

## Women's National Book Association Los Angeles Chapter The Ultimate Resource for the Book Community

### Newsletter

July 2009

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#### Expert tips from our Members



#### Kelly's Monthly Dream Symbol Tip

Kelly's Monthly Dream Symbol comes from her book, "[I HAD THE STRANGEST DREAM... The Dreamer's Dictionary for the 21st Century.](#)"

[Sign up](#) to receive Kelly Sullivan Walden's Weekly Dream Symbol.

**Blog** - Dreams of a blog or literary diary represent a desire to stand on a soap box and share your private thoughts with the public. This dream symbolizes nakedness and a drive to connect with people

### DEAR CHAPTER MEMBERS,

Welcome to our July Newsletter!

Stay cool as we're heading into a hot and happy Independence Weekend! June has been a busy month for our chapter. If you missed any of our great events, such as the Judy Lopez Memorial Award Ceremony, the Extraordinary Bookwoman Day and our Silent Auction, check out our recaps below. Even better, you can watch a live streaming video of our Bookwoman Day for a more immediate experience. Also, be sure to check out our member tips, stories and news, and--not to forget--our Vice President Melinda Woolf's new monthly column on "Abundance" in everyday life. Lastly we added a "Member Book of the Month" section. If you like to be featured, please refer to our Website/Newsletter section for details on how to submit your information.

### A word from Kelly...



I awoke the morning after Extraordinary BookWoman Day with a dream about an ornate golden key going into a keyhole. The door opened and there was Robert Langdon, the hero from the Dan Brown's Da Vinci Code and Angels & Demons, presenting a talk on symbols. He lectured about the value of symbols and

to drive to connect with people based on what you truly feel and think.



**Monthly Tips From Donna Sozio**  
[www.ImPublished.com](http://www.ImPublished.com)

Once you reach a certain level of craft, don't submit your material until you can put yourself in the winner's circle of publishing. At this point, expectation is everything. Expect your manuscript to sell or it needs another draft.



**Delicious Diversions from Allana Pratt - Sexy Mom Expert**  
[HowToBeAndStaySexy.com](http://HowToBeAndStaySexy.com)

Just a reminder to stop. Breathe. Open. Allow Life to press itself into you and hold you..... rest.



**Julia Drake's [Travel/Living Well](#) Monthly Tip**

Ready for an island vacation this summer? Then head to Santa Catalina Island (<http://www.catalina.com/main.html>), where you can indulge in the "far away" feel of a Mediterranean vacation just an hour off the California Coast.



their impact on our lives, in that they can convey in an instant a meaning that would otherwise take a paragraph (or two or three) to express. Professor Langdon taught that symbols are not only the language of our dreams...but are a key to fulfilling our dreams (deepest desires) in the waking world. As an example he showed the class a slide of the color red, to which the class shouted out in unison, "STOP!" He showed a slide of a handshake, to which the class shouted, "Friendship. Agreement. It's a deal!" He asked the class to imagine the symbol that most people would associate with them. At this point I awoke (darn!). However, in the hypnagogic state (the twilight zone between sleep and awake) I was in, I pondered my personal symbol and what I represent to people.

Because I'm the author of "I Had the Strangest Dream," I believe I symbolize "dreams" to people as well as a resource to make their awake dreams (desires) come true.

I continued this train of thought and pondered WNBA/LA and what it symbolizes. After the Extraordinary BookWoman Day, more than ever I believe WNBA/LA symbolizes a network of movers and shakers in the book business as well as sisterhood of impassioned book enthusiasts. I envisioned the WNBA/LA "brand" raising its profile, and the profile of every woman (and man) associated with it.

As a side note, during the Extraordinary BookWoman Panel, Rocky Lange (from [www.bookstofilm.tv](http://www.bookstofilm.tv)) discussed, the "keyhole" of publishing success that everyone is trying to fit through. As I lay there contemplating my dream, it became clear to me that being affiliated with a sorority of bookwomen and attending events such as Extraordinary BookWoman Day certainly does not guarantee publishing success, it does, however, put a you in the a state of receptivity to great inspiration, support and time-saving advice as well as putting you in league with the people that can help turn the key and maybe even open the door to your publishing success.

As you enter into July, and celebrate the 4th and all that it symbolizes (independence, life, liberty, and the freedom to pursue all the happiness we can fit into a lifetime), I hope that you will ask yourself, "What do I symbolize?" "What do I WANT to symbolize to people?" or "What do I want my book(s) to be associated with?" Perhaps the ability to be conscious of the brand that we symbolize to people, and the books we write, agent, publish, or market, holds a (the) key to our success as bookwomen.

As one of our keynote speakers from Extraordinary BookWoman Day (and WNBA/LA member) Ruth Klein says, "There is no competition if you are being 100% authentically YOU."

## Recent Events - A Review

**Harriette's monthly**  
[Oracle Life Advice](#)

Quote 3: Pleasure, fun and celebrating life is the fuel for living in joy.



**Jacquie Jordan's**  
**On Camera tips:**

**On Camera Tips - Do I look at the camera?**

The most asked question to us from 'on-camera newbie's' is - "Do I look at the camera?" The answer is "No". Not if you are being interviewed. Keep your eyes to the interviewer and let the cameras find you. Exception of course, is for satellite interviews; blog reports; and if you have no one else to talk to but the camera!



**Teresa**  
**Fogarty's Publishing Basics**  
[www.ibpa-online.org](http://www.ibpa-online.org)

My number one tip for the independent publisher is to educate yourself about the publishing industry. Get connected to the people who have been through it before you...take the time to do the research before you begin writing the book.



**Melinda Woolf's**  
**soul-centered tips on Abundance**  
[www.iamsoulcentered.com](http://www.iamsoulcentered.com)

**JUNE 14 -- JUDY LOPEZ MEMORIAL AWARD DINNER,**  
**HOSTED BY WNBA/LA** by Ruth Light

The Judy Lopez Award Dinner is one of the biggest events of our WNBA/LA year, and this year's event, held on June 14 at the UCLA Faculty Club, was a delight! Our medal award winner brought his family, which included his 15-month old son, who called out "Daddy!" at such appropriate times that it seemed scripted! But first let me list the medalist and the honor book authors.

**MEDALIST:**  
[We Are the Ship:](#)  
The Story of the  
Negro Baseball  
League  
by Kadir Nelson

**HONOR BOOKS:**  
[Shooting the Moon](#)  
By Frances  
O'Roarke Dowell

[Savvy](#)  
By Ingrid Law

[The Penderwicks on Gardam Street](#)  
By Jeanne Birdsall

This is a national award, and is a prestigious feather-in-the-cap for the winning authors. Several people form the selection committee, and they read and assess the submitted books for months to find the best books in the genre. That process culminates in a gathering of authors and children's book enthusiasts of many different kinds to enjoy each other and to celebrate literature. The conversation is interesting, the conviviality is exciting, and the food is delicious! It's truly a great event!

Long-time member  
Meg Flanders is the  
driving force behind the  
organization of the  
dinner, and she has  
been doing this for 24  
years! Everyone  
involved with the award  
and the dinner care  
deeply about the event,  
and we hope that every  
year will bring more attendance by our chapter members and their families and friends.



\*\*\*\*\*

**JUNE 27 -- EXTRAORDINARY BOOKWOMAN DAY & SILENT**

Abundance is..... "More Than Enough!"



**Julie Spira's  
Cyber-Dating Tips**  
[www.CyberDatingExpert.com](http://www.CyberDatingExpert.com)

**Cyber-Dating Tip #1.** Get new professional photos taken. Men are visual and if they like what they see, they will contact you. Nothing disappoints a man more, than not recognizing their date when you first meet.

### BOARD MEMBERS

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**AUCTION** by Kelly Sullivan Walden; Photos generously provided by Joyce Schwarz ([www.joycecom.com](http://www.joycecom.com))

My e-mail box is full today with people telling me how much they enjoyed WNBA/LA's first annual Extraordinary BookWoman Day. If you missed the event, don't despair, we have it available for you to watch on our WNBA/LA website ([www.wnba-books.org/la](http://www.wnba-books.org/la)). And if you were there and you'd like to view the video to reinforce what you learned, it is yours for a limited time, for only \$9.95!



I'd like to thank our keynote speakers, **Ruth "Get Published" Klein, Cynthia "Unstoppable" Kersey, Jacquie "Get on TV" Jordan, and Marie "Feng Shui 4 Success" Diamond** for delivering keynote speeches/workshops that were so

empowering, diverse, and dynamic you could literally see the light bulbs flashing over the heads of the attendees!

I'd also like to thank **Joan Gelfand**, our National President for driving all the way from San Francisco to share about the wonders of WNBA, **Marsh Engle** for bringing her amazing inspiration, and **Allana Pratt** for her sensual, body break in the middle of the day...it is always good to let insight and vision make its way into the womb!

As new member, Susan Denaker, pointed out that our panel was an 11-pointed star with



phenomenal and eclectic publishing professionals to make for a most well-rounded publishing panel. Again, if you missed it, don't fret, go to [www.wnba-books.org/la](http://www.wnba-books.org/la) to witness this star-studded publishing panel.

**Here is a list of who was there:**

**Rocky Lange**--motion picture and television producer, writer and marketing expert ([www.bookstofilm.tv](http://www.bookstofilm.tv))

**Teresa Fogarty** from Independent Book Publishers Marketing Association. She represents thousands of independent literary publishers.

**Jay Jones** from FOX news-he's booked guests for Dr. Phil, Montel, CNN and FOX news.

**Amy Schiffman**--Partner in the Intellectual Property Group. (IPG) A long time literary agent, now a literary manager, Amy handles some of Hollywood's top screenwriters and best selling

authors including Dennis Lehane and Don DeLillo, and Angus MacLachlan who wrote the award-winning film Junebug.

**Mike Vezo**--his company, Westcom Associates, have been helping publishers and authors get their books to market for nearly twenty years.

**Judy Coppage**--the President of The Coppage Company, a literary and talent management/producing company, which was first founded in 1985 as an agency. Predominantly a literary company, Ms. Coppage sold the "Die Hard" novel to 20th Century Fox as well as hundreds of other projects.

**Bonnie Garvin**--a successful screenwriter, Edgar nominee, and professor of film writing at USC, Bonnie is also the Sr. Analyst at Books To Film. TV. She addressed how to adapt a book to script.

**Liora Mendeloff**--speaker agent and founder of InstantMediaKit.com, CEO of Lele & Associates, Inc., a boutique speaker agency. She specializes in bringing highly respected and sought-after speakers, best-selling authors and experts in the personal/professional development industry into the global market.

**Jacquie Jordan**--author of "Get On TV." She is the founder of TVGuestpert.com, a media development company concerned with raising the profile of guest experts and growing the business and brand of its clients.

**Lisa Schneiderman**--founder of Schneiderman Public Relations, an entertainment/cause-related boutique agency since 1998. She has also placed many on the national media circuit including two client spots on Oprah.

Our last minute surprise guest was Seinfeld co-producer **Carol Leifer** (author of "When You Lie About Your Age, The Terrorists Win.)

And a BIG THANK YOU to **Paul Ryan**, our fabulous panel co-moderator...and author of "How To Be Funny!"

#### **Many Thanks to WNBA/LA Members!**

The event certainly lived up to its name and would not have happened without the tremendous efforts of our vice president, **Melinda Woolf**, the co-creator of the event, who (among many other things) ensured that the audio and video was up and running so that you could watch it during and after the fact ([www.wnba-books.org/la](http://www.wnba-books.org/la)).

**Terri Negron**, our EXTRARDINARY web designer, worked tirelessly to ensure that the website was up to date (with so many of our all star panelists joining us at the last minute). **Laurel Shapiro** (the lady in the red hat), our Silent Auction Chair, together with **Ruth Light**, put together our most fabulous silent auction ever! Here's a photo of an amazing Silent Auction prize, called Author Dolls:



I also want to thank:

**Tess Cacciatore, Marsh Engle, Nai Oneheart, Julie Sullivan, Lisa-Catherine, Aida Kohi, and Margaret**



**Karlin**, who all helped to make sure the event ran smooth as silk. Thank you **Ruth Light** and **Suzanne Kleinbub**, for handling the onslaught of new members that joined as a

result of this amazing day.

**And by the way, WELCOME to all of you new members--- thank you for bringing your passion and vision to the day!**

Thank you to all the members that participated in the "Member Spotlights,"

**Julie Spira** (Thank you for the amazing Cyber Dating goodie bags for our speakers!), **Lisa Doctor, Jude Lutrell, Tess Cacciatore, Lorelei Shellest, Flo Selfman, Gayle Etcheverry, Bernadine Coleman, Michelle Gilstrap, and Sharmagne Leland-St. John and Laurel Arica** for sharing their amazing poetry! Such talent in WNBA/LA...it boggles the mind.

It is an amazing thing to see a vision realized. Needless to say, we are already percolating the vision of an even bigger and better version of the second annual Extraordinary BookWoman Day for next year. Stay tuned...and stay Extraordinary!

\*\*\*\*\*For those of you who attended, look for an e-mail with the information about how to redeem your free consultation with **Rocky Lange** and with **Donna Sozio** (value \$250)\*\*\*\*\*For those of you who did not attend...watch the videos of the day and learn what all the fuss was about: [www.wnba-books.org/la](http://www.wnba-books.org/la).

May all your dreams come true!

Kelly Sullivan Walden

## Upcoming Events - A Sneak Peek

Stay tuned for our WNBA/LA summer board meeting! More soon...

## Important Website & Newsletter News

If you would like to be included in our [Meet Our Members](#)" and "[Member Books](#)" pages for our [WNBA/LA website](#), please send our web mistress Terri Negron ([terriwnba@yahoo.com](mailto:terriwnba@yahoo.com)) the following information:

### Meet Our Members:

- Your Name
- Your Website (if applicable)
- 100-word description of you
- A thumbnail jpg photo of you (72 dpi, 125 pixels x 125 pixels-approx)

### Member Books:

If you have a book that you would like to list on our Website, please email Terri Negron ([terriwnba@yahoo.com](mailto:terriwnba@yahoo.com)) the following:

- Your Name
- Title and subtitle of your book
- Publisher, publishing date, and list price
- A 100-word description of your book
- The URL of the Website you would like to direct the public to for information and/or to purchase your book
- A thumbnail jpg of your book cover (72 dpi, 125 pixels x 125 pixels-approx)

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**Updated Features on our WNBA/LA website:**

[www.wnba-books.org/la](http://www.wnba-books.org/la)

[Home/News/Events](#): Find out what's happening in our member community. Stay updated on recent and upcoming events as well as member news: Who has just published a book? Who's preparing for book signing? Who's hosting a media event?

[About us](#): Learn about the origin and history of WNBA and our local LA chapter.

[Become a Member/Member benefits](#): What benefits do I enjoy as a member of WNBA? We have added an online membership application form for new members to join WNBA:

[www.wnba-books.org/la/membership.php](http://www.wnba-books.org/la/membership.php)

**To join WNBA, it's as simple as 1, 2, 3:**

1. Click on the "[Join Now](#)" button
2. Fill our on-line application and press "submit" button
3. Pay Your Membership fee through our secure website (\$40 + \$2 convenience fee, total=\$42) Or if you prefer, you may send a check for \$40 to: WNBA-LA, 944 Centinela Ave. Santa Monica, CA 904031.

[Member Books](#): a list of books, published by our members

[Meet our Members](#): Please note that our "Member Blogs" page has been combined with our new "Meet our Members" page. This is your chance to connect with other members, and share with them and the world what you're about and what's cooking in your career.

[Contact us](#): Questions, suggestions or concerns? Find out who to contact.

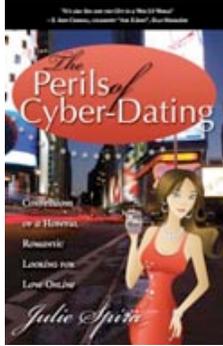
[Judy Lopez Memorial Award](#): Get information on our annual gala event in June.

[Dream Project](#): Learn more about the Dream Project. Headed by our president Kelly Sullivan Walden, this grade 6-12 educational program empowers students to discover and invent solutions to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

[Newsletter Archive](#): Missed a newsletter? Just download it on PDF. You can also download the [Newsletter Submission Guidelines](#) & WNBA style sheet. Refer to these guidelines and send your story off to [juliadrake28@gmail.com](mailto:juliadrake28@gmail.com).

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**Member Book of the Month**



**AUTHOR JULIE SPIRA - THE PERILS of CYBER-DATING** - Confessions of a hopeful romantic looking for love online. This romantic tell-all memoir spanning over 250 online dates, is filled with heartfelt, witty, and hilarious stories. Julie Spira, a pioneer in the Internet industry, became the first on her block to post an online dating profile. You'll follow her journey as she skillfully navigates the web, hoping to replace what she once thought was the love of her life with a new Internet mate.

Morgan James Publishing (February 13, 2009) \$16.95

Read Julie's Book Review from [Santa Monica Daily Press!](#)

Click to [purchase book](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**If you like to have your book featured, check the Website/Newsletter section for details on how to submit your books to our "Member Books" page on our website.**

## Featured Member of the Month

### Six Questions for Allana Pratt



#### 1. Who am I?

Thank goodness that I know that one with God. For years I have tried to be good enough, saved, seen. I am grateful for my path that has led me to know who we all are, connected, One, expressions of the Divine. This has allowed me to have pure moments of unguarded Being... total freedom to release my mind and to connect fully with my son, friends, lovers, clients, even audiences. And it came through loving the parts of me that I was ashamed of... the insecurity, the shame, the fear... once I loved these parts, barriers to profound connection dissolved.

these parts, barriers to profound connection dissolved.

#### 2. My favorite read is...

Emerson while being driven down a forest highway with the top down in the summer...

#### 3. One personal/professional accomplishment that I'm proud of is...

My courage to say no to a marriage that I had attracted to heal my helplessness and rediscover my strength...

#### 4. My secret talent is...

Making Saag.

#### 5. An experience that changed my life...

Within a year, watching my mother die and birthing my son.

Pure pain and pure bliss simultaneously held in my heart, equally beautiful..

**6. My advice to other WNBA/LA book women is...**

To only believe the voice inside that says, "You can do it."

## Member Stories

Carol Ann Howell: [Corn](#) (644 words)

Julia Drake: [Finding the "Harr" in Laughter Yoga](#) (Whole Life Times, June/July 2009 issue; 1,200 words)

## Member News

### John Hinwood

John has just been featured in the article, *Dare to Dream*, published in the Australian Magazine *Living Now*.

Click [here](#) to read the full article.

John has also been featured in the article, *Expect A Miracle*, published in the *Australian Chiropractor*.

Click [here](#) to read the full article.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Julie Spira

Julie appeared at the Donald J Pliner Boutique in Beverly Hills for a book signing of her best-selling book *The Perils of Cyber-dating*.

Click [here](#) to read the press release

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sharmagne Leland-St. John

2007 Pushcart Prize nominee

Editor-in-Chief

[Quill & Parchment](#) (Subscribe now to view the January 2008 through June 2009 issues)

Now accepting bookings for July!

#### Blockout dates:

- July 7th booked
- Fundraiser for the deaf production of HAiR the Rock Musical.

**Where:** At The Met Theatre, 1089 N. Oxford Avenue, Hollywood, CA

**When:** September (exact date to be announced.) The programme will be spoken word poetry accompanied by American Sign Language translators. (ASL). Theatre space graciously donated by Paul Koslo.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Kelly Sullivan Walden**

I have a Dream Mastery Tele-class that is coming up:  
<http://www.kellysullivanwalden.com/dream-workshops.html>

## Melinda's "Abundance is..."

Have you ever stopped to consider and simply ask yourself, "What is my definition of abundance?" and "How do I recognize it when it shows up in my life?"

I find that I am now asking myself these questions daily, and I am simply amazed at the constantly transforming definitions and awarenesses that keep morphing, and changing as abundance deepens within me and in my life.

I find that I very often ask this of people and I find it very interesting what I hear reflected back to me...

What is abundance anyway? Is it financial, is it material, is it physical health, wealth, fitness? Is it being in joy, and in being all 'lit up' with our lives?

Is abundance material wealth? Is it the car I drive, the house I live in, the friends, family, society that I am surrounded with?

Is abundance quantified by the relationships I have and the people in my life? Is abundance present in my actions, my words, my communications, my being?

Is abundance present in what I am creating, envisioning, & expanding, does it show up as my purpose for life?

Is abundance service? Is it in the faces of the people I help, the lives I touch, the choices I make, in what I give of myself to others?

Is abundance all of these things, is it in living a balanced, equanimous life?

Is abundance quantified by mastery, is there really any such thing as abundance mastery, or is abundance simply an essence, a quality, and a state of mind?

And as we are enlightened in our experience of abundance in our lives, is it not now our responsibility and our service to give that of ourselves that is abundant to others, so they may too share in our overflow, OUR ABUNDANCE!

As the root word of abundance in Latin, "abundantia," very simply means, "overflowing," therefore does abundance truly mean an overflow of any and everything in our lives!

One of my very favorite definitions of abundance, came recently from my mother, Debbie Hummel, and when I asked her, what abundance means to her, she simple said, "More than enough!"

Click here to read [More Than Enough!](#)-- Melinda's experience of abundance at the gas station.

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**So that's it for July.** Please note that the deadline for submissions to the August newsletter is **Thursday, August 18.** Please refer to the submission guidelines and formatting requirements posted on our WNBA/LA website: [CLICK to download](#)

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at  
[juliadrake28@gmail.com](mailto:juliadrake28@gmail.com)

**Thank you for your submissions!**

Julia Drake  
Newsletter editor  
[juliadrake28@gmail.com](mailto:juliadrake28@gmail.com)

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