

Literary Women



Summer 2009

CWO

CapeWomenOnline  
Where CapeWomen Shine

Inspire • Encourage • Network • Share

CapeWomenOnline serves as a venue for the women of Cape Cod to share their ideas, experiences and resources while inspiring each other in their life's journey.

National League of American Pen Women

Conducting and Promoting Professional Work in Art, Letters, and Music Since 1897

1300 Seventeenth Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-1973



## NLAPW: A Place for Women in the Arts

by Christina Laurie

Creative women of Cape Cod periodically gather to learn more about their art and share their expertise through the Cape Cod Branch of the National League of American Pen Women.

Founded in 1897, in the spirit of "bringing together women journalists, authors, and illustrators for mutual benefits and the strength that comes of union," the League is the oldest professional women's organization in the world.

In 1978, following its 80th birthday, the League was presented with the Literary Hall of Fame Award in recognition of its contribution to the cultural life of the United States. Today, professional women in art, writing and music make up a national organization of over 4,200 professionals who are organized into over 150 Branches across the states. In Massachusetts, there are branches on Cape Cod, Boston, Wellesley and Merrimack Valley.

Meeting and networking with members of all three categories of art, writing and music gives us a greater understanding and knowledge of the creative arts in our community.

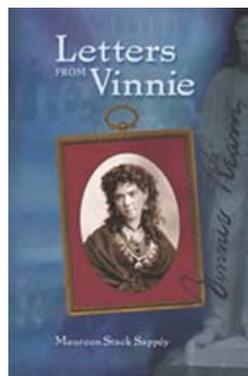
Although the Cape Cod Branch of the Pen Women meet only four times a year, we stay connected through phone, email and newsletters. As we are all working women, our meetings are held in different locations on the Cape, at times designed to accommodate all members.

Our national headquarters is a museum-type Tudor house in the Dupont Circle district of Washington, DC, just a short walk from the White House. One of the perks of being a Pen Woman is that we can stay at the historic Pen Arts Building for just \$50 a night.

The Cape Cod Branch extends an invitation to all women who work in the creative fields to attend our next meeting - a garden tea- on Sunday, June 28, at the home of a Sandwich member.

For an invitation and more information on becoming a Pen Woman, please call Christina Laurie, vice president and membership chair at 508-540-0762 (home) or 508-274-8090 (cell) or email her at [cglaurie@Juno.com](mailto:cglaurie@Juno.com). Membership confirmation includes proof of work completed in the last five years.

Christina Gummere Laurie joined the Pen Women in Worcester in 1967 and presently serves on the national board. She is a past president of both Wellesley and Cape Cod branches and also serves as state president. A former newspaper writer, she is the author of six books, including one of Haiku. A retired ordained United Methodist minister, she is a free lance writer who has lived on the Cape for over a decade and was formerly a summer resident all her life.



LETTERS FROM VINNIE

by Maureen Stack Sappey [www.maureensappey.com](http://www.maureensappey.com)

This historical novel, written by Pen Woman Maureen Stack Sappey, offers a unique perspective of Abraham Lincoln. Through the eyes of teenage sculptor Vinnie Ream, also a Pen Woman, we see Lincoln in unguarded moments of sorrow & joy, anxiety & hope.

Vinnie's singular vision helps us understand the man who mended our broken nation. Available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

## NLAPW Launch Lincoln Legacy Book

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. LINCOLN:  
A COMMEMORATIVE COLLAGE

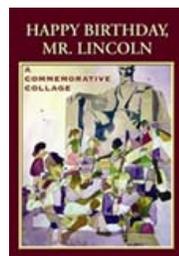
The National League of American Pen Women (NLAPW) as a pre-Lincoln Bicentennial Celebration event launched its book Happy Birthday, Mr. Lincoln: a commemorative collage

As a multi-faceted project designed to celebrate the life & legacy of Abraham Lincoln & disseminate a greater understanding of his concepts of freedom, equality & reconciliation, the NLAPW challenged their membership to produce artistic, dramatic, literary & musical works that speak to Lincoln's style of leadership, his contemplative character & his persuasive use of language.

Published by Pen Women Press, located in Washington DC, proceeds of book sales are used to establish a Lincoln Legacy Scholarship award for students that produce literary works of merit which best exemplifies one or more of Lincoln's contributions to the American ideals of freedom, equality & opportunity.

TO ORDER A COPY OF  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. LINCOLN

Forward your name, mailing address & payment of \$28 to:



NLAPW, 1300 17th Street NW  
Washington DC 20036-1973

The National League of American Pen Women [www.nlapw.org](http://www.nlapw.org)  
appreciates your support of its projects.

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