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# U E L M A

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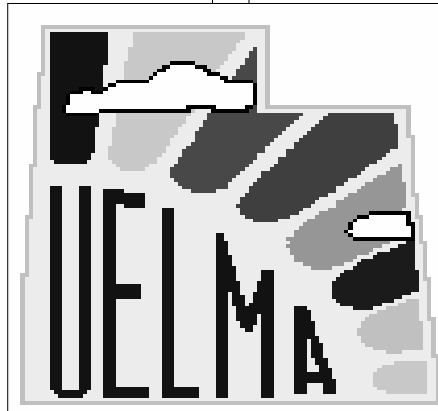
November 2005

## *President's Message* - - Nan Allsen

Yvon Chouinard is the founder and owner of Patagonia. Outside magazine recently published an article about him, which centered around his business ethics and the history of his success. I could not help relating what he talked about to what we do in our school libraries. Yvon made a conscience decision to place ethics and philosophy at the front of each decision that is made regarding his company. He considers his company to be the product and considers the people who are buying his products to be consumers. It was interesting that he quoted a Zen master as saying that if you want to change government, you have to aim at changing the corporation; if you want to change the corporation, you first must change the consumer. This was a revelation because he realized that he too was a consumer and that he needed to change as well.

We as librarians are part of a constantly changing environment. It is our responsibility to instigate change within our own libraries in order to prepare students to face the information age with confidence. Do you consider your students consumers of information? I hope so. They are truly consumers and we are the corporation that supplies their demands. So if we are applying the Zen master's philosophy then we cannot look to change the government by ourselves, we must look to make significant and impacting changes on an individual library level. The library is the product and it doesn't matter if we are "selling" information or library books for research. Our missions and philosophy

for our individual libraries must reflect the idea that we are combating complacency and we are making change and progress our favorite allie. We work together as an association with a different agenda, but you as school librarians and staff make changes that will change the way we are perceived by the other members of the teaching profession. I encourage you to look at your mission statements and your professional ethics and consider changes that will produce smarter and happier consumers, your students.



## **Service Project** **Spring '05 Conference** —Sheryl Burton

Following our service project last year, over 300 books were donated to the Book Exchange Program at the University Neighborhood Partners in Salt Lake City. Thank you to everyone who generously donated books, librarians and vendors alike. A special thank you goes to **Marilyn Jensen's students at Spring Creek Middle School** in Providence for donating new books that the students read and reviewed. All donated cash was used to purchase new books in Spanish for students to select. Thanks for making our service project a success!

For more information about the Book Exchange Program visit the UNP website:

[http://www.partners.utah.edu/  
bookexchangeprogram.htm](http://www.partners.utah.edu/bookexchangeprogram.htm)

**We will have another service project this year, so start saving those books. Details will be in the January Newsletter.**

## Fall UELMA Conference Highlights

*"My great passion in life is my husband. For most of our 46 years of married life his last view of me before he falls asleep at night is my back, curved to catch the glow from my reading lamp that I try to position so he doesn't feel like he is sleeping under a hospital operating light. He is a good, good man. He knew from the beginning that he would be sharing me with many men. . . and women of every age, color, race and ethnic background. He knew I would be traveling the globe without him. . . and doing amazing things that didn't require one to be slim, trim, or blonde. So welcome to my second greatest passion. . . reading."*

Such was the beginning of a very entertaining and enlightening keynote address by Barbara Shakespeare at the Southern Region Fall UELMA conference at Southern Utah University, September 15. Mrs. Shakespeare recently returned from teaching at the Women's University in Beijing, China. Her address focused on her experiences teaching literature to students in China and gave a heartwarming look at the positive role of librarians.

Mrs. Shakespeare shared eight points learned from years of being a teacher and librarian:

1) Nothing will ever take the place of a book in the hand. . . I like to read the book first and then hear it on tape.

2) Reading for pleasure should come first. Then the learning seems easier.

3) Don't put out something you don't want the students to read. A student will find it just like a child can find the chocolate bars you hid in the washing machine.

4) When I go to the library I look for the newest books first. Then I look at anything that is propped up, standing up or being displayed as 'the book that will blow your socks off.'

5) Cultivate a reading voice that is too inter-

esting to fall asleep to.

6) Be a reader yourself. There is something about the words, "I loved this! It was wonderful, intriguing. I couldn't put it down. I read all night. Couldn't get the dishes done or the beds made." I very seldom ever recommend a book I haven't read myself.

7) Don't get excited if a book is missing. What good is a book on a shelf?

8) You don't own the books!! I know it's your job to catalog, put away, sign in, sign out, repair, keep tabs on, locate and replace. And it's a big job. My favorite librarian of all time made every child feel that he/she had stock in the library and that the magical world of books was just waiting to be discovered and carried away. My most unfavorite librarian was a grouch and never wanted to know what I was reading or whether I liked it.

The conference was well attended and featured a well rounded agenda of classes. Workshops focused on some of the latest in excellent children's literature, magical ideas for read aloud sessions, helps for cataloguing and improving collections, suggestions for citing resources and raising test scores with library skills, and an introduction to emedia.

Jean Truman, chair, and Anne Curtis, of the committee, thank SUU for the use of their facility without charge, made possible by a partnership with SUU Library, and express appreciation to the vendors who underwrite much of the cost and make the conference possible. They also extend a thank you to those who returned their evaluation sheets, saying all suggestions are being evaluated to make next year's conference better than ever.

### Southeastern Regional Conference

The UELMA Southeastern Regional Conference was held at the College of Eastern Utah, September 14<sup>th</sup> in Price. The conference had a good cross section of library media personnel from the Eastern part of the state. Workshops focused on collection management and development, an introduction to e-media, and what's new with Pioneer.

Larry Jeppesen, chair, would like to express special appreciation to **Lynnette Brady of Carbon High School** for helping with arrangements and equipment. We appreciate those that attended and presented. We also express appreciation to the vendors who underwrite much of the cost and make the conference possible.

*Utah Author Profile:*  
 Dr. Eric G. Swedin  
**The Killing of Greybird**

A long-time resident of South Weber, Eric Swedin is currently serving on the faculty of Weber State University. He holds degrees in Computer Science and the History of Science and Technology. Not surprisingly, Dr. Swedin is better known for his non-fiction works which include The Life Story of a Technology, Healing Souls: Psychotherapy in the Latter-day Saint Community, and many others. For a complete bibliography, go to <http://rffutah.org/authors>. His current novel, The Killing of Greybird is an historical mystery. The novel's conflict is drawn on the larger canvas of the Blackhawk War. The novel offers a well-paced mystery whose characters and setting are true to the times.

Eric is a "self-taught" writer. He began writing fiction while he was in high school. He and a friend wrote and exchanged stories, sometimes collaborating. His friend, according to Eric, was a much better writer while Eric claims he didn't have the first idea what he was doing.

He said each project was not easy, but he persevered. He attributes his struggles with writing as the reason he kept at the craft, trying to improve enough to see his work published. His friend, also a teacher, continues to write as a hobby, while Eric has expanded his writing into a vocation, as well as second career.

The Killing of Greybird was actually a project that grew from research for a non-fiction book. Eric's initial interest was in writing a history of the Blackhawk War. His plans changed when another author released a work similar to what he had planned. Eric read the other author's book and found that "the book was done comprehensively and in great detail, far better than I could do it." The history project was set aside, but not the interest in that period in Utah's past. Eventually, he decided to write a fictional account set during that time. He was interested in a closer, more intimate

examination of events. The Killing of Greybird was the end result - a mystery that spans only a few months in the lives of relatively few people.

By virtue of the setting and characters for his mystery, Eric found that he had created some unique marketing challenges for himself. He found that both readers and publishers, inside and outside Utah, have certain expectations regarding books with LDS characters.

Swedin was interested in a closer, more intimate examination of events. The Killing of Greybird was the end result - a mystery that spans only a few months in the lives of relatively few people.

His novel did not fulfill those expectations, even though the characters were portrayed in a positive manner, which led him to signing with Cedar Fort Press.

Eric is currently working on multiple writing projects, including a non-fiction project related to science fiction for Tor publishing. For Eric, science fiction and history are very much alike in that they must both "stay true to the time."

In closing, he offers one observation. "I wish more people would read."

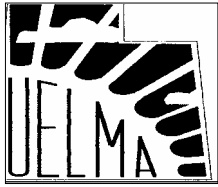
<b>March 2, 2006 UELMA Conference Preview Davis Conference Center</b> <i>Progressing Towards Standards - With Joy in the Journey</i>	
<b>TOPIC STRANDS and INTEREST LEVELS</b>	
<b>A. Books, Authors, Reading Programs, Print Resources</b>	<b>C. The Core Literacies, Teaching Practices</b>
Beehive Book Awards - (Lower Grades)	Best Practices in Teaching Media Literacy (Lower Grades)
Beehive Book Awards - (Upper Grades)	Teaching Big 6 for Mini Kids with Picture Bks (Lower Grades)
Process Drama (Lower Grades)	Pioneer Celebration (Lower Grades)
50 Books in 50 Minutes (Lower Grades)	Pioneer Celebration (Lower Grades)
Storytelling in the Library - Rafe Martin (All)	5 Minute Big 6 Lessons (Upper Grades)
Author's Story - Shannon Hale (All)	Raising Test Scores (Upper Grades)
Insider's Look At Publishing (All)	NASA Online (All)
Reader's Advisory (Upper Grades)	ITV: Developing Reading Skills (Lower Grades)
Story Time With Special Effects (Lower Grades)	Teaching With Love and Logic (All)
Reading Groups: Tolkien, Star Wars and More (All)	Literacies: A New View of the Big Picture (All)
Rare Books (All)	<b>D. LMC: Management, Programs, Services</b>
<b>B. Technology Applications, AV &amp; Electronic Resources</b>	Making Your Center the Center (All)
Survey Your Patrons: Zoomerang and UTIPS (All)	Collection Development (All)
Publishing Your Library News (All)	Questions Anyone? (All)
ITV: Developing Reading Skills (Lower Grades)	Music in The Library (All) - Poster Session
Pioneer Celebration (Lower Grades)	Arts and Crafts in the Library (All)
Pioneer Celebration (Upper Grades)	<b>E. Professional &amp; Personal Development</b>
NASA Online (All)	ULMS District Supervisors ( By Invitation)
	Experiences of a Nationally Certified Teacher (All)
	Stress Relief for the Librarian (All)

**Lower** = Grades Pre K - 7, Pre-School, Elementary School or Middle School  
**Upper** = Grades 5 - 12, Middle School, Junior High or High School **All** = Lower or Upper

### Other conferences of interest to our readers.....

The **UCET conference** this year will be held March 10-11, 2006 at South Hills Middle School, 13508 S. 4000 W., Riverton, UT 84065. If you're interested, you can get more details on their web site at [HTTP://www.ucet.org](http://www.ucet.org). They are still working on their web site, so all the links and such are not activated yet, but you can get all the conference info there.

Utah Library Association, our sister organization for public libraries, is enthusiastically preparing for its annual conference even as we prepare for ours. The 2006 **ULA conference, When Boundaries Blur: Creating synergy in a time of transformation**, will be held May 17-19 at Dixie Conference Center in St. George. UELMA members are welcome to register and attend. For more information on the ULA conference go to <http://www.ula.org/conference/2006conf/conf.html>.



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colleagues

In This Issue...      ...March Conference Topics...      ....Award Nominations....      ..Author Eric Swedin.....

**Core - Standards - Authors - Storytelling - Books - Technology - LMC Management - Professional Development - So many choices, so little time!**

A copy of the topic strands planned for the upcoming conference is located inside this newsletter. The good news is that the schedule for the UELMA 2006 Conference is promising to offer many worthwhile sessions. A The bad news is that you won't be able to attend all the sessions you desire. This is the joy and frustration of attending conferences of

*With Joy in the Journey*  
What to expect at  
the 2006 conference

this type. You might suggest that colleagues in your district or organization volunteer to attend specific sessions and then share a summary of that session at the next group training so that all members can benefit. Other districts or organizations choose to allow participants to each go his own way. Another way to solve the dilemma of making a decision is to plan to attend the spring conference each year because favorite sessions or presenters are often invited back by popular demand as is the case this year. Some great new suggestions for sessions have been incorporated into the schedule this year; other ideas we will pass on to the chair of the 2007 conference. Our conference committee is attempting to schedule sufficient sessions to meet the needs of all participants. With an average ratio of 5 elementary to 4 secondary participants a few elementary sessions will be duplicated or held in larger rooms. Look for a more complete schedule in the next newsletter or online at <http://uelma.org> Plan now to attend. You won't want to miss out.