

The Island Muse

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May 2017

Roland Allnach Receives LIAG 2017 Founder's Award

by John P. Cardone

Sometimes, people are nominated for the LIAG Founder's Award because of the practical side of what they do, and other times, for the heart-felt aspects. This year, we had one nomination from each category.

Roland Allnach was nominated more for the practical things he does, but that doesn't mean it isn't heart-felt. Roland has been a long time LIAG member. In the last few years he has served on the organization's board of directors. In this capacity Roland has made numerous recommendations on possible events, ways to promote the LIAG, and suggested how members can participate and sell their books. He analyzes the problems we face as an organization and as authors trying to promote our books, and then seeks and executes solutions to problems.

In addition, Roland has also worked as the LIAG Event Coordinator. either assisting Linda Maria Frank, or working directly to line up and coordinate assorted author events. Roland exemplifies the essence of giving back to the LIAG for the benefit of all. This has been clearly demonstrated by his unselfish desire to make the LIAG a recognized organization by searching out venues which can benefit us all. These events give LIAG members opportunities to promote and sell their books. He voluntarily researches venues, or event opportunities around Long Island and then creates a fact sheet so the board can vote to approve the events for members. Plus, on event day, Roland is always the "first" to arrive ready to set-up for the day and being the last to leave.

Frequently, he is the one who sets up the tents and takes them down lugging them home for safe keeping.

Roland has brought a positive energy to the organization. He is present at meetings and events, listens to people's suggestions, and has helped bring an awareness of LIAG to Long Islanders.

He is willing to share his knowledge about book marketing and publishing to help other members. Roland has presented at the LIAG's First Wednesday meetings where he teaches members about marketing strategies and instructional techniques – sometimes sharing successes of his own published works or his own promotional experiences. He helped spearhead our new outdoor tent look coupled with the idea of

introducing a "book-shelf" presence for those authors not able to participate at any LIAG event for a minor fee.

Furthermore, Roland has helped the Long Island writing community by presenting at assorted venues sharing his book publishing knowledge, as well as encouraging others to write. Whether it is a formal meeting or during a one-on-one conversation Roland is always willing to help others. He is a deserving recipient of the 2017 LIAG Founder's Award.



Please share your articles and photo submissions - send to newsletter editor, Karen Bonnet at kbonnet7@gmail.com.

A Note From Your President...Jeff Rimland



Hello fellow authors!

So far the response to the LIAG Traveling Bookstore has been great. This second appeal is to address two points.

We are going to the **Brooklyn Book Festival on September 17, 2017!**

With a crowd of nearly 30,000 solely interested

in books, this is an unbelievable opportunity for LIAG members. The pricing to have a book on the shelf for this event is the same as for all other events, \$10/title/event. For Brooklyn, however, the table signing will be handled differently. Rather than an all day sitting we will offer sessions two hours in length for \$30. You can have a signing in lieu or in combination with shelf space. Table slots will be handled on a first-come first-serve basis. Depending on the number of books for shelves and the number of authors for table slots will determine the final number of available

table slots.

Availability for other event dates: There are still a few openings for table signings. Shelf spaces are also available. Remember, you can always opt in for as many or as few dates as you wish. As the year progresses notices will be sent prior to events for anyone who wishes to have their book displayed.

Last but not least, here's a recap of the event calendar:

May 21, Sunday: Great Neck Street Fair

June 4, Sunday: Port Washing Harborfest

June 17, Saturday: Kings Park Day

July 29, Saturday: Eisenhower Park Art, Craft, & Gift Market

September 17, Sunday: Brooklyn Book Fair

October 1, Sunday (tentative date): Sea Cliff Mini-Mart

November 18, Saturday: East Islip Craft & Gift Fair

December 16, Saturday: Selden Holiday Craft Fair

Please direct all LIAG Traveling Bookstore queries to Roland Allnach, Events Coordinator, at: fiction@rolandallnach.com.

A Note From Your Editor

It is a pleasure to return to LIAG as your newsletter editor. I've been on hiatus for nearly a year now because of family, work and other obligations, including my daughter's marriage, a new grandson that we excitedly welcomed into our family, and another wedding (my son and his fiancé) which is happening in the next few months!

I trust all of you are as happy as I am to welcome spring. I love the beautiful flower blooms all around us and to see the green leaves adorning our trees. With the return of spring, we tend to experience new projects and tackle them with renewed energy.

I would enjoy sharing your stories, writer's tips, photos, and book news with the LIAG membership. I'm hoping to distribute four newsletters annually, and look forward to hearing from you with your news.

The layout of the *Island Muse* has changed slightly; it is now six to eight pages with lots of photos and shorter articles. When you send articles, try to keep the words to no more than 300.



Readers enjoy reading articles with great information, but they also love to see pictures which tell a visual story, so send photos to accompany the articles.

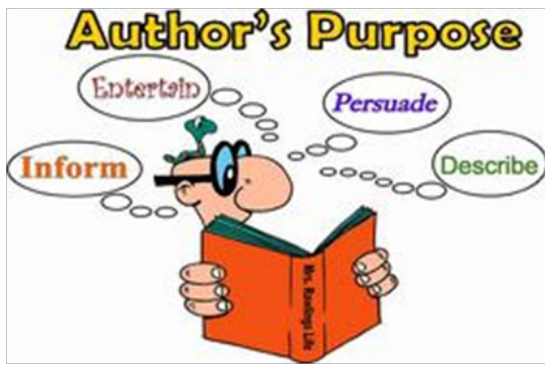
I look forward to working with all of you in the upcoming months. In the meantime, happy spring!

Karen Bonnet

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

- Thomas A. Edison

Thoughts to Ponder On...



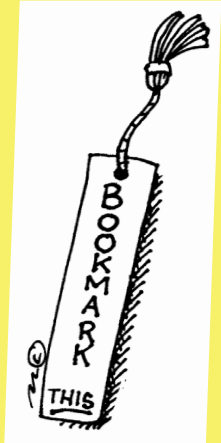
Deep within the pages
In the heart of every book
Lies a wealth of **INFORMATION**
You have only to take a look
It will tickle your imagination
Make you squirm with delight
In its quest to **ENTERTAIN** you

As you soar to heavenly heights
It can daunt and overwhelm you
Attract your mind and make you think
In its bid to **PERSUADE** you
Read again before you blink
And finally the web is cast
Beyond the chapter's bend
And there the pages will **DESCRIBE**
The foe, the villain, the lover or friend

by Anne Colton

Bookmark by Tom Young

I remember when you won me in a writing contest some 30 plus years ago
along with a gift certificate to Chad's Pizzeria.
To celebrate, you took that beautiful red head, Julie.
If there was ever an "11", she was it; Unbelievable! Whatever happened to her?
Chad's, you may remember, closed a few years later. You can't have a pizzeria
with that name and expect to make it.
Anyway, as wonderful and learned this relationship has been
You tick me off when you call it a night at a wrong moment.
Nestle me between two pages and I have to live with your decision until
you decide to pick us up again. Honestly, your timing in many cases stinks!
You did that just as Atticus was warning Scout about weird neighbor Boo Radley.
With Truman, as he was getting ready to change the world in 1945.
Moe Green, before his meeting with The Don and with Lennie, twice; once with
the puppy and then with Curley's wife. I forgive you for none of these decisions.
I do however give you credit.
You shared me with your kids when they were young.
Nothing beats *The Little Train That Could*, Over and over again.



Editor's Note: Tom Young is a LIAG member who utilizes personification in his poetry writing.

New Member News...

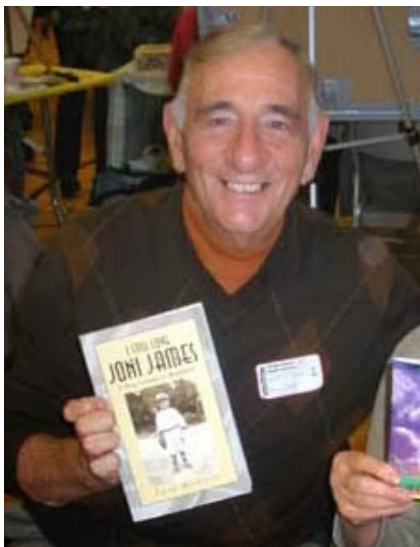


Jack Bilello



Born, raised and educated in East New York, Brooklyn, **Jack Bilello**, a former Fulbright Scholar and Chairman of History at the Lindenhurst, New York Public School System, lives in Massapequa Park, Long Island. He has served as an adjunct professor at St. Joseph's College and as a field supervisor at Dowling College on Long Island. He is the author of four novel as well as numerous magazine and newspaper articles and reviews. He has appeared on radio and TV programs and has been a lecturer and guest speaker at various venues, including Molloy College, Farmingdale University and Long Island University.

Books by Jack include: *Heart of a Lion*, *I Still Love Jonie James*, *Bonds of War*, and *American Patrol*. His informative lectures are: WWII, THE CIVIL WAR, and LAUGH, CRY, THINK.



Joanne Krapp



JoAnn Vergona Krapp is a School Library Media Specialist and former elementary school teacher on Long Island, New York. Her articles on children's literature and programs to stimulate reading and writing have appeared in the periodicals *School Library Journal*, *School Library Media Activities Monthly*, *Library Talk*, and *Early Years*. Her children's publications include *Lollipop Mountain*, a fantasy in story and song; *Have A Happy*, a collection of children's holiday stories; *Holiday Time*, a revised edition of *Have A Happy*; *My Dinosaur Loves Circuses: a Design-Your-Own Dinosaur Book of Poems*; and *Missing Treasure Means Trouble*, an early chapter book adventure in which three children search for missing pirate treasure in an old lighthouse. *Trouble Times Three* is a sequel to *Missing Treasure Means Trouble*. Ms. Krapp resides in Farmingdale, New York where she teaches writing workshops for children and appears as guest author at Long Island schools. She is a member of the national Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators and the regional Long Island Children's Writers and Illustrators. In addition to her children's books, Ms. Krapp is a watercolor artist whose works include a wide array of subjects and have appeared in various Long Island exhibits.

Editor's Note: Jack and Joanne are our newest members. Welcome!

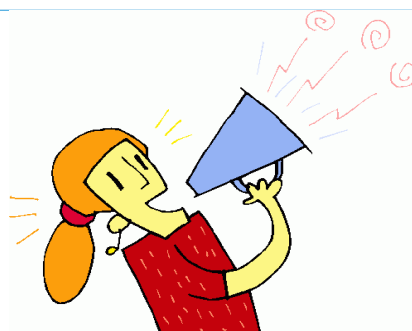
Members In the News...



Linda Maria Frank



Finally! The new Annie Tillery, *The Mystery of the Lost Avenger*, will be available. I'd like to provide Annie Fans with some previews. The book takes place in two times, the present and in 1943. The mystery revolves around Annie's great grandmother, Charlotte Wheeler, who was a Womens Air Service Pilot (WASP) during WWII. She tested and flew the Avenger aircraft for Grumann Aviation Corp. and became enmeshed in some wartime intrigue at the plant. Included here are two excerpts, one from each time period. In future posts I will let you know about the setting, the adventures, and best of all the characters. Buckle you seat belts and prepare for take-off! - Linda Frank



**Calling
All LIAG
Members!**

Wanted: Articles and photos for the newsletter. Send to kbonnet7@gmail.com any time. For more exposure and to share with visitors to LIAG's Facebook page, post to:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=long%20island%20authors%20>

Needed: A New Song

By John Krahn



Singing Lord,
is one of the joys of life.
The Psalmist says,
"Oh sing to the Lord a new song;
for He has done marvelous things."
Many times when I raise my
voice to you,
it must sounds like the same old tune.
It is not a song of praise
for marvelous things done.
But it is that old familiar chorus of
gripes and requests.
Help me Lord to be more sensitive
to your marvelous deeds.
Help me compose a song –
a totally new song.

Members In the News...

American

by Charlene Knadle



At the weekly poetry workshop I meet with, a fairly accomplished poet brought a fourteen-line poem whose title included (in parentheses) the words “sonnet for my father.” Aside from its having fourteen lines, however, the poem hardly resembled a sonnet: it had no rhythm at all, never mind iambic pentameter—no sense of a “little song”; it did not rhyme. Its thought progression did approximate that of an Italian sonnet, but just barely.

I remarked that, despite New Jersey poet laureate Gerald Stern’s getting away with calling his short poems sonnets (with a chuckle and his tongue firmly planted in his cheek), it seemed to me unwise for her to call her poem a sonnet. “Well, it’s an American sonnet,” she said.

I reflected on the butcherings of Haiku that have come to be sanctioned under the rubric American and, mentioning that, lamented the tendency to designate degenerate versions of known forms as American. Should we encourage this trend? Do we want our arts to be thought of the way we used to equate “Made in China” with “flimsy and cheap” (and perhaps have once again begun to do so)?

“American cheese,” one of the sixteen at the table called out, by way of offering an example.

I gasped—so true.

“Well, it started with Walt Whitman,” another said. Now, that was a disturbing thought, for me—and would be for many in this region, where Walt Whitman is lionized. The Walt Whitman Birthplace hosts many programs—readings, poetry contests, lectures, tours of the Birthplace, nature walks, celebrations, a Master Class in Poetry—involving multiple communities and drawing on talent from around the world. Across the highway from the Birthplace and Interpretive Center sits the well-established Walt Whitman Mall, which has a new facade—Walt’s poetry is inscribed in a repeat pattern on every wall. Inside, a statue of him stands firmly in the walkway. On the Birthplace gift-shop book rack beside copies of *Leaves of Grass* and scholarly books on Whitman is an anthology of poems and essays about Whitman, *Primal Sanities*, collected from local writers.



An institution of higher learning, Stony Brook University, recently hosted an hour of readings and remarks about Whitman on its radio station. Admittedly, Walt Whitman stretched Coleridge and Wordsworth’s idea of writing poetry in the language of common speech to an extreme, to the point that many did not recognize his work as poetry at all. Very few copies of his collected poems sold. (In a nice irony, allusions to him and quotes from his work have appeared for decades almost everywhere, and continue to do so.) Scholars have recognized Whitman as the first to write poetry in a non-European, truly American voice and, as such, he is considered the father of American poetry. Was he also the beginning of a European attitude toward America’s written arts as being substandard? If Ezra Pound, T.S. Eliot, Robert Frost and others restored the world’s—including our own—confidence in American literary achievement, could it nevertheless be lost, in our penchant for using the names of centuries-old forms to describe products that but vaguely resemble them? Shakespeare redesigned the Italian sonnet to please himself, but as he did so, he preserved its admirable features. He wrote scores of sonnets to his own pattern and produced poems of consistently high accomplishment. That consistency and quality, along with the familiar rhythm, thought progression, and a rhyme scheme, earned him the right to use the name. “Well, I could just delete the word sonnet,” my workshop friend said.

Her poem was a good one, a well-executed open-form lyric. All it needed was to be allowed to exit on its own terms.

Board of Directors and LIAG Mission Statement

LIAG LOVES ACTIVE MEMBERS! YOUR THOUGHTS AND GOOD IDEAS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

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The LIAG Mission Statement

The mission of the Long Island Authors Group is to encourage, support and promote authorship, primarily in the Long Island, New York area.

We are a group of local book authors who have joined together to conduct activities and events that add to the availability of our published works while promoting the Long Island writing community. Our group works with retail bookstores arranging book talks and signings, and conducts events at various locations that are open to the public.

Our group fosters knowledge and experience by conducting educational seminars on assorted topics such as writing workshops, marketing techniques, promotion strategies, and the use of emerging Internet outlets & new technologies.

Join Us For LIAG's next First Wednesday Meeting

7:00 PM

The Bonwit Inn

1 Vanderbilt Parkway

Commack, NY