



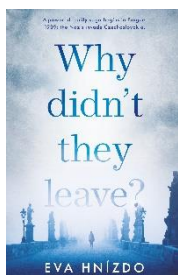
The Legend

Emerald Coast Writers, Inc.

Member Newsletter

emeraldcoastwritersinc.org

November 2023 Edition



Join Us at the Open Mic on November 14

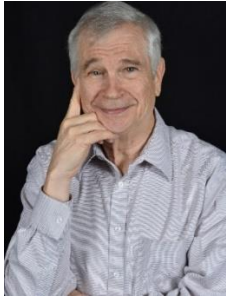
Because of the Thanksgiving holiday next week, we are meeting one week early. Our guest speaker in November is Eva Hnizdo.

Eva's book, *Why Didn't They Leave*, published in 2021, is a family saga of a Czech Jewish family from 1939 to 2006. The book is about the Holocaust, the communist regime, and life in Central Europe in the 20th century, but it is also mainly about emigration. Why do people leave, and why do they stay? What happened to them?

This Open Mic will be Zoom only, with networking at 6:00 and the speaker at 6:30 p.m.

[Register at the link here.](#)

Message from the President



This month is the last issue of *The Legend* for 2023.

Join your fellow ECW members for our **November Monthly Meeting and Open Mic** with guest speaker, Eva Hnizdo. Eva was born in Prague, Czech Republic. She defected from Communist Czechoslovakia in 1986 and obtained political asylum in the UK.

Eva's book, *Why Didn't They Leave*, published in 2021, is a family saga of a Czech Jewish family from 1939 to 2006. The book is about the Holocaust, the communist regime, and life in Central Europe in the 20th century, but it is also mainly about emigration. Why do people leave, and why do they stay? What happened to them?

The event will be **on Zoom** (a link has been sent to all members).

In case you've started your holiday gift shopping, remember that the Emerald Coast Review XXII makes great holiday gifts for your favorite reader! Buy one on Amazon [HERE](#).

Our Events Committee, chaired by **Tonya Dalhaus**, held a meeting on November 1st. We are making great progress on the many tasks to bring the Books By the Bay Festival to Pensacola on March 23, 2024. I'm happy to report that we have contracted with our main speaker, John Patrick Green. We have received a number of applications for additional speaker slots and for exhibitors (authors and literary service vendors) for this event. We have sold 5 booths so far.

We are still in need of additional volunteers for Books By the Bay! Whether you can spare 1 hour or 10, we can use your help. Please [contact us here](#).

If you would like to volunteer at our planned holiday gathering, please email us or leave a message at 850-750-8900.

We had another successful event at the Great Gulfcoast Arts Festival. Over a dozen authors turned out over three days to meet readers and writers and sell books!

Remember to check out NW Florida Poet Laureate Katherine Nelson-Born's new book, [Bone Geometry, on Amazon](#).

As always, the ECW Board is open for suggestions about programs we can do to further your writing skills and knowledge. If you have suggestions, please pass them on at the monthly meeting or via email at info@emeraldcoastwritersinc.org.

Don't forget to check our website often for the latest news and event information. The link is <https://emeraldcoastwritersinc.org>.

–Tom Roberts

Announcements

ECW Writers Shine in the 2023 State Pen Women Conference Letters Competition

At the 2023 FSA/NLAPW (Florida State Association of the National League of American Pen Women) conference in Daytona Beach the weekend of Oct. 26-27, these Emerald Coast Writers were recognized in the Letters competition. Andrea Walker served as Letters Competition Chair.

NONFICTION – Books, Biography, Memoir, Essays, Inspirational

- 1st Place: A Journey to Trieste, Karen McAferty Morris
- 2nd Place: A Literary Traveler's Guide to the Gulf South, Diane Skelton

FLASH LITERATURE – Fiction, Nonfiction, Memoir

- 1st Place: My Dates with Jim Morrison, Claire Massey

POETRY – Traditional/Structured

- 1st Place: Cento: A Refugee's Lament, Karen McAferty Morris

POETRY – Free Verse

- 1st Place: Eggs for Sale, Karen McAferty Morris
- 2nd Place: Ring of Luck, Claire Massey

WRITING FOR THE DIGITAL DOMAIN

- 1st Place: The Gumbo Diaries, Diane Jones Skelton

CHILDREN'S LIT

- 3rd Place: Silly Goose, Dolly Berthelot

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- Pat Black-Gould



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Two Opportunities to Promote and Sell Books at Books By the Bay!

For only \$5 an hour, you can meet fans, and sign and sell books in a large 20x40 shared tent housing multiple authors. Hours will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis.

Each author is guaranteed at least a 2-hour time slot. Additional hours may be purchased, if space is available.

#1: RENT A SPACE AT THE AUTHOR TENT.

If you have multiple books or other literary merchandise to sell, a flare for décor, and love a little more elbow room, then upgrade for \$75 to your own space (Early Bird special ends Dec. 15). You are also welcome to share the expense of your space with one other author.

#2: RENT A 10x10 EXHIBITOR SPACE.

HURRY THOUGH, AS SPACE IS LIMITED AND WE ARE ALREADY FILLING UP!

Fill out an exhibitor application at:

<https://www.emeraldcoastwritersinc.org/exhibitor-applications> or print out the application (a copy is on the last page of this issue of *The Legend*) and email it to booksbythebayfest@gmail.com. Make checks payable to Emerald Coast Writers Inc.

For the author tent, be sure to fill in the number of hours you prefer. Let's show Pensacola the amazing writers of ECW!



Mark Your Calendar for the January Open Mic and Learn More About Our Guest Speaker



Anne MacDonald (Ann Brooks) debuted her first novel, *A LOST WOMAN*, in February of 2020. Shortly after that, she released her second novel, *THE BLOOD INSIDE ME*, in May of 2020. Her first novel, *A LOST WOMAN*, won an honorable mention at the New York Book Festival in 2021.

Anne has attended book festivals, spoken at writing conferences, and hosted author events over the last three years. Anne has kept writing books and also writes for various blogs and articles.

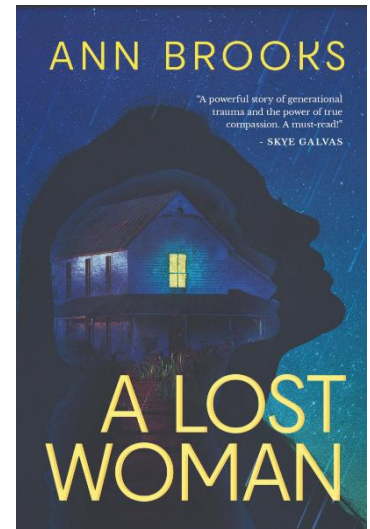
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She started writing full-time for Pensacola Moms Collective in 2021 and today is host to the Pensacola Mom's Collective Podcast Raising Pensacola, voted Best on the Coast in 2023.

Throughout her career as an author, Anne has provided author coaching services, editing services, and author mentorship. You can learn more about Anne, the author, and her services, on her website: annbrooksauthor.com.

In 2022, Anne started working for a local Publishing Company, Indigo River Publishing, to expand her career. As the Acquisitions Director, Anne meets with all potential authors to determine if the author and their book are a good fit for Indigo River Publishing. Indigo River provides traditional and hybrid publishing to approved authors. This year, Anne helped develop and now runs the Self Publishing Company, Author Voice Publishing. Author Voice assists authors who are looking to self-publish their books with professional services and marketing guidance to increase their success.

Anne lives in Pensacola, FL, her hometown, with her husband and two kids. She is an avid reader of psychological thrillers and mysteries. You can often find Anne reading or writing in her cozy home office.



Submission Opportunities

POETRY, FICTION, NONFICTION, VISUAL ART – NO FEE – Deadline: November 20

Route 7 Review, established in 2013 and published annually by Utah Tech University, is seeking submissions of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and visual arts from writers and artists living anywhere in the world for their annual *Route 7 Review*. Free submissions but no previously published works considered. They also publish a literary magazine, *The Southern Quill*.

<https://r7review.submittable.com/submit>

**Community of
Literary Magazines
and Presses**



SHORT STORY CONTEST – NO FEE – Deadline: November 30

The Hudson Review, New York, is seeking short story entries for their biennial contest. Word limit is 10,000 words and entries may not have been previously published. First prize is \$1000, with second and third place winners receiving \$500. Winning stories will be published in *The Hudson Review*. Submission guidelines at <https://www.clmp.org/members/open-submission/short-story-contest/>

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MICRO-MEMOIRS – NO FEE – Deadline: December 31

The Keepthings, a literary magazine that lives on Instagram, (@TheKeepthings) publishes micro-memoirs, stories of lost loved ones, inspired by the things they left behind. 600 words max. No simultaneous subs. Especially open to submissions from writers of color and underrepresented voices. Previously unpublished material only.

<https://thekeepthings.com/share-your-story/>

POP! POETRY, NONFICTION, FICTION, ARTS – FEE \$3.50 – Deadline: December 31

Exposition Review, Vol IX is looking for pieces following the theme “pop.” *The Exposition Review* is an independent, multi-genre online literary journal that publishes narratives by new, emerging, and established writers in the genres of fiction, flash fiction, nonfiction, poetry, scripts for stage and screen, experimental narratives, visual art, film, and comics. Pays \$50 if accepted. Guidelines: <http://expositionreview.com/submission-guidelines/>

POETRY, ART, SHORT PROSE – NO FEE – Deadline: December 31

Thimble Lit Mag is now open for poetry, art, and short prose (around 1,200ish words). No fee, no pay. Quarterly. Online and print. They are primarily a poetry journal, but are open to prose and art. All material must be original and previously unpublished. This includes social media and personal blogs. Guidelines <https://www.thimblelitmag.com/submissions/>

POEMS ON THE BODY’S EXPERIENCE OF RELIGION – NO FEE – Deadline: January 1, 2024

Flipped Mitten Press is seeking individual poems on The Body’s Experience of Religion for a poetry collection. In what ways do we experience religion, or the loss of religion, in our bodies? There is no fee to submit, and the poet receives \$10 for each poem accepted. The accept previously published is author owns the rights. Guidelines

<https://www.flippedmittenpress.com/submissions/>

PROSE, POETRY FOR ANTHOLOGY – \$3-7 TIP JAR – Deadline: January 15, 2024

great weather for MEDIA press, in New York City since 2012, is seeking submissions for its print anthology They are looking for poetry, short fiction (under 2,500 words), flash fiction, creative non-fiction, hybrid; does not accept previously published work. Pays with contributor copy, plus \$10. Guidelines <https://greatweatherformedia.submittable.com/submit>

FICTION, NONFICTION, POETRY – NO FEE – Deadline: January 31, 2024

The Belmont Review, located in Nashville, Tennessee, is published through Belmont University’s publishing program. It is a journal of literary arts, faith, and culture, is open submissions for its 9th volume. There is no fee; they pay up to \$100 honorarium. Guidelines at <https://www.clmp.org/members/open-submission/belmont-story-review-accepting-prose-poetry/>

[clmp]

Publishing and Member News

Tales of the Strange, a print anthology that seeks to explore "the beautifully weird, the slightly off and the unusual," will include **Claire Massey's** story, "AI Husband." The book is due out in December and will be available from Amazon.

In their recent letters competition, the Florida State Pen Women Association awarded Claire's short fiction, "Through the Door of Perception" (revised title) first place in the flash literature category. Her poem, "Ring of Luck," took second place for free verse.

In the Alabama Poetry Society's Fall Contest, **Karen McAferty Morris** was awarded First Place in the AR Walker Healing Words category for her poem "Apportioned," and Third Place in the BKC Award category for her poem "The Augurs of Bordeaux."

Diane Skelton won first place in Writing for the Digital Domain for her blog, "The Gumbo Diaries," in Florida's National League of American Pen Women's 2023 state competition. Her book, *A Literary Traveler's Guide to the Gulf South: Bay St. Louis to Apalachicola*, won second place in the nonfiction category of biography, memoir essay and inspirational books. The awards came with a cash prize.

Ongoing Workshops

MONDAY'S WORD WEAVERS (POETRY, PROSE, MICRO-WRITING FORMS) –

The goal of this workshop is to assist you to further develop writing skills, learn to critique, and grow in confidence as you polish your authentic voice and achieve the next level of your personal writing goals. Join us virtually on the first Monday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, please contact Debra Stogner at debrastogner@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY PORTFOLIO and EXCHANGE SOCIETY –

A lively critique group meets every Wednesday, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., on Zoom. The group is looking for writers of any genre — memoir, poetry, fiction, nonfiction — who want to work on completing a project in 12 months. Since the group formed, several members have published books. Participants exchange writing tips, websites, and general trivia. For more information, please reach out to Diane Skelton at dianeskelton@att.net.

Please contact Diane regarding meetings during this time.

Join ECW or Renew Your Membership

Memberships are good for one calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31. Individual membership is \$35/year, two-year \$60. Couple one-year \$60, two-year \$115. New members joining after July 15 pay \$20 or may pay \$45 which also pays for the following year. Subsequent years are due annually by January 1. Student membership is \$15.

I would like to sponsor: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check one please: New _____ Renewal _____

Date: _____

Circle the items you **do not** want published in the Emerald Coast Writers members only directory:

Address

Phone

Email

If no item is circled, we will include all your information in the next published directory.

How to join or renew your membership:

Pay your membership dues online with a credit card at <https://wflf.org/product-details/product/single-Membership> or email this form to westfloridaliteraryfederation@gmail.com

or

Mail your check and this form to:
Emerald Coast Writers
400 South Jefferson Street, Suite 212
Pensacola, FL 32502

EXHIBITOR APPLICATION

BOOKS BY THE BAY FESTIVAL

This event is for businesses and organizations that produce/exhibit/sell books and related publishing services promoting literacy, and positive messages around books will be excepted.

The cost per vendor table is:

1. 10 X 10 Space: ECW Member: \$75 early bird, Non-member: \$100 early bird prior to December 15th, 2023. ECW Member \$100, Non-member \$125 thereafter. Applications close January 31st, 2024 or when filled.

Exhibitors will be responsible for bringing their own canopy, tables and chairs.*.

Advertising, signs and banners no more than two feet tall may be placed on tabletops or taped to the front of the table. Rental includes listing in event program.

2. Table seating in Author Tent: ECW Member \$5 p/hour, Non-member \$10 p/h. Limit of 2 book titles. No marketing signage or other giveaways allowed in space. Name under author tent list in program. Applications close January 31st or when filled.

3. Each vendor is responsible for following all state and local policies regarding business licensing, insurance, and collecting and remitting sales tax.

4. Vendor applications will be reviewed and approved on a first come first serve basis and decided based on categorical need, appropriateness, and value.

Vendors will be notified of acceptance no later than February 14, 2024.

5. Festival hours are 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Vendors will be allowed to set up their tables beginning at 7:30 a.m. and no later than 9:30am. Vendors are required to stay until the close of the festival at 4:00pm.

6. Vendors are encouraged to promote their participation via social media platforms and other marketing strategies.

7. Booth Personnel: All vendor/exhibitors personnel are to be dressed in some form of uniform or costume reflecting their genre, which adds to the quality of the event, and presents an attractive addition to the event. Decorating the space in a similar manner is encouraged. A full description or picture must accompany the application.

8. Vendors are responsible for cleaning their own spaces following the event. Space must be vacant no later than 6pm on March 23, 2024.

Mail your completed application, check payable to Emerald Coast Writers along with documents required per item 7 above to: Emerald Coast Writers Inc. 400 S. Jefferson St. Pensacola Fl 32502. Checks will be cashed upon acceptance. OR use our website on-line

form at Vendor Application with PayPal capability. In the event your application is denied you will be refunded within 15 days of notice.

Approved/Preferred Vendor Application Form

Company Name _____

Contact Name _____

Type of business: Sole owner _____ Corporation _____ Non-profit _____
Author _____

Contact information:

Phone _____ Email _____

Social media handle: FB: _____ X: _____

IG _____ Other: _____

Website: _____

What area are you applying to:

10 X 10 Space: _____ Authors' Table: _____ #Hrs _____

Describe your merchandise/book genre/service/publications:

Upload Pictures of Booth/Products/Publications

Please describe how you will decorate your booth and what costume you will where to represent your genre (10x10 spaces only) _____

*By signing the below, you acknowledge that you have received and read this document fully and comply with the conditions and standards set forth herein.

Applicant signature

Date

Books By the Bay Festival
Release and Hold-Harmless Agreement & Liability Disclaimer
for March 23, 2024

In consideration of the undersigned being permitted to participate in the “Books By the Bay Festival” which is sponsored by Emerald Coast Writers, the undersigned does hereby release and forever discharge the Sponsors and each of their employees, officers, directors, and agents, jointly and severally, from any and all actions, causes of action, claims and demands for, upon or by reason of any damage, loss, injury or death, or damage to or loss of property arising out of the undersigned’s participation in the Books By the Bay Festival. This release extends and applies to, and covers and includes, all unknown, unforeseen, unanticipated and unsuspected injuries, damages, loss and liability, and the consequences thereof, as well as those now disclosed and known to exist. The provision of any state, federal, local and/or territorial law, or statute providing in substance that releases shall not extend to claims, demands, injuries or damages which are unknown or not suspected to exist at the time, are hereby expressly waived.

The undersigned agrees on behalf of itself, its successors, assigns, and sub-licenses to indemnify the Sponsors and their employees, officers, directors, and agents, jointly and severally, and to hold them harmless from and against any and all actions, claims, demands, liabilities, losses, damages, and expenses of whatever nature and kind, including attorneys’ fees, which may be at any time incurred by them or any of them in connection with the participation in the Books By the Bay Festival by the undersigned and the undersigned’s staff, guests, visitors, participants, and invitees.

Sponsors shall have no liability for any damage to property, or injury or death to persons arising out of the participation in Books By the Bay Festival. The undersigned agrees to inform all its staff and event participants that the undersigned and such staff, participants, guests, or invitees of the undersigned assume all risk of loss or injury arising out of participation in Books By The Bay Festival or related activities. The undersigned agrees to be responsible for any damage caused to the Sponsors by the participation of the undersigned and further agrees to abide by all policies established by the Sponsors in connection with the Books By the Bay Festival.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Printed Witness Name: _____

