
U E L M A

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May 2003

President's Message - - Burke Belnap

It was good to see so many attend the Conference in Ogden this past March. I hope all of you were able to come away with some new ideas and with a refreshed charge of your batteries. I know that those sessions I attended were very worthwhile. Some of the ideas are already being used in my center.

I felt many emotions as I accepted the official gavel and the attendant responsibilities of being President of UELMA during the conference luncheon. As I looked out over the three hundred plus conference going attendees, I was so impressed by the quality of talent that I observed. I knew I was associated with good people who are dedicated to their profession and who love working with young people. I had a feeling of confidence that as a group, many worthwhile and important things will be done by us to benefit those whom we teach and serve. I am proud to be part of a profession whose purpose is to teach students, teachers, and administrators the skills of research, and who care for and have respect for good books and who are on the cutting edge of new technology.

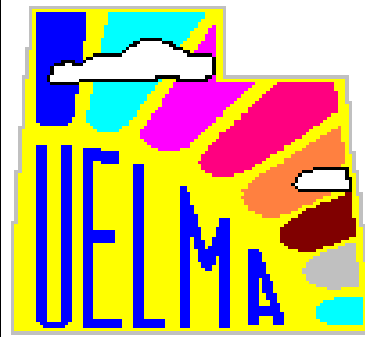
At the same time I was apprehensive that I could fill the shoes of those able people who have held this office before me. I am not sure I can get my elevens into Paula Zsiray's sevens. She deserves high praise for organizing this years conference, for her many years of service on the Board and for her work as the Library Media Teachers List-serve director. Hopefully each of you will take opportunity to thank

Parting Shots

—Paula Zsiray

If you want to be a champion, you need to act like a champion. Champions are winners. They conduct themselves with class and integrity. They are positive, humble and committed to doing things the right way.

There are no secret formulas or rub on creams to make you a champion. The princi-



ples for champions success and winning are the same now as they were centuries ago. There is no new magic that will make you a champion. The commitment to become a champion starts when you act like a champion. Act like you know you are a champion. Thanks to everyone for helping to make the 2003 conference a success.

You are all champions. Remember that a champion is someone who is always striving to be better. A champion is passionate, loves what they do and always wants to bring out that passion in everything they do.

her and her committee for their devoted service. Also accolades are in order for Diane Stokoe who has kept the ship on course this last year. She has overseen the restructuring of the constitution, pushed the writing of the organization's history and has worked hard to involve us all in standing up for the importance of our profession.

Now that we are back in our own centers and the conference dust has settled a little, I would like to focus on three important highlights of the conference.

First, Ratification of the UELMA Constitution

The ratification of the Constitution gives us a clear framework in which to support every school librarian and staff member. The Constitution defines the mission of UELMA which is to encourage the professional growth of school library media teachers and personnel in the State of Utah, and to support the enhancement and development of Utah school library and media centers by advancing standards of effective library programs, providing educational opportunities through conferences and workshops, facilitating communication and collaboration among organizations and individuals with an interest in Utah school libraries, and promoting the activities, purposes and dimensions of school library programs.

Second, Standards - Utah School Library Media Programs

During the conference the new Standards - Utah School Library Media Pro-

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President's Message, continued

(Continued from page 1)

grams booklet was unveiled which will serve as a guide to government leaders, school administrators and school library personnel. Representatives from the Utah State Office of Education and librarians from around the State have worked for several years to draft this document. Special thanks is given to Nan Allison, from Sanpete High School, who initiated the project and kept it moving forward.

It will now be presented to Utah legislators and school administrators. Each of your Principals should soon receive a copy of these standards. Hopefully the booklet will then make its way to your library. If one is not forthcoming soon, you can find a link to it on the UELMA

Web page. It is a guide, which if you will use it with your administrators, should be a point of common discussion for advancement and improvement of your library. It sets forth meaningful succinct standards and objectives that will enable you to set attainable goals for your center.

Third, Rural Training Grant Announced

At the conference session of the Utah Library Media Supervisors, announcement was made that an LSTA Training Grant was awarded to assist in the training of Rural library personnel. The details are being worked out at this time, but will ultimately provided workshop training in several locations for small rural district librarians. Possible topics for the sessions include collection development, reference cataloging, and library management and policy. This effort is intended to help rural librarians who are working for their State Li-

brary Media Certification.

In this world of extreme contrasts good things are happening for our libraries.

The trick is to keep everything in perspective and on balance.

As you see things that you would like UELMA to consider please contact me or

one of the executive board. We will be firming up plans for the coming year and your input and help will be very much appreciated. Do enjoy your summer and we will see you in the fall.

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Did you know?

Handouts and other items you might have missed from the recent spring conference are available at our website: uelma.org

Mary Casanova
 Guest Author and Luncheon Speaker
 at March 4, 2004 UELMA Conference
 by Diane Stokoe

If you are not yet familiar with Mary Casanova's young adult books now would be a good time to order several titles. *Moose Tracks* is about a boy trying to save an orphaned moose calf from poachers. *Wolf Shadow* pits two friends against each other over wolves. *RIOT* is based on an actual event that happened in Mary's community. *Stealing Thunder* is about a girl trying to save the appaloosa she loves from danger, no matter the cost. *Gates of Gold* is a historical novel from the "Girls of Many Lands" series. This story takes place in 1711 France. Twelve-year-old Cecil Revel is given an unexpected chance to serve at King Louis XIV's court at the Palace of Versailles. She finds life within the palace not as full of ease and elegance as she had imagined. Faced with a test of conscience, Cecil shows that behaving in a noble manner has little to do with one's place of birth. Mary's heroes and heroines are confronted with moral choices the resolution of which serves to build character. When it comes to writing for young adults, Mary is passionate about two things: writing books that matter and writing books that kids can't put down. Her stories are action packed and reflect her experience.

As a child Mary was restless, energetic and adventure-seeking. Growing up with seven brothers and two sisters she water-skied, sailed, camped and road her horse everywhere. Mary loves animals. In her youth one of her favorite pets was her Canadian Goose. Today Mary lives on the Minnesota-Canadian border where she sees eagles, otters, moose, black bear and wolves every day so of course her books reflect her love for animals.

We have heard some great comments about Mary as a presenter. A librarian in Arlington Texas wrote: "I was privileged to have Mary as a guest author at my school. I can honestly say that our visit with her was great and one of the best experiences I have had with an author in thirteen years."

Another from Rineland, Wisconsin writes: "Mary the author, the presenter and the person is an outstanding part of any event. If you enlist her talent, she will definitely be the shining star to make the event a huge success. She is person-

able, sincere, knowledgeable, flexible and entertaining... She left an unforgettable impression on us. The students still clamor to read her books and the teachers and staff still talk about the experience." Librarians in Utah look forward to welcoming this exciting new young author. Mary will present an a.m. and p.m. session and be our luncheon speaker next year.

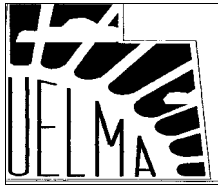
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Fall Conference 2003

As you plan your budget for next year, don't forget to budget for the UELMA Conferences. This year's Fall Conferences will be held on September 10th in Price, at College of Eastern Utah, and September 11th in Cedar City, at Southern Utah University.

Some of the sessions we are planning include: Library Update with Georgia Loutensock, Library Basics (training similar to the book repair class), College Prep, and what's new in children's and YA books.

Last year there was some confusion on the cost. If you attended UELMA Spring Conference in Ogden, the cost for the Fall Conference is \$10. If you did not attend Spring Conference, the cost is \$20. Last year's conferences were well attended, but we hope to see even more of you this year. Contacts: Lynnette Brady for Price Conference - 435-637-2463 or email bradyl@chs.carbon.k12.ut.us or Kathy Moore for Cedar City Conference at 435-628-7915 kathym@m.pvms.wash.k12.ut.us



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This has been a hectic year for all of us, but we have achieved two major goals. 1) The Media Literacy Kits have been distributed and are now being used in elementary schools. 2) The Standards document you have been hearing about for so long is finally finished and should be in every school and district. A special thank you to all those representing UELMA, USOE and ULMS (Utah

From the State Office
- - Georgia Loutensock

Library Media Supervisors) who have worked extremely hard to finish this project. ULMS has taken the responsibility to distribute the document to all district school board

members, while UELMA will present the Standards to members of the Legislature. These standards reflect and meet or exceed national and Northwest Accreditation goals. If you have not seen or received a copy please check with your administrator. They were sent to principals with the understanding that the document would be stored in the library. If you received your standards book without your administrator seeing it, please take the time to acquaint them with it. It can also be accessed from the library media web page. <http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/library/default.htm>
Thanks again for all your hard work. Have a great summer.