



The Lariat

Spring 1992

LEAGUE OF UTAH WRITERS

Vol. 1, page 1

Spring Workshop scheduled on April 4

Here's a first in your writing life: a workshop at the historic City and County Building in Salt Lake City. At this restored landmark, we will make our own history with a world of ideas from expert speakers. You're sure to find something to stimulate your interest, from magazine writing to novels, from responsible reporting to oral histories, and, of course, poetry.

In addition to an excellent keynote speaker, we'll hold three hour-long classes for you to attend.

Joyce Skidmore, keynote speaker
Your Words Can Shake the World: Your Impact as a Writer

From her vast experience, Joyce has found the widespread power of the printed word. She will point out the responsibility of the writer and the impact of his/her work. Skidmore has served as editor of *The Saga Weekly Post* in Stavanger and Bergen, Norway, where she also conducted workshops for new playwrights. She has written weekly columns for *The Rifle Telegram* in Colorado and *The Irvine World* in



California. She has taught scriptwriting at the University of Utah, Westminster College and Pepperdine University, and is now instructor of communications and theatre at BYU Salt Lake Center. She also has her own public relations firm. Her biography is in *Who's Who in the West* and the *National Register of Profiles*.

Kathleen Dougherty
Stalking the Best Seller

Kathleen, author of the thriller, *Moth to the Flame*, will describe the care and feeding of a writing career, from creating a "hot" manuscript to landing the right agent and editor.

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Writers at Work offers fellowship competition

First place winners in the 1992 Writers at Work fellowship competition will receive cash awards of \$1500 in Short Story and Novel Excerpt categories. Winners can also expect publication in *Quarterly West*, a featured reading and tuition for the afternoon session at the 1992 conference.

According to Curtis Oberhansley, a member of their board of directors, Writers at Work is very anxious to have more participation from local

authors.

In a spirit of cooperation, the League furnished Writers at Work with mailing information for our membership in hopes that our people will take advantage of this opportunity.

Specific entry information and phone numbers for further questions are included on the back page of *The Lariat*.

1992 LUW State Officers

- President.....Norbert Bensch
- Pres.-Elect.....Vera Bakker
- Past Pres.Linda Muhlestein
- Treasurer.....Carolyn Campbell
- Public Relations.....Richard Tice
- Membership.....Bonnie Robinson
- Workshop.....Helen Glissmeyer
- Speakers' Bureau.....Janet Carroll
- Lariat Editor.....Brenda Bensch
- Contest Chair.....Vera Bakker
- Fund Raising.....Joyce Marder
- SUBS.....Wanda Blaisdell
- Youth Coord.Kolette Montague
- Historian.....Lisa Giles

Chapter Chatter

Craft House

Carol Quist and **Theda Bassett** had their poems read on Rex Campbell's *Sound of Music* radio program.

Helen Glissmeyer has an article, "The Dawn Breaks Forth into Design," in the March issue of *Traditional Quiltworks*, a national magazine.

Valley Scribes

Linda Aagard published an article in *Highlights*, a quarterly newsletter published by the Arthritis Foundation.

Norbert and Brenda Bensch did a workshop with the Bear River chapter in December. Earlier, for Heritage Writers and the newly forming Cedar Night Writers, they were joined in similar presentations by Utah Valley's **Linda Muhlestein**. Brenda also edits *news notes*, a newsletter for Salt Lake Community College's Student Services, which won first place in the League's Quarterly Competition for Desktop Publishing, Professional Division.

Kathleen Dougherty is teaching a novel writing workshop at Taylorsville Community School on Wednesday nights at 6:00-8:00 p.m. It is billed as a motivation workshop for beginning and advanced novelists, which will spark your fiction skills and salability and teach you to release the "wild mind." For more information, call Kathleen at 263-6151, Monday through Thursday, 1-9 p.m.

Wasatch Writers

Vera Bakker was involved with a children's sacrament meeting presentation for the Layton Second and Fourth Wards. She also won First Honorable Mention from the Florida Poets Association for her child's poem, "Lunch with Tommy."

Jackie Howa was the guest speaker for the stake Young Women's Standards Night in Brigham City, and was also involved with a children's sacrament meeting presentation for South Weber Fifth Ward.

Arlene Hamblin's hymn was used for a stake leadership meeting. She also had an article printed in the *Morgan County News*.

Ruth Weaver took second place in the League of Utah Writer's Summer Quarterly Competition for Desktop Publishing.

Bethany Chaffin death saddens LUW members

LUW members were shocked and saddened at the sudden passing of Bethany Chaffin of Mantua, Utah, late last year. Bethany was a long-time member of the League, former Writer of the Year and a teacher and friend to many writers throughout the state. She will be missed by all who knew her.

State board adopts contribution policy

The Chaffin family requested that those wishing to honor Bethany make contributions, in her name, to the Mantua Library Fund.

The state board feels that library contributions are an excellent way to memorialize all writers, and encourages chapters or individuals to send such contributions to the library fund in Mantua, or to a library of their choice. This contribution policy is encouraged upon the passing of any of our writer members.

Training session to be held for chapter treasurers

It was announced at the installation meeting that chapter treasurers (or secretaries, if a specific treasurer is not named for the chapter) are considered a part of the fundraising committee.

As such, they are asked to attend a brief training session at the April workshop, to be conducted by Joyce Marder, who has learned many tricks of the trade and wishes to pass them along to committee members. These ideas should help chapters to raise funds for their own projects, which may or may not involve the League as a whole. The state board would like to offer assistance and guidance to specific chapters, and see less direct intervention from the state level.

Help build markets for Utah writers

Go to local bookstores while you are out shopping and ask for specific titles by Utah authors. Create a demand for our own works! Help increase public awareness of Utah's writers! Begin, if you like, with Joyce Marder's latest title, *Surviving the Start-up Years in Your Own Business*.

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Dougherty has spoken at numerous novel and writing workshops, including the Midwest Mystery and Suspense Convention. She is Utah liaison for the Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime and Fictionaires.

Clair F. Rees

Part-time/Full-time Freelancing

This prolific freelance writer and editor can tell you how to write and sell your articles. Currently editor-in-chief of *WordPerfect*, *The Magazine*, Rees has freelanced full time for national magazines for more than eight years, writing nearly 2000 articles. He is a regular contributor to *Sports Afield*, *Petersen's Hunting and Guns Magazine*, and has been a columnist for *The Nelson-Reese Survey*, syndicated to more than 400 newspapers. He has authored or co-authored 12 nonfiction published books, including *Profitable Part-time, Full-time Freelancing* for Writers' Digest Books.

Don Norton

Oral Histories: Conducting Personal Interviews and Giving Zip to the Story

Don Norton will reveal how to get involved in writing personal histories. Assistant professor of composition and personal history at BYU for the past 20 years, he will tell about opportunities to pick up a few dollars doing oral histories for other people. Or you can do it just for fun. Norton himself has written about 125 personal interviews in the past two-and-a-half years. He says this currently popular pastime gives him "great satisfaction."

Wanda Blaisdell and Maxine Jennings

Once Over Lightly, Twice Sincere

These veteran, award-winning poets join together to give their expertise from two different literary viewpoints—light verse and serious poetry. Blaisdell and Jennings were invited to the Indiana Writers Conference last fall to present a workshop together,

and will now share their talents with us as well.

Workshop Bonus

Tour of the City and County Building

A special guided tour through the recently remodeled, historic City and County building is included with your workshop registration. The tour, hosted by the Utah Heritage Foundation, will feature a view of the city from the clock tower, so bring your cameras for this unusual opportunity.

The Spring Workshop is scheduled to begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and continue until 1:00 p.m. Registration fees are \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.

1992 Round-up contest categories

Open categories—deadline June 15 postmark

- A. Short Short Story
- B. Article
- C. Newcomers Poetry
- D. Newcomers Short Story
- E. Newcomers Article
- F. Youth Prose
- G. Youth Poetry
- H. Inspirational/Personal Experience
- I. Speculative Fiction

Member categories—deadline June 15 postmark

- J. Children's Book
- K. Full Length Book
- L. Children's Story
- M. One-act Play/TV Script
- N. Songwriting
- O. Agnes Burke White/LeRoy Burke Meagher Short Story
- P. Essay
- Q. Serious Poetry
- R. Light Verse
- S. Alice Morrey Bailey Love Poem
- T. Publication Awards

Sandy Library features League member in workshop

Kathleen Dougherty, a member of Valley Scribes, is presenting a free workshop on writing short stories and novels at the Sandy Library, 10100 S. Petunia Way, on March 18. As the nationally published author of the thriller *Moth to the Flame*, Kathleen plans to cover Syd Field's Seven Plot Points, how to Hook your Reader, some exercises to Release the Wild Mind and Secrets of the Successful Scrivener. The workshop will run from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Call the Sandy Library to reserve a seat.

1992 mini-contest categories

Spring Contest—deadline April 15 postmark

- ZA. Short Short Story
- ZB. Inspirational Poem
- ZC. Humor

Fall Contest—deadline October 15 postmark

- ZD. How to Article
- ZE. Character Description
- ZF. Historical Poem

Complete rules and entry forms for all contests will be published and distributed in the LUW Directory for 1992. Mail all entries to **Vera Bakker, 881 W. Gentile St., Layton, Utah 84041-4622.**

Fall-O-Up Contest Winners *Vital information*

Congratulations to the following people whose entries won in last fall's contest:

Newspaper Feature

- 1st Mary Paulsen Harrington, Blue Quill
 2nd Helen Glissmeyer, Craft House
 3rd Corrie Lynne Player, Cedar Night Writers

Sample Chapter & Outline

- 1st Carolyn Campbell & Thomas Green,
 Craft House, *Inside Polygamy*
 2nd Corrie Lynne Player, Cedar Night Writers,
Dreams Do Come True
 3rd Jerry R. Stone, non-member, *Passage Beyond Tomorrow*

Holiday Cheer

- 1st Lyn Austin, Bear River, *The Gift*
 2nd Helen Glissmeyer, Craft House, *Halloween Italiano*
 3rd Carol Quist, Craft House, *Paul's Permanent Pumpkin*

Conversations

- 1st Kolette Montague, Bountiful
 2nd Bonnie Robinson, Craft House
 3rd Carol Quist, Craft House

HELP!!!

South Jordan Chapter is in need of leadership. If you are an active member of the League, and could attend their meetings more easily, or in addition to your own, they could use some advice and support from experienced members.

This chapter, along with the Salt Lake Chapter, which has temporarily solved the problem, could fold without your support. Until their newer members know how things can be run, the presence of some of the "old hands" would be much appreciated.

Wasatch Mountain Fiction Writers presents "First 20 Pages of Your Novel Contest"

Eligibility First twenty pages of novel by unpublished authors. Manuscript guidelines in the 1992 Writer's Market must be followed, except the name of the author cannot appear on manuscript pages. A cover sheet must be included with author's name, address, phone number, and category. Manuscripts and critique forms will be returned only with an enclosed SASE.

Fee A \$10 entry fee, payable to Wasatch Mountain Fiction Writers, is required with each submission. Authors may submit multiple entries, each with a separate \$10 entry fee.

Deadline Entries must be received by March 14, 1992.

Categories Any fiction genre.

Notification Winners will be notified by mail before May 1, 1992.

Mailing address Wasatch Mountain Fiction Writers Contest
 7732 South 1200 East
 Midvale, UT 84047

Final judging of the entries will be by published authors. Winner(s) will be provided with free admission to the Wasatch Mountain Fiction Writers Spring Workshop on May 16, 1992 at the Sandy Library. Certificate(s) will be awarded at the workshop.

Lariat Deadlines

May 7
 July 16
 November 6

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

Speakers Bureau increases

All chapters are entitled to receive League subsidies of two speakers this year. If you are on the speakers list, contact Janet Carroll, 753-6669.

Fellowship Competition

Fiction
 and
 Poetry

**WRITERS
 AT
 WORK**

Two
 \$1500.00
 First
 Prize
 Awards

FIRST PRIZE WINNERS receive \$1500.00 each, publication in *Quarterly West*, a featured reading, and tuition to the afternoon session at the 1992 conference.

SECOND PRIZE WINNERS receive \$500.00 each and tuition to the afternoon session at the 1992 conference.

Eligibility: Any writer who has not yet published a book-length volume of original work.

Manuscript: SHORT STORIES or NOVEL EXCERPTS must be no longer than 20 pages, double-spaced; POETRY submissions are limited to six poems, 20 pages maximum. Unpublished work only.

Each entry must include: a reading fee of \$10.00, payable to Writers at Work; two (2) stamped, self-addressed envelopes of letter size; and a cover letter stating the author's name, address, telephone number, and the title of the manuscript. Title only on text manuscript—NO NAMES. No manuscripts will be returned. An author may enter any number of manuscripts, but each must include the above items.

Deadline: Postmarked no later than April 1, 1992. Results will be announced by May 20, 1992. Send your entries to WRITERS AT WORK, 2100 Emigration Canyon, Salt Lake City, UT 84108.

The 1992 conference will be held in Park City, Utah, June 21-26. Questions about the conference can be directed to the above address, or call 801/298-9936 or 801/649-2059.