



The Quill

The Newsletter of the League of Utah Writers
November, 2017



President's message

Dear League of Utah Writers,

#Dreambig #LUW2017 - Conference Report

On October 6th, the assembled board of the League of Utah Writers met and unanimously voted and approved an amendment to the League of Utah Writers Constitution. The Amendment created an option where if the Board wants the President and the executive team to serve in the same capacities a second year, and if the President and the executive team wants to serve a second year in the same capacities, then it would be made so through a vote at the board meeting.

With the new amendment in place, I officially stated that the executive team and myself would like to utilize the new clause, and the board unanimously voted to authorize the use of the clause. I have the honor and privilege to announce that I will be serving a second term in office as President of the League of Utah Writers.

I would also like to report that the Fall Conference which, moving forward, will be called the "Quills" Conference, was a complete success. We had a record number of people register and attend the event. Randomly polling people, we found that attendees were not only happy with the conference, but were ecstatic about the quality and diversity.

Our special guests, who are all conference veterans, were really impressed and enjoy attending the event and working with conference attendees. Many of them remarked that this was a small conference that is really a big conference, in that we have managed to capture something really special with the amazing program, quality of resources available, very friendly and helpful volunteers, and a genuine effort by the conference committee team and executive staff to put on a conference that would help as many people as possible.

I have the utmost gratitude for Conference Committee Chair Terra Luft, Co-Chair Callie Stoker, and the many volunteers that made up the rest of the conference committee team. Johnny Worthen, Chris Miller, and I worked in conjunction with this amazing team. We look forward to having this core team back again for next year's conference, and hope that many of the conference volunteers will join us again.

I also wanted to thank all the members who came out to the conference this year. It is thanks to all of you that make up the heart a soul of the League of Utah Writers. You inspire us to work hard and dream big.

Thank you, Everyone, we look forward to another great year!

Your Humble Servant,

Jared Quan
President of the League of Utah Writers



Quill Contest Winners



Diamond Quill: Melissa McShane for *Burning Bright*

Gold Quill in adult novel: Bryce Dallimore for
Amendment 25

Silver Quill in adult novel: Caryn Larrinaga for *Donn's Hill*

Recommended Read in adult novel: Lorin Grace for
Waking Lucy

Gold Quill in speculative fiction: Scott Tarbet for *Dragon Moon*

Silver Quill in speculative fiction: Candace J. Thomas for *Everstar*



Gold Quill in MG/YA: Ben Ireland for *Billy Blacksmith: The
Demonlayer*

Silver Quill in MG/YA: Brenda Hodnett for *Blemished Beauty*

Recommended Read in MG/YA: Eliza Crosby for *The Eyeball
Mysteries*



Community Outreach

The LUW is pleased to continue its ongoing community outreach efforts: **Book drive:**

Please continue to gather books for donation. We are partnering with an organization called Empowered Playground that collects books to send to Africa. We collected books during the Fall Conference, and will continue at Spring into Books.

One thousand books make a functioning school library in the schools that are built in remote the areas of Ghana – places without electricity. The children work all day in the farm fields and now, thanks to Empower Playgrounds, the playground equipment generates electricity to charge lanterns so children have the evenings to study and read. But they need books! Please bring your new or gently used children's books to Spring into Books. Books for grades Kindergarten to 6th; please, no adult books or reference books.



See empoweredplaygrounds.org for more information.

Let's show them that LUW is committed to creating readers around the world!

Karla Jay, Community Outreach Chair

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..

⇒ **Flaming Gnomes (Eagle Mountain)**

Hi! My name is Jaclyn Weist and I'm the president of the new Flaming Gnomes chapter in Eagle Mountain Saratoga Springs, and I'm so happy to be a part of this organization. I wanted to give little summary of how this chapter started.

I'm part of the Eagle Mountain Arts Alliance that we just started a few years ago. I'm the literary director, and as part of my job, I started a writing workshop out there three years ago. It's been fun getting to know all the writers in the area, but I wanted to do something more. I knew of the League of Utah Writers from other friends, and I knew that it was a great place to start.

When Jared Quan moved to Eagle Mountain a few months ago, we both decided it was time to start a new chapter. It's been fun to see writers come out of the woodwork as time goes on. Our first meeting only had a few people, but our second meeting when Johnny Worthen came to teach, we had twelve people there—including a few friends from the Infinite Monkeys.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month from 7-9. Right now we're in the Ridley's lounge, but hope to find a more permanent location where we don't have people shopping for groceries below us. :) We'll start with a class for the first hour each time, and then break into groups for critiques. You can bring five pages of your work in progress for us to go over.

In November we'll be having a NaNoWriMo party where you can come and write with us. We'll do a few sprints, some brainstorming, a lot of writing, and of course, we'll have snacks! That will be on November 9th. Location is to be determined, but it's going to be awesome!

And if you're wondering about our chapter name, it came from a mix of things. I've joked about voting for our new high school's mascot to be the Gnomes, and then I mentioned the fact that my husband always tries to get his sports teams to call themselves the Flaming Bananas. We decided to combine the two of them together, and the Flaming Gnomes were born! Also, I still want that mascot for our high school...

⇒ **Heritage Writers Guild (St. George)**

HWG is proud of their new Web Page - www.heritagewritersguild.com. Thanks to Amanda Empey, Web Master for her professional efforts in our behalf.

Regretfully, we announce the death of our loved charter member, Lola Esplin, who died in Oct. She served as secretary, and President Elect, at a time when HWG had only three members. She was instrumental in making our organization stronger. She was 87 at the time of her passing.

HWG Members participated in the annual Washington County Fair Literary Arts Division, where cash and ribbons were plentiful.

HWG members were delighted to learn, even though not honored at the annual Awards Banquet, Honorable Mentions were added to our list of member awards. Surprises always welcome.

President Joe Gordon, is heading up the committee to plan the LUW Winter Conference to be held in St. George, Saturday, Jan 14th 2018. Plan on coming here to enjoy the event in our much warmer weather.

HWG is in the planning stages of the 1st Annual Literarty Arts Festival to be held May 18th and 19th, 2018, partially funded by rap funds from St. George City. We are grateful as an organization to expand our efforts to the community members young and old. More about this exciting endeavor in the near future.

⇒ Infinite Monkeys

The Infinite Monkeys just completed their second annual "Infinite Weekend Writing Retreat" where twenty eight of us survived in a cabin in the hills for four days. We also collectively wrote tens of thousands of words and smashed our goals for the weekend.

Members with publishing news:

* Mike Glassford is now represented by Gateway Literary.

* Graham Bradley's Kickstarter novel *The Hero Next Door* launches in November.

* Jay Barnson's short story *Voices of the Dead* appeared in the Mirages and Speculations anthology released in August and his short story "Retrieving Abe" appeared in StoryHack Action & Adventure #1 in September.

* Melissa McShane's next novel *Guardian of the Crown* releases in November.

* Scott Tarbet's 2017 novel *Dragon Moon*, took home the Gold Quill in Speculative Fiction.



The Infinite Monkeys are a wild and crazy bunch of genre writers who meet twice a month. We're doing exciting things like publishing our own anthology in 2018. Submissions are currently open to official chapter members (primary or secondary chapter designation) until November 12th. Details on our website, www.luwgenremonkeys.wordpress.com.

⇒ Just Write Chapter

In Just Write we mostly communicate online. Ann Gordon is president and Mechelle Morrison is vice-president. Just Write has members in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada and Connecticut.

Many members participate in our active review/critique sessions, which are held twice a month. In addition, Ann creates a monthly newsletter for chapter members.

Congratulations are in order for these members:

* Shawn Pollock for his novel, *The Road to Freedom*, which is slated for release on December 12 from Cedar Fort Publishing.

Our members who won & placed in the writing contest:

* Brenda Hodnett won the Silver Quill award for her YA novel, *Blemished Beauty*.

* Josie Hulme won 1st place in New Writer: Creative Non-Fiction for her story, *The Journey*. She also won 2nd place in Flash Prose for her story, *The Cottage*.

* Tamara Copley won 3rd Honorable Mention in Media Article for her article, *Loss in Literature*.

* Ann Gordon won 2nd Honorable Mention in Creative Non-fiction for her story, *A Charmed Life*.

At least eight of us are getting ready to start NaNoWriMo.

⇒ Oquirrh Writers

The Oquirrh Writers Chapter had a great quarter! Our members do us proud.

* Vickie Stewart has put her book *A Knight in Dented Armor* on the market. More info can be found at VickieStewart.com.

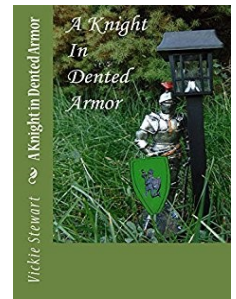
* Candace Thomas took home the Silver Quill at the most recent LUW conference for her book *Everstar*.

She also released "Build a World" at this year's Salt Lake Comic Con. It is part of the *3S Six Simple Steps* writing guides.

* Eliza Crosby took home a "Recommended Read" at the LUW conference for her book *EyeBall Mysteries*.

* Ann Gordon received an LUW Honorable Mention for her creative non-fiction *A Charmed Life*

* Nicole M. White's beautiful story *Ribbon* has been included in the *Unspoken Words* Anthology.



⇒ **Red Butte Bards**

The Red Butte Bards are a Poetic chapter in the LUW meeting the first Tuesday of each month at Red Butte Gardens from 6-7:30pm.

Congratulations is due to one of our bards, Jef Huntsman who took the award for LUW 2017 Writer of the year!

He also took home the awards for:

* 1st place in Poetry: Light Verse (for "Out Slips My Thumb")

* 2nd place in Poetry: Love/Loss (for "The Reunion")

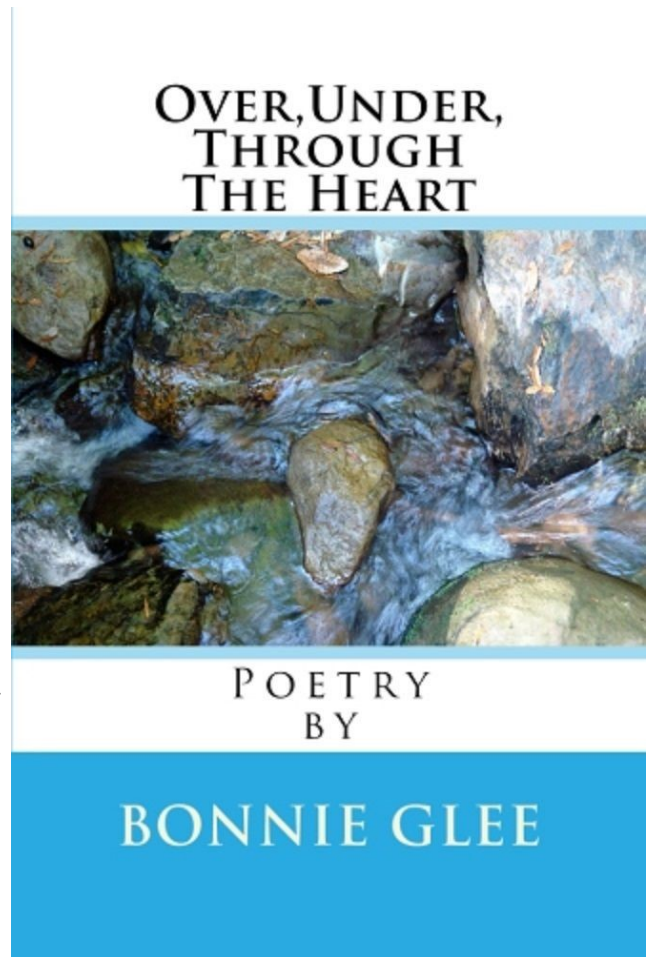
* 2nd place in Prose: First Chapter (for the first chapter of Carson's latest escapades, "Mosquito Sands"!)

The Red Butte Bards would like to think we played a role in Jef's winning success, but truth be told, he is a poetic enigma all on his own. Please be sure to give Jef a big pat on the back for all of his amazing accomplishments next time you see him at a LUW event!

⇒ **Wordcraft**

Carolyn Campbell and A. David Barnes won awards at the LUW Fall Conference

Bonnie Glee's newly published book of poetry, *Over, Under, Through the Heart*, is now available on Amazon.com



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LUW 2017 Writing Contest Winners

New Writer: Creative Non-Fiction

1st place The Journey by Josie Hulme

2nd place What an Adventure We Had by Brenda Gallaher

3rd place Good Nite Moon by Tracey Weddle

1st Honorable Mention Homemade Bread by Sara Mortensen

2nd Honorable Mention The Pamplemousse Grill by C.H. Hung

3rd Honorable Mention Where There is Sun There is Shadow by Britney Johnson

New Writer: Fiction

1st place As Above So Below by Marcee Blackerby

2nd place Knife Fight by Anna Marasco

3rd place We Live Here by Jarrett Kaufman

1st Honorable Mention At First Glance by Casey Gasper

2nd Honorable Mention Love is the Distance Between Us by Britney Johnson

3rd Honorable Mention Grace by Judith Hegewald

New Writer: First Chapter (Fiction or Non-Fiction)

1st place Martslock by Amanda Empey

2nd place Essence by Jennifer Wood

3rd place Thing That I Am by Paul Warburton

1st Honorable Mention Chapter One: Calling Down the Moon by C.H. Hung

2nd Honorable Mention Ada Babbage by Britney Johnson

3rd Honorable Mention The Serpent Papers by J Schnader

New Writer: Poetry

1st place Rebel by Anna Marasco

2nd place This Mundane Life by Anna Marasco

3rd place What I Found Instead by Alexis Tate

1st Honorable Mention The Seasons of Old Main Hill by Alexis Tate

2nd Honorable Mention Two Steps from You by Britney Johnson

3rd Honorable Mention Epilogue by Spencer Moncur

Poetry: Light Verse

1st place Out Slips My Thumb by Jef Huntsman

2nd place Sunrise, Chair, Banana by Sue Leth

3rd place Villanelle by Spencer Moncur

1st Honorable Mention October Nocturne by Shirley Manning

2nd Honorable Mention Poem for Poe by Jef Huntsman

3rd Honorable Mention Oops! by Alexis Tate

Poetry: Love / Loss

1st place The Fierce Elixir by DeAnne Mattix

2nd place The Reunion by Jef Huntsman

3rd place Decresendo by Lorraine Jeffery

1st Honorable Mention The Furniture of Love by Marilyn Richardson

2nd Honorable Mention Never Forget by Denis Feehan

3rd Honorable Mention "Half-life: Daughter" and

"The (Polish) Wife Spells Her Goodbye in Refrigerator Magnets by Megan Hall

Poetry: Narrative Poetry

1st place Miner's Elegy – December 23, 1984 by Sue Leth

2nd place Voyeur by Felicia Rose

3rd place Stepping into Light by Marie Tollstrup

1st Honorable Mention Color Me Perfect by Sue Leth

2nd Honorable Mention The Dark Darkroom by Amanda Luzzader

3rd Honorable Mention Blind Amanda and His Eyes by Lorraine Jeffery

Poetry: Prose Poem

1st place Tainting of My Word by Lorraine Jeffery

2nd place My Desert Child by Masha Sukovic

3rd place My Uncle by Neil Dabb

1st Honorable Mention Disingenuous Benefactor by Robyn Buttars

2nd Honorable Mention The Caretaker of Woe's Garden by C.H. Hung

3rd Honorable Mention The Awakening by Joseph Batzel

Prose: Children's Book

1st place Searching for Babies by Robyn Buttars

2nd place Snogger-Snort by Robyn Buttars

3rd place Glowmobiles and Gas Guzzlers by Jodie Henrie

1st Honorable Mention He's a Biter by Megan Jones

2nd Honorable Mention The Interpreter by Bennett Dixon

3rd Honorable Mention Salty, Tangy, or Sugary Sweet: The Many Flavors of Me by Megan Jones

Prose: Creative Non-fiction

1st place When We Were Lost by Chadd VanZanten

2nd place The Elk by Chadd VanZanten

3rd place Glow Worms by Lorraine Jeffery

1st Honorable Mention The Final Plan F by Chadd VanZanten

2nd Honorable Mention A Charmed Life by Ann Gordon

3rd Honorable Mention Unexpected Good Fortune by Julie Walton

Prose: First Chapter Novel

1st place Memoirs of a Fairy Godmother by Lyn Worthen

2nd place Mosquito Sands by Jef Huntsman

3rd place An Agreement of Fortune by Emily Wheeler

1st Honorable Mention The Body Not the Bird by Norman Jenson

2nd Honorable Mention The Cookie Tin by Marilyn Richarson

3rd Honorable Mention What Comes From Darkness by Amanda Luzzader

Prose: First Chapter (Young Adult / Middle Grade)

1st place 2 Becoming 2 by Sherri Curtis

2nd place Hearts Together, Chapter 1: I Sat by David Rodeback

3rd place Super Freak by Jeremy Gohier

1st Honorable Mention Spidereater by Timothy Tarbet

2nd Honorable Mention A Glimpse In Time by Karren Hall

3rd Honorable Mention The Unenchanted by Emily Wheeler

Prose: Flash

- 1st place Majestic Magic by Keri Montgomery
- 2nd place The Cottage by Josie Hulme
- 3rd place Yellow Seeds and Red Pulp by Lorraine Jeffery
- 1st Honorable Mention The Cube by Polly Harris
- 2nd Honorable Mention Stellar Speed by Heidi Thornock
- 3rd Honorable Mention Déjà Vu by Sherrie Lynn Clarke

Prose: General Fiction

- 1st place Stone Soup by Lyn Worthen
- 2nd place Bash Chelik by Masha Sukovic
- 3rd place Mentor and Telemachus by Felicia Rose
- 1st Honorable Mention The Plans by Felicia Rose
- 2nd Honorable Mention The Church Lady by Felicia Rose
- 3rd Honorable Mention Delivering Decadence Lyn Worthen

Prose: Humor

- 1st place Bears in the Woods with People by James Beers
- 2nd place The Terminator: A Love Story by Chris Todd Miller
- 3rd place Christmas Cookie...Ooh la la! By James Beers
- 1st Honorable Mention Throwing in the Towel by Chris Todd Miller
- 2nd Honorable Mention From One Day to the Next by Casey Gasper
- 3rd Honorable Mention Throwing Flat Rocks and Woodchips by James Beers

Prose: Media Article

- 1st place Did Portugal miss the Boat by Sariah Horowitz
- 2nd place Headstones in Bountiful by Sariah Horowitz
- 3rd place Sex: It Isn't Over After 60 by Carolyn Campbell
- 1st Honorable Mention Disposing of Assets by Lorraine Jeffery
- 2nd Honorable Mention Landscape Integrity by Emily Wheeler
- 3rd Honorable Mention "Loss in Literature" by Tamara Copley

Prose: Speculative Fiction

- 1st place The Tailor's Queen by Abby Thorne
- 2nd place In the Garden of the Coral King by C.H. Hung
- 3rd place The Strange Vanishing of Charles Prescott, Billionaire by Johnny Worthen
- 1st Honorable Mention Stolen Moments by Lyn Worthen
- 2nd Honorable Mention The Perpetual by Tim Keller
- 3rd Honorable Mention Celestial Cartographer by Jennifer Wood

Prose: Spiritual Personal Essay

- 1st place Stringing Beads by Marie Tollstrup
- 2nd place Horatio by Tim Keller
- 3rd place Someone Else's Zion by Felicia Rose
- 1st Honorable Mention Faith and the Poet by Lorraine Jeffery
- 2nd Honorable Mention Believe in Angels by Andrea Hughes
- 3rd Honorable Mention Blessed by the Laying on of Wings by Shirley Manning

President
Jared Quan
lecriveur@gmail.com

Membership Chair
Ann Gordon
luwriters@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
Scott E. Tarbet
scott.e.tarbet@gmail.com

Web Site: *www.luwriters.org*

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