



## Spring luncheon in Tucson celebrates 25 years of Libraries, Ltd. Author and Illustrator Awards

On Saturday, March 15, 2008, former President Elena d'Autremont once again graciously hosted the annual luncheon among blooming citrus and towering mesquite trees at her lovely Territorial home in Tucson. Honored guests were the 2007 recipient the **Judy Goddard Award for Children's Literature**, Marjorie Sharmat, and five previous recipients of the Award, Byrd Baylor, Ron Himler, Conrad Storad, Sylvia Long, and Joan Sandin.



Ron Himler, and 2007 Judy Goddard Award for Children's Literature award winner Marjorie Sharmat with husband, Mitchell.



Award winning children's author, Conrad Storad

After a buffet lunch, current President Ellinor Angel welcomed the 45 guests, including members and librarians from various parts of the state and also some local writers who are members of the "South of the Gila Gang." After a brief history of Libraries Ltd. and the Arizona Children's Author Awards (which we co-sponsor with the AzLA.) Ellinor introduced Mary Ahearn Lee, representing the Children's Literature Award Committee, who presented the 2007 Award to Marjorie Sharmat, attending with her husband and coauthor Mitchell Sharmat.



Byrd Baylor autographs a copy of one of her books for fellow Libraries, Ltd. award-winning author, Ron Himler.



Author and storyteller Joan Sandin as Eulalia Bourne.

Joan Sandin appeared in the guise of **Eulalia Bourne**, the first recipient of the **Arizona Author Award**, who had inspired her book **Coyote School News**, which was Governor Janet Napolitano's choice for a book gift to 4<sup>th</sup> graders in 2006.

Each of the previous recipients were introduced and told us something about their current work. **Sylvia Long** has recently illustrated some books on natural history for children, including the topics of eggs, seeds and butterflies. **Conrad Storad** talked enthusiastically about his visits to schools, now up to 750! He has now published 24 books for children and is working on five more. **Byrd Baylor** talked about her experiences offering help to

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## **ANNUAL LUNCHEON, *cont'd from front page***

immigrants, often sick from their dangerous journey, as they passed by her house in Arivaca. She talked about her simple lifestyle there, living “off the grid,” without computers or electricity.

**Ron Himler**, now with over 150 children’s books, told about a very moving children’s book he had just illustrated concerning a Vietnamese child’s searing wartime experience.

Society business followed with the report of Phoenix activities given by Jeanette Daane, the Tucson report by Marsie Habib (see below). Marsie introduced **Bruce Carter**, the coordinator of the **Kingman Area Books Are Magic Festival**, a new project supported by **Libraries Ltd.** Bruce told us about the festival, celebrating its second year. **Elena d’Autremont**, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the new slate of officers and board members for next year. The meeting concluded with thanks to all who had helped make 2007 such a memorable year for Libraries, Ltd. and the communities we serve.



*Previous Judy Goddard Award recipient, Sylvia Long, addresses the group at annual luncheon.*

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## **Tucson / Southern AZ Report**

*by Marsie Habib*

The Southern Branch of Libraries Ltd. has had another productive year. We recently started to support author visits to schools. **Susan Lowell and Joan Sandin** are two authors sponsored in the past. In April we sponsored another **Judy Goddard award winning author, Conrad Storad**, to visit **Richey Elementary** in TUSD. In May we sponsored a visit by **Matthew Henry Hall, author of Phoebe and Chub, to Manzanita Elementary School in Kingman** to conduct writing workshops as part of the **Kingman Books Are Magic Festival** called **KABAM!**

Another new project is our support of the intergenerational day-care program for preschoolers and seniors at **Casa de Esperanza in Green Valley**. Member **Barbara Salazar** is coordinating purchases for their library of books with multigenerational stories as well as songs and nursery rhymes. Casa De Esperanza invited our group to visit them in April and we had an opportunity to see their great program in action.

With the help of member **Marilyn Ludwig**, we continue to support, through magazine donations, a number of different institutions serving a wide age range. These include the **Santa Cruz County Boys and Girls Club in Nogales, Open Inn, House of Neighborly Service, New Beginnings, Tucson Center for Women and Children, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Parent Connection, Las Familias, Merrilac Lodge, Casa Crianza, Holsclaw YMCA after school program, Boys and Girls Clubs in Tucson, Arizona Children’s Home, the Arizona Children’s Association, the Old Pascua Neighborhood Center, and Casa De Esperanza in Green Valley.**

We continue our donations for the “**Reading at Home Program**” coordinated by member **Marsie Habib** in several **PACE Pre-School classrooms in TUSD**. We help to buy books for classroom libraries so that the children and families may check them out and read together at home.

We have also continued our support of a conservation and natural history project at **Robles Elementary School in the Altar Valley School District** southwest of Tucson. In November 2007, six members of our group visited the school and saw students and parents working together on the creation of a habitat for a desert tortoise. We donated a selection of **Judy Goddard Award** winning books to the library. In March 2008, **Ellinor Angel** visited the school for **Read Across America Day** and read stories to two delightful Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup>. Grade classrooms.

**Elena d’Autremont** continues to be the coordinator of the “**Reading Is Fundamental**” Programs of the **Pascua Yaqui** tribe at **Richey, Johnson, and Lawrence Elementary Schools and at Hohokam Middle School**. The program is in its 20<sup>th</sup> successful year of operation. More than 4,000 books reach the hands of the students every year. We look forward to next year and hope that we will be as fruitful as this year.

# Phoenix Report

by Jeanette Daane

Four projects were described to the members and guests of Libraries Ltd., assembled on March 15, 2008. Once again it demonstrated the organization's ongoing commitment to books and reading for the children of Arizona.

Red Mountain High School's Club RIF (Reading is Fundamental) is in its 20<sup>th</sup> year and going strong. The school year began with an all school assembly with Attorney General Terry Goddard as special guest. Sixty teens tutored students at Headstart, Salk Elementary and Red Mountain three times every week following. In December over 500 parents and children attended the Kid RIF Day and each child received a book to keep for his or her own. Books were distributed at Mesa Family Emergency Center, St. Peter Indian Mission School, Red Mountain and Salk Elementary. Pat Heck tells us that 1800 high school students signed up to show their support of literacy. This is an exceptional program that earns our grant appropriation.

The Santa Fe Parent, Teacher, Student Association provides a new paperback book for each student on his or her birthday. A volunteer from PTSA visits every classroom each month and each child who celebrates a birthday that month receives a book along with the happy birthday song. The children with summer birthdays are given their books prior to summer break. Santa Fe in Peoria is a Title I school and the need for books in the home is addressed through this program.



**Singers at St. Peter Indian Mission School on the Gila River Reservation visited Red Mountain High School to share their culture. Red Mountain High has held book distributions for the 200 students at this mission school for the past 18 years.**



**Jeanette Daane experiences the joy of reading with the children of Sunshine Acres in Mesa, Arizona.**

Sunshine Acres is a residential home for children located in East Mesa. A grant provided the purchase of books for each child and their room collection. Marcia Melton, Cindy Trego, and Jeanette Daane presented the books on March 24, 2008. Cindy made it possible for treats from Mimi's Café to add to the festive occasion. Jeanette Daane told a story and Marcia Melton took pictures of the happy students.

Herrera Elementary School received a grant to purchase books for their Author Day. This year Monica Brown was the author who visited and held workshops in May. The school serves 760 students, grades K-8.

## Past Winners of the Judy Goddard Award

### Children's Book Award

- 2008 S.D.Nelson  
2007 Marjorie Weiman Sharmat  
2006 Barbara Park  
2005 Alice McLerran  
2004 Joan Sandin  
2003 Jean Ekman Adams  
2002 Sylvia Long  
2001 Conrad Storar  
2000 Ruth Covault  
1999 Joyce Rossi  
1998 Jan Romero Stevens  
1997 Ron Himler  
1996 Baje Whitehorne  
1995 Joe Hayes & Kay Sather  
1994 Susan Lowell  
1993 Shonto Begay  
1992 Ken Buchanan  
1991 Michael Lacapa  
1990 Gisela and E. Wesley  
Jernigan  
1989 Elizabeth Polingaysi  
Qoyawayma (Elizabeth Q. White)  
1988 Betty Baker  
1987 Lynn Gessner  
1986 Don Schellie  
1985 Byrd Baylor  
1984 Ann Nolan Clark  
1983 Eulalia Bourne

### Young Adult Award

- 2008 Stephenie Meyer  
2007 Laura Resau  
2006 Ann Jaramillo  
2005 Gary Soto  
2004 Fran Leeper Buss  
2003 Valerie Hobbs  
2002 Pete Hautman  
2001 Pam Munoz Ryan  
2000 Brian Burks  
1999 Will Hobbs  
1998 Suzanne Pierson Ellison  
1997 Helen Hughes Vick

## In Memoriam

Libraries, Ltd. lost two valuable members over the past year whose friendship and commitment will be greatly missed, not only by our organization, but by the communities they served and the families they loved.

Helen Littlefield, a former Board member of Libraries, Ltd., passed away on Dec. 25, 2007, which was her 86th birthday. Helen provided books and magazines to children at the Casa Esperanza Day Care Center and the Nogales Boys and Girls Club. She lived for many years in Nogales, AZ, where she worked for a title company and researched land records of ranches in the border counties. Barbara Salazar, who took over for Helen after her health failed, is now co-ordinating an intergenerational story hour at Casa Esperanza which is also an adult day care center. Seniors there read stories to the children and have tea parties and other celebrations.

Rosemary O'Malley Spaulding was born Oct 31, 1918, in Geneva, NY, a small town in upstate NY. After graduating from high school there she attended Trinity College in Washington, DC, for two years. She came home to graduate from a small liberal arts college, William Smith with a B.A. in German.

In 1951 she moved to Arizona for her daughter's relief from bronchitis and asthma. She stayed and in 1955 returned to the UA to get her teaching certificate. In 1956 she began her teaching career at Robison Elementary School where she taught 4th and 5th grades for the next 25 years. She retired in May of 1981.

She had an affinity with children and a way of dealing with them that (usually) prevented discipline problems. She read to her classes daily--all the childhood classics appropriate to their age. She believed strongly in helping children to learn to read and to appreciate the world of books. She herself was a voracious reader and finished the sequel to the Kite Runner shortly before her stroke last December.

Always looking for new organizations which might need books, over twenty institutions were introduced to our organization through her efforts. She was active in recruiting new members, one of which was her daughter, who she recruited when she heard her speak about reading aloud to children at a workshop for parents.

Rosemary, who left us on July 6, 2008, was an active member of Libraries Ltd. for over 24 years. Her work was tireless. She added a great depth to Libraries Ltd. and we will sorely miss her.

What a marvelous legacy for Libraries, Ltd. left by these two dedicated, long-time members.

*Thank you to Rosalee Spalding, daughter of Rosemary Spalding and retired Corona del Sol High School librarian, for her assistance in compiling this information.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*We are grateful for support from so many friends.*

Irene Ahearn  
Ellinor Angel  
Cicely Angleton  
Elena d'Autremont  
Peggy & Bill Braden (in memory of Judy Goddard)  
Victoria Congdon  
Priscilla Fox  
Monica Goddard  
Marsie Habib  
Nancy Henrikson  
Karyl Gonzales  
Ann Jackson  
Land America Foundation (Helen Littlefield match)  
Mary Ahearn Lee  
Steve Levitan (in honor of Monica Goddard)  
Marilyn Ludwig  
Alice Mahoney  
Mary Lucille Moore  
Susan & Chuck Ott  
Margaret Podlich  
Eleanor Robb  
Maude Shingler  
Barbara Smith  
Eliot Spalding Foundation  
Mildred Starrett  
Sally Ann Thompson  
Mary E. Wilson

In particular we thank the Spalding Foundation for their continued generous support.

## MEMBERSHIP

Please help keep our membership list current. We appreciate donations to help support our work, but even if you do not donate at this time, indicate your interest and we will gladly send you the newsletter. Donations and contact information (including email addresses) may be mailed to: Libraries, Ltd., P.O. Box 57013, Tucson, AZ 85732.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Hold these Dates!*

The AzLA Author Award Luncheon will be held Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Renaissance Hotel, Scottsdale. The LL Board will meet in Casa Grande at noon on Saturday, January 24, 2009. The first Tucson Festival of Books will be held March 13-15 on the University of Arizona campus. The LL Spring 2009 Luncheon will be in Phoenix on Saturday, April 4, 2009.

## Libraries Ltd. 2008 Report of the Nominating Committee

Respectfully submitted by the  
Nominating Committee members:  
Elena d'Autremont, Marcia Melton, &  
Marsie Habib

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