

Utah State Poetry Society's
Poet Tree

Jan – Mar 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Poets,

We are starting another wonderful year of writing, contesting and reading poetry. We belong to a unique organization that exists solely for the purpose of encouraging these specific goals,

Along with nurturing friendships and providing a venue for our creativity. How grateful I am for your support this past year, and I rely upon your continued involvement as we move forward. We need each one of you.

There have been some necessary changes in the way we do some things, but so much of what we accomplish is because of our long history and stability. UTSPS is a 'charter' member among the numerous state organizations. I read recently that sustainability for nonprofit organizations is dependent on at least four elements. Programs need to be *relevant*, have a *real impact*, be *adaptable* and rely on strong *leadership*. Most of the time when people talk about nonprofits, they refer to a wide variety of services that are not necessarily about poet societies, but the same principles apply; and the fact that we are still viable is because of the groundwork that has been put into place by our predecessors. I am awed by the

accomplishments of our past presidents, many who have been and are still involved in the process. Thank you, thank you for all you do for the society and for me personally! We all lead busy lives, and as we have advanced into the digital world, all those devices that are supposed to make our lives easier sometimes have the opposite effect. There are so many demands upon our time, especially for our younger members who are still involved with family and work. It used to be that, when people got older and retired, some requirements became less; but that is not necessarily the case as there are so many areas where their services are necessary and appreciated, (even though our energy levels sometimes become a challenge.)

In those areas where we can simplify, we need to, taking advantage of the new-age opportunities that are available to us. Please use the website (utahpoets.com) to keep current on what programs and events are on our calendar. Using the web for disseminating information will save us both time and money. One example is the posting of the contest rules for 2016. Just this one change has made a difference.

It has also been a treat to see so many of your contributions to the blog, where we can become better acquainted with you and read some of the poetry that is being produced within the society. All of you who devote your time and effort for the benefit of the rest of us are so very much appreciated. When I was a child, my mother used to say, "Many hands make work light." It wasn't original, but it is still true. To all of you who

continue to function faithfully in your specific capacities, we are grateful and to those of you who feel you could make a contribution, please know that even small contributions have a positive impact. We need your participation.

It is also one of our goals to maintain UTSPS as a statewide organization. This takes effort, not just services, to support those who work behind the scenes to maintain our programs. By now most of you are aware that Poetry-in-the-Park and the Redrock Seminar take place in the spring in southern Utah. We hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to attend, even though it might require some scheduling and travel time. It will be well worth the effort. We also hold our annual April Festival in the northern part of the state.

If you do not belong to a chapter, would you consider organizing one? If there are positions that need to be filled, would you consider taking on the challenge? If there is a way for you to assist those who now hold a position on the board, is that a possibility for you? We need volunteers. Last but not least, as we move into the new year, we encourage you to write, write, write!

~Dawnell Griffin

LOSS OF A VOICE

Our dear friend and fellow poet, Maxine Shreve died on Oct. 26, 2015. She was 92 years old. Most of us remember her as the first person who greeted us when we attended a Society meeting. Her commitment to poets is exemplary. She loved us and wanted each one to feel important and special. She held many board positions, most notably Hospitality Chair for several years. You may send a memorial donation check made out to UTSPS to Kolette Montague, 864 Bonita Way, Centerville, UT 84014. We will sponsor a memorial category in her honor in the 2017 contest.

Can Wind Recall?

Maxine Croft Shreve

Can cold ashes nourish a flame
can clouds withdraw one drop of rain
can the tree reclaim one leaf, dried
can the eye unshed one tear, cried
can lips unspeak one word, spoken
can wishes mend a promise broken
can wind recall even one blow
can what my heart knows, unknow?

UTAH STATE POETRY SOCIETY APRIL AWARDS FESTIVAL

April 22-23, 2016
Hilton Garden Inn (Davis Conference Center)

There is so much to share about the upcoming Annual Awards festival. A special edition Poet Tree, dedicated to everything...festively...will be landing on utahpoets.com soon!



HISTORY IN THE MAKING

The Utah State Historical Society, located at the Rio Grand Train Station Building in Salt Lake City, now has a complete set of the Utah Sings volumes 1 through 9. That's 90 years of Utah poetry. They also have a complete set of the Books of the year beginning with the 1965 and going through the 2015 book. That's 50 books. You can visit them in the Utah State Historical Society resource library.

QUEST FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP: PART I

*We are not alone.
There are poets who have not found us yet.*

1). Always include contact information with ANY publicity you do. Also include the following statement: Supported in part by the Utah Division of Arts & Museums, with funding from the State of Utah and the National Endowment for the Arts.

2). Have an open house evening in which each member brings a friend, neighbor or someone they have found who is even a little interested in writing poetry. Celebrate old favorites, read original work, serve refreshments.

3). Sponsor a local contest. This takes organization and commitment. Construct timeline, then rules, PUBLICIZE, have a poetry evening to celebrate winners. Award some kind of prizes.

4). Contact AP English teachers in local high schools. They are usually very interested in literature and, if not able to join themselves, may have leads for you to contact.

5). Place the official brochures or bookmarks in public places that will allow them. Think beyond libraries and grocery store bulletin boards. But don't overlook them. Have a chapter effort on brainstorming places to check, divide, and conquer.

6). Seek out and join other writers' groups in your area, like League of Utah Writers. Arrange for a few minutes at one of their meetings to introduce and pass out brochures or bookmarks. Also invite them to chapter meetings to do the same. Consider if there is an activity you could do jointly, like sponsor a local contest with both prose and poetry categories.

7). Display times of meetings in local newspaper "happenings" column.

8). Have Chapter members partner with a local school, even elementary. Our seeds need to be flung like the prolific dandelion. Go into the classroom, to read THEIR favorite poetry, or give a short lesson. Return throughout the year, build a rapport with the class. Kolette Montague has a file of elementary school poetry writing ideas she will share via email upon request.

9). Volunteer locally to participate in Poetry Out Loud, the national competition for high school students. You may be a mentor, a school judge, or local judge. Keep publicity information like bookmarks to hand out when it seems appropriate.

10). Volunteer in literature and other art related activities, like docent at a museum or art gallery where you can keep poets in the minds of patrons. Check with Cindy Bechtold for ideas on partnering with an art gallery.

CALENDAR

Fri. Mar. 4: Poetry in the Park, Zion National Park

Sat. Mar. 5: Redrock Writing Seminar, St George

Sat. Mar. 12: UTSPS Workshop, Highland; Robert Blair speaker (info on last page)

Mar. 15: NFSPS contest deadline

Apr. 22-23: April Awards Festival, Davis Events Center, Layton

June 9-13: NFSPS Convention, Minnesota Book of the Year debut/reading.



FLIPPING THROUGH THE CHAPTERS

Dixie

There's never a dull moment in St. George. Last October we participated in the annual St. George Book Festival which, featured our UTSPS Poet of the Year and Redrock Writers member Candy L. Fowler reading at our Sat. Youth Contest program. This year's program, directed by Lin Floyd, received 400. High school winners and their teachers were invited to attend Poetry in the Park. Candy presented a lovely concert which was well-attended at the Eccles Theatre on DSU where she read from her winning book, *On a Road That Knows Me*, and was honored for her achievements. Our UTSPS workshop in Jan featured SUU associate professor Daniell DuBrasky and her presentation "Metaphors and Creative Landscapes." Markay Brown has been busy finding judges for the annual English Quest for Snow Canyon HS and Poetry Out Loud. In addition, preparation continues for the upcoming Spring Festival of Literary Arts, chaired by Alma Richie. This year's program includes Poetry in the Park, ZArts Lecture with visiting poet David J. Rothman, Chaparral Poetry Forum, and the 20th annual Redrock Seminar. All happening Mar 3-5th in St. George, Springdale, and Zion Park. More info at poetry-in-the-park.com and www.redrockwriters.org.

Redrock Writers in St. George meet every third Thursday evening of the month at 7:00 pm. We have an active group of eight regulars and an open door for more poets to join us. Our group organized the recent UTSPS workshop in January which featured Danielle Dubrasky, associate professor of creative writing at SUU in Cedar City. The workshop "Metaphors and Symbolic Landscapes" received very positive reviews by the 24 attendees. Several of our members are actively involved in planning the Spring Festival of Literary Arts to be held March 3rd through the 5th in Zion National Park and St. George. We urge all UTSPS members and their writing friends to join us for a weekend of creativity and learning. The sunshine is free!

www.redrockwriters.org for more information.

Redrock

Ben Lomonds

The Ben Lomond Chapter meets at a new location. The library where we usually meet is closed for remodeling. Our place of meeting this year is in the Red Cross/United Way Bldg. at 2955 Harrison Blvd. in Ogden. We will start at 6:30 PM—we surely hope to see you there. Please come and join us if you haven't been for a while or if you have never been.

Our next meeting will be Mar. 30th at 6:30 PM. We enter the Red Cross/United Way Bldg. from the North Side of the Building, same place as parking. The building is across for the football field attached to Ogden High School.

The Word Weavers group has been growing of late. We did a little advertising around town at the libraries, restaurants, and in the newspaper. Voila, five or six new members came of that, including a darling junior from Lone Peak High School who drives crosstown to share. Everyone was bustling last month to get submissions in for April--we always have some winners. Our Christmas Soiree lived up to its expectations. Mary's house is so festive, and we love meeting there on the third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. Come to think of it, I got a call this week from another newcomer who will bring a member who hasn't been coming for awhile. Aside from the poetry, we are a welcoming, charming, and eclectic group. Do join us.

Pat Johnson
801-885-1532
pat.johnson3@comcast.net

The Rhyme & Reason Chapter meets once a month, except during our summer hiatus when we seem to scatter to the four winds. Meeting on the 2nd Wednesday afternoon at Heritage Place allows more of our members to attend. Our *contact committee* reminds members about each meeting where we continue to improve our poetic skills, share our poetic successes, and enjoy the comradery of poet friends. We continue to pursue poetry contacts, but it seems a difficult process. Got POEMS? You bet!!



**Cedar City | Oquirrh |
Valley Winds | Write On**



QUEST FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP: PART II

Brainstorm with your chapter about ideas that are workable for your group. Then assign people specific tasks and make times for reporting successes.

During the month of April and again in Oct for poetry month and week, do something to make yourselves visible to the general public. Hold a street corner or café poetry reading. Have someone passing out contact information as folks stroll by. Be involved with local arts and crafts fairs. Most events will allow a nonprofit group to set up a free table.

Have fun with this. Have little papers for people to jot down a Not-A-Poems as they pass by. Impressions, or thoughts, their favorite words, the silliest word they know, etc. Of course have brochures, bookmarks and local contact information handy. Brainstorm ideas of what might work, like having a box of sand to draw a word in with a stick or finger, then record the words on a piece of posterboard displaying during event.

LET'S PAY SOME BILLS



ELECTRIFYING: In order to save money and time, we are moving most of our information publications online. Members without internet access will continue to receive paper editions. It seems a natural step to have the Poet Tree, the contest rules, and the contest winners list available on our website. NFSPS Strophes is now also available online.

Check us out there often for updates and information. Paul Ford does a terrific job keeping us posted!

utahpoets.com

PARTNERING WITH SMITH'S STORE: Free lunch (almost) for the year 2015; we received **\$268.45**. That is our reward for being their partner. This money goes into our general funds for great things throughout the Society.

We could receive even more. If you haven't already, PLEASE take a moment to **go online and register** your Smith's rewards card so our Poetry Society will be credited with your purchases. THIS DOES NOT EFFECT YOUR PERSONAL REWARDS POINTS.

A little effort by each will result in a nice return for all. The money Smith's donates is added to our *general funds* for sustaining our great programs and functions.

With your rewards card in hand, visit www.smithscommunityrewards.com, follow the few easy steps:

Sign In > My Account > Enroll Community Rewards > input 10422 > Select the Society > Save.

NOW, REMEMBER TO USE YOUR REWARDS CARD EACH TIME YOU SHOP AT ANY SMITH'S STORE

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY: The Finance Committee continues to look for viable income sources for our Society. If you hear of a possible grant, benefactor, donor or co-sponsor, please notify a member of the Finance Committee, our Society President or President Elect. We are happy to pursue any lead that may help the Society remain financially solvent and productive.

You can help champion the art of poetry in Utah by supporting our work with a tax-deductible gift. The Utah State Poetry Society is recognized as a 501(c3) nonprofit organization under the Internal Revenue code and meets all 20 Better Business Bureau charity standards. Make a check out to UTSPS and mail it to UTSPS, 864 Bonita Way, Centerville UT 84014. Thank you.

LET'S PAY SOME BILLS

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE POET TREE

Come Join Us! REGISTRATION FORMS

POETRY IN THE PARK

Make check to ZNPA. Mail to 210 N. Main, Box 200
Mail to Michael Pyle 207 of
Zion Park, Springdale UT 84767 or
zionpark.org/class/poetry-in-the-park

NAME (Print) _____

STREET _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

TELEPHONE: _____

- General Public 2016 UTSPS or ZNPA Member High School or College Student

REFER TO FEES ON OTHER SIDE

REDROCK CREATIVE WRITING SEMINAR

Make check to Redrock Seminar
Mail to 61 N. Firerock Trail, Hins UT 84738

NAME (Print) _____

STREET _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

TELEPHONE: _____

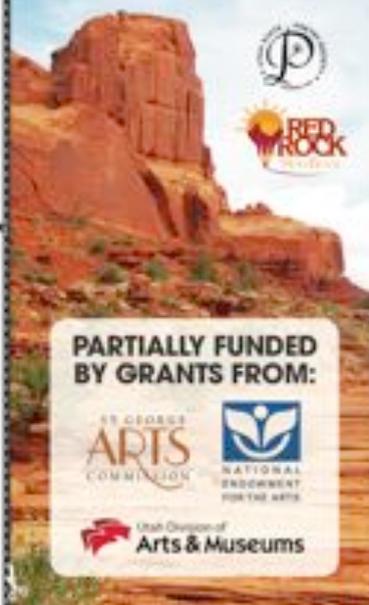
- General Public 2016 UTSPS Member Full-Time College Student Full-Time Teacher High School Student

REFER TO FEES ON OTHER SIDE

Thanks To All Our Partners & Volunteers

ESPECIALLY...

- Dixie Poets & Redrock Writers
- Spring Festival Director - Alma Ritchie
- Poetry in the Park Chair - Lin Floyd



PARTIALLY FUNDED BY GRANTS FROM:



Seminar Director Alma Ritchie
61 N. Firerock Trail
Hins UT 84738

Spring Festival of Literary Arts

MARCH 3RD - 5TH • 2016



In Beautiful Southern Utah FEATURING...

- Z-Arts Lecture - Plain Air Poetry (Springdale, Utah)
- Poetry in the Park Workshop (Zion National Park)
- Chaparral Poetry Forum Awards (St. George, Utah)
- Redrock Creative Writing Seminar (St. George, Utah)

Thurs, March 3rd - 7-9pm

Z-ARTS LECTURE BY VISITING POET

FREE TO THE PUBLIC!

DR. DAVID J. ROTHMAN
Plain Air Poetry - Encountering the Natural World

- ✓ Come, listen to the poetry of a master
 - ✓ Bring your favorite poem to share
- Canyon Community Center
126 Lion Blvd in Springdale, Utah
Optional overnight lodging available



Fri, March 4th - 7-9pm

CHAPARRAL POETRY FORUM AWARDS

FREE TO THE PUBLIC!

ANNOUNCEMENT & READING OF WINNING ENTRIES

- ✓ Student & adults read their winning poems
- Social Hall of the Pioneer Arts Complex
47 East 200 North in St. George, Utah



Fri, March 4th - 9am - 4pm

7TH ANNUAL POETRY IN THE PARK

REGISTRATION & FEE REQUIRED

DR. DAVID J. ROTHMAN
Plain Air Poetry - All Day Workshop

- ✓ Explore: Free pass to Zion Park
 - ✓ Stay: Overnight lodging available at Zion Lodge or Cable Mtn. Lodge
 - ✓ Enjoy: Guided Naturalist River Walk, bring a lunch or eat at Redrock Grill at Zion Lodge, make new friends, & be inspired by nature.
- Zion Park Lodge • Zion National Park



Info: www.poetry-in-the-park.com

Sat, March 5th - 9am - 4pm

20TH ANNUAL REDROCK CREATIVE WRITING SEMINAR

REGISTRATION & FEE REQUIRED

DR. DAVID J. ROTHMAN
Arise at the Intellect by Way of the Heart

MARILYN RICHARDSON
Reason in Prose: Why it Matters

MARLEEN BUSSMA
Passin' it On: Cowboy Poetry

BRIAN PASSEY
Get Lost: Photo Journalism

LUNCH PROVIDED
Social Hall of the Pioneer Arts Complex
47 East 200 North in St. George, Utah
See: www.redrockwriters.org



Spring Festival of Literary Arts

2016 PRESENTERS

DR. DAVID J. ROTHMAN
Western Colorado State University's Director of Graduate Studies in Creative Writing & Poet in Residence for Colorado Public Radio

MARILYN RICHARDSON
Retired dance educator, award winning author presents Bradley P. Beaulieu, Sci Fi writer's indispensable ideas on writing

MARLEEN BUSSMA
Based on a N.D. farm, winner of nine Art Spur Awards, director of the 2014 & 2015 Mesquite NW Western Roundups

BRIAN PASSEY
Journalist graduate of University of Idaho, The Spicatum and Daily News and Features desk editor, reporter for St. George Magazine, and USA Today

REGISTRATION INFO

Separate registrations are required for Poetry in the Park & Redrock Seminar
Registration forms on reverse side

POETRY IN THE PARK

(Bring a lunch or eat at Redrock Grill)

2016 FEES

PREREGISTER BY 2-20-16 TO RECEIVE FREE ZION PARK PASS BY MAIL

General Public	\$60
2016 UTSPS or ZNPA paid members	\$48 (30% Discount)
High School & College Students	\$20 (Must mail in registration)

Info: ins@sunriverutah.com

REDROCK CREATIVE WRITING SEMINAR

(Lunch included)

2016 FEES	PREREGISTRATION Feb. 15th, 2016	Postmark After Feb. 15th, 2016 and At The Door
General Public	\$60	\$65
2016 UTSPS Members	\$50	\$55
Full-Time College Students & Teachers	\$15	\$20
High School Students	FREE	with teacher's signed recommendation

Info: alma.ritchie@gmail.com

PUBLIC WELCOME

NEWS RELEASE

YOU DON'T WANT
TO MISS THIS

Announcing the 20th Anniversary of the Redrock Writers Seminar for 2016 in St. George, Utah

You're all invited to join with a select community of poets and writers for one day seminar on March 5, 2016 at 9 a.m. to refresh your artistic inspiration in the setting of great natural beauty in St. George. Let's come together in a most delightful time spent with these great writers and poets: David J. Rothman, Brian Passey, Marilyn Richardson and Marleen Bussma



Daniel Klawitter says, "Dr. David J. Rothman is one of the best poets in the United States today. He should be as popular as Billy Collins if there is any justice in the world."



Brian Passey begins another adventure. He brings excitement into writing in a way that is fresh and new. Just sit back and enjoy.



Marilyn Richardson brings Tension in Prose and the reasons for why it really matters. With her wit and humor you will come away with a song in your heart.



Marleen Bussma is the Queen of Cowboy Poetry. Her jaw-dropping performances have captivated audiences of concerts and festivals all over the west. They call her amazing, you've never seen or heard anything like it.

Our goal is to send you home **CHARGED** up and perhaps wanting to write a thing or two yourself.

- **Event Date:** Saturday, March 5, 2016, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (**lunch is included**)
- **Venue:** Historic Social Hall (Opera House Annex): 47 East 200 North, St. George, UT
- **CONTACT PERSON:** *Alma Richie, Director, EMAIL: alma.m.richie@gmail.com*
- **and Phone:** 435-272-4105 or Cell: 435-773-0574



We appreciate the in-kind use of facility donations from the City of St. George in the amount of \$200 for Friday night and \$350 for Saturday. Again we thank the graciousness of Angie Mason, the Event Coordinator.



HVA Writers' Workshop 2016 | High Valley Arts Foundation

www.highvalleyarts.org

High Valley Arts Writers' Workshop 2016 April 28-30, 2016

Held at the Midway Community Center – 163 West Main,
Midway (next to Midway Town Hall)

<http://www.highvalleyarts.org/workshop-2016/>

UTSPS WORKSHOP

Date: Saturday, March 12, 2016

Time: 10:00am to 1:00pm

Location:

Highland Arts Center
5378 West 10400 North
Highland, Utah 84003
(right across from Heritage Park)

No Planned Lunch (feel free to get together with others after the workshop)

Presenter: Rob Blair (Check out his website - <http://robbieblair.com/>)

An Exploration of Metaphor

This look at the power of metaphor in poetry will include a presentation, activity, and discussion. We will clarify the meaning and usage of metaphor, touch on the history of metaphor in poetics, and dive into activities that help attendees play with metaphor in their own work.

KEEP IN THE LOOP: Visit nowplayingutah.com to see features from some of our own poets. Also visit Bite Size Poetry and read Lit Ops, the email newsletter of the Division of Arts and Museums (Art Council); available on their website. Visit the UTSPS blog, utahpoetry.blogspot.com for the latest Society updates, and of course, don't forget our web page utahpoets.com for detailed information.



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