



President's Message

It has been a long cold winter for some of us. That is a both a blessing and a curse depending on how you schedule your time and whether you see your glass as half empty or half full.

With the longer daylight hours, it seems the demands on our time increase. Working at our employment or in the yard, taking a much needed vacation, visits from friends and relatives and a myriad of other activities find a way to fill the time we always hope we'll have to finish long overdue projects and fulfill patient and overdue aspirations.

For those of us whose writing cannot yet be a fulltime occupation, it is easy to put off the daily time needed to hone our abilities and craft the feelings of our souls into cogent thoughts and words. If we see our time as authors as "filler", it

becomes a habit to let other activities usurp the time we need to be creative and productive in our writing.

Setting a goal or imposing a deadline to accomplish a specific task can prevent us from ignoring the gifts and skills we want and need to better our abilities as writers. Take time every day to write something of value. Scribble a note, jot down key words to help you remember the feelings and promptings rendered by an event, lock yourself away for a ten minute writing break, but don't let the time pass unfilled.

One of the great benefits of Roundup is the contest deadline imposed for entering your work. For some it is a great motivator to finish stories, articles and other works which have languished for far too long. Even if you don't intend to submit your work for the contest, the sense of a deadline can motivate you to move forward and complete all or part of a worthy project. From Memorial Day to Labor Day is 16 weeks. The sun shines, the flowers bloom and the days fly by. Come autumn, the growing season winds to a close and preparations are made for the returning dormancy of Winter. In this time of

planting, cultivating and harvesting, may I encourage each of us to plant seeds of creativity, cultivate talents of expression and harvest the bounty of our inspiration.

An old saying, loosely quoted says, "The song I came to sing remains unsung. I spent the time stringing and unstringing my instrument." There is wonderful music in each of us. Find it. Write it. Share it. Let's not let our song go unsung.

Ed Smith
President, LUW

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Roundup Update



Late in the evening of September 18, last year, a group of us from the Cache Valley chapter drove north after our pilgrimage to Roundup. Unable to wait until we reached home, we stopped at a roadside Village Inn somewhere between Bountiful and Brigham City to look over our critiques from the contest.

We ordered some pie, then nervously opened the packets and thumbed through our contest entries and the attached critiques. We shared some of the remarks with one another, kept others to ourselves. The positive comments we received were certainly welcome. The criticisms were less welcome, but the pie helped.

I've referred to those critiques often over the past year, as I'm sure you all have. While the tough critiques may have been hard to accept, all were useful. This is why we've made certain that every contest entry will be returned with a critique from a writing professional from outside the League – every last one.

Logan was still an hour distant and the pie was all gone, but we stayed, discussing and rehashing our critiques. We toasted our winners and consoled those who hadn't taken any honors. We talked of what we might have done differently and how we would try again. Ignoring dirty looks from the Village Inn wait staff, we chatted on into the night about the workshops and contacts, comparing notes and strategizing for next year. It was like the aftermath of a really good party – we didn't want it to be over and couldn't wait for the next one.

As the night (and the subsequent year) wore on, the enormity of what goes into a successful Roundup began to sink in, and with it; respect for those whose efforts have made this event so special in past years. And so we solicited advice from a number of generous people throughout the League.

Then the planning began. Workshops and presentations surrounding our theme, "Writing on the Edge," were the first order of business. We are pleased to announce that multi-genre author **Alexander Gordon Smith**, of Norwich, England, will make Roundup the first stop on his United States book tour. Smith is the author of such diverse works as *The Inventors* series, and the bestselling *Escape from the Furnace* series. He has also published two books on creative writing. Gordon (as he prefers to be called) will conduct workshops on Pacing, "How to Scare Your Readers," and "Writing on the Edge."

Authors **Larry Corriea** and **Rick Chiantaretto** will also join us this year. Larry is author of the best selling *Monster Hunter International* series and the *Grimnoir Chronicles*. His workshop is entitled "Writing Action." Rick will present "Horror and Dark Fantasy Writing: Why Everyone Needs It and How Anyone Can Write It." Rick writes dark fantasy/horror, and published his first book, *Façade of Shadows*, while still in college.

But edgy writing isn't just about the darker side of life. For many of us, "Writing on the Edge" can be as simple as taking a chance with a new genre, experimenting with a different point of view, or writing a query letter. To do the theme justice, we needed a diverse group of people to present on a wide variety of topics. The good news is, those people have been found.

Utah State University professor, **Star Coulebrooke**, author of poetry anthology *Walking the Bear* and co-author of *Logan Canyon Blend*, will lead a poetry workshop.

Multi-genre author **Harvey Stanbrough** will conduct workshops on dialogue, dialect, and the "Nuance of Narrative," and how not to lose your reader. Harvey is a poet, writer and freelance editor. His works have been nominated for the National Book Award, the Pulitzer Prize, and several other prestigious awards.

Perennial League favorite, fantasy author, and writing instructor **Clint Johnson**, author of the *Green Dragon Codec*, will be back with several new workshops.

John Brown, author of *Servant of a Dark God*, will present his workshops, "Problem the Core of the Story" and "How to Develop Story Ideas that Rock."

The **A-Team** featuring **Carolyn Campbell**, **Patricia Stevenson**, and **Kay Stevenson** will give a seminar covering the writing of pitch letters, book cover design, and book launches.

Heather Moore and the wonderful Precision Editing team will be available for one-on-one consultations.

The Pre-conference workshop on Friday, September 16, begins with a two hour presentation on researching and writing historical fiction with **Rod Miller**, author of *The Assassination of Governor Boggs*, *John Muir: Magnificent Tramp*, and *Massacre at Bear River: First, Worst, and Forgotten*.

The afternoon session features a Bootcamp, facilitated by **Clint Johnson**. Clint has assembled a great team of writers, and is working hard to make this event a truly special one. Details are available on the League website. In order to ensure plenty of individual attention, seating is limited, so be sure to register early.

The evening Poetry and Published Book awards banquet will feature renowned western poet **Waddie Mitchell**.

Thanks to the efforts of Carolyn Campbell and Mike Eldredge, we will be joined at the luncheon on Saturday (September 17) by **Rudy Ruettiger**, writer, motivational speaker, and subject of the hit movie "Rudy."

Expect a very special keynote speaker (TBA) at the Saturday evening awards banquet.

In addition to these excellent guests, Roundup will feature agent consultations, publishing house reps and much, much more. **In the coming weeks, the website will be updated with additional presenters, bios, class schedules, registration information, and (for the first time in League history!) the ability to pay for the Roundup online.** Please visit the website <http://www.luwriters.org/roundup.html> to plan your Roundup experience, book your hotel room early, and come with us to the edge.

Tim

A Friend in Need

My friend, Rebecca White, was recently diagnosed with breast cancer and had a mastectomy. She's like me – a young wife and mother, and she makes jewelry and crafts and home schools her kids. I'm donating all proceeds from the sales of my books and ebooks through August 31st to help her family cover medical expenses. My published novel, *The Peasant Queen*, can be found online or in stores. My two ebooks, *The Wild Queen* and *Ghost Bride* (a short story), can be found at amazon.com, bn.com, and smashwords.com.

Thanks,

Cheri Chesley

Tooele Writers chapter president

LEAGUE OF UTAH WRITERS
2011 Contest Individual Entry Form
For questions:
E-mail Emily Younker at:
LUWContest2011@gmail.com

Duplicate this form and submit one with each entry to:
Emily Younker, Contest Chair
PO BOX 4704
LOGAN UT 84323-4704

Author Name

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Pen Name (optional): _____

Address and Author Information

Street: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Zip/Postal: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

League Membership?

Are you a member of the League of Utah Writers?

- No
- Yes Which Chapter?: _____

Date Membership Expires: _____

Entry Information

Entry Title: _____ Word/Line Count: _____

Category Number: ____ Category Name: _____

Declaration

This is my own unpublished work that has never won an LUW cash prize.

Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____

League of Utah Writers 2011 Categories - Theme: Writing on the Edge

Cat. #	Category	Age Range	Lns/Wrds	Fiction	Non-Fiction	Fees		Prizes
						Member	Non-Member	
POETRY								
1	Light Verse (Rhyming, Metrical, and/or Humorous)	Open	40 lines			\$4	\$8	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
2	Narrative/Lyrical Poetry (Open or Closed Form)	Open	2 pages, max.			\$4	\$8	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
3	Theme Category, Edgy/Experimental	Open	40 lines			\$4	\$8	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
SHORT PROSE FICTION								
4	Short Fiction	Open	3000 words	X		\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
5	First Chapter of Book	Open	3000 words	X	X	\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
6	Theme Category, Edgy/Experimental	Open	3000 words	X		\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
7	Western	Open	3000 words	X	X	\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
8	Fantasy/Sc-fi	Open	3000 words	X		\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
9	Humor	Open	2500 words			\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
SHORT PROSE NON FICTION								
10	Persuasive Essay	Open	2500 words		X	\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
11	Creative Non Fiction	Open	3000 words		X	\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
12	Theme Category Edgy/Alternative/Experimental	Open	3000 words		X	\$6	\$12	1st - \$60; 2nd - \$40; 3rd - \$20
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE								
13	Picture Book	2 to 5	Full text to 1500 words	X	X	\$10	\$20	1st - \$75; 2nd - \$50; 3rd - \$30
14	Children's Manuscript	6 to 11	First 3 chapters	X	X	\$10	\$20	1st - \$75; 2nd - \$50; 3rd - \$30
MANUSCRIPT								
15	Young Adult	Y/A	First 3 chapters	X	X	\$20	\$40	1st - \$150; 2nd - \$100; 3rd \$75
16	Genre Fiction	Open	First 3 chapters	X		\$20	\$40	1st - \$150; 2nd - \$100; 3rd \$75
17	Screen/Stage Play	Open	First Act			\$20	\$40	1st - \$150; 2nd - \$100; 3rd \$75
18	Novel	Open	First 3 chapters	X		\$20	\$40	1st - \$150; 2nd - \$100; 3rd \$75
19	Creative Non Fiction	Open	First 3 chapters		X	\$20	\$40	1st - \$150; 2nd - \$100; 3rd \$75

There's Still Time!

To think that we are already through April and heading towards the deadline. Where does the time go? We've have already received contest entries from some of you, and we are eagerly awaiting entries from the rest of you. Time is short. The entries have to be postmarked by June 15th. All of the nitty-gritty details are on the website and if you have any questions beyond that please let me know. Don't forget, the chapter with the most entries will receive a prize. Use this contest as a way to get your name out there. It is a great experience for anyone who loves to write.

Write On.

Emily Younker - Contest Chair



Chapter Chatter

Oquirrh Writers

Janice LeFevre: Janice's poem, "Playing the Midnight Polka with My Accordion," is being published by the American Arts Council in their debut book, *Utah Voices*. Another of her poems was a finalist in *Segullah's* poetry contest and will be published in their spring or fall journal.

Travis Behunin: Travis' short story, "The Man on the Street," appeared in April's copy of *New Era* magazine (on pages 6-8).

Jill Vanderwood: The book *Drugs Make You Un-Smarter* by Savanna Peterson and Jill Vanderwood was published by Motivational Press on February 1, 2011. Since publication, the authors have been interviewed for the *Salt Lake Tribune* and the *Deseret News* and have appeared on Fox 13, *Good Day Utah*. Savanna has been featured on Teen Nick for "Above the Influence." Learn more about the book here: <http://outskirtspress.com/webpage.php?isbn=9781432760946>

Anna del C. Dye: Natty's book *Curse of the Elfs* was officially released in March 2011. This is her first stand-alone book after the *Silent Warrior Trilogy* books. You can read more about her new book here: <http://outskirtspress.com/webpage.php?isbn=9781432760946>

Brenda Wagstaff: Brenda's story,

Runtly's Unforgettable Adventure, is being published by Tate Publishing. The story received Honorable Mention at the 2009 LUW Roundup. The story is currently being illustrated and should be ready in two to three months.

Marilyn Yarbrough: Two of Marilyn's novels will be published by The Wild Rose Press. The first novel, *Payton's Woman*, became available on April 15th, 2011, and the second novel, *Once Upon a Love* is due to be published August 19, 2011. Both Historical Romance novels are set in early California shortly after the end of the Civil War. In addition, *Payton's Woman* won 3rd place in the Heart of the West Writer's Contest and 3rd place in the 2009 Golden Pen Writer's Contest. Get more information here: <http://marilynyarbrough.com/index.html>

Frank Cole: Frank's novel, *The Guardians of the Hidden Scepter*, was released in March of this year from Cedar Fort. It is geared toward an older Middle Grade/ Teen audience. Get more information about Frank and his book at: <http://guardiansofthehiddenscepter.com/> and <http://www.franklcole.com>

Marti Melville: Marti will be on a six-month long book signing tour. She left in April and will start the book tour in May in southern California. Then she will be signing books in Texas, Florida, Georgia,

South and North Carolina, and Pennsylvania. Marti will be promoting the Déjà vu series: *Midnight Omen Déjà vu* was released last July and *Silver Night Déjà vu* will be released this year. Read about Marti's tour here: <http://www.martimelville.com/>

Winners of the Oquirrh Annual Writing Contest, 2011, are as follows:

Short Story:

1st place, *For Your Own Good* by Donna-Ann Gordon

2nd place, *A Blessed Life* by Shauna Dansie

3rd place, *Laundry Chute Potentials* by Donna-Ann Gordon

Honorable Mention, *Pear Shaped* by Maria Petersen

Poetry:

1st place, "Mitten the Kitten" by Mary Ann Dennis

2nd place, "Coffee" by Angela Yarborough

3rd place, "Mitten the Jingle Bell Kitten" by Mary Ann Dennis

First Chapters:

1st place, *The Midwives of Deseret* by Mary Ann Dennis

2nd place, *The Withering* by Wendy Lambert

3rd place, *Amorissa* by Tom Abbott



Chapter Chatter (continued)

Children:

1st place, *Prodigal by Candace Thomas*

2nd place, *Shadow by Marilyn Yarbrough*

3rd place, *Sammy the Spider Slayer by Mary Ann Dennis*

Dorothy R. Crofts' book *Where is your Heart?* is now available on *Amazon.com* and *Barnesandnoble.com*, or you can order a copy directly from Dorothy. This book is her Scripture Reading in poetry and can be read from cover to cover in less than an hour, even for a very slow reader. Anyone interested in scheduling Dorothy to come and do a "live" presentation of this Scripture Reading just needs to call her at 801-448-8405 or send her an email at dorothythepoet@yahoo.com.

Her second book, *Spiritual Rhymes from Scriptures Thymes*, will also be available soon. *Where is your Heart?* is available in soft cover, hard cover, CD, and eBook. At the present time, Dorothy only has copies of the soft cover version available, so please get your copy as soon as possible. Online the soft cover books sell for \$14.99 plus tax

and shipping and handling. You can get your copy directly from Dorothy for only \$10 plus shipping (\$3). You can send in your order (for as many copies as you like--use them as gifts for friends, family, ward members, etc.) with a check made out to Dorothy R. Crofts and mailed to: 5075 West 4700 South #191, Kearns, UT 84118.

Rod Miller is hustling to promote three new books.

Most recent is a historical novel, *The Assassination of Governor Boggs*, a May release from Cedar Fort. It's a fictional cold-case detective investigation into the attempted murder of the Missouri governor who issued the infamous extermination order forcing the Mormons out of the state. A Pinkerton agent follows tracks the crime from one end of the Old West to the other on a trail that leads to Utah Territory and notorious gunman Porter Rockwell.

In April, Laughing Mouse Press, a Colorado art publisher, released *Newe Dreams*, a hand-crafted poetry chapbook featuring the imagined dreams of Shoshoni people, foreshadowing pivotal incidents in history. The chapbook is published in a limited edition of 150 numbered copies.

March saw the release of *Things a Cowboy Sees and Other Poems*, a collection of Miller's poetry about cowboys and the West. Published by Port Yonder Press of Iowa, the book features an introductory essay and some fifty poems, ranging in form and style from traditional rhymed-and-metered cowboy poetry, to rhymed and unrhymed free verse, to haiku, and from lighthearted to reflective.

The author will be appearing at a number of events throughout the summer and fall to promote the books, including cowboy gatherings, book signings, and conferences. He will be a featured speaker at the Idaho Writers League annual convention in September and the Writers of the Purple Sage retreat in Kanab in October.

Wordcraft Chapter

Wordcraft's annual writing contest (always in February) focused on anecdotes. Earlier we had a session on writing effective anecdotes. Winners were: Val Greenwood, 1st place; Rick Nordgren, 2nd place; and Elinor Hyde, 3rd place. Honorable mention was given to Patricia Stevenson, Diane Coles and Pat Coffey. Each winner received a cash prize and a certificate.



Chapter Chatter (continued)

Our March meeting was canceled due to a closure of the Holladay library. At the April meeting, Rick Nordgren, a patent attorney, taught us about copyrights, fair uses, and defamation. In May, Juliet Emmer, an avid journal keeper, encouraged us to write frequently.

Elinor Hyde had three poems published in *Poetry Panorama*, 2010.

Judy Olsen's new book *Angels Round About: True Stories of the Lord's Tender Mercies, Vol. 2* has been accepted for publication by Covenant Communications. Both the first and second volumes contain stories by League of Utah members. The books are collections of accounts of times when people felt the hand of the Lord in their lives.

Patricia G. Stevenson's second book in the Professor Del Channing murder mystery series, *The Jezebel Bride*, will come off the press the end of April.

Carol B. Quist helped produce the March 2011 *Sunstone* magazine.

Janet Peterson's articles "Kitchen Safety," "Savoring the Many Flavors of Books," "Pass It On: Teaching Your Skills to Your Grandchildren" and "Now What Did I Come in the Kitchen For?" appeared in *Senior Review*.

Carolyn Campbell wrote an

article on garage sales for the *Deseret News*, one about mental health issues for *City Weekly*, and "A Taste of Home," about family recipes, for *Senior Review*.

Bountiful Chapter

Hello writers in the League. We've had a busy few months in the Bountiful Chapter. In preparation for Roundup, we've been working hard on our entries for the contest by having critique groups in March and May. In April, we had Dan Evans, author of two books in a series: *Canine Agent Teabo and the Case of the Pavlovian Dog Pox* and the *High Peak Pardign Shift* come and talk to us. But our group has had their own successes recently. **Ann Johnson** had her short essay, "A View from the East" printed in the Touchstones section of the March 2011 *Sunstone Magazine*. **Sharon Steele** has had two works accepted in the Ensign. And **Kim Grant**, outgoing president, has had several articles published in *The Deseret News/Mormon Times* and also had some material on KSL. Her second novel, *Abish: Mother of Faith* was released in March and she has a suspense novel that's been accepted for publication with Covenant in 2012. We'd also like to welcome Ann Johnson as our new president for the fall and into 2012! And we'd like to welcome recent new members Jared Wendel, Elta Lee and Caren Liebelt.

Odds & Ends

ATTENTION ALL WRITERS: If you feel you are qualified to be considered as the Writer of the Year 2011, nominations are now being accepted. Deadline for all nominations is July 15, 2011. You must go to the League website at www.luwriters.org and print out the guidelines and the cover letter. All guidelines must be followed precisely. You must prove your qualification in every category of the criteria listed under the judging process. Please submit your nomination to: Dorothy Crofts, 5075 West 4700 South #204, Kearns, UT 84118.



DONATE A BOOK: Any member of the League of Utah Writers who has published a book is encouraged to donate one autographed copy of that book to the SUBS program. Utah author's books will be archived at the Utah Arts Council. Please deliver your books (in person or through the mail) to Dorothy Crofts, 5075 West 4700 South #204, Kearns, UT 84118. Or, you can turn your book in to her at Roundup.

Editor's Corner

Tapping your creative potential can be challenging, so here are five quick tips I've found to help you on your journey:

1. Keep a dream journal next to your bed so you can capture them while they are still fresh in your mind.
2. Use nature for inspiration. Pay attention to colors, patterns, shapes, sounds, and smells.
3. Have a date with yourself every week. Block out a period of time to do something you love, giving yourself a chance to nurture your inner artist without the distraction of other people.
4. Pick a book at random and flip it open to any page. You may find an idea to help get your creative juices flowing.
5. Stop the negative self-talk. It's not too late. Dreams do matter. Creativity is not a luxury. You can pursue your dreams right now.

See you at Roundup!

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The Lariat is published four times a year by the League of Utah Writers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to offering friendship, education, and encouragement to the writers of Utah.

This project is supported by a grant from the Utah Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C.



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