

DISCOVER LOCAL AUTHORS

Gulf Gate Public Library

Thursday, April 16, 2015

12:30 p.m.

Gabrielle Lennon – *After Midnight: A Book of Poetry* (Poetry); *Touch Me Real and Other Stories* (Fiction)

Gabrielle Lennon's professional life has been a mixture of extensive acting (theater, film and voice-over work), writing (various genres), performance art (including work at New York City's The Knitting Factory) and singing work (including singing in the musical group in the finale at the United Nations birthday party in New York City). She has traveled extensively throughout the United States and the world. Gabrielle writes newspaper and magazine articles, ad copy and all genres of creative writing. She also teaches acting, creative writing and public speaking.

12:45 p.m.

Tom J. Hosted – *The Naughty Red Fox* (Juvenile Christmas Fiction)

Tom J. Hosted is a retired corporate executive who held various positions as controller or treasurer of major operating units both within the United States and overseas. Tom grew up in South America, graduated from Georgetown School of Foreign Service with a Bachelor of Science in Finance, served as an infantry lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He was also an elected public official for the Town of Darian, Connecticut. Hosted is married and has two adult children. His hobbies include current events, history and genealogy.

1 p.m.

Jane Gill – *A Matter of Pride* (Literary Fiction)

Jane Gill has lived in Florida since the early 70s. She is a 10-year veteran of Mote Marine's Sea Turtle Patrol, walking the beaches at dawn to track sea turtle activity. She is a member of the Suncoast Writers Guild and the Flagler County Historical Society. Her memoirs have been frequent winners of the Dan Howe annual competition of Sarasota County (doorwaysmemoirs.com). Her short story "Homecoming" was a recent winner in the Southern Writers 2013 Short Tales competition. Her novel *A Matter of Pride*, set in Florida, is available through Amazon, Barnes and Noble online, her publisher's website doubleedgepress.com and the book's website.

1:15 p.m.

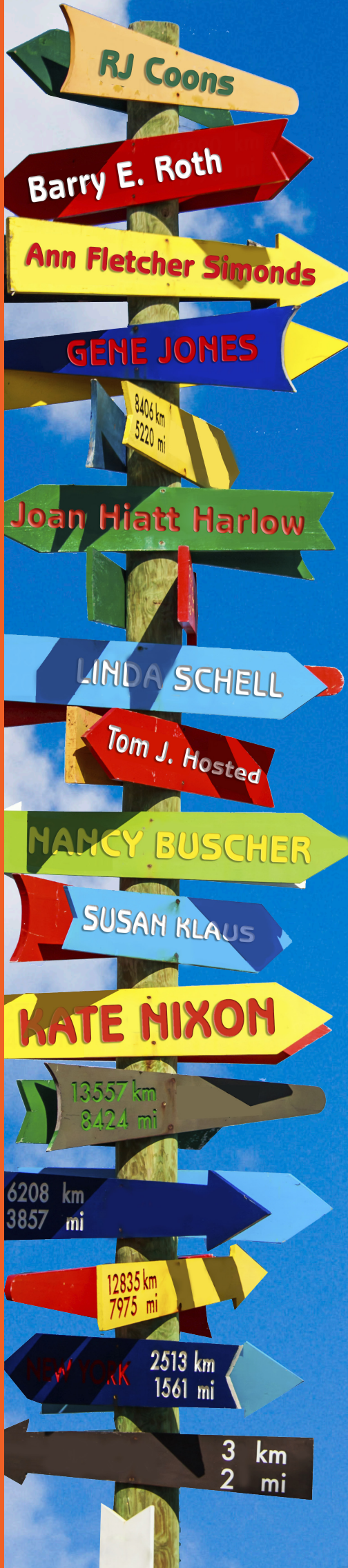
Ed Hooper (with Spokes Ableman) – *Don't Push Me: Walking The Wheelchair Walk* (Social Science; People with Disabilities)

Ed Hooper started writing when he was in Vietnam in 1968, composing mostly poetry. He has been writing about disability ever since he was disabled 36 years ago. He has published more than 100 articles and poems on both the disability experience and a variety of other subjects. When he moved to Sarasota in the late 80s, he worked on the front lines to improve wheelchair accessibility. He is married with two children and two young grandchildren. In *Don't Push Me*, he discusses the many issues surrounding people living with disabilities, using his alter ego, Spokes Ableman, to lighten the tone and speak with uninhibited directness.

1:30 p.m.

Dennis Blanchard – *Three Hundred Zeroes: Lessons of the Heart on the Appalachian Trail* (Nonfiction; Outdoor Adventure)

Dennis Blanchard and his brother, Tom, were to hike the Appalachian Trail together when they completed their military duty. It wasn't to be, Tom was killed in action in Vietnam in 1968. In 2007, Dennis took his brother's Purple Heart Medal and set out to hike the 2,176 mile trail. His subsequent adventure was the basis for his highly successful first book. Dennis is an Indie publisher and has found success with both print and eBook publishing. Born and raised in Connecticut, Dennis, a retired electrical engineer, now lives in Sarasota.



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Gulf Gate Public Library (cont.)

Thursday, April 16, 2015

1:45 p.m.

Jane V. Blanchard – Women of the Way: Embracing the Camino; Hadrian's Wall Path: Walking into History (Nonfiction)

Jane V. Blanchard is the author of the Woman on Her Way series. Since retiring in 2011, she has visited 16 countries by foot and by bicycle, and written two books about her wanderings. In her first book, *Women of the Way: Embracing the Camino*, Blanchard mingles her personal story with conversations she had with modern-day female pilgrims who also trekked the Camino. In *Hadrian's Wall Path: Walking into History*, Blanchard shares her discoveries along the 84-mile path across northern England. In addition to traveling, writing and publishing, Blanchard enjoys gardening, cooking, reading and spending time with friends and family. Now 65 years old, she plans more backpacking trips and books.

2 p.m.

Susan Klaus – Secretariat Reborn; Shark Fin Soup; Flight of the Golden Harpy (Thrillers; Fantasy)

Susan Klaus is an author of fantasy and thrillers. *Flight of the Golden Harpy* is a Royal Palm Literary Award Winner for Best Science Fiction. Her thriller, *Secretariat Reborn*, is a FAPA Silver Presidential Award winner for Best Adult Florida Fiction. Its sequel, *Shark Fin Soup*, won the RPLA for second best unpublished thriller. Klaus is the host/co-producer of *The Authors Connection Radio Show* that has 18 million listeners in 148 countries and is president/founder of Sarasota Authors Connection Club with 300 members. She was born in Sarasota and resides in Myakka City, where she has bred and raced thoroughbred horses and now raises rodeo bulls.

2:30 p.m.

Eloise Hanner – The First Big Ride: A Woman's Journey; Letters from Afghanistan; Posted in Paraguay (Nonfiction Travel/Adventure)

Eloise Hanner was raised in the small town of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and graduated cum laude from the University of Idaho. Hanner and her husband left their stock brokerage careers in their late 40s and rode their bicycles across the United States. That became Hanner's first book, *The First Big Ride: A Woman's Journey*. Her second book, *Letters from Afghanistan*, was a look backward in time to their life as Peace Corps volunteers in Afghanistan in 1971, before the Taliban and the Russians. Her most recent book, *Posted in Paraguay*, is the humorous account of their middle-aged return to the Peace Corps. She and her husband live in Sarasota.

2:45 p.m.

McClaren Malcolm – Spirit of the Valley: History of a Georgia Mountain Church, Old Values Build Bridges to Spiritual Living; Dolls Remembered; Doorways Memoirs (Spiritual History; Memoir)

McClaren Malcolm grew up in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. *Who's Who in America* has recognized her body of work, and she has won national awards for her published articles and short stories. She, along with her husband and two cats, host northern travelers at their guest house *Waterway Breeze* in Venice.

3 p.m.

Gene Jones – Suwannee Divide (Historical Fiction)

Gene Jones was born and raised in Pinellas County, Florida. Jones practiced law in Sarasota until retirement. He wrote the books *Adventuring in Paradise*, a non-fiction outdoor recreation guide for Southwest Florida, and *Suwannee Divide*, a historical novel about Florida during the Civil War. He is a fifth generation Floridian whose ancestors fought on both sides during the Civil War; this unique background gives him an insightful perspective on Florida's environment and history. Several Florida newspapers including *Sarasota Herald Tribune*, *Ocala Star Banner* and *Fort Myers News-Press* have published his guest columns. He teaches courses on *The Civil War and Reconstruction* for the Sarasota County School Board, Adult and Community Enrichment program.

3:15 p.m.

Tanya Weinberger – Grey Matter With a Pinch of Cayenne (Nonfiction)

Tanya Weinberger is an award winning animator, writer and producer of short films and videos for television and international festivals. She has also applied her creative magic to song writing, jewelry designing, sheep farming, fossil hunting and quilting. She now divides her time and creative energies between writing and illustrating books for kids and wandering the beautiful beaches of Florida hunting for shark's teeth, while ideas for future projects continue to flood her ever animated and giggling brain. Weinberger is a published author of 14 books for children.