



The Quill

The Newsletter of the League of Utah Writers
February, 2018



President's message

Dear League of Utah Writers,

I wanted to take this opportunity to articulate our plans for the League this year. These last two years we have undergone some strong growth. We have gone from 325 members to 515 members, and from 13 chapters to 28 chapters. We have made the League more accessible to more people throughout the entire state, and have started to tap into some great resources. Even with those gains, we fell as though we have a lot of work left for us to do on the growing side.

“Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning” – Benjamin Franklin.

Growing through Leadership Development

On February 3rd, 2018 we had our 2nd annual League of Utah Writers Leadership Conference. This was open to everyone but was strongly encouraged for Chapter Leadership attend. We had a good showing of chapter presidents and members from different chapters. We took the opportunity to talk about issues from chapter resources to growing attendance.

The main point of the Leadership Development was to help chapters better create not just friendly, welcoming environments, but emotionally safe and trusted environments. Create the kind of conditions where everyone in attendance doesn't carry the fear of rejection, give or receiving a bad critique, and is comfortable being themselves.

Growing through League Presence

Working with our dynamic Marketing, and Web Chairs, we are launching a series of campaigns to have even more of a presence online and events around the state. Our amazing website is constantly improving, and evolving to best serve our members and the community. If you know about an event in your area where you would like your chapter or the League to attend, please let us know.

We have already put together an amazing lineup for our fall Quills Conference, and our annual writing contest, now known as the Quills Contest, is continuing to grow in the region.

Growing through retention

It is my plan to go out and attend all of the chapters this year, as I had done previously. This is so there is no disconnect between the needs and wants of the League members and the League organization. Please let me know if there is a better month to visit so I can make sure it works for everyone.

Personal Note

As I have mentioned before my son Jack, has only two chambers in his heart, and is now on the Heart Transplant list as a status 2. This means that there is a really good chance he will get a new heart within 6-12 months. When my son has his transplant, Johnny Worthen will assume my responsibilities until I am able to return.

As always, please let me know if you ever have any questions or ideas.

Your Humble Servant,

Jared Quan

President@leagueofutahwriters.org



LEAGUE OF UTAH WRITERS



Looking for a writing buddy?
Join the League!
leagueofutahwriters.org



August 24-25

**University Park Marriot
Salt Lake City**



Maria V. Snyder
Author
POISON STUDY



Tim Dorsey
Author
Serge Storms Series



Angie Hodapp
Agent
Nelson Literary



2018 LUW
#LUW2018
SPRING
CONFERENCE



The Conference Committee is hard at work on 2018 events.

Registration is open for Spring Conference, which will be held April 14, 2018 at the Salt Lake Community College Student Center. This one-day event will be packed with hours of presentations from around the state. If you've never attended, this event is worth the price of admission and features an opportunity for League Members to learn from each other. Registration and details can be found on the website <https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/events>

Are you interested in presenting at the Spring Conference? Submissions are being accepted until February 24th at this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/YhFw0M8SRUMTxOH22>. Please indicate if you are a member of the Speaker's Bureau when submitting.

It's not too early to think about our premier event, The Quills Conference (formerly called Fall Conference). This year's event will be held at the Marriott Hotel at University Park adjacent to the University of Utah campus in Salt Lake City August 24-25, 2018. This year's keynote is Tim Dorsey with special guests Maria V. Snyder and Angie Hodapp of Nelson Literary. Early Bird registration is now open. Use this link for League Member discount pricing: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-quills-conference-registration-38740773697?discount=QUILLS18TEN>

Are you interested in joining the Conference Committee? Please email Conference Chair, Terra Luft, to events@leagueofutahwriters.org We are particularly in need of someone with the skills to seek out sponsorships.

Interested in helping the day of the event, but not ahead of time? Notify your Chapter President who can submit your name when it's time to assemble the volunteer army responsible for smooth operations behind the scenes.

Questions about any events can be sent to events@leagueofutahwriters.org

Quill Winner Highlights



Bryce Dallimore, winner of the Gold Quill in adult novel for *Amendment 25*

The love of a father for his estranged son rises to the surface of a treacherous whirlpool of political transgression. Keith Montgomery, a virtual bystander and scrupled lawyer from Minneapolis, is sucked into a vortex of a bottomless conspiracy.

Baffling murders rise in Keith's city during the autumn prelude to American Presidential elections. A common thread links the deaths to his new client. Keith, a single father attempting to save other hapless victims, may even salvage his relationship with his son.

Shrewdness—and a few handyman skills—are pitted against high-ranking D.C. politicians, foreign terrorists, and brutal domestic criminals. Nerby heroics become the order-of-the-day, as out-of-the-ordinary action and a razor-sharp plot take the reader, with Keith, into the bowels of a horrible secret—a conspiracy that threatens to become the greatest political scandal the United States has ever known.



Q: Every writer encounters stumbling blocks as well as successes. What helps you when you're having a "bad writing day"?

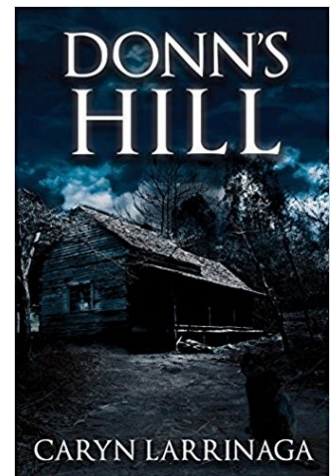
A: A bad writing day for me is when some portion of my story is presented to a trusted reviewer(s) and gets lack-luster response. I set my ego aside and instead of writing, I rewrite, revising that section just for them. Then I weigh it against the original. Doing this I find I tap into creative reserves.



Caryn Larrinaga, winner of the Silver Quill in adult novel for *Donn's Hill*

After returning home from her father's funeral to find her boyfriend in bed with another woman, Mackenzi Clair is looking for a fresh start. She thinks she'll find it in her favorite childhood vacation spot. But returning to Donn's Hill awakens more than nostalgia. Mac regains a lost psychic ability to talk to the dead and the poltergeist haunting her apartment is desperate to make her use that fight to find his killer.

Aided by her new roommate—a spirited tortoiseshell cat named Striker—and the ghost hunting crew of the nationally televised show Soul Searchers—Mac struggles to learn how to use her powers but she'd better get a handle on them fast, because someone in town is hiding a deadly secret. If Mac can't somehow divine the truth, Donn's Hill will never be the same.



Caryn Larrinaga is a Basque-American mystery, horror, and urban fantasy writer living in Utah with her husband and cats. Her debut novel *Donn's Hill* (March 2017, Immortal Works Press) was a 2017 Dragon Award finalist.

Watching scary movies through split fingers terrified Caryn as a child, and those nightmares inspire her to write now. She lives in a 90-year-old house with a colorful history, and the creaking walls and narrow hallways send her running (never walking) up the stairs from her basement. Exploring her fears through writing makes Caryn feel a little less foolish for wanting a buddy to accompany her into the tool shed.

When her fingers aren't glued to her laptop keyboard, Caryn also enjoys binge-watching Netflix with her husband, reading, playing video games, and filling up her phone's flash memory with pictures of her cats. She loves music and plays the bass guitar.

Chapter Chatter

If you have an upcoming or recent release, or other writing-related news, please let your chapter President know so that they can forward the info for the newsletter. We all want to hear about it!

See the LUW [website](#) for more information on chapter meetings, and for the email address to send your chapter your writing news, so it can be shared with the League..

⇒ Heritage Writers' Group (St. George)

HWG sponsored their annual members only writing contest. Winners were announced at the Christmas potluck dinner.

◇ Winter Solstice Contest Winners - 2017

◇ Poetry:

- ◇ 1st Place – Susan Foster – *Desert Dreams (for Miriam, March 9, 2008)*
- ◇ 2nd place – Bonnie Anderson – *Apropos of Time*
- ◇ 3rd place – Denis Feehan – *Erick*
- ◇ Honorable Mention (HM) – Susan Foster – *To My First Child, Remembering*

◇ Non Fiction

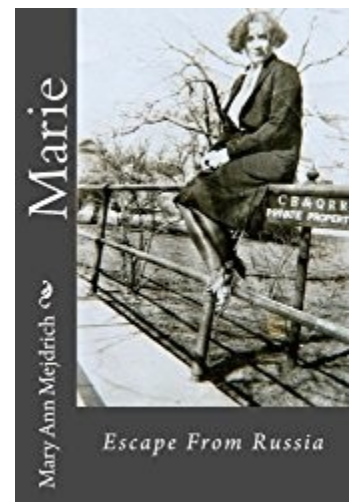
- ◇ 1st place – Marie Tollstrup – *Tightrope*
- ◇ 2nd place – Evan McKinney – *Swan Lake*
- ◇ 3rd place – Pam Tucker – *Playing House*
- ◇ HM – Evan McKinney – *Dangerous Cave*
- ◇ HM – Nancy Moldoon – *Two Sleeping Cats*
- ◇ HM – Bonnie Anderson – *Fear is Gaining*

◇ Fiction

- ◇ 1st place – Claudine DiScala *When Mountains Crumble to the Sea, Chap 25 & 26*
- ◇ 2nd place – Julie Walton – *I am a Stonemason, Sir: Elijah's Untold Story*
- ◇ 3rd place – Marilyn Richardson – *Balancing Baby*
- ◇ HM – Joseph Gordon – *The True Tomes*
- ◇ HM - Pam Tucker – *Dear Elvis*

◇ Mary Anny Mejdrich completed the book she has been working on for a year – *Marie: Escape from Russia*. This is the story of her mother who made it to America in the 1920s sponsored by a brother living in Kansas. Her trials in leaving Russia, the death of her parents and her brother, cold winters, lack of food, shipboard experiences are all part of the story. Mary Ann published her book with the help of Create Space.

◇ Marilyn Richardson volunteered to do author visits in both Dillon, MT and Hurricane, UT. "It's a great way to see what young people like. You can see it in their faces even if they don't want to say anything out loud."



⇒Infinite Monkeys

The Infinite Monkeys are proud to announce that we have partnered with the South Jordan Arts Council. This partnership brings a new facet of the arts to South Jordan residents and provides us with a permanent home at the South Jordan Community Center to hold our chapter meetings. We look forward to utilizing our new location starting in February.

We are also hard at work editing stories from chapter members for our upcoming anthology, "A Year of The Monkeys: Genre Fiction from The Infinite Monkeys" with an anticipated release late 2018. Managing Editor: Paul Genesse. Senior Editor: Lyn Worthen. Staff Editors: Laurie Jones, Masha Sukovich, Talysa Sainz, Jennie Stevens, Jenn Adams. Executive Director: Johnny Worthen.

Infinite Monkeys with recent or upcoming publishing news:

- ◇ **Victoria Lisowski's** short story "Through Rose-Tinted Lens" publishing in Dark Moon Digest.
- ◇ **Daniel Cureton's** poem "Queering the Tarot: Minor Arcana-Suite of Wands" in Peculiar: A Queer Literary Journal Vol 3, issue 2.
- ◇ The Mirages & Speculations anthology, a desert-themed collection of science fiction and fantasy, edited by **Lyn Worthen**, was awarded 4th place honors in the 2017 Annual Preditors & Editors Reader's Poll, sponsored by Critters Writing Workshop. Contains short stories by Monkeys **Jay Barnson, Julie Frost, Paul Genesse, Leigh Saunders, and Johnny Worthen**. <http://www.camdenparkpress.com/.../mirages-and-speculations/>
- ◇ **Lyn Worthen**, writing as Lauryn Christopher (mystery/suspense):
 - ◇ "The Well," a short story by Lauryn Christopher, in "Fiction River: Feel the Fear," ed: Mark Leslie Lefebvre (Oct 2017) <https://www.wmgpublishinginc.com/.../fiction-river-feel.../>
 - ◇ "Mistletoe and Murder," a short story by Lauryn Christopher, in "Very Mysterious Christmas," ed: Rebecca Senese (Nov 2017) <https://bundlerabbit.com/b/very-mysterious-christmas>
 - ◇ "Best Served...Salted," a short story by Lauryn Christopher, in "Fiction Rier: Justice," ed: Kristine Kathryn Rusch (Jan 2018) <https://www.fictionriver.com>
- ◇ **Lyn Worthen**, writing as Leigh Saunders (science fiction/fantasy):
 - ◇ "And Then I Woke Up Dead," a novella by Leigh Saunders, in "Stars in the Darkness: Stories of Wisdom, Justice, and Love," ed: Jamie Ferguson (Nov 2017) <http://tiny.cc/StarsInDarkness>
 - ◇ "One Magical Christmas," a short story by Leigh Saunders, reprinted in "Christmas Tales," ed: Dara Girard (Dec 2017) <https://bundlerabbit.com/b/christmas-tales>
- ◇ **Lyn Worthen**, writing as Michele Dean (romance): "Intersections," a short story by Michele Dean, in "Intersections: League of Utah Writers 2017 Annual Anthology," ed. Emily Wheeler (Oct 2017)
- ◇ **Lyn Worthen**, writing as Liz Pierce (suburban fantasy): "Of Cats and Lost Socks," a short story by Liz Pierce, reprinted in "Fantastic Feline Heroes," ed: Bonnie Koenig (Jan 2018) <https://bundlerabbit.com/b/fantastic-feline-heroes>
- ◇ **Joni Haws'** short story "Little Rabbit" accepted into the Utah Horror Writers anthology "The Hunger" releasing April 2018.
- ◇ **Dan Allen's** novel "Blade of Toran" out in February. This is the sequel to "Fall of the Dragon Prince" (YA Fantasy)
- ◇ **Julie Frost**:
 - ◇ "How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Apocalypse," co-written with her awesome roleplay partner Aspen Hougen, in the Enter the Aftermath anthology.
 - ◇ "Horns of a Paradox" in Stupefying Stories 19.
 - ◇ "Bad Actors," a Pack Dynamics story, in the 3rd and Starlight anthology.
 - ◇ "A Particular Skill Set" in the Worlds of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror III anthology, also a Pack Dynamics short.
- ◇ **Terra Luft** will be inducted into the Sigma Tau Delta National English Honor Society February 22, 2018.
- ◇ **Johnny Worthen** is now teaching Creative Writing with the University of Utah Lifelong Learning Center.



⇒ Salt City Genre Writers

The Salt City Genre writers are now doing weekly write-ins every Saturday morning at Watchtower Cafe from 9 until Noon. All are welcome.

⇒ The South Valley Writers

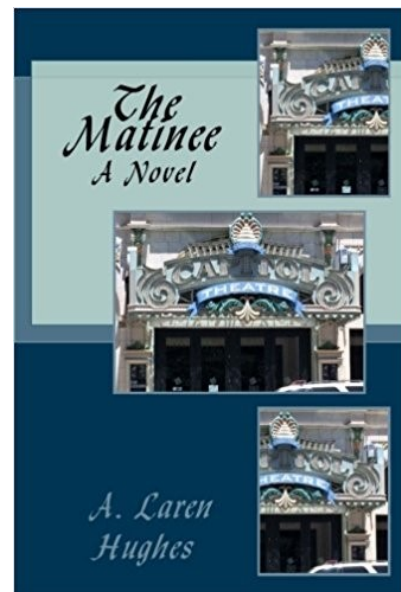
South Valley Writers Chapter is a new chapter welcoming all genres of writers. We offer support, friendship and information about all aspects of the writing process. We workshop writing each time that we meet. It's easiest to send emails of writing to other's in the group so we suggest bringing a computer for work shopping but we can also work with hard copies. If you bring hard copies, please bring at least five copies of your work to share. (No More than 5 pages due to time constraints) We meet the third Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8:30 but will meet the fourth Thursday in February due to conflicts.

Other news, Andrea Hughes is having a book launch of her most recent novel on January 22! Her book, is "The Matinee" pen name: A. Laren Hughes published on Amazon and is contemporary fiction. If you have ever had a Deja Vu or met someone you feel you have met before this is the book for you!

Also another member of our group, Mike Agrelius is looking for a good agent or publisher for some great children's books so pass the word to our chapter if you know anyone good for children's books

⇒ Utah Valley Legends (Provo/Orem)

The Utah Valley Legends chapter has new chapter leadership for 2018 with Jeff Baker as President and James Crofts as Vice President. The group is currently experiencing growth, bringing both new challenges and exciting changes for the chapter in the coming months. UVL meets regularly at the Provo and Orem libraries.



League of Utah Writers

2018 Published Book Contest Submission Guidelines

Eligibility:

To be eligible for this contest, your book must be published in 2017 or 2018. Books that have previously won a Diamond Quill, Gold Quill, or Silver Quill from LUW are not eligible. Hard copy books and e-books are both eligible, as are traditionally published and self-published books.

Categories:

The 2018 published book categories are Novel, Youth Fiction (YA, MG, chapter books and picture books), Nonfiction Book, and Collection (Anthologies and Chapbooks). Categories may be combined if there are insufficient entries. A book may only be entered in one category, but you may submit multiple books in any category. Each category will be awarded Gold and Silver Quill awards, and the Diamond Quill award recognizes the highest score among all entries. The categories may also include Recommended Read awards.

*An author only needs to have a piece in an anthology or chapbook to enter it. If multiple authors are in the same anthology or chapbook, they can do a joint entry.

As in past years, each category will be judged by an experienced writing professional outside of the League of Utah Writers, and the judge's feedback will be returned to contest entrants. Judges' decisions are final.

Submissions:

Submissions will be accepted by postal mail and electronically. If submitting by postal mail, send a copy of the book. Hard copies cannot be returned; they will be donated to libraries, book drives, or similar entities. If submitting electronically, you must email an Acrobat file (.pdf) or MS-Word document that is .doc and NOT .docx. Judges agree to delete the file as soon as judging is complete.

Entries will be accepted from January 25th to March 25, 2018, and winners will be announced at the League of Utah Writers Quills Conference (August 2018).

The fee is \$35 per entry.

Email any questions about the contest to: LUWpub@gmail.com

Submission Procedure:

- ◇ • If your submission is electronic, email it to LUWpub@gmail.com as a PDF or .doc. Submissions in print need to be sent to the address below.
- ◇ • Fill out the Contest Entry Form and mail or email it.
- ◇ • Send submission fees to:
The League of Utah Writers
P.O. BOX 6772
North Logan, UT 84341

League of Utah Writers

2018 Published Book Contest: Entry Form

Book Title: _____

Author Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

LUW Chapter (if member): _____

Publisher: _____

Category (select one):

- ◇ Novel
- ◇ Youth fiction (intended for a youth audience)
- ◇ Nonfiction Book
- ◇ Collection (anthologies and chapbooks)*

I certify that this is my own work* and agree to abide by the contest rules:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

- ◇ For each submission, the entry fee is \$35. If your submission is electronic, email it to LUWpub@gmail.com as a .pdf or .doc.
- ◇ Submissions in print need to be send to the address below.
- ◇ Please mail submission fees and completed contest entry form by March 24, 2018 to:
The League of Utah Writers
P.O. BOX 6772
North Logan, UT 84341
- ◇ An author only needs a piece in a collection to enter it. Multiple authors in an anthology or chapbook.

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The Quill is published four times a year by the League of Utah Writers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to offering friendship, education and encouragement to the writers of Utah.

This project is supported in part by grants from the Utah Arts Council, the Utah Division of Arts & Museums, and Salt Lake County Zoo, Arts, & Parks.

