## **CONSTANCE GILBERT**

1707 George St. Key West, FL 33040 (305) 393-7844

Born South Bend, IN 8/4/39, grew us as snowbird in Miami Beach, FL and Tulare and Brentwood, CA and moved to Columbus, OH 1953. Graduated Bexley High School, 1957.

B.A. Mills College, Oakland, CA in English, minors theater and botany 1961M.A. (and credits toward doctorate) The Ohio State University, Medieval English Literature 1962

Writer of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade supplementary reader (Charles E. Merrill Pub.) adopted by State of Texas 1962-63 Traveled throughout Europe and Middle East 1963-64 Assistant Professor of Language Columbus College, Columbus, GA 1964-66 Instructor of English, Miami Dade Community College, South Miami, FL 1966-67 Theater professional based in Manhattan, NY 1967-69 Instructor of English, Rutgers University 1969-1975

**Publication credits** 1962-present award winning high school and college papers; columnist and special assignment education writer Worrall Newspapers (NJ) 1972-1987; staff writer and managing editor *The Glen Ridge Paper* 1987-94; staff writer *Celebrate! Key West*, special assignment feature writer *Key West Citizen*, arts critic *Solares Hill*, staff writer and arts columnist (Culture Vulture, real estate) *Konk Life* 2013-present. *Mother Poems* 2008, *Key West Time* pending 2016, Anne McKee Artists Fund Grant and arts council Culture Magazine commission 2015.

**Selected organizational credits**: President, Essex County (NJ) NOW (National Organization for Women) 1972-75; among founders of NOW-NJ, which I served as secretary and action vice president before moving to KW in 1994.

Founding chair, Essex County (NJ) Advisory Board on the Status of Women (member National Association of Commissions for Women) 1978-1996.

Local and national board New Jewish Agenda, Sisterhood of Temple Sharey Tefilo Israel, South Orange, New Jersey

Co-founder, staff and Co-Chair NJ Campaign to End Discrimination 1983-91, which successfully amended NJ Law Against Discrimination to include "sexual or affectional orientation."

Co-Convenor Key West NOW 1995, Founding board, Key West Symphony Orchestra 1998, Gay and Lesbian Community Center 1998, ACLU of the Florida Keys 2005-13, League of Women Voters 2013-16. Volunteer Literacy Volunteers of America, Monroe County, 1995-2011, board 1997-2011, Impromptu Concerts board approximately 2003-2010, Florida Keys Council of the Arts advisor and alternate board member 2011-present.

State Board Florida Liberty Lobby 1997-99; Co-founder of Equality Florida Key West Gala 2000. Miscellaneous: appointee by Commissioner Weekley task force to assist owners to maintain property in Bahama Village; prop/costume coordinator and actor in The Studios of Key West One Night Stand approx. 2008-12, Tropic Cinema 72-Hour Film Challenge 2012-14,

**Myriad awards** in NJ and KW, most important of which is Equality Florida Voice of Equality award 2014, but including one of a number of AIPP Sidewalk Poems awarded 2013.

For additional details, please just phone (305) 393-7844