



The LARIAT

From the President

Writing: Time to Grow, Time for Success

My fellow writers, after years of reading our President's message in each issue of the newsletter I hope that I can say something of value.

For most of us, we just experienced a great round-up that has given us the energy to keep writing, even when we don't think we can. The conference was a wonderful learning experience for me. Besides great keynote speakers, donations and classes, I got to know my fellow chapter members a little bit more. Blue Quill and the League are definitely blessed by many gifted, talented writers. No other place can you go and be totally accepted, enriched and blessed by great people who support each other.

My thanks again to all the members of the Blue Quill who helped pull the conference together. Dorothy Crofts is the glue that holds the League together and Marilyn Richardson was a great example to me, answering questions or giving me guidance whenever I needed it.

In the short five years that I have been involved with the League of Utah Writers, my personal confidence has increased. I have always loved to write, but being a member of the League put me in contact with people who were just as scared as I was. Accepting any type of criticism was a personal attack, at least that is what I felt. But I have learned so much in those five years that I am a more confident writer who looks at critiquing in

a whole different light.



Long story short, over this next year, I would like to see us encourage our neighbor, our friend, family member or a student to join us in our endeavor to become published writers. I have been writing since I was in the 7th grade, but never realized the benefits of belonging to this organization. Encourage young writers to continue to write and explore different groups and organizations that will teach them how to become better writers.

"Whatever I have tried to do in life, I have tried with all my heart to do it well; whatever I have devoted myself to, I have devoted myself completely; in great aims and in small I have always thoroughly been in earnest." -- Charles Dickens (1812-70), Novelist

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2008 Poetry and Prose Contest Winners

POETRY FOR CHILDREN

1st, *My Bug Collection*,
Wendy Ellison, Bountiful

2nd, *Big Game*,
Sharon Nauta Steele, Bountiful

3rd, *My Tooth is Loose*,
Wendy Ellison, Bountiful

1st HM, *Humphrey and the
Monster*,
Grace Diane Jesson, Sevier
Valley

2nd HM, *The Carousel*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

3rd HM, *High Upon the
Mountain*, Barbara Paape,
Heritage

FREE, A SPECIAL EVENT

1st, *English Teacher's Pay*,
Sharon Nauta Steele, Bountiful

2nd, *Destiny*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

3rd, *Chrysalis*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

1st HM, *Wild Horses*,
Loy Ray Clemons

2nd HM, *House Remembered*,
Sharon Nauta Steele, Bountiful

3rd HM, *Escape*,
Linda Hunzinger, Utah Valley

LOVE POETRY

1st, *Painting Over the Mantle*,
Marilyn Ball, Heritage

2nd, *First Love*,
Jean Rhodes, Heritage

3rd, *Fountain*,
Sharon Nauta Steele, Bountiful

1st HM, *First Kiss
Remembered*,
Sharon Nauta Steele, Bountiful

2nd HM, *I Don't Need a
Diamond*,
Sara Fitzgerald, Oquirrh

3rd HM, *Drive-by-Kisses*,
Pam Williams, Sevier Valley

NEW TALENT POETRY

1st, *Urbanism*,
J.C. Smith, Salt Lake

2nd, *Osprey*,
Lorraine Jeffery, Oquirrh

3rd, *Walking in Fall*,
J.C. Smith, Salt Lake

1st HM, *Assassination*,
Marilyn Richardson, Heritage

2nd HM, *Winter's Bargain
With Summer*,
Rodney Hurd, Sevier Valley

3rd HM, *Metaphor*,
Marilyn Ball, Heritage

NEW TALENT POETRY, HUMOROUS

1st, *Stockholm in St. George*,
Angela Rogers, Heritage

2nd, *To My Dearest Sister*,
Sara Fitzgerald, Oquirrh

3rd, *Sick*,
Jennifer Nielson, Wasatch

1st HM, *Squirrels in Ohio*,
Lorraine Jeffery, Oquirrh

2nd HM, *The Ostrich*,
D. Gary Christian, Heritage

3rd HM, *You Little Devil*,
Kendra Fowler, Bountiful

HAIKU

1st, *The Wind's Silver Voice*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

2nd, *Vibrant Red Leaf Soars*,
Emalee Smith, Color Country

3rd, *Iridescent Wings*,
Peggy Kadir, Salt Lake

1st HM, *The Soft Gold Glow*,
Emalee Smith, Color Country

2nd HM, *The Arrow's Swift
Flight*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

3rd HM, *On High Limb Above*,
Grace Diane Jessen, Sevier
Valley

NARRATIVE POETRY

1st, *Desperation*,
Loy Ray Clemons

2nd, *The Vision*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

3rd, *Swan Song: Looking for
Amber*,
Linda Huntzinger, Utah
Valley

1st HM, *Christmas in a County Jail*,
Grace Diane Jessen, Sevier Valley

2nd HM, *Sunday Morning*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

3rd HM, *The Last Dance*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

HISTORICAL POETRY

1st, *Vermilion Cliffs*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

2nd, *Bataan Death March Survivor*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

3rd, *The Lesson*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

1st HM, *At the Tower of London*,
Marilyn Ball, Heritage

2nd HM, *Pounding at the Paiute*,
Grace Diane Jessen, Sevier Valley

3rd HM, *St. Thomas of the Sands*,
D. Gary Christensen, Heritage

CHILDREN'S STORY, 4-8, 9-12

1st, *The Amazing Magnificent Margo*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

2nd, *Harold's Haven*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

3rd, *Roasty Toasty*,
Lana Jordan, Color Country

1st HM, *Mickey Murfin and the GP Creeper*,
Sharon Nauta Steele, Bountiful

2nd HM, *The Fifteenth Floor Feast*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

3rd HM, *Witch Broom Maker of Goblin Mountain*,
Ruth Asay, Bountiful

FULL-LENGTH CHILDREN'S BOOKS – PICTURE BOOK

1st, *How I Got a Bearded Dragon in Just*,
Elliah Terry, Heritage

2nd, *How to Babysit a Grandpa*,
Jean Reagan

3rd, *English Isn't My Mother's Tongue*,
Lana Jordan, Color Country

1st HM, *Benjamin Fools the Wind*,
Ruth Asay, Bountiful

2nd HM, *It's Not My Mess*,
Wendy Ellison, Bountiful

3rd HM, *Looking for Dinosaurs*,
Christy Monson, Blue Quill

EARLY CHAPTER BOOK/ MIDDLE GRADE BOOK

1st, *Molly's Basket*,
Mark V. Kraaz, Park City

2nd, *Millie's Garden Mystery*,
Kendra Fowler, Bountiful

3rd, *The Runaway Room*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

1st HM, *Clawing Eagle*,
Christy Monson, Blue Quill

2nd HM, *Urbi Makes a Christmas Piñata*,
Christy Monson, Blue Quill

3rd HM, *Reptiles Rule for Halloween*,
Christy Monson, Blue Quill

ANECDOTE

1st, *Doppelganger Down*,
Shauna D. Dansie, Oquirrh

2nd, *Rocking and Rolling in the Cumberian*,
Nikki Trionfo,

3rd, *Soda Plop*,
Diane Coles, Wordcraft

1st HM, *Don't Put Your Hands In Your Pockets*,
Charles Rainey, Bountiful

2nd HM, *Nature Appreciation*,
Diane Coles, Wordcraft

3rd HM, *Time To Go*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

ARTICLE/TRAVEL ARTICLE

1st, *Tanya's Song*,
Mike Eldredge, Wordcraft

2nd, *A Consecrated Continuum of Tune*,
Jeanne Hodges, Utah Valley

3rd, *There But for the Grace of God*,
Lorraine Jeffery, Oquirrh

1st HM, *Once There was a Cavalry*,
Beth Moore, Heritage

2nd HM, *On the Trail of the Pony Express*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

3rd HM, *Junction City*,
Drienie Hattingh, Blue Quill

NEW TALENT PERSONAL ESSAY

1st, *My Little Boy Marvel*,
Angela Rogers, Heritage

2nd, *The Play's the Thing*,
Jennifer Nielson, Wasatch

3rd, *Silent Ghost, Empty Sleeves*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

1st HM, *Chinese Proverb*,
Norene W. Gay, Sevier Valley

2nd HM, *Whitened, Enlightened...and Bilked*,
Sharon G. Hodges, Heritage

3rd HM, *They Call Me Mrs. Chew*,
Lana Jordan, Color Country

NEW TALENT SHORT STORY

1st, *Perfect Match*,
Chris Miller, Bountiful

2nd, *Razor Wire*,
Lorraine Jeffery, Oquirrh

3rd, *A Matter of Will*,
Nikki Trionfo

1st HM, *Lunch at Ramono's Grill*,
Lorraine Jeffery, Oquirrh

2nd, HM, *Blaze of Love*,
Loy Ray Clemons

SHORT SHORT STORY

1st, *Helga*,
Edwin Smith, Bountiful

2nd, *First Kiss*,
Nikki Trionfo,

3rd, *An Adventure with Henry Nash*,
Rodney O. Hurd, Sevier Valley

1st HM, *Molly*,
Shirley Manning, Wordcraft

2nd HM, *Out of Order*,
Margot Hovley, Bountiful

3rd HM, *Crazy Mary and the Missing Grave*,
Irene Hastings, Park City

SHORT STORY – ROMANCE – SPECULATIVE FICTION

1st, *Boomerang Summer*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

2nd, *Pioneer Tapestry*,
Beth Moore, Heritage

3rd, *A New Scarlet Letter*,
Julie W. Hawk, Heritage

1st HM, *Wyoming Winter*,
Lorraine Jeffery, Oquirrh

2nd HM, *Without Ruthy*,
Caren Libeldt, Sevier Valley

3rd HM, *The Last Gas Station*,
Drienie Hattingh, Blue Quill

FIRST CHAPTER

1st, *Pigments*,
Chris Miller, Bountiful

2nd, *Making Intomi*,
Joan Runs Through, Heritage

3rd, *Watching Over You*,
Kendra Fowler, Bountiful

1st HM, *Christmas Tin*,
Marilyn Richardson, Heritage

2nd HM, *The Secrets of Lazar*,
David Durkey, Blue Quill

3rd HM, *Disappearance*,
J.C. Smith, Salt Lake

FULL-LENGTH BOOK

1st, *Rachel's Angel*,
Jennifer Beckstrand, Bountiful

2nd, *Zina*,
Janet Kay Jensen, Cache Valley

3rd, *Distraction*,
Ronda Hinrichsen, Just Write

1st HM, *Time Outs and Second Chances*,
Pam Williams, Sevier Valley

2nd HM, *The Twelfth Gift*,
Edwin F. Smith, Bountiful

3rd HM, *Infectious Beauty*,
Jim Hutchins, Blue Quill



2009 LUW Writing Contest

Theme: Ancient Mysteries: Esoterica in Fiction and Non-Fiction

Betty Vickers, Contest Chair

With this year's contest over and the winners basking in the well-earned glow of success, the 2009 Contest Committee brings a fresh perspective to our next competition opening January 15th.

There are 25 categories, several new from last year and, since one generic form does not work for all categories, there are 4 new evaluation forms: (1) Poetry (2) Short Prose (3) Fiction Book (4) Non-Fiction Book.

Additionally, because good writing cannot be reduced to numbers, the judges will use a fine-tuned system to indicate the approximate degree of success on each criterion being evaluated. For clarity, judges will mark their comments directly on the entries where they apply.

Another important change has to do with full-length book manuscripts. Publishers commonly ask for only the first three chapters and a synopsis. If that much doesn't capture their interest, they won't ask to see the remainder.

This year, your full-length book entries will be comprised of only those critical first three chapters (and foreword if appropriate) + synopsis + table of contents. Each submission will be critiqued (not edited) and its likelihood of catching a publisher's attention evaluated.

Every effort is being made to select judges from around the country and the state in order to bring new and different eyes and expertise to the judging

process for this competition.

Finally, a Lucky 13 prize and a Roundup Theme Grand Prize will be awarded this year. See Rules and Categories for particulars.

Your Contest Committee is dedicated to presenting a great contest in 2009 with intriguing categories and awards. If you have ever aspired to test the boundaries of your talents, this is the year for reaching higher and wider.

Never written a short story, a poem or an article? Never tried a character sketch or a personal essay? This is the year to submit something new along with your old favorite categories. Every time creative people dare to stretch their imaginations, they discover exciting new dimensions of their talents.

The costs have been kept low to make it easy to submit multiple entries. The critiques alone are well worth the nominal fees. Don't agree with the critiques you've received in the past? It's still valuable to see how other experienced writers view your work.

Good writers know their craft, first and foremost. Use every tool at your disposal to ensure grammar, spelling and punctuation are near-perfect. We all make occasional errors but, contrary to the idea that "it's the Editor's job to edit," a great topic with a fascinating treatment will fail in contests and with publishers if the mechanics are sloppy or inaccurate.

It's critically important to read and follow all of the rules and category descriptions. Then submit your best polished work.

Be bold. Be creative. Try writing something completely out of your comfort zone. Make this your year to walk away with more awards than ever before. Get those computers humming, and best of luck to each of you.

**League of Utah Writers
2009 Creative Writing Contest
Theme:
*Ancient Mysteries—Esoterica in
Fiction and Non-Fiction***

Opens: January 15, 2009

Deadline: Midnight postmark on June 15, 2009.

Open To: Members and non-members. See fee schedule with each category.

Prizes: 1st, 2nd and 3rd place with 3 honorable mentions per category possible.

Poetry & Short Prose: 1st = \$30, 2nd = \$20, 3rd = \$10.

Books: Children's—Young Adults:
1st = \$50, 2nd = \$25, 3rd = \$15.

Books: Adults: 1st = \$100, 2nd = \$50, 3rd = \$25.

**NEW! Roundup Theme Grand
Prize Award \$50**

2nd Place and 3rd Place plus 3 honorable mentions possible.

SECRET LUCKY 13 PRIZE

A prize will be awarded to the lucky **member** who submits the 13th package of entries received after the opening date.

ENTRY RULES

1. Submit only your own original unpublished (as of the submission date) works that have never won an LUW cash prize.

2. Enter each manuscript in one category only. All entries are final as submitted. No early entries accepted.

3. LUW may combine any categories with fewer than ten (10) entries, or declare no contest. Entries may be assigned to a more appropriate category.

4. Manuscripts will receive a critique only, not an edit.

5. Entries in violation of the rules or in poor taste will be disqualified and entry fees and critiques will be forfeited.

6. Entries returned through Chapter Presidents at Roundup in September, or submit an envelope and enough postage with the entry for return by mail.

7. Author's name will not appear on the manuscript, synopsis or the excerpt.

8. **USE CORRECT MANUSCRIPT FORM THROUGHOUT** including double-spacing with black 12-point type. Use easy to read fonts such as Times New Roman or Garamond on standard white paper. No fancy type, colored paper, binders or pictures. Poetry may be single-spaced.

9. In categories that require a synopsis, use appropriate heading, title it *Synopsis* and submit a **1-page**, single-spaced plot summary written in present tense with ending included.

10. **ALL PROSE ENTRIES** require a **1-page, double-spaced excerpt** for 1st place winner to read aloud at Roundup.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Paperclip pages of short manuscripts, fill out entry logs, attach 1 check or money order for all fees and mail to:

Betty J. Vickers,
2002 Echo Springs Circle
St. George, UT 84790

E-mail questions to
booklady35@msn.com
(Type LUW in subject space.)

League of Utah Writers 2009 Writing Competition Categories

Theme:
**Ancient Mysteries—Esoterica in
Fiction and Non-Fiction**

POETRY

Member fee \$3 each; non-member \$6 each. 40-line limit. 5 entries per category accepted.

1. Poetry FOR Children: Any topic or form. Specify age range: **5-7** or **8-11**.

2. Adult Poetry: Any topic or form.

3. New Talent Poetry: Any topic or form. Open only to those who have never won an LUW poetry cash prize.

4. Encore Talent Poetry: Open only to those who have already won an LUW poetry cash prize. **Any new topic—no past LUW cash-winning poems.**

5. Narrative Poetry: Any subject. Limit 1 page per entry.

6. Theme Poem: Mysteries. Any type of mystery; any form.

SHORT PROSE

Member fee \$3 each; non-member \$6 each. Limit 5 entries per category.

7. Children's Story: 1000-word limit. Any topic fiction. Specify age range **5-7** or **8-12**.

8. Teen Story: 1500 word limit. Any topic fiction.

9. New Talent Short Story: 2500-word limit. Any topic fiction. Open only to those who have never won a cash award from LUW in this category.

10. Encore Talent Short Story: 2500-word limit. Open only to those who have already won an LUW cash prize for any short story. **Any new topic—no past LUW cash-winning stories.**

11. Short Story - Mainstream or Literary: 2500-word limit. Any topic fiction.

12. Short Story—Edgy Fiction: 2500-word limit. Dark, offbeat stories about the hidden and dangerous aspects of human nature. Content and language push the edges of normally accepted conduct, but do NOT step *over the edge* into graphic violence, sex or profanity.

NEW! Roundup Theme Grand Prize Award! \$50

**13. Short Story Theme Fiction:
*The Unexplained***

2500-word limit. Topics dealing with esoteric matters: i.e., angels, myths, ghosts, secret societies, ancient religions and mysteries, symbols, saints, miracles, metaphysics and the paranormal. (2nd, 3rd and 3 honorable mentions possible.)

14. Science Fiction: 2500-word limit. Fictionalized stories dealing with actual or projected scientific principles.

15. Character Sketch: 700-word limit. Create a living, breathing character. Use direct quotations and description; show habits that reflect the person's character.

16. Personal Opinion Essay: 1500-word limit. Any non-fiction topic.

17. New Talent Personal Opinion Essay: 1500-word limit. Any non-fiction topic. Open only to those who have never won a cash award from LUW in this category.

18. Adult Article: 2000-word limit. Any non-fiction topic. May include sidebars and/or references.

19. First Chapter of Book: 3000 word-limit. Fiction or non-fiction, any genre, any topic.

BOOK MANUSCRIPTS

Follow requirements exactly. Limit 3 entries per category.

20. Picture Book, 32 pages: (Member fee \$5; non-member \$10) **Submit full manuscript** without pictures + 1-page synopsis. For children ages **2-5**.

21. Children's Book: (Member fee \$12; non-member \$24) **Submit first 3 chapters only** + 1-page synopsis + table of contents. Any fiction or non-fiction topic for ages **5-8**.

22. Tweens Book: (Member fee \$12; non-member fee \$24) **Submit first 3 chapters only** + 1-page synopsis + table of contents. Any fiction or non-fiction topic for ages **9-12**.

23. Young Adult Book: (Member fee \$20; non-member fee \$40.) **Submit first 3 chapters only** + 1-page synopsis + table of contents. Any fiction or non-fiction topic for ages **13-18**.

24. Adult Fiction Book: (Member fee \$20; non-member fee \$40.) **Submit first 3 chapters only** + 1-page synopsis + table of contents. Any topic, any genre; includes short story collections.

25. Adult Non-fiction Book: (Member fee \$20; non-member \$40.) **Submit first 3 chapters only** + 1-page synopsis + table of contents. Any topic, including memoir. Do not submit photos.

Cut out the box below and duplicate. Use one Individual Entry Form for each entry submitted:

**INDIVIDUAL
ENTRY
FORM:**

(Office use only: # _____)



Entry Title:

Category Number: _____

**League
of Utah
Writers**

**2009 Writing Competition
Personal Entry Log**

(Duplicate as Needed)

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ (City, State, Zip) _____

Member: Yes No LUW Chapter: _____ Date my dues expire: _____

Make one check or money order payable to League of Utah Writers. Address questions to booklady35@msn.com. Mail this log with all entries to:
Betty J. Vickers, 2002 Echo Springs Circle, St. George, UT 84790

Entry Title	(Office Use Only)	Category Number & Name	# Words/lines	Fee

PHOTO GALLERY



During Contest Awards, Drienie Hattingh and Natalie Pace kept the audience laughing with their quick wit and hilarious dialogue when calling names of winners in the door prize drawings, while Ceil DeYoung, Contest Chair got the next group of winners ready to announce.



Keynote speaker Stanley Trollip with Drienie Hattingh who arranged his attendance at Roundup.



Writer of Year, Jill Vanderwood (R), enjoying Roundup with last year's Writer of the Year, Sara Fitzgerald.



2009 League President Natalie Pace, and President Elect, Michael Eldredge

"Nothing you write, if you hope to be good, will ever come out as you first hoped."

- Lillian Hellman

A Word from Your New Secretary

I'm very excited to be the new secretary for the League. I first signed up for the League of Utah Writers a few years back at a Spring Workshop and have attended Roundup ever since. The connections, and friends, I've made since then have been invaluable, not to mention all the new knowledge I've gained about writing, publishing, agents, etc. I once started my own writing group in an area just to find out if there was really anyone else out there, like me, who wrote all the time. At that time I was first introduced to the League – a couple of people in my area were members – but I moved before I could learn more about it. I made sure to look it up in my new area.

Now I know exactly who writes, not just in my area, but across the state as well. It's very

motivational and encouraging knowing I'm not the only one, and, better yet, knowing who to call when something as discouraging as writer's block hits. It's also so much fun to know every month I can get together with these writers like me; we can all hang out and talk about our quirky, crazy writing habits, as well as learn that great mystery of writing: how to get published. I feel very fortunate to be a part of the League. I've served in a couple of smaller positions within the League and I'm very excited to be serving you now as state secretary. I will do the very best that I can to fulfill this position. Thank you all for this opportunity and if ever anyone has a question or concern or would just like another someone to chat with about our favorite topic – writing, feel free to contact me any time. Write On!

-Suzy Gehring

READ THIS ANNOUNCEMENT!

INSIDE CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING,

sponsored by The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI)

Saturday, November 15, 2008 at the City Library (210 East, 400 South) in Salt Lake City, Utah. 9:30 to 5:00.

Speakers include editor Jill Dembowski from Little, Brown and Company, agent Ted Malawer from Firebrand Literary, and art designer Victoria Jamieson from Greenwillow (a HarperCollins imprint).

Cost is \$85 for SCBWI members, \$100 for nonmembers. One-on-one critiques (of 10 manuscript pages) and portfolio critiques will be available for an additional \$35 (\$45 for nonmembers).

SPACE IS LIMITED. Print the registration form at: [LINK: <http://www.scbwi-utah-idaho.org/>] www.scbwi-utah-idaho.org

MAIL TO:

PO Box 1481, Layton, UT 84041 or contact Sydney Salter Husseman at [LINK: <mailto:u.i.scbwi@mindspring.com>] u.i.scbwi@mindspring.com

Membership Chairman's Report

Membership in the League of Utah Writers has passed the 450 member-mark with 15 chapters throughout the state. Our newest chapter was just formed the week before Roundup in Heber Valley with Irene Hastings as the chapter president. We had a lot of new members join either just prior to (or at) Roundup in September. I would like to apologize for any errors you have found in the membership directory. Please email me (if you haven't already) and let me know of any corrections that need to be made.

All of you should have received your new 2009 Membership Directory by now—if you didn't receive one you need to email me at dorothycrofts@luwrite.com and I will get one mailed to you immediately. The books were mailed out the week after Roundup, which was over a month ago. I find it very interesting to see how many writers do not actually take the time to read letters or information that is sent out. As yet, I have not had anyone contact me to let me know the mistake I made in the letter that was inserted in your new directory. I wanted to test our Utah Writers to see how well you proofread

other people's writing, or, how well you proofread your own writing—just kidding! It was a real mistake! However, it wasn't an error with a mis-spelled word or an editing error. So, see if you can find what I did wrong.

Since I haven't heard from even one writer yet, let's have a little competition. I will have a surprise for the first writer who emails me with the "Mistake" in my letter that was inserted into your new 2009 Membership Directory. Just email me and put the error in quotes and let me know which line of the letter it is in. The earliest clocked time on the email with the correct answer will WIN! The winner will be announced in the next Lariat Newsletter—along with identification of the *mistake*.

NOW, regarding your membership: There are only a couple months left before almost every member's membership expires— January 1, 2009, so please take a few minutes right now and make out your check to LUW for \$24 and get it mailed to the following:

League of Utah Writers
P.O. Box 18430
Kearns, UT 84118

In my writing career over the past 36 years, I have written hundreds of poems. I have written several dozen songs. I have written dozens of nonfiction real-life experiences. I have tried my hand only once or twice at writing fiction. But never yet have I tried writing fantasy or a fairytale even though I have thought a lot about it and have wanted to try.

I would like to write a Fairytale, you know, the kind of fairytale like *Cinderella*, *Snow White*, *Sleeping Beauty*, or even something as simple as the *Shoemaker's Elves* or *Jack and the Beanstalk*. It doesn't seem all that hard. Theselittle stories appear to be so simple. It seems like all I would have to do is take an idea and drive it along an interesting road, through a

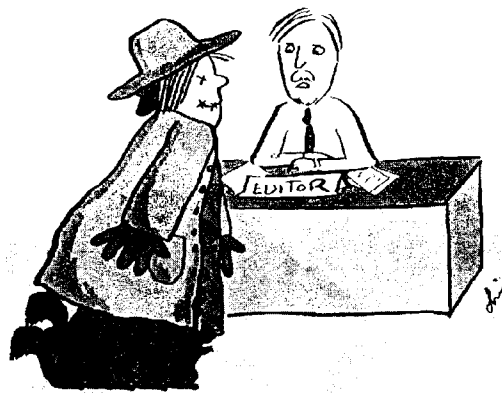
few intersections, make a left turn occasionally and then maybe even make a couple right turns until finally coming to the final destination where the main character (the driver) lives happily ever after.

I know there would have to be a flat tire or a dead battery along the way (like *Cinderella's* ripped dress, or *Snow White's* bite of a poison apple), but the mechanic always comes to the rescue to repair the problem and make continuation of the trip possible.

There are so many destination possibilities. The roads are endless and unlimited. It's just a matter of getting behind the wheel and turning the key—but make sure, and this must be my problem—don't run out of gas. As for me, I never seem to make it to the gas station in the first place.

Writers need fuel to keep the story going just like a car does. Just make sure you use the proper fuel for the kind of story you are writing, so your trip (story) won't be sluggish and full of jerky, frustrating movements.

-Dorothy Crofts



"I'm sorry, Mr. Smith, but I'm going to have to pass. A novel about evil squirrels taking over the world starting with the publishing industry...well, frankly, it just seems a tad far-fetched to me..."

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www.inkygirl.com

Credit for the fabulous cartoon above goes to: Debbie Ridpath Ohi at <http://www.inkygirl.com> or Inkygirl.com)

Chapter Chatter– What's Happenin'?

UTAH VALLEY CHAPTER NEWS

Brenda Bensch's poem "Beginning of a Quest," which is the riddle in a fantasy novel she's writing called **STOONSAGA: THE RIDDLE OF GRIFFIN RIDGE** will be published shortly in *Warp and Weave*, the fantasy/ sci-fi journal printed by Utah Valley University.

Heather Moore's newest book **ABINADI** was released November 2008. This is the first volume in a new Book of Mormon series. More information can be found at www.hbmoore.com

Marty Nabhan's movie column is published weekly in the paper.

Gary Davis has a column that appears in the Spanish Fork News under the title of "The Galloping Geezer."

In August we were pleased to receive a reading from poet Donna K. Mackert, and in October hear young adult author Kay Lynn Magnum.

-Cindy Mackert

COLOR COUNTRY NIGHTWRITERS

Ronald Carrier has another book out called "Two Peoples". Ronald does an excellent job on writing historical fiction.

Robyn Heitzler has a publisher reviewing a book. Karen Horst another great writer has had a run of bad luck. Her husband got rabbit fever (Tularemia) from a spider bite and Karen fell and broke her leg. Both are on the mend.

Christie Perkins is still waiting for the Ensign to print a story she has submitted.

Sherrie Mackelprang had another article printed in the October, *Desert Saints Magazine*, titled: "Indoor Family Fun".

Corrie Lynne Player has a new book out called: "The Everything Parent's Guide to Raising Your Adopted Child". For more on Corrie Lynne you can go to her web site, www.corrielynneplayer.com.

Eileen Saunders is in the process of finishing a book to be sent for publishing.

Lana Jordan did well at the Roundup contests. She won 3rd in Children's Story, Ages 4-8; 3rd in Full-

length Children's Books; and 3HM in New Talent Personal Essay.

Emalee Smith won a couple of prizes at Roundup. She won 2nd place and 1HM in Haiku, E contest. At the ripe old age of fifteen, Emalee is spurring the rest of us on at Nightwriters. Way to go Emalee. Vickie Treadway, and Lana Jordan went to Scottsdale Az. to "The Wizards of Word" writer's conference. Both said, "They had a wonderful time."

-Scott Holyoak

BLUE QUILL CHAPTER CHATTER

Dear fellow LUW writers,

First of all, I want to congratulate Blue Quill member, Christy Monson, for winning second place in the juvenile book section, in the Utah Arts Council's 'Original Writing Competition!' Way to go Christy! With all the LUW Roundup excitement behind us I am getting my synopsis and first three chapters of my historical fiction novel ready to send off to a agent in New York ! I am so excited. And the LUW Roundup was wonderful! To have the opportunity to interact with writers, agents, editors and to see old friends again. As everyone know by now, the LUW 2008 Roundup was a huge success. And I, along with Natalie Pace (our new LUW President!) and the Blue Quill Chapter members, who hosted the roundup, had a ball! Sometimes we felt as if we were about to go off the deep end but as you can see we lived to tell the story.

My sincere and utmost thanks to Blue Quill Chapter members, Natalie Pace, Christy Monson, Michele McKinnon, Jeff Martinez, Dave Durkee, Deb Schroader, Ken Young and Sandee Drake. You guys were absolutely amazing. Thank you for putting the syllabus together and stuffing the bags at the assembly party! Thank you for playing taxi, collecting and depositing speakers, agents and class presenters at the airport! Thank you for all you did. I appreciate you all so much. We could not have done it without you!

goodies. *Stan Trollip, Wendy Toliver, James Dashner, Elizabeth Lyon, Janet Jensen and many others.* My sincere thanks also to Debbie Macomber. This many-times-over best selling author is always supportive to writing organizations. Her office send several boxes, containing many of Debbie's autographed books and other goodies as door prizes. And our thanks to *Elizabeth Lyon, Wendy Toliver, Stan Trollip and James Dashner* for donating free editing to four lucky winners for our fund raiser!

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate all the Blue Quill Chapter writers who were asked to send their synopsis and chapters of the writing projects to agents and acquisition editors! Best of luck to Natalie Pace, Michelle McKinnon, Deb Schroader and Sandee Drake.

-Drienie Hattingh

WORDCRAFT CHAPTER – SANDY

The Wordcraft chapter meets at the Holladay Library the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. August brought a picnic; September, Roundup. In October we were instructed by Jill Vanderwood, who spoke to us about the journey that led to her recent award as the LUW the Writer of the Year.

Our chapter extends a hearty welcome to our new officers: Diane Coles, president, and Val and Patricia Greenwood, treasurers. Also, a very warm thank you to Juliet Emmer, who has served for the past two years as an efficient and charming president of our Wordcraft chapter, and to Marlene Pinkney, who has served about 11 years as treasurer. Both have done a super job.

As always, our members have been busy too:

Carolyn Campbell wrote an article titled "Western Art Extraordinaire," which was a profile of the Mountain Trails Art Gallery in the Summer, 2008, issue of Park City Magazine. She also had an article in Utah Business magazine, and two articles in Senior Review.

Diane Coles published two limericks—contest winners both—in the Deseret News.

Mike Eldredge's book, entitled *Walker's Promise*, was published by Mill Creek Press in May. Set in 1942, it's the story of Walker Young who goes to his grandfather's farm in Kamas Valley for the summer. There he gets caught up in tales of old Spanish mines, Indian ghosts, and supernatural sentinels as he tries to return ancient artifacts to Carre-Shinob. *Walker's Promise* won a Golden Quill Award at Roundup. Available through Amazon.com now, and Sam Weller's shortly.

Helen Glissmeyer has published an article in the September issue of *Senior Review*: "Let the Paper Do the Talking." She also writes a column for the Holladay Insider, which appeared July, August, and September.

Val Greenwood's book *I Will Make of Thee a Great Nation* was published by American Book Publishing this summer.

Annette Haws book, *Waiting for the Light to Change*, was published in May by Cedar Fort Press. In July, *The Midwest Book Review* featured it in their "Library Bookwatch" as a "top pick for library fiction collections." Book reviews also appeared in the Herald Journal, the Deseret News, the Standard Examiner, and the Wood River Journal.

Rod Miller's new book, *Bear River Massacre: First, Worst, Forgotten*, was published in June by Caxton Press. It has been featured in stories in the *Ogden Standard-Examiner* (June 15), *Salt Lake Tribune* (July 7), and in an *Access Utah* interview on Utah Public Radio (July 15). He also signed books at the American Western Heritage Center in Cache Valley.

The August/September issue of *American Cowboy* magazine is publishing "The Cowboy Way," a tribute to cowboy legends.

Finally, Rod presented two workshop sessions at the Idaho Writer's League annual convention in September: "Historical Nonfiction: How To Write It" and "Historical Nonfiction: How To Get It Published."

Judy Olsen has created a unique cookbook featuring meals made from ingredients that can be stored on a kitchen shelf. The cookbook was recently accepted for publication by Covenant Communications, Inc.

My gratitude also goes to Alane Ferney, a good friend, who is not even a writer, who gave so much of her time to help plan the roundup and who fetched our keynote speaker, Stan Trollip at the airport while we were having fun at the Poetry Awards night! Thank you so much Alane, you are indeed a friend in need.

How wonderful it is when everyone just pitches in, and how amazingly gratifying it is when, with everyone's help, it all comes together. When I stood next to Natalie on the podium on the opening night of the Roundup, I felt so grateful to look over the lovely decorated tables, seeing all the eager faces of about 150 writers, waiting to be entertained and educated. And looking at the audience, I marveled at the renowned agents, editors, speakers and class presenters, who came from all over the United States, sitting amongst the writers, ready to entertain and educate us. My gratitude thus also goes out to these highly qualified and talented professionals, who took time out of their busy schedules, to travel so far, to make the 2008 LUW Roundup such a success! Thank you Stan Trollip, Wendy Toliver, Carolyn Campbell, James Dashner, Kevan Lyon, Bill Contardi, Felicia Eth, Elizabeth Lyon, Louise Knot Ahern, Tami Cowden, Patricia Wiles and Marie Higgins (Phyllis Campbell).

And of course, my thanks to Dorothy Crofts who is the most confident, amazing, knowledgeable, talented and supportive person to have on your side when you are throwing a conference! Both Natalie and I could sometimes just let our jaws drop, knowing how much hours and work Dorothy put into, not only the 2008 LUW Roundup, but that she has done this for so many, many years! Thank you so much Dorothy for those early morning hour e-mails and all the times you said, "It will all turn out, you'll see..." Then Dorothy surprised all the chapter presidents with two beautiful folders, containing all the relevant information to each chapter president! You are a star Dorothy.

My thanks also to all those sponsors who helped to make the conference a success. Both Natalie and I had our pre-conceived wish list for the 2008 LUW Roundup. Above all we wanted it to be really a fun event, with lots of laughter. I think we accomplished

that with speakers like James Dashner and Wendy Toliver! I laughed so hard!

Another item on my wish list was to present each speaker/agent/class presenter with an amazing gift basket! So I went begging to the *Historic 25th Street Business Association*. Keri Wilde, who is in charge of special events for this organization, went beyond the call of duty and talked to every business on Historic 25th Street. How surprised was I at the response! Hats off to the Historic 25th Street Vendors! The pile in my dining room grew as donations poured in. Beautiful, colorful Ogden history books, gifts, gift vouchers and coupons. Some businesses donated 12 of everything for the 12 gift baskets! Our thanks to *Union Station Gift Shop, Union Station Grill, Roosters, City Club, Bistro, Brewskis, Ogden Blue, Karen's, Artisan Grill, Grounds for Coffee* and many others. The cherry on top (or should I say the brownie on top) was when *Adventurous Bakery* (on Washington Avenue) donated 12 brownies and 12 cookies and 12 \$10 gift certificates! My daughter Brenda and I worked till the early morning hours, the day before the conference, putting the gift baskets together with a huge bow at the top. (Dankie Brenda!) It was so much fun coming together with the Blue Quill members, and Brenda and Alane, and put all the final little touches to the roundup.

Another item on my wish list for the Roundup was to give every writer, attending the Roundup a tote to hold their syllabus and other conference stuff. This was, perhaps the most difficult to make happen. I needed a lot of money to have 150 bags printed with the LUW logo on the front! Again I went begging for sponsors. You can see the result on the back of the totes; all those logos on the back represent the amount that I needed to enable me to pay for the bags and the printing of the logos. Again the *Historic 25th Street Business Association* stepped up to the plate, as well as Natalie Pace, Alane Ferney and Melinda Montgomery's business, *Brain Freeze Slush* and the California magazine I write for, *Juluka*. So many thanks to these organizations. *Blue Quill Chapter* also funded part of the tote. We thought it would be a great way to spend our money. And in case you were wondering who did such a wonderful job on those totes. It was Model Linen from Ogden!

My thanks also to all the writers who donated autographed books, T-shirts, gift baskets and other

Janet Peterson published an article titled "Remedies for the Empty Nest 'I Don't Cook' Syndrome" in the September issue of *Senior Review*. She has also published an article series over the last few months on meridianmagazine.com titled "Lessons from the Lives of Auxiliary Leaders," which included the following articles: "The Principle of Presidency," "Serving with Joy" and "Following the Brethren."

Molly Pinkney published an article in October's *Senior Review* titled "Old Corner Market."

Carol B. Quist published "A Stain in Time" in issue #151, October 2008 of *Sunstone Magazine*. On July 2 she presented a workshop to the members of the Wordcraft chapter concerning parts of language, grammar, syntax, usage, and sentence structure.

Bonnie Robinson's two books titled *When He Shall Appear* and *We Shall Be Like Him* were reviewed by the entertainment editor in the July/August issue of *LDS Living Magazine*. She was also invited to sign autographs on the two books at BYU Bookstore during Women's Conference in May. For more information, check out her website at www.bonfirepress.com

Jeff Vanek published an article in the August issue of *Utah CEO Magazine*, "Mind Merger."

-Judy Olsen

HEBER VALLEY

Heber Valley Writers Group, a LUW chapter, is off and running. We meet the second Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. at Utah State University, first floor. We look forward to some good work from dedicated writers.

-Irene Hastings

BOUNTIFUL CHAPTER

I'm excited to be starting a new year as the new President! This is a wonderful, strong chapter and I was impressed by our representation in the Round-up Writers contest. We had multiple winners in multiple

categories. Way to go writers! We'll all have a chance to hear of their success in our next October meeting. Overall, we hope to have an enjoyable, fun-filled year with lots of speakers and activities designed to get our creative juices flowing.

- Kim Grant

OQUIRRH WRITERS

2009 Chapter Meeting Schedule of Speakers! We have a line-up of speakers scheduled for the whole up-coming year for our monthly Oquirrh Writers' chapter meetings. So, in case all you writers who belong to other chapters are not aware, you are welcome to attend the Oquirrh Writers' chapter any month you are able to. You can find the address for our meetings on the second page of your new Membership Directory. Our scheduled speakers are as follows:

November 20th—Mike Eldredge speaking on "Writing Historical Memoirs and Biographies"
December 4th will be our annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner beginning at 6:30 PM
January 15th—Josi Kilpack speaking on "The Evolution of Plot and Finding Your Voice"
February 19th—Rod Miller speaking on "How to Write Historical Nonfiction"
March 19th—Heather Moore (tba)
April 16th—Kelley Lindberg (tba)
May 21st—Julie Wright (tba)
June 18th—Carolyn Campbell (tba)

Opportunity for Critique! Oquirrh Writers Chapter is going to be starting a critique opportunity for any member who would like to participate. Each month, members can bring ten copies of up to five pages of anything they are currently working on. Those copies will be taken home by ten members who want to help critique and then they will be brought back in November marked up, showing suggested improvement and/or revisions. During the last hour of our chapter meeting each month we will spend time going over each submission as time permits. If we find enough interest being generated for more critique-time we will schedule a separate meeting just for critique.

Hosting a Spring Workshop! Oquirrh Writers will

once again be hosting a Spring Workshop in the Salt Lake area sometime around April or May. The date will be decided by the time the next Lariat Newsletter goes out in February. All Spring Workshops are FREE to members who are in good-standing with their membership and you can attend one or both workshops. The other workshop will be held in Farr West (Ogden area) and hosted by the Blue Quill Chapter.

Shauna Dansie took 1st place in the Anecdote category of the annual contest with her piece called *Doppelganger Down*.

Sara Fitzgerald took 2nd place in the New Talent Humorous Poetry category of the annual contest with her poem called *To My Dearest Sister*. And, 16 of her poems have advanced to the final stage for possible acceptance for greeting cards for Blue Mountain Cards.

Lorraine Jeffery took 1st Honorable Mention in New Talent Humorous Poetry with her poem *Squirrels in Ohio*; 2nd place in New Talent Short Story for *Razor Wire*, and 1st Honorable Mention in the same category for *Lunch At Ramono's Grill*

Caren Liebelt took 2nd and 3rd place in the Free Verse: A Special Event category with two of her poems: *Destiny* and *Chrysalis*; 2nd Honorable Mention in Narrative Poetry for *Sunday Morning*; 1st place, 2nd place and 2nd Honorable Mention in Children's Story for ages 4 through 8 for her entries: *The Amazing Magnificent Margo*, *Harold's Haven* and *The Fifteenth Floor Feast*. **Caren** also won a Diamond for her publication entry *Autumn's Calling*.

Jill Vanderwood was named League of Utah Writers' *Writer of the Year for 2008*. Her fourth Children's picture book in the *Sara, the Pineapple Cat* series was published in September 2008 and is now available on Amazon.com. The title of this latest publication is *Stowaway: The San Francisco Adventures of Sara, the Pineapple Cat*.

Patty Butts' book titled *Free Yourself From Chronic Fatigue & Fibromyalgia* is now available on Amazon.com. Patty also has a blog-site on health issues and depression, where you can read the latest input and submit your own comments at <http://healingbodyspirit.blogspot.com>

Cheri Chesley submitted three articles to Judy Olsen for her proposed project for Covenant and two were accepted.

Anna del C. Dye sent three articles about parenting to Sara Fitzgerald for her publication on *Parenting & Marriage*. One of them was published in her first edition and she is planning to publish the other two in following editions on her site. Her second book, *Trouble in the Elf City* which is part of the series that includes *The Elf and the Princess*, is late and won't be out for another month. During the last Mountain Con, Anna got to sit on the panel of "foreshadowing" with four other authors and even though she was a bit nervous it was an awesome experience. Guests at the Fantasy Sci-Fi Mountain Conference included actors from Deep Space 9 (Victor Brandt) - Ocean 11, (Herb Jefferson)- Stark Trek, (Richard Herd)- TV program 24, (Sarah Douglas). Speakers included Brandon Mull, Paul Genesse, Alan Bradbury, Keith Olsen, Brandon Sanderson, David Reddick, etc. It was held in Layton at the Conference Center Sept. 19, 20, 21. The website: www.mountaincon.org

Michelle Jefferies took 3rd place in the short story contest for LTUE in February of this year. She has also been asked to teach creative writing classes and help the students produce a literary magazine for the local Junior High this school year.

Clint Johnson just finished final revisions for his book *Green Dragon Codex* (release June 2009 by Mirrorstone Press) and turned them in to his editor. His web site should be functioning within the month. In addition to a blog, the site will eventually have annotated chapters from the book, AD&D material, an adventure also written by him, and a bimonthly column on writing where he responds to questions from readers. Anyone interested is invited to check out his site within the next week or two: www.clintjohnsonwrites.com.

Erlene Johnson has two books that will be out in December 2008 published by Xlebris Publishing of Philadelphia. One book is a re-publish of *Tillie's Tale* and the second is a Children's picture book that any child would enjoy titled *We Can Do*.

Rebecca Shelley's book *Brass Dragon Codex* is

scheduled to come out January 2009 from Mirrorstone Books.

October Meeting During our October 16th meeting we allotted time for anyone who had entered the League of Utah Writers' 2008 annual contest to read their entries whether they were an award winner or not.

Welcome! We have had a lot of new members join our chapter during 2008 and we would like to extend a warm welcome to them and encourage each one (and all new members no matter what chapter you belong to) to really get involved in your chapter meetings. Those new members of Oquirrh Writers include: Tom Abbott, Doree Anderson, Charity

Bennett, Patty Butts (after spending a while in Heritage Writers), Crystal Chambers, Anna del C. Dye, Abby Higley, Lorraine Jeffery, Jeanne Mendenhall, Karen Mittan, Fred Rodriguez, Jeanne Sackett, Shalyn Sanders, Jackie Villarreal, Celestia Whitehead, and Lisa Cox. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Caren Liebelt who is changing her membership from Sevier Valley Writers in Richfield to the Oquirrh Writers in the West Valley area because she is moving to West Jordan to live with her son. At the present time we have 47 members and hold a tie for third place for the largest chapter in the state (out of 15 chapters).

-Dorothy Crofts

"I NEVER DESIRE TO CONVERSE WITH A MAN WHO HAS WRITTEN MORE THAN HE HAS READ."

- Samuel Johnson

UPCOMING EVENTS

2009 SPRING WORKSHOPS

This year there will be four Spring Workshops held throughout the state:

Salt Lake area
Utah Valley area
Ogden area
Richfield area

Dates that have been scheduled so far include:

April 25th--Oquirrh Writers will host
May 2nd--Utah Valley will host

More details will be included in the February Lariat Newsletter. As a member of the League of Utah Writers, you are welcome to attend all four Spring Workshops FREE as long as your membership is in good-standing. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us whenever you can. If you have questions, feel free to contact Dorothy Crofts at dorothycrofts@luwrite.com



" Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving."

--- WT PURKISER

Looking for some inspiration? Here are a few of my favorite links:

<http://absolutewrite.com/> Absolute Write is a fabulous link for writers, with a forum, market listings, and more.

<http://www.aar-online.org/mc/directory/viewallmembers.do?masthead=true> This link is to the AAR —The Association of Authors' Representatives, Inc. If you're looking for some possible agents, this is a great link to use.

<http://writersvillage.com/character/index.htm> Part of the Writer's Village, this link is called "Character building Workshop. By using questionnaires, the user can flesh out characters, and come to know them better.

<http://www.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/errors.html> This site, called "Common Errors in English" has a lot to offer to those who would like to improve their English usage—and which writer wouldn't?

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Life, the Universe & Everything: The Marion K. "Doc" Smith Symposium on Science Fiction and Fantasy

is scheduled for February 19-21, 2009
at BYU's Wilkinson Student Center, 3rd Floor

Attendance is **free**.

For more information, check out this link:

<http://ltue.byu.edu/2009Home.html>

LITTLE-KNOWN FACTS ABOUT FAMOUS WRITERS

- Jack London. In his lifetime, Jack London was not only a hobo, but also a seaman, before educating himself and gaining admission to the University of California at Berkley. London, a noted Socialist, also once ran for mayor of Oakland California in 1901 under the Social Party ticket. He wrote 'Call Of The Wild', amongst other stories.
- Robert Frost. Robert Frost, poet, was the favored writer of President John F. Kennedy. He participated in his 1961 inauguration by reciting two of his poems. By the time Robert

Frost died in 1963, he was the unofficial poet laureate of the USA. He won the Pulitzer Prize four times.

- Louisa May Alcott. Born in Germantown, Pennsylvania in 1832, Louisa May Alcott was a suffragette. While living in Concord, New Hampshire in 1879, she registered to vote and did vote in the Concord school election, and thus became the first woman to vote in Concorde. She is famous for writing, 'Little Women'.

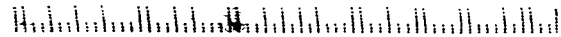


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The Editor's Corner

Every once in awhile, we do things that later make us feel like we must've been in a fit of madness when we did them. That's what I feel like now about volunteering for the newsletter editor position, after several excruciating weeks of trying to put together a coherent and attractive newsletter. I give kudos to previous editor, Merrijane Rice, who created a great newsletter. It's tough to follow in the footsteps of greatness. Then again, all of us who put in our time and effort at making this organization work, are volunteers doing the best job we know how. I volunteered, because I wanted to gain experience, thinking it might pay off in the long run, and I knew that it was something that could help out the league. That's really what the LUW is all about—people volunteering to help things run.

With this first newsletter, my two goals were to get it out in a timely manner, and to have it look halfway decent. I hope I've accomplished those goals. If it's prior to November 15th when you received this, I accomplished the first. Only you, the readers, can be the judges of the second goal. I'd like to see articles submitted by the members of the League for consideration—articles such as book reviews, tips on the writing business, even letters to the editor. There's always going to be a need for space to fill, so a few good, short articles will come in handy. Anyway, I hope you've found this month's Lariat to be helpful and informative, and perhaps a bit different and quirky. It will probably get quirrier before my stint is finished. That being said, write on!

-Shane Roe