

## OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LEAGUE OF UTAH WRITERS

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Carole O. Cole*

One never steps into a position such as this without a sense of wonder at the many, many hours of dedicated service so many people provide in order to keep the League functioning and fulfilling its avowed purposes. State board members, chapter presidents and other officers, and every member contribute in so many ways to make the League what it is today.

With membership approaching the 450 mark, responsibilities at every level increase. I thank every one of you for your wonderful contributions.

Policies and Procedures. Here are a couple of the questions I've been asked since taking office as president. Perhaps you've had the same questions.

**Q.** Can a member pay dues to one chapter and attend meetings alternately another chapter?

**A.** Most chapters welcome members and nonmembers alike to their chapter meetings. Some chapters, however, produce a monthly newsletter and must use the chapter share of membership dues to defray copying and mailing costs. In this instance, newsletters should be mailed only to those members whose dues have been paid through that chapter.

**Q.** How are League dues divided between the State and Chapter?

**A.** Beginning January 1999 the chapter share of the annual \$24 membership fee will be \$10. The State retains the remaining \$14.

Roundup Evaluations. Overall, the evaluations of September's Roundup were very positive with nearly all those attending (and who completed the evaluation form) stating that they learned from the workshops they attended.

Future workshop topics that were requested include essays, travel, children's, how-tos, queries, proposals, self-publishing, poetry, nonfiction, science fiction, plotting, and short stories.

Many of you asked for more nationally known writers as keynote speakers and workshop presenters. We do strive to bring in nationally prominent authors; unfortunately, many of them price themselves out of our budget, sometimes asking for (and getting) fees of \$25,000 or more for a speaking engagement.

Lariat Deadlines. We missed having updates for several of our chapters for this issue of the *Lariat*. Please note the following deadlines for future issues and send me your Chatter items, officer updates, success stories, meeting calendars, etc. by the deadline.

Vol. 63, No. 2 - **January 15**

Vol. 63, No. 3 - **April 15**

Vol. 63, No. 4 - **July 15**

All items can be sent via FAX (801-292-0821); e-mail (cocole@aol.com); or snail mail (354 East 1650 South, Bountiful, UT 84010).

Historian. We are still looking for someone to fill the position of Historian for the League. **Dora Flack's** wonderful history, written a little over a year ago, provides a solid foundation for future historians to build on. Now we need a dedicated individual who will pick up the torch and carry it along as we continue to grow and develop and encourage our membership to achieve their writing goals. Are you that individual?

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Web Site. **Kristen Black**, our website coordinator, has been abducted by aliens (or at least that's what we surmise as we have not been able to track her down) and the website along with her. If you have the number of her UFO, please let us know.

If you can create and help us maintain a website for the LUW, please contact me right away. We feel it important to have a presence on the web and need some computer-literate expertise to get us going.

Membership Drive. The State Board will be meeting on November 14 to discuss, among other things, instituting a membership drive among high school and college students. If you have any ideas on how such a drive might be conducted, including chapter incentives, publicity, or contacts, please let your president or board delegate know by November 14.

Contact Numbers. If any of you have e-mail addresses (particularly, chapter presidents and other officers), will you please send them to me. This method of communicating is so much faster and more reliable than mail.

FAX numbers are also helpful.

Year's Calendar. Details of the State calendar are still being worked out and should be firmed up at the November 14 board meeting.

In the meantime, Roundup has been scheduled for September 17-18, 1999 in Salt Lake City. Now is not too soon to circle the date on your calendars and begin planning for our premier event of the year.

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## CHAPTER CHATTER

Bear River Valley - No report.

Blue Quill Chapter - No report.

### Bountiful Chapter

**Gerald N. Lund**, popular author of the LDS historical novel series, *The Work and the Glory*, kicked off the new year by sharing with chapter members and visitors his "Reflections of a Writer," and particularly his reflections as a writer of novels.

Coming up in November will be **Judy Jensen**, editor of the *Davis County Clipper* who will speak on her experiences in writing for newspapers and what she looks for and needs as an editor in the way of newspaper articles. In January **Ann Marcusen** will make a return appearance to talk about the Art of the Essay.

Three separate critique groups are in the process of being formed; one that meets weekly, one that meets twice monthly, and one that meets monthly.

**Steve Stumph** reports he is now being represented by an agent and also has a possible producer for his screenplay, *Benedict*, about historical figure Benedict Arnold. Another agent is interested in Steve's *California Conspiracy*, which centers on the way the Mexican War was planned in 1846.

**Maxine Shreve** has been installed as president of the Rhyme and Reason chapter of the Utah State Poetry Society and has recently had a poem published in the *Clipper*. She also wrote and presented "Prayer Grace," a poem for the Saturday banquet at the national convention of the National Federation of State Poetry Societies in June.

The chapter welcomed two new members in October: **Mary Jo Tanner** and **Raymond Fuller**.

### Cache Valley Chapter

**Bill Willson** is now the president elect and **James Thalman** the secretary treasurer of the chapter. Upcoming meetings have been tentatively scheduled around the topics of creativity, editing, and content. Critique sessions are held during regular meetings and after the Show & Share segments of meetings. Bill shared discovery of a web site called "Friendly Pencil" ([www.writelinks.com](http://www.writelinks.com)), which has various levels and great information.

**Lori Lee-Howell** has self-published her poetry.

Two new members have also been welcomed: **Janet Jensen** and **Mike Duvall**.

Color Country Chapter - No report.

Delta Chapter - No report.

### Heritage Writers

The Heritage Writers Guild of St. George will celebrate their 25th year in 1999. To commemorate this event, a silver anniversary book is being published. Orders for the book, honors the Guild's long commitment to creative expression through the written word, have exceeded expectations. The book will sell for \$14.95, but can be obtained at the pre-publication price of \$13.95 by sending a check to the Guild's secretary-treasurer, **Deloris R. Lukens** at P.O. Box 542, New Harmony, UT 84757. Books will be delivered in December in time for Christmas giving.

Various poetry and prose readings, some set to music, are being conducted in the St. George area to highlight the pieces found in the Guild's anniversary book.

**LaVere Brinkerhoff** set up

one such evening featuring the music of **Roger** and **Katy Hansen** at the St. George Tabernacle on November 3.

Guild members walked away with 15 prizes at Roundup, more than any other chapter.

### Oquirrh Chapter

Two chapter members are serving on the LUW's state board: **Dorothy Crofts** is serving as president-elect of the League while her husband, **Sylvan Crofts**, continues to serve as Membership chairman.

The Second Annual Oquirrh Writing Contest has drawn response statewide. Entries more than doubled over the previous year's contest with 83 entries were received. Winners will be announced at the Free Literary Concert on November 19 at 7:00 pm at the West Valley City Hall lobby. Books containing all entries in the contest in five categories (fiction, humor, non-fiction, poetry, and children) can be ordered for \$15 before November 10 and will be distributed at the Concert.

Monthly writing assignments for 1999 have been established. Those who complete the monthly assignments will have their work compiled into a book for chapter members. The books are given out at the annual Christmas party.

**Marie Stewart Hughes** had an article published in the Salt Lake Tribune on Monday, October 12. The theme of the article centered on the tragedy of her youngest son, **Joel Stewart's** death and the easy access to guns in our society.

**Dorothy Crofts** has written a poem about the early organization of the area west of the Jordan

River, which takes in the area of her ward and stake. Dorothy was asked to do a presentation about the heritage of the Harman Ward at a ward party on October 16.

**JoAnn Felix** has been nominated to serve as a delegate from the Oquirrh Chapter.

### Park City Chapter

The newest chapter of the League has established their monthly meeting schedule on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Prudential Coleman Office Building, 2200 Park Avenue, Building B. President **Kendeyl Johansen** is enthusiastically recruiting new chapter members and actively promoting the group through distribution of flyers to bookstores, press releases, and a local television program.

### Price Chapter

**Carol Henrie** has taken over the reins as president and is searching for a different meeting site to accommodate more members.

### Salt Lake Chapter

November 10's speaker will be Ann Chamberlin who will speak on using dialogue. On the 4th Tuesday of each month, we sponsor a two-hour writing practice session from 6:45 to 8:45 pm in the downtown library, second floor meeting room.

Welcome to new members **Rex Bush, Judy Daynes, and Lorel Piatt!**

### Sevier Valley Chapter

New officers for the chapter are: **Esther Williams**, president; **Joyce Knaphus**, vice president; **JoAnn King**, secretary; and **Jim Garman**, reporter. Three chapter members won awards at Roundup.

**Diane Jessen** received a 5th Honorable Mention from the National Federation of State Poetry Society Contest in the Winner's Circle Category for "Cemetery Ritual." **Jim**

**Garman's** poem, "I Remember When" was published by *Poet's Digest*.

### South Jordan Chapter

The 1998-99 meeting schedule through May is as follows:

*November 5, 1998:*

"Developing Believable Characters," Anita Stansfield

*December 3, 1998:* No first Thursday meeting

*January 7, 1999:* "Finding Time to Write," Stephanni Hicken

*February 4, 1999:* "Plotting Your Novel," Heather Horrocks

*March 4, 1999:* "Writing: a Home Based Business" Carolyn Campbell

*April 1, 1999:* "Book It." Share your favorite how-to writing book.

*May 6, 1999:* "Improving Your Writing Skills," Kathleen Dougherty

### Timpanogos Chapter

No report

### Utah Valley Chapter

Former chapter president **Melinda Hill** was presented with a gift for service during the state board meeting at Roundup. The chapter also provided several volunteers who acted as hosts/hostesses for the various workshops presented at Roundup. Much appreciated for their volunteer spirit and enthusiasm are: **Judy Andersen, Betty Briggs, Shauna Haehl, Sandy Hirschi, Annette Lyon, Lisa Peck, and John Thornton.**

**John Thornton** has accepted the presidential torch. **Sandy Hirschi** has been asked to serve as Executive Director/Treasurer and has been placed in charge of membership administration. **Stephanni Hicken** will serve as the

chapter's contest chair. As a former New York editor, she brings a lot of talent to this task. Award-winning writer **Sherri Curtis** will assist Stephanni.

November's meeting will host **Carole Cole**, state president of the LUW and former editor at Deseret Book. Carole will deliver a workshop on Creative Nonfiction.

**Wasatch Writers** - No report.

**Wordcraft** - No report. ♦♦

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

✓ LDS writers are invited to submit script summaries for live theatrical productions to be produced in the 900-seat theatre currently under construction adjacent to the Church's new assembly building north of Temple Square. Scripts must be based on one of four themes: "Christ Centered Christmas," "In the World But Not of the World," "The Prophet Joseph Smith," and "Pioneer Heritage." All the-

When you write, you lay out a line of words that is a miner's pick, a wood-carver's gouge, a surgeon's probe. You wield it, and it digs a path you follow. Soon you find yourself deep in new territory.

Annie Dillard,  
*The Writing Life*

atrical formats (drama, comedy, musicals) will be considered. Script summaries must be submitted by January 15, 1999. For more information and submission guidelines, contact Promised Valley Productions, Church Office Building, 20th Floor, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84150, or

call (801) 240-6492.

✓ *Writer's Digest* will accept entries for their National Self-Published Book awards up until December 15, 1998. An entry/judging fee of \$95 is required. Categories include Reference Books, Inspirational, Life Stories, Cookbooks, Children's and Young Adult Books, Fiction, Non-fiction, and Poetry. Official entry forms and submission guidelines can be obtained by writing to *Writer's Digest* National Self-Published Book Awards, 1507 Dana Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45207.

✓ Examples of the kinds of grants that the Utah Arts Council awards to individual artists in the literary arts are those awarded on June 29 to **Gerda Saunders** of Salt Lake City (\$800 to complete her novel in progress, *The Last Pieta of Michel Agniolo*) and Margaret Young of Provo (\$800 for time to research for a historical novel on black Mormon pioneers). Individual artist grants deadlines occur three times each year: the first weekday of February, June, and October. Write to Artist's Services, Utah Arts Council, 617 East So. Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84102 for instructions and application form.

✓ If you would like to receive the Utah Arts Council quarterly publication, *ArtOps*, contact Tay Haines at (801) 236-7549, or at the above address. ♦♦

## ON LINE FOR WRITER

**Children's Writing Resource Center**  
[www.write4kids.com](http://www.write4kids.com)

**Writer On Line Membership Contest**  
[www.novalearn.com/writers/contest](http://www.novalearn.com/writers/contest)

**National Writer's Monthly 1999 Winter 24-Hour Short Story Contest**  
[www.writersmarkets.com/index/contests.htm](http://www.writersmarkets.com/index/contests.htm)

**Newsletter for Songwriters**  
[www.lyricalline.com/newsletter.html](http://www.lyricalline.com/newsletter.html)

**Writing Now**  
[www.writingnow.com](http://www.writingnow.com)

## Online Writing Classes

**Writer's Village University**  
<http://4-writers.com>

**WriteLinks**  
[www.writelinks.com](http://www.writelinks.com)

**Gotham Writers' Workshop**  
[www.write.org/gww](http://www.write.org/gww)

**Word Museum**  
[www.wordmuseum.com/classes.htm](http://www.wordmuseum.com/classes.htm)

**The Write Site**  
[www.thewritesite.com/workshops/html](http://www.thewritesite.com/workshops/html)

**Writers On The Net**  
[www.writers.com](http://www.writers.com)

**Painted Rock**  
[www.paintedrock.com/conference/confcntr.htm](http://www.paintedrock.com/conference/confcntr.htm)

## 1998 LUW CONTEST UPDATE

*Mary Barnes*

If you received a contest entry and attached critique that does not belong to you, please contact **Mary Barnes** at 801-566-7214, or return it to Mary at 1031 E. Floret Lane, 16T, Midvale, UT 84047. Likewise, if you did not receive your contest entry entitled "Nobody's Best Friend," please call or

**Winners of 1998 League of Utah Writers Annual Contest**

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CATEGORY	PLACE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CATEGORY	PLACE
<b>Blue Gull Chapter</b>				Esther	Williams	Essay	HM
Chris	Bolleau	Essay	2nd			Light Verse	HM
LaVon B.	Carroll	Short Story	3rd	<b>Utah Valley</b>			
		Popular Article	HM	Annette	Lyon	Full-Length Fiction	2nd
		Feature Article	3rd	Linda	Orvis	Humor	Certificate
Maxine	Jennings	Alice M. Bailey Love Poem	HM			Middle Reader Book	3rd
Judy	Johns	Inspirational/Pers. Experience	2nd			Publication Certificate	
		Movie Scripts	HM	Lisa	Peck	Inspirational/Pers. Experience	HM
		Middle Children's Story	3rd			Inspirational/Pers. Experience	HM
	Johns	White/Meagher Short Story	3rd			Teen/Young Adult Fiction	1st
Lynn	Miller	White/Meagher Short Story	HM			Publication Certificate	
		Publication Award		Vicki	Wheeler	Feature Article	HM
		Publication Certificate				Serious Poetry	HM
						Alice M. Bailey Love Poem	HM
<b>Bountiful Chapter</b>				<b>Wasatch Writers</b>			
Debbi	Allred	Children's Poetry	HM	Vera	Bakker	Serious Poetry	HM
		Anec/Reflec/Sermonettes	3rd			Light Verse	HM
Dora	Flack	Popular Article	HM			Publication Certificate	
Trisa	Martin	Publication Certificate		Teresa	Bogue	Alice M. Bailey Love Poem	HM
Steve	Stumph	Movie Scripts	3rd	Virginia	Bourgeois	Feature Article	HM
		Full-Length Fiction	HM	Geraldine	Felt	Popular Article	1st
Alice	Whipple	Songwriting	3rd			Humor	Certificate
<b>Cache Valley</b>						Light Verse	3rd
Lori	Lee-Howell	Children's Poetry	2nd	Beth	Moore	Essay	HM
		Essay	3rd			Children's Books	1st
William	Willson	Holiday Verse	HM			Young Children's Story	HM
		Essay	HM			Middle Children's Story	HM
<b>Color Country</b>				Beverly	Sherman	Non-Fiction Book	2nd
Marlan	Ashdown	Poetry	HM			Non-Fiction Book	3rd
		Holiday Verse	2nd	Juanita	Watts	Middle Children's Story	1st
		Serious Poetry	3rd			Popular Article	3rd
		Serious Poetry	HM			Serious Poetry	2nd
		Light Verse	1st			Alice M. Bailey Love Poem	1st
Corrie Lynne	Player	Alice M. Bailey Love Poem	HM	<b>Wordcraft</b>			
		Non-Fiction Book	1st	Theda	Bassett	Children's Poetry	3rd
		Publication Certificate				Children's Books	HM
<b>Delta</b>						Young Children's Story	1st
RoseAnn	Young	Anec/Reflec/Sermonettes	HM			Young Children's Story	3rd
<b>Heritage Writers</b>						Middle Children's Story	HM
LaVere	Brinkerhoff	Serious Poetry	HM			Popular Article	HM
		White/Meagher Short Story	HM			Publication Certificates	
Thella	Breck	Essay	1st	Ray	Bergman	White/Meagher Short Story	HM
		Publication Award		Bonita	Cross	Short Story	HM
Jerree	Crouch	Children's Books	HM			Humor	Certificate
Kamilyn	Egan	Short Story	1st	Bettyanne	Gillette	Middle Reader Book	HM
Marilyn	Richardson	Anec/Reflec/Sermonettes	1st	Jerry	Haggard	White/Meagher Short Story	2nd
Jo	Rose	Humor	Certificate	Pam	Moody	Middle Reader Book	1st
		Humor	Certificate			Middle Reader Book	HM
Marie	Tollstrup	Inspirational/Pers. Experience	1st	June	Park	Middle Reader Book	HM
Connie	Wilcox	Short Story	HM			White/Meagher Short Story	1st
		Middle Children's Story	HM	Carol	Quist	Light Verse	2nd
<b>Oquirrh Writers</b>						Alice M. Bailey Love Poem	3rd
Jennifer	Allen	Inspirational/Pers. Experience	3rd			Alice M. Bailey Love Poem	HM
		Inspirational/Pers. Experience	HM			Publication Certificate	
Joy	Brothersen	Children's Books	HM	Bonnie	Robinson	Full-Length Fiction	1st
Dorothy	Crofts	Poetry	HM	Michael	Robinson	Poetry	1st
		Holiday Verse	3rd			Poetry	3rd
		Anec/Reflec/Sermonettes	HM			Poetry	HM
		Anec/Reflec/Sermonettes	HM			Anec/Reflec/Sermonettes	2nd
Kathy	Jones	Children's Books	3rd			Middle Reader Book	2nd
Susanne	Morley	Children's Poetry	HM			Serious Poetry	1st
Dan	Weinrich	Short Story	HM			Songwriting	1st
		Feature Article	HM	Kimberly	Welliver	Full-Length Fiction	3rd
<b>Park City</b>				Carole	Western	Movie Scripts	1st
Maureen	Troy	Movie Scripts	2nd			Teen/Young Adult Fiction	2nd
		Full-Length Fiction	HM			Publication Award	
<b>Salt Lake</b>				<b>Non Members</b>			
Elinor	Hyde	Publication Certificate		Lauralee	Bass	Humor	Certificate
Hazel	Marrott	Children's Poetry	1st			Alice M. Bailey Love Poem	2nd
		Children's Poetry	HM	Jamie	Blodgett	Young Children's Story	HM
		Young Children's Story	2nd	Susan	Buckley	Songwriting	2nd
		Young Children's Story	HM			Songwriting	HM
		Middle Children's Story	2nd	Martin	Calderwood	Short Story	2nd
		Feature Article	2nd	Jean	Gilbert	Children's Books	2nd
Geraldine R.	Pratt	Serious Poetry	HM			Feature Article	1st
		Publication Certificate		Mary	Harrington	Publication Award	
<b>Sevier Valley</b>				Nicky	Higgins	Full-Length Fiction	HM
Jim	Garman	Poetry	HM	Brian	Pituman	Holiday Verse	HM
Diane	Jessen	Poetry	2nd	Keith	Seegmiller	Teen/Young Adult Fiction	3rd
		Holiday Verse	1st	Mary Jo	Tanner	Popular Article	2nd
		Holiday Verse	HM				
		Publication Certificate					

e-mail me at nebulabook@aol.com or meb242@aol.com.

Thanks to all who participated in or helped run the contest. We hope you had fun, are inspired to enter next year's contest, and will forgive us our human errors.

Many thanks for the comments and suggestions, which will be turned over to next year's contest chair, **Jerree Crouch.** ♦♦

## **SPEAKERS' BUREAU**

*Mary Barnes*

Please contact me at 801-566-7214 or e-mail at nebulabook@aol.com for information on the speakers available to your chapter and workshop meetings. Remember that the League will reimburse your chapter for two speakers per year at \$25 each. Watch for more information and updates in future *Lariat* issues. ♦♦

**League of Utah Writers**  
354 East 1650 South  
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## **TWELVE BENEFITS OF CRITIQUE GROUPS**

*Linda Cady*

(Condensed from the April/May 1997 issue of SCBWI Bulletin.)

1. **Motivation.** I use my weekly meetings to motivate myself. Granted, I'm usually crunching it out the night before, but I wouldn't be doing it at all if I didn't have that pressure.
2. **Constructive Criticism.** Good preparation for dealing with editors and agents.
3. **Reading Aloud.** When presenting a piece I've reviewed numerous times myself, small and big things show up as I see it with fresh eyes.
4. **Objective Viewpoint.** After spotting problems and weaknesses in other people's writing, I return to my own and look for the same mistakes.
5. **Market Research & Publications.** We save time and money when we share market information, magazine samples, and publishers' catalogs.
6. **Local Workshops.** Different

members receive different newsletters and we let each other know about workshop opportunities.

7. **Education.** We share what we learn at conferences through notes and tapes. We share whatever comments we've received about our works in other critiquing situations.

8. **Conference Buddy.** My group is a resource for potential carpooling and/or roommates for conferences.

9. **Someone to Complain to.** Only another writer can understand when we have gripes with editors or publishers.

10. **Encouragement.** No one can cheer and encourage like the people have been there.

11. **Mutual Support.** We support one another at book signings, teaching assignments, etc.

12. **Celebration.** When an editor writes a note in the margin and I act like I won Publisher's Clearing House, my group understands. When I wave a \$400 check around like it is a movie contract, my group knows why. ♦♦

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