



# WIFV NEWS

## September 2013 Members in the News

Edited by Flo Dwek

### Tracy Baumgardner Gets Nat Geo TV Team Emmy® Nomination

Congratulations to editor Tracy Baumgardner, part of a talented team from National Geographic Television that recently received an Emmy® nomination for Outstanding Nature Programming for *War Elephants* - a courageous story of elephant conservation in Mozambique. Baumgardner receives the nomination alongside co-editor Penny Trams, producer/writer David Hamlin, and Executive Producer Jared Lipworth. "*War Elephants* is also a finalist for "Best People and Wildlife Program" at the prestigious Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival. The team heads to the Emmys® on October 1 at New York's Lincoln Center.

### Joy Cheriell Brown Working on Mental Health Short



Joy Cheriell Brown, founder of Third Person Omniscient Productions, is in pre-production on a narrative short film called *N.O.S.*, about a young woman who is hospitalized for

"psychosis n.o.s." and must figure out why she is in the hospital and how she can get out. (The term, NOS, a depressive disorder, translates to Not Otherwise Specified.) The film is based on Brown's own experience and will be used in the mental health community to help patients who have Schizoaffective Disorder begin a conversation with their therapists on the road to recovery. "I'm taking a risk sharing such a personal film," she says, "but I believe it will help others who find themselves in the same situation. I wish something like it was around when I first experienced the illness." Last spring, Brown served as a mentor for the DC Shorts Mentor

### Koll-Mandel, PR Strategist, Talks Social Media



Meet Rana Koll-Mandel, a PR and media relations consultant and founder of WE R 1 Communications in Garrett Park, Maryland. Koll-

Mandel specializes in promoting film festivals such as Washington DC's Environmental Film Festival and BuddhaFest: A Festival for Heart + Mind, whose keynote speaker this year was Uma Thurman's father, Robert Thurman, an internationally known Buddhist scholar (pictured above right with Koll-Mandel and Gabriel Riera, BuddhaFest co-founder). She also develops local and national media campaigns for such filmmakers as Holly Mosher, whose films include *Bonsai People: The Vision of Muhammad Yunus* and *Vanishing of the Bees*. You may contact Koll-Mandel at [WeR1Comm@gmail.com](mailto:WeR1Comm@gmail.com) or at 240-498-4602.

Look for Koll-Mandel and WIFV Board members, Regina Meeks and Karen Whitehead, to lead **Sangria and Social Media: Jumping in Without All the Stress** on Tuesday, September 17 at 6:30 pm at Interface Media. The event spotlights the critical importance of adding social media to your marketing plan, the basics of getting started and some real world examples for filmmakers. [Register here](#). Those just starting out in social media should bring a laptop to make this a hands-on experience. Sangria will be served.

Workshops Screenwriting Weekend. In November, she was a finalist in the One-in-Ten Screenplay Contest. *For more information, contact Brown at [joy.cheriel.brown@gmail.com](mailto:joy.cheriel.brown@gmail.com) or 301-651-6835.*

## Paschen Wins Over MPT with *Capital Food Fight*

Filmmaker Robert Paschen's latest documentary, *Capital Food Fight*, explores the culinary sweetness and political bitterness gourmet food trucks have brought to our nation's capital. Maryland Public Television (MPT) programmed the



premiere of *Capital Food Fight* between *Nature* and *Frontline*, and the film received mention in the *Washington Post*, *The Huffington Post*, *Baltimore Sun*, and *Washington Business Journal*. MPT is webhosting *Capital Food Fight* at <http://video.mpt.tv/video/2365032440/>, and has scheduled a rebroadcast on MPT2 for Fri. Sept. 6th at 9 p.m. Paschen says his next documentary focuses on a park ranger who survived no less than nine lightning strikes--only to be killed by a stronger force of nature: love. He is also developing a six-episode web series about a stockbroker's worst day ever. *For more information, contact Paschen at [robertpaschen@gmail.com](mailto:robertpaschen@gmail.com)*



## Five Points Ready for Viewing!

Anne Coburn is happy to announce that they've finished *Five Points*, and they are inviting you to watch it ([click the link!](#)

[click it!](#)), like it, and share it. (Those puppets are amazing.)

*Five Points* is the story of a bunny, a man, a truck, and the revenge of the roadkill, tipping the line between twisted and adorable. Inspired by too-early exposure to Peter Jackson's *Meet the Feebles* and a 300 mile bike ride where there was nothing to do beside suffer and count the carcasses on the side of the road, making this film has been a very long trip. Through catastrophe, grad school, moves, and the support of friends and family, Annie and crew have been working on this film for some time.

## Slagle Rocks Cavegirl Productions



Kudos to Kelley Slagle, an assistant video editor for RHED Pixel in Falls Church, VA, who has made 15 short films and other videos with her production company, Cavegirl Productions, since 2004. Most recently, Slagle co-produced and edited the fantasy

webseries pilot, *The Broken Continent*, now online at [www.getbroken.tv](http://www.getbroken.tv). She is also directing, co-producing and editing her first feature film, *Of Dice and Men*, a comedy that begins shooting locally in late September. The film focuses on six role-playing gamer friends and what happens when one of them enlists to go to Iraq in 2006. *To learn more about the film, visit [www.ofdicemen.com](http://www.ofdicemen.com). For more about Kelley and Cavegirl Productions, visit [www.cavegirl.com](http://www.cavegirl.com).*

## Ryan: Jumps Right In!

Welcome to new WIFV member, Lisa Ryan, a summer 2013 intern for Rosemary Reed at Double R Productions. The Ball State University graduate in broadcast journalism is excited to get to know our members and get involved. Recently, Ryan set out to cover a story about volunteers who were



building a community garden for veterans. "It was a rainy Saturday morning," Ryan recalls, and "I went over to the Soldier's and Airmen's Home in northeast DC. I set up the camera, walked about six steps into the garden-and sank deep into a ton of squishy mud! My shoes were ruined, but I did manage to save the camera!" She returned to the garden on a drier, sunnier day and looks forward to many new adventures! *To learn more, contact Ryan [laryan@bsu.edu](mailto:laryan@bsu.edu).*

Thanks to an amazing cast, crew, and 117 Kickstarter backers, it's ready for viewing.

It will be submitted to festivals as well, but they felt that a ten minute film about puppet zombie roadkill would be something that lots of people would like to see. So it's online at Vimeo ([no, seriously, click it!](#)). If you're so moved, there's a tip jar below the film. But they'd love it most if you could share it.

They have lots of stuff in the pipeline: a webseries about a superheroine trying to figure out things like insurance, superhero sized bras, pockets in costumes, and just how you get a sidekick anyway; a feature; and a short about an excitable robot who explodes lights out of sheer exuberance. *You can reach Anne at [anmatcoburn@gmail.com](mailto:anmatcoburn@gmail.com).*



Workshops for Writers AND Directors AND Producers!

Take advantage of **Early Bird Registration** until **September 15**. [More info here.](#)

## Westbrook Juggling Productions at Interface



Joel Westbrook and his intrepid team at Interface Media are in the throes of juggling several original productions.

Westbrook reports they are poised to announce a monthly news/public affairs series; are developing a series for the Food Network about a DC area chef; and have partnered in a "multi-platform

adventure/food/picker" project called Air Fare America (AFA) and are shooting a promo video for AFA investors. They are also in development on a variety of web and cable series. "Our most ambitious project," he notes, "is **Slaves**, an exposé of current human trafficking in America.

We are simultaneously developing complementary forms: a scripted web/cable anthology, corresponding short docs, a dramatic feature film, and a "clearing house" web site."

Fundraising for the project is currently underway. [A short teaser with WIFV members Jax Baires, acting in a re-creation, and Flo Dwek, narrating, can be seen here.](#) *For more information, you may contact Westbrook at [jwestbrook@interfacemedia.com](mailto:jwestbrook@interfacemedia.com)*

## Gordon Heads to Portobello Fest

Rachel Gordon is heading to London to see ***In the Family Way*** premiere at the **Portobello Film Festival** on September 14. She will be stopping in to see our colleagues at WIFT-UK while there. Synopsis: When Blinda returns home from her life in the city, her hidden pregnancy threatens the rosy image she has presented to her family.



WIFV is grateful for the annual support of these [companies](#) and our [corporate members](#).

Just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Women in Film & Video. Don't forget to

add [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

### About WIFV

WIFV supports women in the industry by promoting equal opportunities, encouraging professional development, serving as an information network, and educating the public about women's creative and technical achievements.

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