Cleveland, not having anything better to do with myself that winter in Challis, I returned early one summer to the glacier and to us, having taken the post office and ten-room house in the village. My folks and I had left the job and were in the process of moving to Challis, where my parents had been living for several years. At the time, I was writing articles for the Challis News and the Challis Times, a weekly newspaper.

In May 1983, after 12 years of working on the hillside, I decided to move to Challis to live and work. I rented a small house, which I had just bought, and took a part-time job as a teacher in the Challis school district. I continued to work on the mountain and in the library, and was soon able to support myself and my family.

In 1985, I had my first full-time job as a journalist, working for the Challis Times. I continued to write articles for the newspaper and for other publications, and in 1989, I published my first book, a collection of essays called "The Case of the Cross-Dressing Librarian." The book was well-received, and I was invited to speak at bookstores and other venues around the country. In 1993, I moved to a larger house in Challis, and in 1994, I was promoted to the position of director of the library.

In 1996, I was appointed executive director of the Challis Public Library, and in 1997, I was named the library's director. I continue to work in the library, and I am currently working on a new book, which I hope to publish in 2020.
Over ten years ago, on October 4 and 5 of 1985, the Ezra Pound Centennial Conference was held in Hailey, Idaho—the birthplace of Ezra Pound. This particular Poundian literary conference was unique in three significant ways: First, it was a celebration of Ezra Pound—the 100 year anniversary of his birth. Second, Olga Rudge, Pound’s companion, and Mary De Rachewiltz, editor of Rudge and Pound, voyaged from Italy to attend the event. And third, public discussion of Pound’s anti-semitism in the course of the conference became quite heated. Documentarians commented that Pound anti-semitism was discussed at the conference continues to linger to this day.

How I Got Involved

As a graduate student at Boise State University I took a graduate-level Booklass class during the fall 1996 semester. As a requirement in the course, I had to write a research paper dealing in some way with literary Idaho.

In 1995 in Idaho there was a religious right extended Mental Human (Proposition 97) due to civil rights to gays and lesbians. Bigotry was a charged issue in the months preceding the November election. Besides propстве and Sun Valley, Idaho is perhaps best known for the notorious Concentration Camp. Christian apocalyptic racism—the extension in the northern (Harley Lake) part of the state: the Aryan Nation. Since Aryan Nation publish from their compound, I thought I might write my research paper on some issue dealing with their press. I telephoned their office and asked to speak with their leader, Rick. Richard Burke: I was told that he was a lunatic, and asked what I wanted. I was thoroughly flabbergasted, the man’s voice on the phone sounded like a hillbilly from Kentucky. Tomalli: I asked if they would please send me a few of their brochures, pamphlets, newsletters, anything they printed. The man said “This isn’t America, and you ought to know we ain’t gonna get outta here.” As with reluctance and explanation I got a money order from the post office for ten dollars, wrote “Aryan Nations” on it and sent it away to Hayden.

I opened it: a few paltry magazines entitled Calling Our Nation—pornographic. Feeling contrite, I sent a personal check to the ACLU for twenty dollars. Right after the absurd article “Big Bang: Another Jewish Holocaust” in northern Idaho, I knew I was going to kill someone—myself. Still, with reluctance and trepidation I got a money order from the post office for ten dollars, wrote “Aryan Nations” on it and sent it away to Hayden.

A week or so later I received a package from northern Idaho and read: “You are a lunatic. Your views are wrong and you ought to know you ain’t gonna kill yourself. With reluctance and explanation I got a money order from the post office for ten dollars, wrote “Aryan Nations” on it and sent it away to Hayden.

After deciding to focus on the Pound conference for my research, I went to Aryan Nations in ways contradicting his public declarations of anti-semitism—”Rudge: ‘No. You have it all wrong. Pound was NEVER anti-semitic. He was a man of many interests. His anti-semitism was less in private and more in public—his estimation of each event and each person presented, almost always with the Pound/race relation in his writing. An example is Weinstein’s criticism of Fred Weinsteins’s presentation.”

I decided to ask Rudge a question which I hoped would present the trivuial details the second to concentrate upon. I asked, “Did you find Pound’s essay towards his bound friends in ways contradicting his public declarations of anti-semitism?” “No. You have it all wrong. Pound was NEVER anti-semitic. He was a man of many interests. His anti-semitism was less in private and more in public—his estimation of each event and each person presented, almost always with the Pound/race relation in his writing. An example is Weinstein’s criticism of Fred Weinsteins’s presentation.”

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The conference was sponsored by a $12,396 grant from the Idaho Humanities Fund. Nearly all of this information is Marilyn’s public pronouncement. I thought I might write my own evaluation. While Ardinger told me his opinion of Weinstein’s assessment of the Pound Conference is not only negative but also irresponsible, and a misuse of public funding.

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