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"Lopay City of Dust": Miscellany

Folder 3 of 3

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by July 18?

The Board of the UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

presents the

MORRIS S. ROSENBLATT AWARD to

Yoshiko Uchida

for the best general interest article of the year appearing in Utah Historical Quarterly.

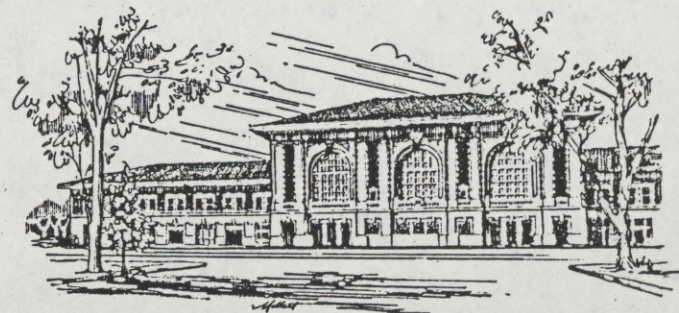
(This award, made in memory of Morris S. Rosenblatt for his lifelong interest in and devotion to Utah history, was made possible by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Goodman.)

Awarded at the annual meeting of the Society

August 22, 1981
DATE

Milton C. Moore
PRESIDENT

Melvin T. Smith
DIRECTOR



UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Summer's Always Fun, Even When Your Tomtroller Won't Catch a Fish!

Peewees, tomtrollers, and alleys sound like possible names for fishing lures. But *trolling* or *hoisting* with these won't help you catch something edible, as any *dabster* could tell you. And should you be tempted to think of *dabsters* as mere dabblers, be assured that, above all, a *dabster* knows how to *knuckle down*!

If you knew that the *dabster* carried *steelies*, *agates*, and at least one *taw* in his pocket, it would be easier to guess that all these terms refer to the ancient game of marbles — a summer pastime of generations of boys, girls, and adults, too.

Marbles is really thousands of different games played for thousands of years in places as far apart as Africa, Greece, and Mexico. Marbles are made of many materials, including glass, agate, wood, baked clay, plastic, obsidian, onyx, and the knucklebones of sheep. Bowling, golf, billiards, Chinese checkers, and pinball might all trace their genealogy to marbles.

Conquering Roman legions took marbles with them to Britain, among other places, where the game caught on. The English once celebrated Good Friday as Marbles Day, and English mar-

bles games traveled around the world wherever the British flag was planted.

In the United States games such as Taws, Cherry Put, Boss-Out, and Lag were played by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and John Quincy Adams. And Abraham Lincoln was supposedly an expert at Old Bowler. Of course, marbles made their way west in the pockets of pioneer boys.

The best-known marbles game today is Ringer in which thirteen marbles are laid out in the form of a cross in the center of a ten-foot ring. Two shooters (once called *dabsters*) knuckle down at the edge of the ring, and the first to knock out seven marbles wins. Ringer is the official game of the National Marbles Tournament played annually at Wildwood-by-the-Sea, New Jersey.

In 1948 the National Marbles Tournament was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and held in Salt Lake City at the Fairgrounds Coliseum. According to the VFW, the forty-one boys gathered in Utah represented the cream of marbles players, some five million of them, who had competed in earlier elimination rounds. The play took place at night to avoid disrupting local school schedules. Visiting boys toured scenic and historic areas and places like Lagoon and Sunset Beach during the day.

When the tournament was over, fourteen-year-old Eugene Alvord, the Salt Lake City and Utah champion, had added the national title to his wins. So did Utah come to merit at least a footnote in the long history of marbles.

(A *tomtroller*, incidentally, is a very large taw or shooter, and *trolling* and *hoisting* are ways of projecting marbles.)





Society volunteer Laura Vellenga puts the finishing touches on her photograph display for the annual meeting. Display can be seen at the D&RG depot through September.

Grand Opening a Success

The 29th Annual Meeting and Grand Opening events at the Utah State Historical Society were successfully held in August. Participants enjoyed numerous activities, including tours, films, workshops, the annual awards banquet (see related article), and Grand Opening festivities.

An especially popular session at the annual meeting was a roundtable discussion held by local history groups. June McNulty of the Tintic Historical Society, LaVora Kofford of the Castle Valley Historical Society, Frances Cunningham of the Carbon County Historical Society, and Joseph Francis of the Morgan County Historical Society led the session of special interest to local history enthusiasts. Ideas on historic tours, publishing a local history, getting local history into the public schools, and organizing a local historical society were discussed at length.

Grand Opening events were included throughout this year's annual meeting. At the Friday morning ceremony, Governor Scott Matheson officially dedicated the Denver & Rio Grande Depot as the Historical Society's new home. On Saturday evening a buffet dinner and variety of entertainment concluded the program.

The Utah Folklore Society presented an interesting session focusing on the state's unique folklore. Topics discussed included women in Utah legends and folklore of Utah Republicans. Polygamy and the law and divorce in Utah were topics discussed in a session sponsored by the Utah Women's History Association. Fascinating archaeological papers on investigations at Lott's Cabin, Recapture Wash, and Nawthis Village were presented Friday evening. Museum workshops and the annual history session were featured on Saturday.

Stanford J. Layton, coordinator of publications and public information for the Historical Society, presented the keynote address, "Sagebrush Rebellions in Utah: A Landed Tradition."

Annual Awards Announced

At the annual awards banquet on Saturday, August 22, members of the Board of State History presented awards to several deserving individuals and organizations in recognition of their contributions to the Historical Society and to the state.

L.V. McNeely, a retired professional photographer who has served the Historical Society for years with his photographic skills, received an Honorary Life Membership to the Society in recognition of his dedication and professionalism.

The Dale L. Morgan Award for the best scholarly article appearing in *Utah Historical Quarterly* during the past year went to Richard H. Jackson for his article "Utah's Harsh Lands, Hearth of Greatness." Yoshiko Uchida, author of "Topaz, City of Dust," received the Morris S. Rosenblatt Award for the best general interest article appearing in the *Quarterly*.

Service awards were presented to Harold Carpenter, for his volunteer work in cataloging slides for the preservation office; LaRue Farrer and Marjorie Hewitt for their volunteer work in the Society's bookstore; and John James, Jr., for his countless hours of volunteer work in the history library since his retirement as librarian in 1972.

The Utah Heritage Foundation received a Preservation Award for their exemplary work in historic preservation, including their school education programs, historic tours, support of national legislation and local ordinances, and successful volunteer program.

Marc Ferguson, an elementary school teacher in Salt Lake City, was given a Teacher Award for developing a packet for teachers to assist them in planning field trips oriented toward the city's history. Margo Sorgman, professor of education at the University of Utah, was also honored with a Teacher Award for her extensive involvement in upgrading the quality of public education in the state of Utah.

The Moab Lions Club was recognized with a Preservation Award for their efforts to document and preserve the Pinhook Battleground Site near Castle Valley in Grand County.

The *Utah Holiday*/Utah State Historical Society Historic Preservation Awards, announced in the last issue of the *Newsletter*, were also presented at the awards banquet.

Depot Tours • 533-7037

MORRIS S. ROSENBLATT AWARD
Yoshiko Uchida

The Morris Rosenblatt Award is given annually to the author of the best general interest article appearing in Utah Historical Quarterly during the past year. It is given with a \$100 honorarium made possible by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Goodman, and is selected on the basis of balloting by the Quarterly's editorial staff and board of editors. This year's winning author has provided a compelling first-person reminiscence of her incarceration at the Topaz internment camp near Delta, Utah, during the early years of World War II. Her article is free of recrimination but includes all the pathos, drama, and haunting questions that we have come to associate with that historical experience. It reflects the superior writing, development, and human interest that have become the hallmark of the Morris Rosenblatt Award. The author resides in Berkeley, California, and so is unable to be with us today, but for her superior article, "Topaz, City of Dust" the Board of State History is pleased to present the 1981 Morris Rosenblatt Award to Yoshiko Uchida.

Hearing Set on Redistricting Plan

A hearing to elicit public comment on congressional redistricting plans will be held Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Three plans are being considered by the Utah Reapportionment Advisory Committee, including one that would include Salt Lake County residents in all three districts. No plan escapes splitting at least some municipality among districts.

The Legislature, which has statutory authority to redistrict, is working separately from the advisory committee, which was appointed by the governor.

One of the commission's proposals would form a northern congressional district from all counties north of Salt Lake County, stretching from Box Elder County through Summit and Wasatch to encompass the Uintah Basin counties.

A new southern congressional district would include all other counties south of Salt Lake County, including Tooele County.

Under this plan, about 45,000 Salt Lake City residents would be attached to the northern congressional district. The incumbent Congressman is James V. Hansen, Farmington.

The remaining Salt Lake City residents would find themselves in a congressional district composed of the middle section of the county. Their current representative is Dan Marriott.

Another plan would form a congressional district of counties north of Salt Lake County, connecting to the Uintah Basin counties and stretching through southeastern counties. It would run from Box Elder County to San Juan County.

The bulk of Salt Lake County would be another congressional district and all the southwest counties — from Tooele, Utah and Wasatch counties — would be the third district. About 132,000 Salt Lake County residents would be included.

The third variation would create a northern district encompassing Tooele and Box Elder counties on the west and running through the Uintah Basin counties and Caron County on the east. The third congressional district would include Utah County and all other counties south, and 132,000 Salt Lake County residents.

The hearings are preparatory to making recommendations to the governor in a report by September.

Historical Society Confers Honors

Several volunteers and two educators were honored for their service to history during the recent annual awards banquet of the Utah State Historical Society.

Service awards were presented to volunteers John W. James Jr., LaRue Farrer, Marjorie Hewitt, all Salt Lake City, and Harold Carpenter, Sandy.

Marc Ferguson, a teacher at Butler Elementary School, was given an award for his historic sites field trip guide, and Margo Sorman, University of Utah Department of Education, was honored for promoting professionalism in teaching social studies.

Preservation Awards

Preservation awards were given to the Utah Heritage Foundation and to the Moab Lions Club for its documentation and preservation of the Pinhook Battleground site near Castle Valley in Grand County.

Two \$100 honorariums were presented to authors of scholarly articles published by the Utah Historical Quarterly.

Richard Jackson, professor of geography at Brigham Young University, received the Dale L. Morgan award for "Utah's Harsh Lands: Hearth of Greatness."

The Morris S. Rosenb-

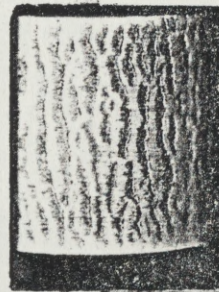
latt Award was given to Yoshiko Uchida, Berkeley, Calif., for a first-person reminiscence, "Topaz, City of Dust."

Home Restoration

Several other Utahns received 1981 historical preservation awards. They included David G. Bigda, Salt Lake City, and Wynn and Lois

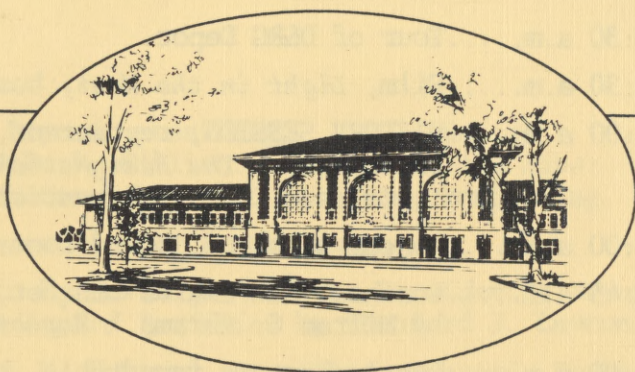
Price, Logan, for excellence in residential restoration/renovation; Kent S. Topham, Salt Lake City, residential adaptive reuse; Leonard Grassli, Salt Lake City, commercial rehabilitation; Elizabeth Montague, Allen Roberts and Per Goss, Salt Lake City, research.

Citations for outstanding preservation efforts went to Debby Goates for preservation of the Wellsville Tabernacle; Salt Lake City Redevelopment Agency; East Liberty Park Neighborhood and Jack Churchill and Phillip Condra, Salt Lake City, for craftsmanship.



Utah State Historical Society

29th Annual Meeting



*FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1981
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1981*

*Denver & Rio Grande Depot
300 Rio Grande
Salt Lake City, UT 84101*

Friday, August 21

- 9:00 a.m. Official opening of Society's new home, lobby, D&RG Depot. Milton C. Abrams, presiding.
- 10:00 a.m. Tour of D&RG Depot.
- 10:00 a.m. Slide-tape presentations, board room, D&RG Depot. *Sanpete: Aspects of Man, Settlement, and Agriculture and Immigrant and Landscape in Carbon County* by Gary B. Peterson.
- 11:00 a.m. Walking tour and picnic lunch (to begin at D&RG Depot and end at Pioneer Park).
- 1:30 p.m. FOLKLORE SESSION, lobby, D&RG Depot. Tom Carter, presiding. *Images of Women in Utah Legends* by Elaine Thatcher. *Performance and the Confirmation of Testimony in Mormon Personal Experience Narratives* by John Durham Peters. *Folklore of Utah Republicans* by David Walden.
- 3:30 p.m. WOMEN'S HISTORY SESSION, lobby, D&RG Depot. John R. Sillito, presiding. *History and Histrionics: Divorce in Utah* by Carol Madsen. *Polygamy and the Law: The Legal Status of Polygamous Wives after the Manifesto* by Lois Kelly. Jessie L. Embry, responding.
- 5:00 p.m. Association of Utah Historians meeting, classroom, D&RG Depot (for AUH members).
- 6:00 p.m. Film, *Light in the West*, board room, D&RG Depot.
- 7:15 p.m. ANTIQUITIES SESSION, board room, D&RG Depot. David B. Madsen, presiding. *Historic Archaeology at Lott's Cabin* by Bruce Hawkins. *Salvage Archaeology in Recapture Wash* by Asa Nielson. *Fremont Archaeology at Nawthis Village* by Duncan Metcalf.

Saturday, August 22

- 8:30 a.m. Tour of D&RG Depot.
- 8:30 a.m. Film, *Light in the West*, board room, D&RG Depot.
- 10:00 a.m. HISTORY SESSION, restaurant, D&RG Depot. Stanford J. Layton, presiding. *A Question of Conscience: The Resignation of Bishop Paul Jones* by John R. Sillito. *Hornets in the Hive: Socialists in Early Twentieth-century Utah* by John S. McCormick. Ross Peterson, responding.
- 10:00 a.m. Museum workshop, board room, D&RG Depot. *Textile Conservation* by Brook Bowman.
- 11:45 a.m. Luncheon and awards banquet, lobby, D&RG Depot. Melvin T. Smith, presiding. *President's Report* by Milton C. Abrams. *Sagebrush Rebellions in Utah: A Landed Tradition* by Stanford J. Layton.
- 2:00 p.m. Local chapters roundtable, board room, D&RG Depot. Jay M. Haymond, presiding. *Historic Tours* by June McNulty. *Publishing a Local History* by LaVora Kofford. *Getting Local History into the Public Schools* by Frances Cunningham. *Organizing a Local Historical Society* by Joseph Francis.
- 2:00 p.m. Museum workshop, library, D&RG Depot. *Exhibit Planning* by Ann Brookhyser and Dennis Chapman.
- 3:30 p.m. Bus tour (to leave from D&RG Depot, visit historic sites in Salt Lake City, and return).
- 3:45 p.m. Film, *Light in the West*, board room, D&RG Depot.
- 5:00 p.m. Slide show, Daughters of Utah Pioneers, board room, D&RG Depot.
- 5:15 p.m. Slide-tape presentation, board room, D&RG Depot. *Fitchville--A Community in Eureka Historic District* by Doug Wright.
- 5:45 p.m. Stand-up buffet and entertainment, mezzanine and lobby, D&RG Depot. *Utah Pipe Band, Ballet de Las Americas, Japanese dancers, Dionysios Dancers, Utah Triskalariak, and Happy Squares.*

Honored Guests

Harold Carpenter

LaRue Farrer

Marc Ferguson

Marjorie Hewitt

Richard H. Jackson

John James, Jr.

L. V. McNeely

Moab Lions Club

Margo Sorgman

Yoshiko Uchida

Utah Heritage Foundation

*The Utah State Historical Society
acknowledges with gratitude
the generosity of
Wagstaff's House of Toyota,
Jay Fuller,
and the
Utah Department of Education
in support of this annual meeting.*

7-12-89

Call from Stan Layton

Ginn wants permission
to use "City of Dust" in
College level Anthology -
I asked him to refer inquiry
to me. + copy of letter.

They have ©, but I own all
rights + can request
permission fee.

He's sending their ltr,
+ copy + answer
to me.