

FAWCHICAGO.ORG
April 2023 NEWSLETTER



Wednesday April 12, 2023 Program
12:00 Noon at the Fortnightly of Chicago

Program: Author LISA BARR



Lisa Barr is the New York Times bestselling author of *WOMAN ON FIRE*, *THE UNBREAKABLES* and the award-winning historical thriller *FUGITIVE COLORS*, which won the IPPY gold medal for "Best Literary Fiction 2014" and first prize at The Hollywood Film Festival (Opus Magnum Discovery Award). In addition, Lisa served as an editor for *The Jerusalem Post*, managing editor of *Today's Chicago Woman*, managing editor of *Moment* magazine, and as an editor/reporter for the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Among the highlights of her career, Lisa covered the famous "handshake" between the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the late PLO leader Yasser Arafat, and President Bill Clinton at the White House. Lisa has been featured on *Good Morning America* and *Today* for work as an author, journalist, and blogger. In breaking book news: Actress Sharon Stone is set to produce and star in the film adaptation of *WOMAN ON FIRE*.



Rabin,
her

WOMAN ON FIRE

Synopsis

New York Times bestseller *WOMAN ON FIRE* is a gripping tale of a young, ambitious journalist embroiled in an international art scandal centered around a Nazi-looted masterpiece -- forcing the ultimate showdown between passion and possession, lovers and liars, history and truth.

- ** NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER ...
- ** USA TODAY BESTSELLER
- ** Barnes & Noble March Book of the Month -- Fiction Pick
- ** Audible #1 Bestseller/Mystery-Hist Fiction-Suspense

Luncheon reservations and cancellations are due no later than 6:00 PM Thursday April 6th.

Call: Pat Adelberg - (847) 588-0911
or Peggy Kuzminski - (cell) (773) 710-8637
for reservations

APRIL LUNCHEON MENU

Asparagus soup, tarragon, blood orange oil
Cavatelli with braised short ribs, caramelized onions, and a Parmesan herb fonduta
Red velvet cake, cardamom yogurt mousse, strawberry

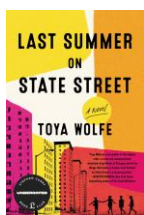
Make your reservation ASAP. Luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon in the main floor dining room of the Fortnightly Club of Chicago, 120 E. Bellevue Place. The Fortnightly has COVID-19 safety measures in place. The seating is tables of 6 – 8 socially distanced. Proof of vaccination is no longer required. **Please remember that vegetarian meal requests are special order, and the Fortnightly chef only prepares the number of meals that are requested. Do not ask the staff for a vegetarian meal at the luncheon if you did not pre-order one at the time of your reservation.**

- ✓ Cost is \$45.00 Pay by check(preferred) payable to FAW at the door. Cash is accepted also.
- ✓ Vegetarian meals should be requested at the time you make your reservation.
- ✓ You must call to cancel your reservation, otherwise you will still be charged.
- ✓ Group reservations - please only have one person make the group request to avoid confusion.
- ✓ You may request a permanent (standing) reservation for all the meetings. You must then call and cancel any program you can't attend—otherwise FAW is still charged for your meal and we must charge you.

Extra! Extra! Adult Literature Awards Committee Chooses 2022-2023 Literature Award Winners!

Karen Pulver and Carrie Brenner, co-chairs of the Literature Awards Committee, are pleased to present the 2022-2023 FAW Literature Award Prize Winners:

Last Summer on State Street by Toya Wolfe

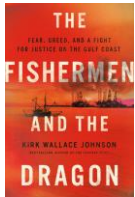


We are pleased to give an award to Chicago writer Toya Wolfe for her first book “*Last Summer on State Street*”. She has an MFA from Columbia College. Her work has appeared in *African Voices*, *Chicago Journal*, *Chicago Reader*, *Hair Trigger 27* and *Warpland: A journal Of Black Literature and Ideas*.

Last Summer on State Street is the story of the destruction of the Robert Taylor Homes in 1999 told from the perspective of 12-year-old Felicia. Felicia is part of a group of three girls with a troubling fourth added as the story progresses. They start with the simple game of childhood jump rope and then progress through an accelerated adolescence. The story intertwines the loss of innocence of the girls with the social changes brought about by the growing number vacant homes around her. The author engages with rich characters ranging from old women to “gang-bangers” to young children, all facing terrible challenges. You will leave this with book with a new understanding of the problems of public housing and insight into how love is given. Although this book is set in 1999, the story resonates of today’s societal issues.

--Carrie Brenner

***The Fisherman and the Dragon* by Kirk W. Johnson**



The Fisherman and the Dragon recounts the 1970’s clashes along the Gulf Coast of Texas between white fisherman and Vietnamese displaced by the recent war in Vietnam. While both groups tried to eke out a living from dwindling catches, white fishermen blamed their economic woes on the Vietnamese instead of on corporate polluters who poisoned the water, decimating the fish populations and leading to strange mutations. Despite efforts at mediation between the groups, a truce was short-lived, with violence erupting and boats and homes being burned. When a white fisherman was killed by a young Vietnamese man in self-defense, the Ku Klux Klan seized the opportunity to threaten and terrorize the refugees.

Johnson’s work is a compelling piece of investigative journalism, presenting information gleaned from government sources, townspeople, white fishermen, refugees, Klan members, police, lawyers, environmentalists, etc., weaving them together in a gripping tale. All of our readers commented on what a page-turner this book turned out to be.

Although these events happened well over forty years ago, the issues resonate strongly today. It is a tale of environmental destruction, corporate greed, racism, white supremacy, growing authoritarianism and fascism, ethnic clashes, and the fragile status of the American dream. The tragedy lives on, and as William Faulkner reminded us, “The past is never dead. It’s not even past.”

Kirk W. Johnson, a Senior Fellow at the USC Annenberg Center on Communication, Leadership, and Policy, has written for *The New Yorker*, and has been profiled in *60 Minutes* and *This American Life*. Among his many accomplishments is the List Project to help resettle Iraqi allies

(Review by Sheryl Mylan)



Mark your Calendar for the May 12th Literature Awards Luncheon

Coming Soon... Young People's Award Committee will present their prize winners.



President's Corner –Ida Hagman

March has been a busy month for FAW members. The awards committees are making their final choices. The FAW board is getting ready for the April luncheon, which will include a brief annual meeting.

Also, this month I'm pleased to announce FAW's new Board slate for 2023-2024:

President Ida Hagman

Vice- President Karen Burnett

Secretary Patti Smart

Treasurer Diana Adams

Newsletter Editor Tammie Bob

Foundation Fund, Chair Karen Burnett

Literature Awards Karen Pulver/Carrie Brenner

Young People's Literature Awards Angela Gall

Luncheon – Social Carol Eshaghy

Membership Jenniver Zvi

Programs Tammie Bob/Christine Spatara

Revisions Ina Flink

Sustaining Clubs. Helene Madsen

Yearbook - Awards Program Dale Davison, Karen Baker

Website Manager Karen Baker

Foundation Trustees

Karen Burnett, chair, 1-year t

Vivian Mortensen, 3-year term

Christine Spatara, 2 year term

We'll formalize the slate with an official vote at the April 12th meeting. Thanks to all those who agreed to continue in their roles. Thanks to Karen Burnett, who agreed to step up to vice president, to Diana Adams, who will serve as treasurer, and to Jennifer Zvi who will take on membership. As special thanks to nominating committee members, Pat Adelberg, Karen Baker, Angela Gall, and Jennifer Zvi.

2023- 2024 Luncheon dates

And there's more news -- Carol Eshaghy, our social chair, has secured our dates for next year's luncheons at the Fortnightly. Put these on your calendar.

Next Year's Luncheon Dates

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Friday, May 10, 2024

Remember to make your reservation for the April Luncheon by April 6. See you on at the Fortnightly.

Ida