer up a whimsical take on childhood. All in all, we have a very rich show on exhibit at the Honolulu Country Club. Our opening reception on June 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00pm promises a visual feast, some curious entertainment, refreshments and a chance to revisit our own childhoods. Please do join us for this event! I wish you all a safe and happy summer.

-- Susan Killeen

**B. DELECTABLE DETOURS**

None scheduled.

**C. PEN WOMEN IN THE NEWS**

**Anita Benson** won 2nd prize in the statewide Association of Hawaii Artists art competition, "The 42nd Aloha Show," in April for "Glory of Spring" and for "Yellow Tree." Both paintings are acrylic. The exhibit was held at Honolulu Hale.

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**Shan Correa's** middle-grade novel, *Gaff*, received a 2011 *Ka Palapala Po'okela* Award on May 6th in Hawaii's annual honoring of the best books in the state published in the previous year. Only one of the 13 categories gave awards to non-Hawaii publishers, the "Aloha from Beyond the Sea" category, and *Gaff* took the top award, the "Award of Excellence," in a gala party under the caterers' tents on the grounds of the Mission Houses Museum. The *Ka Palapala Po'okala* Awards are sponsored by the Hawaii Book Publishers Association.

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**Connie DeDona** has published three poems and three photos in *Rain Bird*.

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The book, *Of the Demons*, by **Mary Bell**, has been published by Belknap Publishing and Design. Mary sold copies at our May luncheon for \$10.00 after the meeting, and donated all money taken in to Pen Women.

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From April 21st through May 8th, **Nancy Moss' Anna: Love in the Cold War** had a showcase at the Dorothy Strelsin Theatre in New York City.

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**Victoria Gail-White** has been invited to participate in a textile show at the San Francisco Asian Museum.

## D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Member and Friend Dues:** Please don't delay if you are one of those who haven't yet renewed your membership. (\$65 for members and \$35 for Friends) Help Pam close the books on this (!) – our check is due to National now. Please notify her by email <[pamrsakamoto@aol.com](mailto:pamrsakamoto@aol.com)> and send your check to:

**Pam Sakamoto**  
**2144 Hakanu St.**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96821**

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**Marcia Zina Mager** is going to perform with an improv team called HOMEWRECKERS at Laughtrack Theatre on Bethel Street (right across the street from Hawaii Theatre) on Saturday, May 21st, at 8 pm and 10 pm. Tickets are \$10. Call/email for reservations:

[info@laughtracktheater.com](mailto:info@laughtracktheater.com) or (808) 384-3362.

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In a small article from Midweek, it stated that: "'*Aloha Ho'omaluhia XXVII*' is being presented at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden May 2-29 featuring artists who are continuously inspired by the beauty and peace they find at Ho'omaluhia." **Linda Hutchinson** and **Liz Train** are participants.

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**Susie Anderson's** recent plein air paintings are being featured on the Upstairs Balcony at The Gallery at Ward Center in Honolulu now until May 26. Also, she has been selected as one of 13 Hawaii artists invited state-wide to paint various scenes outdoors from life throughout Kauai as a benefit for Grove Farm and Waioli Mission House Museums. The first annual Kauai Plein Air Invitational is scheduled for June 5-11.

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**Monica Lewis** has published *Dancing My Way to Sanity*, which she calls "a disguised memoir." You can read about it at her website: <http://monicalewis.net/>

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Look for Cheryl Chee Tsutsumi's new cookbook, *The Hawaii Book of Rice: Tales, Trivia and 101 Great Recipes* (Watermark) this month, with **Shan Correa's** "Haole Rice" included as one of the "tales." The book celebrates rice and the many ways it touches our lives in Hawaii, and a portion of the profits will benefit the Hawaii Foodbank.

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The Contemporary Museum Café is exhibiting “Exploring a Sense of Place,” works by Hawkins Biggins and **Sabra Rae Feldstein**.

The exhibition runs through June 12<sup>th</sup> 2011.

The TCM Café is located at 2411 Makiki Heights Drive in Honolulu, and is open Tuesday – Saturday from 11:30 am – 2:30 pm; Sunday, 12:00pm – 2:30pm.

This exhibit features photography by Hawkins Biggins and paintings and glass houses by Sabra Rae Feldstein.

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## E. MAY MINUTES

### National League of American Pen Women

#### May 4, 2011

The May 4th meeting of the National League of American Pen Women Honolulu Branch took place at Alan Wong’s Pineapple Room. Attendees included 23 members, 12 friends, 5 guests, and 3 visitors for a total of 43.

President **Susan Killeen** opened the meeting at 11:55 a.m., reminding us that this would be our last meeting until September 7. She said she looked forward to hearing from many of us today and that Vice President **Victoria Gail-White** had put together a great line up of readers.

She remembered an old movie with Jude Law at the time when many of us were schlepping typewriters instead of computers. She reminded those who hadn’t paid their dues to do so now to help treasurer **Pam Sakamoto** wrap this up for the year.

Susan asked first time visitors to introduce themselves.

She then gave the following information about Pen Women in the news:

1. Liz Train and Linda Hutchinson both have work in the “Aloha Ho’omaluhia” exhibit in the Park Gallery at Ho’omaluhia Botanical Gardens.
2. Connie DeDona has published three poems and three photos in *Rain Bird*.
3. Victoria Gail-White has been invited to be in a textile show in San Francisco.
4. The book, *Of the Demons*, by Mary Bell, has been published by Belknap Publishing and Design. Susan said Mary would sell books for \$10.00 after the meeting and was donating all money taken in that day to Pen Women.

Susan reminded us about the Hawaii Book and Music Festival, May 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Honolulu Hale, with free parking both days. They have a great line-up of presenters, including Maxine Hong Kingston, Kiana Davenport, Mia King, James Rumford, and Maya Soetoro-Ng.

**Margo Goodwill** updated us on the Art Exhibit. Entrants should bring their artwork between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. The judge is Jon Hamlin, who was born in Boston but mostly raised in Hawai’i. He

taught art at Mid-Pacific Institute for twenty-six years. Margo had sign-up sheets in the back for volunteers for the reception and take-down day, and invited everyone to come to the Opening Reception, June 5 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Susan then acknowledged **Barbara Clemens**, saying that Barbara is wonderfully helpful for those of us who are technically challenged. Susan said, “Barbara keeps telling us it’s easy, but it’s not for us.”

Vice President **Victoria Gail-White** announced that master quilter Charlene Hughes will give a personal tour of the Quilt Show at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 14, at Linekona Art Center. Those who wish to attend could sign up in the back after the meeting. Following the tour, they would have lunch at noon at the Pavilion Café.

Victoria explained that each reader would be limited to five minutes. Thirty seconds before five minutes were up, Victoria would ring the singing bowl. Reader could then finish her sentence but not her paragraph.

### **The Readers**

**Marcia Zina Mager** recited two poems. The first, “White Girl’s Lament,” told of a white woman who longed to sing in a gospel choir. The second was inspired by four lines of poetry from Rumi, a 13<sup>th</sup> century mystic poet. Marcia said, “If Rumi were alive today, he’d be a slam poet.”

**Kaethe Kauffman** read a non-fiction essay, “Dumpster Eyes,” in which on a rainy day walk to a recycling area, she encounters the small brown eyes of two teen age boys in a dumpster.

**Barbara Clemens** read “Hippie Chick 1973,” a true story that she wrote when she took a Bamboo Ridge challenge to tell a story in one hundred words.

**Joy Gold** read two brief poems with the common theme of Life. “Now Days Not Like Before” is about a child who didn’t want to attend Japanese School. “Things Have Changed” looks at cloud shifts from three ages of life.

**Carol Egan** read “Tap, Tap, Tap,” an excerpt from her unfinished (or never to be finished) memoir about starting dance school at age four and loving it and about her friendship with movie star, Jack Timmers, who stayed with her family in 1944.

**Nancy Mower** read “Bastille Day in Lyon,” about spending a holiday in Lyon, France with her late husband.

**Shan Correa** read three poems about bugs. “Millicent Mulder Loved Her Bugs,” “The Bumble Bee, Honey Bee, Worker Bee Drone,” and “Mosquito My Dear.” All three were published in either *Cricket* or *Spider* magazine, and Shan put the illustrations on the back table for everyone to see.

**Darlene Weingand** read from the Prologue of a book in progress. This is about a young girl whose father went to sea and never returned, and it talks about cosmology of the earth and creators who can split a child in half reducing the power of each child by half.

**Norma Gorst** read a poem, “The Art of Living,” about a woman walking on Kailua Beach.

**Dorothy Wright** read an essay from her journal that captures what it’s like to be eighty-eight years old in today’s world. This entry, “October 22, 2010,” is about her friend who has a real live chicken that lays one egg every day.

**Mary Bell** read “The War of the Odors” a humorous short story about perfume. The story tells of a time when bathing every day was not common.

**Mara Miller** read “My Friend Don Dalton, the Murderer,” from a memoir about a friend, in which the Defense said the victim had invoked the violence.

**Pam Gibson** played a DVD of “Angel Heroes,” a song about a friend who was murdered, for which Pam wrote the lyrics.

**Sabra Feldstein** read an autobiographical story, “Shucking and Jiving,” about how shucking oysters can be both wonderful and dangerous, especially when her son finds a pearl in one of them.

**Kris Barry** read “The Dance Workshop” about a Japanese dancer.

**Connie DeDona** read two poems, “The Barber” about getting her hair done and “No Flowers,” in which she says, “Send me no flowers. Send me a cactus or a weed that doesn’t need care.”

**Joyce Torrey** read “From Connecticut to New York,” about a New York cab driver they met on a train, who, when they missed their train connection, drove them all the way to Connecticut.

Gail Ellingsong sang “Always Say Aloha,” a song for which she wrote the words and music. The song’s theme is “All we are is love.”

Before adjourning the meeting, Susan thanked all the readers, reminded people to sign up for the quilting tour, and again reminded us about the annual dues payment, and Shan gave a pitch for Mary Bell’s book.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Alpert Mower,  
Recording Secretary

## **G. NEXT MEETING**

**To be announced.**

## **H. CONTACT THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

If you have news to share, please email editor Glenda Hinchey by Sept. 13, 2011:  
[glendahinchey@yahoo.com](mailto:glendahinchey@yahoo.com).