

*OPAP Online Supplement**January/February 2017***FSPA Anthology Thirty-Four Photo Contest**

This year over fifty photographs were submitted to be possibly used in the 2016 Anthology. Unfortunately we had space for only eleven different photos in the book. However, I have decided to showcase many of the non-used submissions in this and other online supplements of OPAP through out the year. I do hope you enjoy seeing your fellow FSPA member's additional talents. **This is the second showcase grouping.** More coming in April!



Bok Tower by Robyn Weinbaum, Orlando Area Poets



Chihuly 2 by Stan Sujka, Orlando Area Poets

*Sunset View by Daniel Stone, MAL
(Note: Cedar Key, FL)*



Heron #2 by Patricia Stevenson, Big Bend Poets

A Feather Fell

Remembering Patti Hannaway

On November 22, 2016, Patti Hannaway, the co-founder (with June Owens) and first president of New River Poets, passed away. *A Feather Fell* is the title of a hymn Patti loved to sing and share with others, and somehow, it describes her passing, as well.

Patti was small in stature and considered herself a featherweight among poets, but her energy, her achievements, and the encouragement she gave to others were enormous. She was born in Minnesota and began her literary career as a correspondent for a Minneapolis weekly. She also worked for ad agencies and established a public relations firm with two partners. Her eventual move to Florida found her living for a time in Key West, where she was Women's Page editor for the *Key West Citizen*. She also worked as a copy writer in Miami and with the Tallahassee News Bureau for the Florida Dept. of Commerce. Her great labor of love was the 296-page book, *Winslow Homer in the Tropics*, published by Westover Publishing Company in 1973, which included a biography of the artist and an impressive collection of 70 reproductions of Homer's paintings.

When Patti and her husband, Walt, retired to Wesley Chapel, Florida, her writing continued. She was a member of the New River Branch Library advisory board in Pasco County and a frequent contributor to local and national publications. For five years she mentored New River Poets and Writers, an informal writing group that eventually became New River Poets, a chapter of FSPA, in 2000. That was also the year she published *Turtles in the Bathtub*, a collection of poems and essays that grew from her experience as the mother of four boys. In 2005 Patti took the first steps to apply for a grant from the Florida State Department's Division of Cultural Affairs. The grant was awarded to the partnership of New River Poets and Saint Leo University and funded a 2006 poetry event featuring readings by U.S. Poet Laure-

ate Ted Kooser, Gerald Stern, and Peter Meinke at the Center for the Arts in Wesley Chapel.

A former employer nicknamed her "Aunt Pittypat" after Scarlett O'Hara's aunt in *Gone With the Wind*, and because she seemed to be the composite of anyone's favorite aunt, teacher, mentor, and best friend, the name stuck. Although Patti was in ill health for the past few years, she continued her FSPA membership, and her most recent honor was winning a prize in the 2015 NFSPS poetry contests. When her name was announced as a third-place winner at the national convention in St. Petersburg, for her poem, *The Little Tin Whistle*, the New River poets in attendance were as happy as Patti was when she was given her award at home a few days later.

This little feather has fallen, but we will not forget Patti's smiling optimism and her belief that those who love to write have been given a special gift. May we always encourage those who have been gifted in this way.

Submitted by
Janet Watson, New River Poets



Ecology 2 by Carol Thomas, Tomoka Poets

Send information on your local Poetry Events

Linda Eve Diamond web manager

lindaeve@mac.com

In Memorium

Barbara Weston

1924-2017

The Miami Poets are saddened by the loss of our dear member, Barbara Weston, who passed away on January 3rd. Barbara was an exceptional person, a beacon in Miami's literary scene, a talented poet, and most important, a true friend to all who knew her. She wrote poetry, short fiction, newspaper features, magazine articles, book reviews, and interviews for periodicals and local television. Barbara was nominated for the Pushcart Prize in Poetry and was Florida's *Senior Poet Laureate* in 2006. Her work appeared in numerous national publications and anthologies, most recently in *Second Monday Muse, an Anthology of South Florida Poets*. Her book of poetry, *One Song, Two Voices*, with Spanish translations by Fanny Moreno, was published in 2003.

Barbara was founder and first president of the South Florida Chapter, National Writers Association and former editor of *Crescendo*, its literary anthology. She served as President of the Coral Gables Branch of National League of American Pen Women. She was a member of The Cove/Rincón International and served as English copy editor and literature director, coordinating monthly programs for local bookstores. More recently, Barbara hosted poetry readings at Eastridge Retirement Village and was a valued member of the poetry critique group, *Group 10*, and the *Miami Poets*. During February's *Miami Poets Soirée*, we will pay tribute to Barbara as we read her poems and share memories. Barbara's legacy lives on in her poetry and in the hearts of all who knew her and hold her dear.



~Tere Starr, president of Miami Poets

A poem to recapture your inner-child!

Pinocchio, Miss Young, and Crayola® by Madelyn Eastlund

In the back of the drawer I found the tablecloth,
yellowed by sixty-nine years of neglect;
folds ironed in by time but Crayola crayons
waxed in with hot iron still hold colors true:

In the center of the cloth is the little wooden boy
who danced without strings
who grew ears and tail like a donkey
who had a cricket for his conscience
and a Blue Fairy to make wishes come true.
(Many times I've longed for a Blue Fairy
to wave her wand whenever I 'wished upon a star'
or a Jiminy I could 'give a little whistle' to
when life got out of hand.)

Miss Young, who thought beyond manila drawing paper,
told us to bring one yard of bleached muslin to class.
"We'll create picture tablecloths" she said.
Painstakingly I drew from Walt Disney's "Pinocchio".
How my arm ached as I rubbed colors thick;
Mother placed waxed paper over each picture
and ironed in the colors for forever.
Figero, Cleo, Blue Fairy and that cricket
of crickets: Jiminy—each have a corner square;
Monstro the Whale, with fish in a fantasy
of color and form swimming around him,

takes one full side; the other three sides divided
for Stromboli and the Coachman,
for Gideon and Honest John
for Geppetto and Lampwick.

The tablecloth is refolded as I remember
Miss Young who made sixth grade art class fun
Crayola® crayons that came in twenty-four shades
(they come in more shades now)
and Disney who wove a magic Pinocchio world
in the dreariness of depression.

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Poem won 3rd place in the Winter Galaxy of Verse contest,
2017.

Madelyn (Lyn) Eastlund is a past president of FSPA, a former editor for the FSPA anthology, and for many, many years, editor *Of Poets & Poetry* – the FSPA newsletter. Now a Life-time member-at-large she lives in Beverly Hills, FL. Lyn was very active in the former Gingerbread Poets chapter. She enjoys keeping in touch with other poets and sharing her poetry via the internet and even by U.S.Post. Lyn has been extensively published and has also been a successful publisher in her own right with the poetry magazine, *Heartstrings*. Lyn continues to write poetry and win awards. Congratulations to Lyn—truly a shining star for FSPA.

More coming your way in April!