



Rick Gelinas, pen name: "Axel Hansen"\*  
506 E. Lake Elbert Drive, NE  
Winter Haven, FL 33881

tel: 863-298-8748  
fax: 206-339-4922  
email: [rick@booksforboots.org](mailto:rick@booksforboots.org)

\*Axel & Linda Hansen are the pen names of Rick & Linda Gelinas, co-authors of *The Vengeance Trap*, multiple award-winning first novel of *The Vengeance Trilogy*.

**CURRENT VOLUNTARY ACTIVITY:**

Co-founder, with my wife Linda, in 2007 and now national co-director with Linda (we're both volunteers) of Books for Boots, a 501(c)(3) program that encourages authors and publishers to donate cash and uncirculated new books of exceptional quality. The books go to wounded American war heroes in VA hospitals nationwide. The cash goes to VA hospitals' "General Post Funds" to be used for emergency needs of the patients, which can include assistance for poorer families to make bedside visits. *NOTE:* Books for Boots (B4B) has no payroll and no fixed overhead. It is governed by an all-volunteer board of directors. See B4B at [www.BooksForBoots.ORG](http://www.BooksForBoots.ORG).

**CURRENT BUSINESS ACTIVITY:**

In 2007 Linda and I formed Ophir Publishing Company, seen at [www.OphirPublishing.com](http://www.OphirPublishing.com), to self-publish our first novel. We paid for the manufacture of the book and own all rights. Titled *The Vengeance Trap*, ISBN 978-0-9787658-1-1, this 417-page romance/adventure has won four national awards for literature and has earned only rave reviews from significant critics. Some have called the story "an epic family saga." As co-authors we use the pen names Axel & Linda Hansen to honor Linda's late grandfather, a WWII war hero.

**NONPROFIT SECTOR EMPLOYMENT:**

Linda and I co-founded in 1984 and were the co-Executive Directors of Little Acorns Children & family Programs, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, EIN 59-1836063. From its inception in '84, Little Acorns operated a drug prevention family training program (free) in Miami elementary schools. Linda designed the program, wrote the text books, and hired & supervised her trainers—fellow teachers. We closed the program in 2002 when Linda and I "retired" to Winter Haven, in central Florida. Little Acorns now serves only as the non-profit carrier of Books for Boots.

During the 18 years of operation of the Little Acorns drug prevention program I conducted the public & government relations and fund-raising, which included all grants writing and management, private/corporate solicitations and fundraising events. I did the contact work. Linda co-wrote the grants and kept good records.

Accomplishments of Linda and I together in the nonprofit sector:

- ✓ Recruited and managed all Little Acorns volunteers for our various fundraising events over the 18-year period, which sometimes required more than 300 persons per event.
- ✓ Obtained more than 3.6 million dollars (\$3,600,000) in grants and gifts over the 18 years, including 13 major government grants in six figures, plus smaller grants from 115 private donors.
- ✓ Created and hosted two multinational conferences, "A World Safe For Children", (workbook available) which attracted each year more than 500 educators from 13 nations and led to my being named USSR's "Fulbright Scholar" in 1990; as such I traveled and lectured in Russia—then still part of the USSR.
- ✓ Created in 1996, as a fund-raiser for Little Acorns, the "International Kite Festival" on Miami Beach.
  - ★ annual festival budget: \$237,000. Of that sum, \$212,000 we obtained as in-kind donations, and the balance was grants from area agencies promoting tourism in south Florida.
  - ★ the 3-day weekend audience on the beach at Miami Beach: 40,000 live (certified survey). This required each year 300+ volunteer workers which I recruited as employees from area corporations such as Florida Power & Light and Bell South. Volunteers also included police officers from numerous police departments. These officers flew kites with kids at our festival ("kids & Cops & Kites") to promote inner city benefits. Each year more than 5,000 K-12 students entered handmade kites in our aerodynamics & design competition for cash prizes from the Miami Herald.
  - ★ the in-kind donations I solicited for the 3-day festival each year included gifts worth thousands of dollars. This included groceries and beverages for our fundraising sales of sandwiches & drinks as well as the festival tents, signs, lighting, generators, fuel, printing, trucks, sound systems, and security. To bring Kite Masters to our multinational festival from all over the world each year I obtained donations of airline tickets, hotel rooms on Miami Beach, restaurant meals and taxi service. Again—none of this I could have done without Linda's executive support.
- ★ publicity: Consumer impressions, globally, each year, worth more than \$250,000 (audited.)

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS, HONORS & DISTINCTIONS:

- 1990 We were named "Man & Woman Of The Year", Phi Delta Kappa, U of Miami, national honors society for educators.
- 1990 We created a 3-year series of international conferences for educators, called "A World Safe For Children" (WSFC). Many nations attended each year, including in 1990 Mr. Genady Yagodin, then the USSR Minister of Education
- 1991 Following the 1<sup>st</sup> WSFC I was awarded the Fulbright Scholarship for the USSR; did a Fulbright Lecture Tour in Russia.
- 1991 At the 2<sup>nd</sup> WSFC conference, ten nations formed "The World Senate of Educators"; I was appointed Coordinator General and was instructed to seek United Nations status for WSFC. This I did and status was granted.
- 1991 Following the 2<sup>nd</sup> WSFC conference I was appointed to the Coordinating Committee of the Institute of Global Ethics at the Third Helsinki Conference, Finland, and I was also appointed to the Human Rights Commission of Russia.
- 1992 Linda accepted the invitation to be keynote speaker at the *World Self-Esteem Conference* in Oslo, Norway. *Delightful!*
- 1993 In recognition of Little Acorns Children & Family Programs, Inc., I was appointed by Metro Dade County Commission to be a Council Member of the Metro Dade Children's Services Council, then was elected Secretary (the leadership post) of the Council, 1993-1997.
- 1993 Elected to the Dade-Monroe Juvenile Justice Council (D-MJJC), then to the Executive Committee, Chairman of the Interagency Committee, Co-Chair of the Plan Committee, and District Delegate to the State Juvenile Justice District Board, which then elected me Vice Chair of that Board.
- 1994 Appointed by Pat Thomas, then President of the Florida Senate, to the College Reach-Out Advisory Council

OTHER RELEVANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS: (letters of commendation & other records available)

**1960-1963 Assistant Director of Licensing & Co-op Marketing:** *Films Paramount*, subsidiary in Paris, France, of Paramount Pictures. I negotiated with government & church officials to obtain favorable censorship ratings and licensing for the European release of movies by Paramount. I also solicited and negotiated promotional contracts with Europe-based corporations whose product(s) appeared in any Paramount movie to be released in Europe; I then created the promo package. I returned to my homeland to study for a career in psychology.

**1963-1967 Assistant Therapist:** As part of my college studies in psychology, I worked under the staff psychologist at Concept House, a residential addiction treatment program in south Florida. There I screened incoming clients and their families. I also conducted daily group therapy sessions for these individuals and families.

**1968-1980 Counselor:** I was in private practice, in Miami, as a Marriage & Family Counselor for twelve years. Under medical supervision, I used written & verbal tests to diagnose and treat non-medical personality and behavioral disorders. I closed my practice in 1984 to devote my time exclusively to Little Acorns.

**1979-1982 Radio Show Host:** I produced and hosted a call-in talk show for teens on rock radio 96X-FM in Miami. Arbitron (a radio program rating service) says my show took 96X from # 32 to # 3 in a 36-station market, Sunday nights, young adults. In three minutes or less, callers with personal issues were invited to answer these three questions embedded in our conversation but never actually articulated: 1. *When you've stripped away your nonsense, what do you really want right now?* 2. *What are you willing to do to get what you want?* 3. *When would you like to start?*

## CREDENTIALS

### References:

My most recent references are the Board of Directors (to whom I report directly) at Little Acorns, Inc. They are mostly doctors, lawyers and other professionals who reside in central Florida. Their identities and contact information are shown at the Books for Boots website: [www.BooksForBoots.ORG](http://www.BooksForBoots.ORG) Click on "Board of Directors and Activities"

### Education & concurrent work:

√ Doctorate, Clinical Psych, 1982, Columbia Pacific University, San Fran. CA. For my external degree program, my Ph.D. committee were faculty at five major universities. At this time I was in private practice as a Marriage & Family Counselor.

√ Master in Public Administration, 1973, School of Business & Organizational Sciences, focus on administration of health care systems, Florida International University, Miami, FL. I worked in admin. for Dade Alcohol Programs at the time.

√ Master in Theater, 1968-69, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. As part of my degree program, at the Guthrie I directed *Raisin in the Sun* with an all-amateur black cast I recruited in the city, many of whom could neither read nor write.

√ While working on my Master's in Theater, in 1968-69 I taught *Introduction at Communications* to mostly adult students at the U of M Community College.

√ Before completing my Master's Degree in Theater, in 1969 I left Minneapolis to accept a post as Director of Community Services at Brainerd Community College.

√ Bachelor of Arts, Theater, 1967, Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL. In earning my degree I wrote & directed plays. While a student at Eckerd, married with three kids, I worked as an editor at the St. Petersburg Evening Independent.

### Military Service:

U.S. Navy, 1952-54, Korean Conflict, served on DDR-831, a destroyer in the Atlantic fleet. Honorable medical discharge with a 50% disability for what today is known to be post-traumatic stress disorder—my degree of affliction a minor thing compared to some, which is why I've dedicated my life (with Linda's *essential* help) to warriors who've been hurt *far* worse than I was.