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League of Utah Writers

61<sup>st</sup> Year No. 4 December 1997

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Wendy McBride, Editor, L.U. W. Lariat Newsletter

### **President's Message**

*Happy New Year to all League of Utah Writers Members!*

We're excited about the beginning of our new year and look forward to serving you. Thank you to Marcia Ford and her board, for their success in making the League of Utah Writers become an even greater presence in the state. Their accomplishments include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Second highest membership ever (growing from 339 members to 412)!
- Greater financial stability with the White/Meagher CD reinstated, plus the retrieval of funds from unclaimed property and higher interest earned on existing accounts!
- participation in our annual writing contest jumped from 411 to 584 entries!
- High participation at our Spring workshop!
- "something for Everyone" Fall Conference.
- Formation of a new chapter (South Jordan – way to go Linda Sherwood!)
- A complete history of the League of Utah Writers compiled (thank you Dora Flack)

We look forward to moving the League ahead with more financial stability, increased membership, informative Lariats, area workshops, an irresistible Spring Workshop, and a "sparkling" Fall Conference. We are excited about serving you and would love to hear your suggestions. Thank you, everyone for all your help at this year's Fall Round-up. We appreciate your numerous complimentary comments. Questions? Call me at (801) 942-4209. 'Til then, keep writing! Bettyanne Gillette.

### **News You Can Use**

- The National Utah Poetry Society will be holding their annual conference in Ogden on June 18-22, 1998 at the Egyptian/David Eccles Convention Center. National poets, workshops, readings, and huge contests. For more information, contact Clarence Socwell, 2737 N. 650 E. Ogden, Utah 84414.
- Bookcraft, Inc.'s new address is: 2405 West Orton Circle, West Valley City, UT
- Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators' new regional advisor is Kim Williams. Call her at (801) 571-5162 for more details.

- L.U.W. Writer's Contest guidelines, next Lariat (Feb. '98) Contest deadline: June '98.
- Utah Arts Council contest deadline: June '98. Call UAC for details.
- Any mistakes in the directory, please notify membership chairman, Sylvan Crofts.
- Thank you Mary Barnes for agreeing to be our Contest Chairperson!
- Thank you Brian Gubler for all your help with registration for the '97 Roundup.
- Congratulations Oquirrh Writers for your conference rebate (as a result of having the largest membership increase) and for your conference enthusiasm!
- Thank you Karla Erikson for all your help writing up our Utah Arts council Grant!

## **Chapter Chatter**

### **Bountiful Chapter**

Eight of our members won ten awards at this year's Roundup. They are: Dora Flack, Sheila Huntington, Maxine Shreve, Kolette Montague, Trisa Martin, Carole Cole, Steve Stumph, and Marcia Ford.

In August our group sponsored Kim Burningham's Readers' Theater. Eight readers portrayed selections from Utah's historical past, which were taken from the Lyon and Williams centennial book, *Great and Peculiar Beauty: A Utah Reader*.

The new Bountiful/Davis Art Center officially opened its doors on September 20. Representing our literary arts community at the dedication ceremonies were: Maxine Shreve, Dora Flack and Kolette Montague. Kolette read poetry written by seven of our local poets, including three poems by chapter members Maxine Shreve, Bonnie Gudmundson, and Kolette Montague.

On November 4, Karla Erikson, Sheila Huntington, Trisa Martin, Steve Stumph and son Gary Stumph participated in an all-day writing seminar sponsored by the Mill creek Junior High School English department.

Steve Stumph and his son Gary have become regular "stringers" as hockey sports writers and photographers for the *Davis County Clipper* Newspaper. They fell into the assignment when Steve wrote an article for a hockey game that Gary played against Skyline. Because no one was covering the games, and the Clipper sports editor Michael Yount liked their writing style, he offered them the job. But Steve says this isn't the road to riches. It pays \$1 per column-inch - about \$10 an article.

### **Heritage Writers' Guild (St. George)**

Our chapter is growing. We now have about 37 members.

Marilyn Arnold, author of "Pure Love" (published by Desert Book) spoke to us in November on getting a book published.

Arnold Brownstein is putting together a newspaper in Springdale called Z-Arts about the arts.

Utah Valley Chapter

We'd like to welcome our newest members: Tami Call, Anita Charles, Douglas Johnson, Raymond Mayo, James Crawford, and Steve Garvin.

The Utah Valley Chapter has had some very successful monthly meetings. In October Bettyanne Gillette discussed ideas to help us define our goals and be successful. In November Dean Hughes spoke on getting past self-defeating roadblocks. December's gathering will be a Social Read-around. We'd enjoy hearing something seasonal from you, if you care to share it.

Congratulations to our members who won state contest awards! Although notices were sent to the newspapers, only The Deseret News printed just the first place winners.

We are looking for new places and people to start critique groups. These groups seem to do best with 5 or 6 members. Please call Melinda Hill at 221-7052 if you would like to join or start a group.

President-elect John Thorton is doing the chapter newsletter. If you have ideas for sponsors, information to share, stories about your writing experience, etc., please call John at 768-9737.

The 1998 State Round-up will be held in Provo in September! So we will need lots of help. We will also be involved in some membership drive activities.

**Warning!** Postage cost add up quickly, so anyone who has not paid their dues will have only a one-month grace period before we have to take them off the list. If you can't remember when you paid your dues, contact Shauna Hael (membership coordinator) at 756-9376. To pay your dues, please send \$20.00 to our Secretary/Treasurer Judy Anderson at 2353 N. 180 W. Pleasant Grove, UT 84062.

Wordcraft Chapter

Lois Worlton won an honorable mention in Utah Arts Council Literary contest for her historical and biographical book. June Park published articles in the Salt Lake Tribune and Enterprise newspaper. Theda Bassett won first place awards in the Massachusetts State Poetry Society and Kentucky State Poetry Society contests, and also other awards in the Springfield Writers' Guild and Jessee Poets Writers at Work contests. Jerry Haggard published an article in the Salt lake Tribune. Carol Quist won five honorable mentions in the Ohio Poetry Day contest, and her interview appeared Nov. 4 in the Horizon (Salt Lake Community college Newspaper). Mary Barnes is the co-author of the book "Get Ready, Get Set, Get Sold!" Bonita Cross is the school newsletter editor for Lowell elementary school. Sharee Hughes just completed a script for a promotional video for E-Tex Dynamics, a California manufacturer of fiber-optic components.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS !**

Oquirrh Chapter

At Round-up the Oquirrh Chapter won the Incentive Contest for the biggest percentage of growth in membership. (They almost tripled their membership this year.) Other award winners in the chapter include: Dorothy Crofts – Third Place Article, Honorable Mention for Inspirational/Personal Experience. Michelle Anderson – Honorable Mention for Children’s Story. Thomas Christensen – Honorable Mention for White/Meagher Short Story. JoAnn Felix – Quill Award for Publication Category.

The president for 1998 is Dorothy Crofts, with Deloy Barnes serving as president elect. Sylvan Crofts (president for 1997) will serve as membership chairman on the state LUW board.

Sevier Valley Writers’ Group

Three members of our chapter placed in the Roundup Contests: Dianne Jessan won third place and two honorable mentions. Paul Turner won an Honorable Mention. And LouElla Lee won and Honorable Mention.

Joyce Knapus presented a night of her poetry at the LaRue Bagley Home Evening group.

Our beloved Dorothy Buchanan passed away September 18, 1992 at her home in Salt Lake City at the age of 91. She organized the Richfield Chapter of the Utah League of Writers and was a continuous member, even after moving to Salt Lake City. She lived in Richfield for 62 years. She was the only contributor to be included in all 7 volumes of *Utah Sings*, a poetry anthology published every 10 years. She will be greatly missed by the members of our chapter and myriad’s of friends and associates. We have purchased a book in her honor to be placed in the Richfield City Library.

A new member of our group, Jim Garman, has started a publishing company called Gemini Books with his wife Judy. He has been writing for 35 years. Gemini Books publishes custom poetry for all occasions.

South Jordan Chapter

Welcome to our newest members: Marilou Sorensen, Melody Foster, Russell Lee and John Llewellyn. We’re glad you’ve joined our chapter.

South Jordan has had some excellent monthly workshops. In September Carolyn Campbell spoke on “The Business of Writing.” Bettyanne Gillette held a workshop on “Writing Your Way to Success” in October. For our November meeting Sherry Lewis discussed “How to Take Yourself Seriously as a Writer.”

Our meetings are held the first Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the South Jordan Library 10300 South Beckstead Lane (1600 West). For more details, call Linda Sherwood at 280-1545.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**League of Utah Writers Chapter Presidents**

***Bear River Valley:*** Rhea Rhodes 15060 North 4400 West, E. Garland, UT 84312 458-3574

***Blue Quill:*** Linda Smith (installed 12/97) 5755 South 3975 West, Roy, UT 84067 775-0112

***Bountiful:*** Bonnie Gudmundson 2497 South 450 East, Bountiful, UT 84010 945-9853

***Cache Valley:*** Brooke Bigelow 1518 East 1820 North, North Logan, UT 84341 755-0833

***Color Country Nightwriters:*** Marsha Lundgren 759 East Cobble Creek Dr., Cedar City, UT 84720 865-9391

***Delta:*** Glenda Ciarus P.O. Box 303, Delta, UT 84624 861-2886

***Heritage Writers:*** Connie Wilcox 564 South Fiesta Drive, St. George, UT 84550 652-9392

***Oquirrh Writers:*** Dorothy Crofts 4621 West Harman Dr., West Valley City, UT 84120 964-0861

***Price:*** Emma Lou Stevenson 371 North 400 East, Price, UT 84501 637-4463

***Salt Lake:*** Kathy Gudmundson 752 South Goshen St., Salt Lake City, UT 84104-596-3497

***Sevier Valley:*** Joyce Knaphus 196 North 500 East, Richfield, UT 84701 896-4779

***South Jordan:*** Linda Sherwood 9436 South Liberty Creek Dr., South Jordan UT 84095 280-1545

***Timpanogos:*** Abbie Francom 1590 Jordan Ave., Provo, UT 84604 375-3020

***Utah Valley:*** Melinda Hill 563 East 1840 North, Orem, UT 84057 221-7052

***Wasatch Writers:*** Mary Baker 1700 West 2700 North #66, Pleasant View, UT 84404 737-0166

*Wordcraft:* Helen Glissmeyer ('till Jan. '98) 4458 S. Camille St., Salt Lake City, UT 84124 278-4309  
 Claudene Gordon (Jan. '98) 4278 Park Terrace Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84124 272-7301

### League of Utah Writers Proposed Budget, 1997-98

Category:	Income	Expenses
Membership (\$12.00 X 320 members)	\$3840.00	
Utah Arts Council	1000.00	
Interest, all accts.	300.00	
Investment Fund	330.00	
Round-up '98	8625.00	\$9625.00
Spring Workshop	0	150.00
Contest	3000.00	3000.00
Lariat (4 issues, 4 pages)		700.00
Bulk Mail Permit		170.00
Mailing		300.00
Directory		675.00
Speaker's Bureau (16 chapters X 2 speakers @ \$25.00 = \$800.00)		800.00
Public Relations		200.00
Rec. Sec./Historian		150.00
Treasurer		100.00
Telephone		150.00
Board Travel		200.00
General Office Expenses		100.00
Rainy Day Account		775.00
	<u>\$17,095.00</u>	<u>\$17,095.00</u>

**\*\*\* THE LEAGUE UTAH WRITERS STATE BOARD HELD THEIR FIRST STATE BOARD MEETING ON NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>. NOTES FROM THIS MEETING WILL BE SENT TO EACH CHAPTER PRESIDENT TO SHARE WITH CHAPTER MEMBERS.**

**WRITING FICTION: TWELVE IDEAS TO CONSIDER**

by

Rick Walton

Author of *Pig, Pigger, Piggest* (Gibbs Smith)*Pioneer Dance* (Deseret Book)*Noah's Square* (Lothrop)*Once There Was A Bullfrog* (Gibbs Smith) and many, many more.**1 - KNOW YOUR STORY.**

...Write the pre-history of your story.

...Write the post-history of your story.

...If you have trouble writing the pre- and post- histories, then you probably don't know your characters well enough.

**2 - PLOT YOUR STORY.**

...Does your conflict make your story interesting?

...At key turning points, consider other directions your story could go.

...Can you summarize your plot?

**3 - SEE THE SHAPE OF YOUR STORY.**

...Understanding the shape of your story will help you see if there is anything that doesn't belong. Knowing the shape beforehand will also help you write your story.

Make sure every effect has a cause.

...Make a cause-and-effect line of your story. Make sure there is a good motivation for everything that happens in your story.

**4 - STICK TO YOUR STORY. DO NOT DIGRESS.****5 - CREATE REAL CHARACTERS.**

...Are any of your characters stereotypes?

...Do each of your characters seem like real people to you?

...Name one thing that makes your character stand apart from the other characters.

...Is your character neither perfectly good or not perfectly evil?

...What do your characters want? What motivates them?

...Use specific details to make your characters come to life.

**6 - CHOOSE CHARACTER'S NAMES CAREFULLY.**

...No allegory names – (Samuel Justice, Dorothy Love)

...No distracting names, unless you want the names to distract, as in slapstick or bizarre humor.

...Are your names easy to tell apart? (Dan/Van)

...Are you names stereotypical? (Mary, Joseph, Sam, etc.)

...Avoid alliterative animal names, i.e. "Charlie The Chipmunk".

**7 - SHOW DON'T TELL.****8 - KEEP VIEWPOINT CONSISTENT.****9 - STICK WITH EITHER REALITY OR IMAGINATION. DON'T GO BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE TWO UNLESS YOU MAKE IT CLEAR WHAT YOU ARE DOING.****10 - CONSIDER YOUR AUDIENCE.****11 - KEEP A UNIFIED TONE AND STYLE.****12 - KEEP MESSAGES SUBTLE. DON'T MORALIZE.**

MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND  
THE L.U.W. SALT LAKE SPRING WORKSHOP  
TO BE HELD IN SALT LAKE CITY  
IN MARCH

AND OUR L.U.W. 1998 FALL ROUND-UP  
WILL BE HELD AT THE PROVO PARK HOTEL,  
SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> AND 12<sup>TH</sup>!!!

(Look for more information on upcoming  
Southern Spring Workshops and a possible  
Northern Spring Workshop as well!!! )



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