



The Lariat

Fall 1992

LEAGUE OF UTAH WRITERS

Vol. 4, page 1

President's Message

AS 1992 nears its end, the time to summarize the past and dream the future greets us. For the League the year has been filled with accomplishments and sadness.

Under accomplishments we can list another successful Roundup headlined by editor Barbara Lalicki and graced by the remarkable insights of Beppie Harrison and Candice Seschachari. We can list a successful contesting season topped by a very special contest with Sappho as a prize. We list the many new faces which have joined our ranks and added to our company.

On a business level the League has remained stable financially while the time commitment for state meetings and business has been purposely reduced to give our presidents more time for writing. Adult membership is near 330.

Sadness comes in remembering those who have left us, especially long-time members Bethany Chaffin and Mabel Harmer. Yet, the examples they set are still with us as their work

is continued through the hundreds of writers they each touched.

Work is just starting on next year's activities. The Roundup will be scheduled in the Ogden area. The spring workshop will be in Salt Lake City or Provo depending on facility and volunteer availability. I anticipate that the Roundup will again be a teaching event but would like to add several guest author speaking events throughout the year in various communities. Frequently authors on book tours come through our cities and the membership never hears from them. Contact your local book store or campus to see what speakers might be interesting to your community. Then contact me regarding the amount of support needed to co-sponsor the event in your city.

Trying different types of events should give chapters valuable exposure to local supporters of writing artists and help the League move ahead. I look forward to seeing many of you during our '93 activities and hope you will join with us in another

Board Meeting Is Scheduled Dec. 5th

The annual installation meeting, which has traditionally been held in January, will be moved to Saturday, December 5. The meeting will be held at Salt Lake Community College and is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

All chapter presidents, delegates and board members should plan to attend. New board members will be introduced, we will comment on the past year's activities and discuss plans for

activities in 1993.

The meeting was changed so that chapter officers can begin the new year in full stride and have an idea of what to expect. Key elements in the discussion will be dues, deadlines, speakers and workshops. We will also discuss ZCMI's Charity Night fundraiser for chapters.

SLCC is located at 4400 South Redwood Road and the meeting will again be held in the College Center.

USPS Announces Harmer Contest

The Utah State Poetry Society competition will include a new contest in honor of Mabel Harmer who died in 1992. The Harmer competition and a number of others are open to non-members.

Anyone interested in the USPS contests can request rules by sending a SASE to Rosalyn Ostler 7685 Dell Road, Salt Lake City, UT 84121. For more information call 943-4214. The USPS contest deadline is in February.

ZCMI Charity Night January 23rd is Great Chapter Fundraiser

Once again ZCMI is hosting its annual Charity Night fundraiser for Utah charities. This year's event will be held on Saturday, Jan. 23.

The League has 200 tickets available for the

event. Each has a suggested selling price of \$5. Chapter Presidents should have received their tickets in the mail. The tickets can be sold to members, friends or community acquaintances

and the entire selling price stays with the chapter for operating funds.

This year's tickets include four special coupons, up to 20% off, which can be used to fur-

ther reduce the specially lowered prices in the store for this event. ZCMI also furnishes free entertainment, refreshments and several prize drawings for people attending. The store is not

open to the general public during this evening.

We encourage League members to join in the fun, especially those who are planning purchases during post-holiday sales.

Chapter Chatter

Blue Quill

Polly Harrington recently published an article in Religious News Service Syndicate. She is also teaching a class "Writing Professionally" for WSU Continuing Education and Community Service.

Clarence P. Socwell published a poem in *The Wounded Heart*, he also won an honorable mention in the Louisiana poetry contest and two firsts and three honorable mentions in a Florida poetry contest.

Maxine Jennings won second place in the national *Writer's Digest* Poem Contest. She also won first place in *Byline*, the Nevada Poetry Society contest and two first places in the Portland, Ore., Pen Women poetry contest.

June Krambule published an article, "10 Ways to Make Communication Work for You" in *Business Today*. Her article, "This Is God's Country," will appear in the January issue of *Country Extra* magazine. She also published photos in the *Standard Examiner's Answer Book* and *Weber County Profile*.

LaVon Carroll won a first place and two honorable mentions in the Florida poetry contest and is teaching poetry in the Academy of Life Long Learning.

Pat Clough published something in *Cricket* magazine and sold a poem to *Friend*.

Helen Cook won a second place in *Byline*, two third place awards and one honorable mention in the Florida contest.

Richard Swenson's original song, "My Utah," was featured at an event of the VFW and is being considered for presentation at a national convention in 1997 and for the Utah centennial celebration in 1996.

Wanda Blaisdell is currently serving as the president of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies as well as being president of the Utah State Poetry Society.

Bountiful

The local centennial events afforded the Bountiful Chapter many opportunities to celebrate through their writing efforts. **Dora Flack** produced the Bountiful Centennial Historical Walking Tour at the Bountiful Cemetery in September, while **Sheila Huntington** wrote a biography of her great-great grandfather to be presented during that tour. A full page newspaper article entitled "Willey Cabin--Unexpected Centennial Treasure," by **Brian Gubler**, appeared in the *Davis County Clipper* and included five photos. It was written as a part of one of the Centennial events. As Literary Chairman of the Bountiful Centennial Committee, Dora also completed publication of a booklet entitled *A Tabernacle in the Land of Bountiful*, written by **Maebel Jones Gabbott**.

Trisa Martin had an article, "It's My Day, Mom," accepted for publication in *Parent's Monthly*, a newsletter in Sacramento, Calif.

Dora has also been

named "Woman of Distinction--1992" by the Soroptimist International Bountiful Chapter. She sold an article to Scripture Press, the *Ensign* accepted an article entitled "Burned, But Not Out," and another article appeared in the *Davis County Clipper* on the historical Kimball Mill site. Dora also won second place in Penwomen's article contest, and three honorable mentions.

Barbara J. Porter's new picture book, *All Kinds of Answers*, was to be out by the end of September.

Box Elder

Marva Jeanne Pedersen's play, "The Holly and the Ivy," will be produced by Heritage Community Theatre in Perry, Utah, on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from Dec. 3-19 at 8:00 p.m. For reservations, call 723-8392.

Marva Jeanne's poem, "Peace," sold to the *Ensign* and won first place in the USPS Short Poem contest. Other poems have also been published: "On An Autumn Day" in *A Time of Singing*; "To a Patriot Hero," "As a Child," and "What Price Poetry?" in *Poetry Panorama*; "Christmas Magic" read on KSL's Sunday Sound of Music.

Children's stories "Grandma Cuddle," and "Michael Makes a Friend," "Amy to the Rescue," "To Save a Kid" and "Dance of Presidents" appeared in or have been accepted by *Day Care and Early Education*, *Clubhouse*, *Junior Trails*, *The*

and *The Friend*, respectively.

Other stories and articles appeared as follows: "Toni," *His Garden* magazine; "Story of Strings," *Guide Magazine*; "Murphy's Law: Junk Grows to Fill Available Space" and "No Matter How Fancy the Kitchen, Clutter Collects in 'Plunking' Spot," *Salt Lake Tribune*.

"Not to Worry" and "Dance of Presidents" placed third in general article and juvenile story respectively in Penwomen's contests.

Marva Jeanne also wrote a Christmas program with a story, two poems and narration to be presented in the Willard Second Ward, and a Relief Society Sesquicentennial play, "You Are Not Alone."

Cedar Night Writers

Correy Player had an article appear in the *Family Circle* titled "Cries in the Dark."

Elaine Imus published her article "City Girl at Rendezvous" in *Muzzle Blasts*.

Craft House

Nancy White published an article in the *Salt Lake Tribune's* Freelance Corner.

Carol Quist had three poems published in Columbia-Pacific University's October issue. She also won a first place in Ohio Poetry Day, published opera articles in *Utah Holiday* and *The Event* and sports articles in *The*

Golden Age.

Joyce Marder published articles in *Catalyst*, *Private Eye* and *The Record*.

LaVon Sullivan's poem, "The Miracle," appeared in *Pasque Petals* magazine published by the South Dakota State Poetry Society.

Oquirrh

Multi-faceted **Darlene Christensen** won first place in the short story category of the Fall 1992 Midge Publication contest with "The Dent." Her play, "Absence of Payne," was chosen to be presented at the Utah Arts Festival in June 1992 by Theatre West, who had produced it during 1 year's regular season. Darlene has also had a number of poems published, including "Spring Ritual" and "Garden Ghost" in *Country Women*.

Norma Taylor's newest short story is set in Barcelona, Spain, where she spent the first six days of the 1992 Olympics as winner of the Metz Bakery drawing.

"Mystic Monolith," a poem by **Susanne Morley**, was read on KSL's Sound of Music.

One of **Pat Cutting's** poems, "The Dawn," was included in the August 1992 *Tradition*, a bi-monthly publication.

Dorothy Crofts edited and published *Changes*, a collection of short stories, essays and poetry subsidized by the West Valley Arts Council

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Chapter Chatter

Continued from page 2

She also compiled a book of personal histories of women in the Harman Ward for the Relief Society Susquicentennial celebration.

Salt Lake

Elinor G. Hyde won a first place award in the Penwomen competition for an article, "Teacher, Musician, Promoter," and her first owl, along with \$25. She won a third place for the slice-of-life category and an honorable mention for an article entitled "Bits of History, as Told by my Neighbor." She continues to critique Skyline High School's English/writing classes, and is currently serving as the Treasurer (1992-93) for the National League of American Pen Women (NLAPW) and as publicity representative for the Salt Lake Branch. She is working on completing her history of the Mount Olympus 5th Ward Relief Society.

Helen Bradford won third place in the Ohio State Poetry Contest for a sonnet, "Beachcomber," and seventh Honorable Mention from NJS Poetry Society for a Vesser son-

net, "Autumn Gold."

Alice Morrey Bailey won another diamond with a collection, "Wanja of Kenya and other Works." She was honored at the Roundup for her scholarship contribution of her sculpture, "Sap-
pho."

Geraldine Pratt's versatility showed when she won first place in both light verse and serious poetry competitions.

Wasatch

Mary Baker's article on camping at "City of Rocks, Idaho" is to be published in the *Peterson Quarterly* by Peterson Specialized Fabrication.

Vera Bakker's poem, "Sunrise on the Mountain," is being published in the Spring Poetry Panorama, and will be read on KSL's Sound of Music in July. She also wrote a children's Sacramento Meeting presentation which was used by several wards.

Norma Dalton's article, "Shots Fired--Trooper Down," sold to the National Chief of Police magazine, as well as three historical pieces for the Nine Mile Anthology compiled for *It's a Rich Life*.

1993 Dues Are Due

In order to get the contest rules and directories distributed earlier than last year, we must get better cooperation from the membership. Some fees came in as late as March which delayed the whole process. Please plan on paying your 1993 fees during your January

meetings. Contact potential members and widen your circles. Then see that the fees are promptly forwarded to President Bensch along with an accurate listing of member addresses and phone numbers. Membership fees for all chapters of the League will again be \$20.

Utah Calligraphers Clarify Request

Any writings submitted for use by UCA should be on the subjects of writing or reading or the manufacturing of books. This can include remarks about editors, publishers, critics, etc., and can be serious, silly, biting, witty, profound or amusing. The work can be in the form of prose or poetry.

All writings received will be offered to

calligraphers for their possible use as little books or wall hangings or whatever creative use as a display piece that a letterer may devise.

Because letterers are a flighty, flaky and capricious group of craft persons, they may not be able to visualize any given writing as an artistic work. This, of course, does not mean that your words have

not been read and probably appreciated, perhaps even doted upon. It just means that nobody amongst our members was brave enough to attempt to make visual the verbal.

We are really looking forward to receiving a virtual deluge (or at least a small stream) of words from the League of Utah Writers.

BYU Announces Eisteddfod (Poetry) Competition for 1993

Competitions to determine the most talented poets have been taking place for centuries in Wales. Entries are always submitted under a pseudonym to insure that the judge's decisions are unbiased. Prizes are awarded for the best ode and the best lyric at each year's Eisteddfod (eye-steth-vod), which means "a meeting for competition."

Brigham Young University College of Humanities is pleased to announce that a similar competition will be held this year. The competition

is open to all.

Instructions: Entries should carry pseudonyms only. Each should be accompanied by a sealed envelope (with the pseudonym on the outside) containing the name, address, telephone number, social security number of the competitor and a \$3.00 entry fee. No entries will be returned. Winners will be notified before Feb. 28, 1993. Winners will be "chaired" and "crowned" on Saturday, March 6, 1993, at a special ceremony in the Provo Tabernacle.

Deadline: Feb. 1, 1993

postmark

Fee: \$3.00 per entry
Mail to: Eisteddfod Poetry Competition
College of Humanities
2054 JKHB
BYU

Provo, UT 84602

Chair Competition: a long poem or ode of not fewer than 50 lines and not more than 150 lines.
Subject: Journeys
Prize: \$300 and a miniature chair.

Crown Competition: a lyric poem of not more than 100 lines.

Subject: Brilliance
Prize: \$300 and a miniature crown.

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American Mothers Writing Competition

In cooperation with the annual American Mothers, Inc., writing competition, we have included with this issue of the Lariat a copy of their rules and entry form for their upcoming contest.

League members have usually done very

well in this forum and we encourage all eligible members to participate. Contest Chairperson, Rebecca Allen, reported that entry numbers have been relatively low in recent years, so the possibility of favorable results is excellent.

Categories for the contest which has a postmark deadline of Jan. 23, include short story, poetry and essay/article. Winners will be announced at the Mothers Cultural Arts Tea scheduled for Feb. 12, 1993.

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Big Money For Poetry

The *Salt Lake Tribune* announced a new \$50,000 annual prize for a poetry collection called the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. The Tufts award will be the largest single poetry prize given in the United States, larger than any known annual fiction prize.

The *Washington Post* reported Kingsley Tuft's widow, Kate, as saying, "We wanted the poet to have time enough to really concentrate on his craft, without having

to worry about the bills or some nasty little job somewhere. Fifty thousand dollars seemed like a nice round amount."

The prize will be awarded to the year's best collection of poetry whether published or still in manuscript form.

Kingsley Tuft was a member of the family which founded Tufts University in Massachusetts. He died in 1991 at the age of 84--while reading his verse to a

group of friends. During the 40s and 50s he wrote fiction for magazines such as *Colliers*, *Saturday Evening Post* and *Liberty*. He published his poetry himself in limited editions. His wife explained that, "He was a very private man and didn't want to submit to a New York publisher."

So, League poets, stop crying the "There's No Money In Poetry" blues and start writing!

Lariat Deadline: February 10

Send materials to Brenda Bensch, 1508 W. Elmhill Cir., Murray, UT 84123. If your writing achievements are not represented here, contact your chapter secretary.

263-0299
Call Norma for #

Intent Day
237-2062 Ben
237-2078
O. Vire story - Check Library

The League of Utah Writers
1508 West Elmhill Circle
Murray, UT 84123



Donating Quilts
4621 W. Harmon Drive
West Valley City Utah 84120

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