

## Women's National Book Association

### Los Angeles Chapter

The Ultimate Resource for the Book Community

June 2008

Newsletter

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### Board Members:

President: Kelly Sullivan Walden

Vice-President: Melinda Woolf

Recording Secretary: LaVergne Rosow

Treasurer: Jeff Slottow

Immediate Past President: Ruth Light

Coresponding Secretary: Suzanne Kleinbub

Membership Co-Chairs: Suzanne Kleinbub and Ruth Light

Bookwoman Corespondent: Karin Lighthouse

Newsletter Editor: Julia Boehringer

Publicity Chair: open

Photo Album Coordinator: Diane Scott

United Nations Representative: Kelly Sullivan Walden

Annual Auditor: Holly Shaffer

### DEAR CHAPTER MEMBERS,

We are excited to launch our first newsletter! A monthly publication, it will keep you abreast of current events and exciting news from our local chapter, as well as WNBA on the national level--not to forget, the world of bookwomen at large.

#### **THE LA CHAPTER 2008**

Our LA chapter has undergone significant changes over the last few months. We have welcomed a lot of new members into our lively round, and the mix of experience and innovation truly makes us a 21st century association of women and men, in one of the most eclectic cities in the country: Los Angeles, the media capital of the world.

Our LA chapter has also undergone a change in leadership. Ruth Light, who served as a dedicated and



Dear WNBA-LA Chapter Members,

It's been an amazing four years!!

Four years ago our chapter sent me to the National WNBA meeting in Detroit, thus beginning my sharp learning curve as the president of our chapter. During my tenure I've worked with many of you on several of the new or ongoing projects, and I send a warm THANK YOU to everyone who has helped!

Our mission statement uses the words "friendly forum" to describe our chapter, and that is an apt description of my experience. We have a chapter of talented, interesting, intelligent women, and I've been delighted to be at the helm.

And now, that helm is being transferred to our capable, enthusiastic and gifted Vice-president, Kelly Sullivan Walden. So far, as Kelly and I work on the transition of office, Kelly has organized our own WNBA/LA panel of speakers for the September 28th West Hollywood Book Fair ([Weho Book Fair](#)) has found an inviting new meeting location at the PI restaurant on Sunset Blvd., and is getting our official website up and running--I can tell that's just the beginning! Our chapter continues to rev up with new members and high energy, and you can look forward to more of the same as Kelly leads the chapter.

You may think that I will sink into a comfortable role as Immediate Past President, but I assure you that is not the case! I will continue being involved with our chapter and with the Judy Lopez Memorial Foundation, and will take on WNBA duties on a national level as the new National WNBA Secretary.

My best wishes to everyone in the chapter, and especially to the new and returning Executive Board Members of the WNBA-LA!

Sincerely,  
Ruth Light

### A Word from Kelly...



Greetings LA Bookwomen!

Welcome to our new members, and welcome to all of you whose participation has made our organization great over the years.

I am very excited and honored for many reasons:

1. To have our first e-newsletter published and in your inbox (thank you Julia Boehringer!)
2. To announce the launch of our first ever WNBA-LA website (thank you Terri Negron!)
3. To be a part of this thriving chapter of bookwomen.
4. Starting this June, to be the new incoming WNBA-LA president.

Ruth Light has made this a graceful and joyous transition for me to move from VP to P. Three cheers to Ruth Light for living up to her name and doing such a fantastic job as President for the last four years of our chapter.

Office and will be announcing soon our screening dates (one at City Hall!) For those of you who don't know, the Dream Project is WNBA sponsored, and is a scholastic leadership program that links students with the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

For more information on the Dream Project: [Dream Project](#)

Our website ([www.wnba-books.org/la](http://www.wnba-books.org/la)) will offer a calendar of events to showcase all the fabulous events you would like to publicize, as well as offering you each an opportunity to blog and share with our chapter (and the world for that matter) who you are, what your interests are, what your dreams are, what you need to make your dreams come true, and how you can support chapter members in doing the same.

I look forward to an exciting, joyous, and productive year with all of you,

Sincerely,  
Kelly Sullivan Walden

## THE WNBA LA CHAPTER: OUR VISION FOR 2008

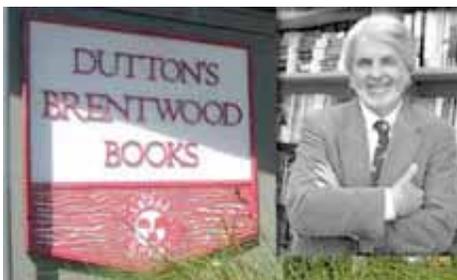


As part of a national organization, and UN sponsor, we see part of our vision to address and tackle timely topics, such as the protection of our environment, the discrimination of women, the promotion of literacy, and of course, the recognition of women's achievements in the world of books.

On the local level, our vision for this year is to continue to support the local book community through a seasonal program that educates, informs, inspires, and presents networking opportunities and timely topics concerning book publishing and issues surrounding the book industry. We want to empower through the written word.

## RECENT EVENTS 2008 -- A SHORT REVIEW

### **April 12th, 2008: A Farewell to Dutton's Bookshop**



WNBA-LA members, plus friends, gathered together on April 12th, 2008, to celebrate, remember, and say good-bye to Dutton's Brentwood Bookstore. Doug Dutton himself was not going anywhere, but his bookstore, icon for decades in Los Angeles and its environs, was closing. In attendance were Ruth Light, Anna Bruni Benson, Jeff Slottow, Barbara Cherne, Meg Flanders, Julia Boehringer, Julie Popkin, and Suzanne Kleinbub along with her husband, Don, and their dog, Mickey.

Some of the connections to our chapter are long, and interesting. Jeff Slottow, long-time member and current treasurer of the chapter, is the brother of the late Judy Lopez, who was a bookseller and sales rep and friend of Doug's. For many years Doug sponsored a staff member from his store to attend the Judy Lopez Awards dinner, given to honor authors of young adult literature. Doug also served for many years on the advisory board of the LA chapter of WNBA.

Dutton's.

Doug Dutton and his staff at the bookstore were supportive of our chapter since we began in 1975, and with this long history in mind, we voted to honor Doug with a gift membership to KUSC. Doug was busy teaching a class on that day so we met with his wife, Penny, and presented a certificate of appreciation along with the membership to KUSC.

Afterwards, we all celebrated our last visit to Dutton's Brentwood Bookstore by shopping for some of the remaining books on the shelves. It was a "mixed bag" of fun and sadness, and we wish Doug and Penny Dutton our very best!

Ruth Light

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### **June 1st, 2008: The Annual Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Excellence in Children's Literature**

The L.A Chapter is kicking off the month of June with the 23rd annual Judy Lopez Memorial Award for excellence in children's literature.

Judy Lopez was a bookseller and founding member of the LA chapter, and the awards are presented in her honor. Judy had a particular interest in literature for 9 to 12-year olds, and the winning books this year are:

#### **MEDALIST:**

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt (Clarion)

#### **HONOR BOOKS:**

Book of a Thousand Days by Shannon Hale (Bloomsbury)

Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate (Feiwel and Friends)

Revolution in Not a Dinner Party by Ying Chang Compestine (Henry Holt)

Elephant Run by Roland Smith (Hyperion)

Members and guests are cordially invited to a reception, followed by a delightful evening of celebration, good food, good company and powerful, dedicated authors.

**The event takes place Sunday, June 1st, at the UCLA faculty Center.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2008--A SNEAK PEEK

### **June 7th, 2008: National Meeting in San Francisco**

The WNBA National Executive Board Meeting will be held in San Francisco this year on June 7, 8, and 9. Kelly Sullivan Walden, our new chapter President, will represent us there, and possibly our new Vice-President, Melinda Woolf.

This meeting brings together the presidents of all of the chapters around the nation, plus committee chairs and representatives. It's a three-day event, discussing chapter business and finances, and national agendas, such as national and chapter awards, membership issues, long-range plans, and every day challenges.

Kelly attended last June in Boston as our Vice-President, and this is her first meeting as our President. We wish her well!

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of you as our chapter grows and evolves. The meeting begins at 2:00 pm.

**Meeting place:** Ruth Light's home - 3327 Moore St., LA 90066 - 310-397-4503

Feel free to bring a few snacks. Ruth will provide soft drinks, paper goods, chips and nuts.

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**September 28th, 2008: "A Shero's journey" panel discussion at the West Hollywood Book Fair**

Our chapter will have a booth at WeHo for the fourth year in a row! In our own panel discussion on "Authoring a Book, The Shero's Journey" our members will discuss the triumphs and labor pains of birthing a book, types of publishing options available, and words of wisdom about how to persist through the perils of publishing.

Check our upcoming newsletters for info on how to be a FEATURED AUTHOR or POET, and for ways to participate, attend and help.

**For more information on this event, please visit:** [WEHO 2008 WNBA Panel](#)

## FUTURE ADDITIONS TO OUR WEBSITE

**Calendar Of Events:** Receive up-to-date information on member news, monthly happenings and events planned throughout the year 2008.

**MY WNBA-LA: Online Member Blog:** This a chance for members to create an individual profile, which allows them to interact, and share who they are, what their interests are and their dreams, with other members, so they can support each other in their respective paths.

**Featured Blog Of The Month:** Every month, members have the chance to blog on a current topic/event in the world of books and the world as a whole.

**Monthly Chat Room:** An online dialogue between members of our group, open to the public.

**Spotlight On...** Every month, our website and newsletter will feature one of our members in a short, lively Q&A about their life, career, their accomplishments and experiences in the world of books.

**The Green Life:** Every month, we will provide you with a few tips on how to give some love back to Mother Earth.

Here are this month's tips: The Green Life--

["How to reduce waste without losing much at all"](#)

For more information on these new features and more of the goodies planned, please check our website for updates:)

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## **LAST BUT NOT LEAST--a bit of Greek Mythology for your education and enjoyment:**

A recent WNBA gathering sparked a discussion about the "real" story on the sequencing of people and events surrounding the mythical story of the Labyrinth of the Minotaur. One of our members, LaVergne Rosow, ventured to find the truth, which led her on a journey into Greek mythology, centering around the island of Crete.

## AT LAST -- CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

If you have ideas, or suggestions for topics you'd like to share with us, or if you'd like to contribute stories, essays, anecdotes, etc. to this newsletter, please e-mail me at:

[boehringer28@gmail.com](mailto:boehringer28@gmail.com)

I'd love to hear from you.

Thanks!

Julia Boehringer

Women's National Book Association, Los Angeles Chapter

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