

ARKANSAS LIBRARIES

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Arkansas Library Association

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2012 ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

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THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEARCH

Arkansas Library Association, 2012

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Arkansas Libraries

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FROM THE ArLA PRESIDENT: P-E-O-P-L-E, IT'S P-E-O-P-L-E

By *Jim Robb*, Director
North Arkansas College Library

In the movie *Soylent Green*, Charlton Heston's character, Robert Thorn, discovers at the climax of the film that the new tasty food (food substitute?), Soylent Green, is not made from algae as claimed, but by recycling dead people, and runs through the streets shouting his discovery, "P-e-o-p-l-e, it's P-e-o-p-l-e, Soylent Green is P-e-o-p-l-e!" This may seem a rather macabre way to start a column, but bear with me.

For ArLA, what I have chosen to take from the movie is not Robert Thorn's agonized cry (though that makes a wonderful hook), but the truth that for any and every organization people are the lifeblood. People are what keep organizations alive and functioning, and without them organizations wither and die. This year I've had the opportunity to meet librarians and library paraprofessionals from around the state and from many types of libraries, and it has helped me remember just how diverse and committed the Arkansas library community is, as well as how important it is for us to find ways to share our experience, expertise, ideas, and creativity.

I'm writing this column in mid-July, in the midst of 100-degree+ heat and drought, and a small construction project in my library has everything pretty well disrupted. But there have been a couple of things that have brightened my summer. The first was earlier this week when I met with the Membership Committee for a brainstorming session, and the slightly lesser one was attending the ALA conference in Anaheim, CA.

For me the best part of the conference was attending the day-long Chapter Leaders Forum. Meeting with around 20 chapter leaders from around the country, getting a chance to share challenges, ideas and solutions, and hearing from ALA chapter relations staff would have made the entire trip worthwhile even if the rest of the conference had been a total bust – which of course it wasn't. Ideally, we should be sending our presidents-elect to this session every year to help them jumpstart their planning for their year as ArLA President. Ron Russ did a wonderful job of communicating what he was up to at the conference in near real-time – it's great to have someone as tech savvy as Ron in the ALA liaison position.



As jazzed as I was by the ALA conference, meeting with the ArLA Membership Committee got me even higher. The breadth and depth of talent and experience we have in ArLA is astonishing, and we have so much to learn from each other. The meeting was a brainstorming session, but it was also a sharing session – all three of us were directors, all had experience in more than one type of library, and we represented three generations of librarians. I learned a lot that day, and the experience of picking each other's brains made me realize just how important it is for ArLA to encourage opportunities for members to engage with each other. Our primary task was to draft a new member welcome packet, but we also kicked around some ideas for member recruitment and development. By conference time we hope to have some of these fleshed out enough to share, so stop by the ArLA booth and see what we've got cooking.

There are several issues regarding the structure of the Executive Board coming before the membership for a vote at conference this year. The Executive Board has been researching and discussing these issues for several years, and we now feel comfortable recommending these changes to the membership. Hopefully, you will agree that these changes make sense and will make ArLA a stronger association. I look forward to seeing many if not most of you at the conference.

Thanks for being a part of the lifeblood of ArLA.

Jim

Jim Robb, the President of the Arkansas Library Association, is the Director of the North Arkansas College Library.

EDITORIAL WHIT: Happy Fall

By *Whitney Ivy*
Managing Editor

Fall is without a doubt my favorite time of year. The weather slowly cools down, football begins, school starts—and best of all, for librarians anyway, is the wealth of programming opportunities.

National Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15 and ends on October 15. This month allows a great time to highlight Hispanic authors, illustrators, and cultural traditions in your library.

My favorite week during the fall is Banned Books Week (September 29-October 6). This year the theme is “FREEDOM to READ.” I love this theme! When I was checking out the most banned books in 2011 on ALA’s website, I was thrilled to know that I have the majority of those books in my library already. I have to admit I am like the kids—the ones I don’t have, I want to order because they are on the list!

At the beginning of October, teens will be able to vote for their favorite books on the Arkansas Teen Book Award list. This year there will be a paper form as well as an online form to vote; we are hoping that we will reach more teens with two methods. Academic libraries can even get in on this because



Ivy

college freshmen are encouraged to vote as well. The forms can be found at arkansasteenaward.wikispaces.com. Voting will cease October 20th at midnight, the last day of Teen Read Week.

The 2012-2013 nominees for the Arkansas Teen Book Award will be unveiled at the ArLA Conference, which has a very catchy theme this year with “The Beat Goes On.” One of the events that I always look forward to at the conference is the basket auction; I love the creativity illustrated in the designs of the baskets. Plus, I always feel like I have WON something if I manage to outbid someone else—auctions make me super competitive! This conference is one of the best opportunities to network with other librarians in our state. As a school librarian, I love the time that the conference gives me to discuss with public and academic librarians about a variety of topics that involve us all. The conference dates are October 14-16. I hope that you will come and get more involved in this great organization.

November 1st is National Family Literacy Day; many activities can be planned in conjunction with this advocacy day. National Game and Puzzle Week is November 18-24 (which also includes Thanksgiving). Kids of all ages love to play games (*Clue* is my favorite), so this week can be a great way to encourage patrons into the library that wouldn’t ordinarily come browse what the library has to offer. Happy Fall, and I hope to see you all at the ArLA conference!

Whitney

Whitney Ivy, Managing Editor of Arkansas Libraries, is the K-12 Librarian for the Blevins School District.

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No ‘Shushing’ in Public Libraries

By Hadi S. Dudley

Bentonville Public Library Director

Bentonville Public Library (BPL) is like many public libraries - a destination place and community center.

Since opening our “new” facility in October 2006, BPL has experienced tremendous growth, wonderful successes and ongoing support. 1.5 million library visitors have walked through Bentonville Public Library’s grand foyer, browsed our stacks, checked out books, used a computer, enjoyed a cup of coffee while reading the local newspaper, attended a meeting or participated in a library program.

Our library includes vibrant children’s and teen spaces, meeting rooms, genealogy research center, and a café. Traditional features include a grand veranda with signature columns and a lovely fireplace area inside. I recall when we were designing the library, our goal was to build an inviting space where people could congregate and share ideas. We wanted visitors to feel comfortable and inspired. A major focus for the project centered

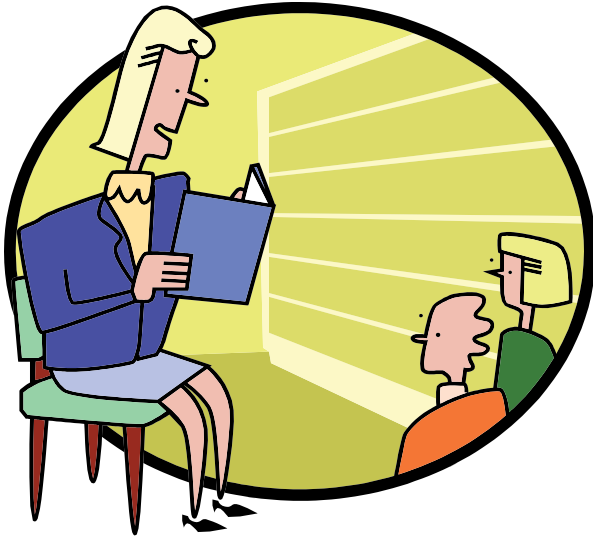
on children. Recognizing that kids enjoy exploring nature, Bentonville Public Library’s Bogle Family Children’s Library was designed with outdoor themes and bright colors, as well as a “pavilion” for storytime.

Picture it: a stereotypical librarian wearing spectacles, taking her seat in a rickety rocking chair. She begins by clearing her throat and her first order of business is to “shush” the little ones, so they will sit quietly and listen to her read. That’s not how storytimes in public libraries work these days!

Now, visualize a storytime in today’s library: an energetic and enthusiastic staff member bringing books to life! This is accomplished by songs, poems and music throughout the storytime session. Any given morning, jingling bells, rhymes, or animal sounds may be heard in the children’s department. Similar to other libraries, Bentonville Library incorporates action into the session. When our storytime leader engages the kids through movement, you should see how high BPL staff can jump! We pair all of these activities with beautifully illustrated books and stories that enlighten and inspire young minds. A fun craft follows storytime, allowing



Children are encouraged to enjoy and explore what the Bentonville Public Library has to offer. They take full advantage of the privilege. *Photos submitted by Hadi S. Dudley.*



imaginations an artistic outlet.

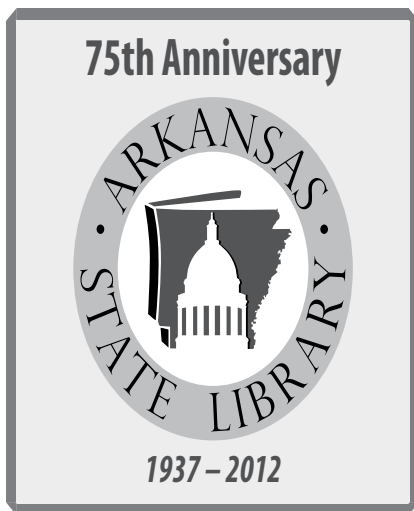
Our daily goal is to instill a love of reading and learning in our youngest library users. Bentonville Public Library's professional children's librarian designs each program to develop early literacy and pre-reading skills. Benefits of participation include expanded vocabulary, narrative skills, alphabetic

knowledge and phonological awareness. The children's librarian also considers the Arkansas educational frameworks in library programs, as library programs support formal education goals for all children.

It's heartwarming to see children excited to visit the public library. Small faces brighten during storytime; little hands shoot-up with questions. Not only do children enjoy coming to the library, caregivers often use the opportunity to socialize and visit with other adults. Interestingly, the storytime area has become a "commons" for parents and caregivers in public libraries today. It's gratifying to see families checking out books by the armload.

I'm proud that Bentonville Public Library is not a quiet little library. As other public libraries can attest, library spaces are bustling and full of energy. When we are super-busy, which is typical after a children's event or family program, all staff are actively assisting patrons. Our library staff is energized and excited too. It's fun and rewarding work! In today's public libraries, librarians rarely "shush" patrons... libraries have become beautifully noisy spaces.

For 75 years, the Arkansas State Library has been a resource center for Arkansas government, its citizens and libraries.



**Visit our booth
at the Arkansas Library Association's
2012 Annual Conference at the Holiday
Inn and Convention Center
in Springdale, October 14-16, 2012.**

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ALA COUNCILOR'S REPORT 2012 ALA Annual Conference

by *Ronald S. Russ, ASU-Beebe*

I attended the American Library Association Annual Conference in Anaheim, Calif., from June 22 – June 26, 2012.

It featured a variety of well-known speakers and personalities including Sherman Alexie, Dan Rather, J.R. Martinez, Jodi Picoult, Rebecca MacKinnon, and Henry Winkler. As usual, I did not get to see any of the programs. The joke among councilors is that we attend the conference, but not the programs. But, if you want to read about conference highlights, you can go to tinyurl.com/buhbu5h.

Despite the wide variety of speakers and programs, attendance was lower in Anaheim, CA than originally projected. Total attendance was 16,700, lower than the attendance in New Orleans, last year (20,060), or in Washington, DC in 2010 (25,754). Some believe that the economy combined with the location had a lot to do with this. Next year's Annual Conference is in Chicago, IL, and it is



Russ

hoped that attendance will be better. One of the new things for next year is that most of the programs will be held in the convention center or the hotel next to the convention center. This is a departure from how things have been done in the past. In addition, they are planning to digitize programs, and those who attend the conference will have access to it for free. Non-conference goers will also have access to the programs, but might be charged a fee.

We did have the “Arkansas Out on the Town Dinner” at the Tangerine Grill & Patio, on Sunday June 24 at 6 pm. We had eight people attend, including Angela Hand Black, Devona Pendergrass, Johnice Dominick, Pamela Meredith, among others. In addition to the dinner, I had a chance to see other Arkansans including ArLA President Jim Robb (who was recognized at ALA Council I), Kareen Turner, Christina Thompson, Amber Wilson, Renee LeBeau Ford, Linda Creibaum, and Jeff Bailey. I also got a chance to speak with a former ArLA member and Arkansan, Barbara Stripling, who is the ALA President-elect. She will be speaking at this year's Arkansas Library Association conference.

There were several new things in this year's schedule. The ALA Council/Executive Board/Membership Information meeting was moved to Saturday, immediately preceding the ALA Membership Meeting. The reasoning behind this is that it would allow for discussion of action items and the membership meeting. In my opinion, it also led



to a carryover between meetings, which allowed us to have a quorum at the membership meeting, not something that happens very often. Another change was the increase in the time allotted for the first two council sessions and the reduction of Council III to one and a half hours.

At the first Chapter Relations Committee meeting we heard about the changes to Annual, for 2013 and beyond, from Kevin Reynolds, the Tennessee Chapter Councilor and ALA Executive Board Member. We also heard from Emerging Leader Team G, whose project “Librarians Build Communities” is an outgrowth of the “Libraries Build Communities” project begun in New Orleans during the 2006 American Library Association Annual Conference, when ALA volunteers helped with projects related to the damage inflicted by Hurricane Katrina. For more information, you can go to their website at <http://librariansbuildcommunities.org>. I’ve got to admit, I like their logo of the librarian flexing some muscle.

During the second meeting we heard from Emily Sheketoff of the ALA Washington Office. She spoke about Mobile Commons, a new service whereby people can sign up and be texted regarding library advocacy. If there is an action alert, it will transfer you to the phone number of the specific legislator in your district or state (depending on whether it is house or senate). For more information, go to the District Dispatch website at tinyurl.com/cwa73k5 and to sign up got to www.districtdispatch.org/textalerts or text “library” to 877877. She also mentioned about a new program called Connect2Compete. It is designed to help low-income families afford broadband, and get low-cost computers. The website for the program is www.connect2compete.org. Public libraries have been included in the digital literacy efforts in connection with the program, and might be eligible for funds. There will be a big ad campaign starting in January 2013, so be on the lookout for this.

Here are some highlights from the ALA Council Sessions I attended:

Council I

We spent around 60 minutes discussing the ALA Council Effectiveness Survey (please don’t laugh too hard). Initially we broke down into small groups for about 15 minutes to come up with ideas regarding what was most important from the survey and what can be done to make it happen. With many groups, there were a lot of different ideas. Some dealt with orientation, but others dealt with how we define ourselves and how we can better know what other types of councilors do. Some felt the need for

mentoring, while others felt that Council was too large and needed to be smaller.

In addition, the Digital Content and Libraries Working group discussed several business models that they are working on in conjunction with publishers and aggregators. They are planning to come out with tip sheets on Digital Rights Management and other related topics.

We did have several resolutions in this meeting. One that passed was received from the membership meeting on Voter Suppression in America. It had to do with ID laws and how they are being used against people who are from disadvantaged communities. Public Libraries are probably most affected by this, since they deal with election information and sometimes serve as voting locations.

Council II

The ALA budget was discussed at length during this meeting and there was a proposed budgetary ceiling of \$65,026,831 for FY2013. The simple formula for this is net assets + revenue = budgetary ceiling, according to ALA Treasurer, Jim Neal. The budget ceiling did pass. For more information on ALA finance, go to tinyurl.com/br3y32a. In addition to this action item, there was a resolution that passed called “School Libraries are Critical to Educational Success.”

Council III

It was mentioned that there is going to be a Virtual Read Out for the 30th Anniversary of Banned Books Week, and ALA is looking to have all states represented. Banned Books Week this year is September 30 – October 6.

In addition, there was a resolution on “Homelessness and Libraries,” in which the proposers wanted to add Housing Status to the Library Bill of Rights. The resolution was referred to the Intellectual Freedom Committee, and an update will be reported back to the council at ALA Midwinter.

The next ALA Midwinter Meeting will be held in Seattle, WA from January 25 to January 29, 2013 and the next ALA Annual Conference will be in Chicago, IL from June 27 to July 2, 2013.

Ron

Ronald S. Russ, Assistant Librarian at Arkansas State University -Beebe, is the Arkansas ALA Councilor.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION:
In Search of Professional Development Blogs

By Ashley Parker, Mid-Arkansas Regional Library/Malvern-Hot Spring County Library

Professional development takes many forms: conferences, lectures, webinars, workbooks, peer to peer training, and so on. However, in a time during which technology has become a staple in almost every aspect of our lives, professional development has an opportunity to branch out into web-based learning in a variety of ways.

There are many web-based tools and services that allow librarians to seek professional development in both formal and informal settings. A webinar may include an instructor and multiple students, mimicking a traditional classroom in some ways, and YouTube videos and recorded self-paced training can replicate a similar learning process.

Other methods of web-based professional development are less like a traditional classroom, but are more appealing to some librarians because of their ease of access and flexibility of scheduling.

Blogs can be a great way to learn about various aspects of librarianship. They are especially useful for individuals who only have small amounts of time to devote to learning and those whose time is not available on a regularly scheduled basis for professional development. When using blogs for learning, it is important to note that not all blogs are created equal, and that while some blogs are great for niche learning, others are better at covering general or varying topics.

While this is not an inclusive list, here are some suggestions for blogs to reference for professional development and library-related news. If given the time and opportunity, hundreds of great library blogs can be found (on any topic imaginable). Have you tried reading blogs? The sites on the below two tables are good places to start.

Ashley

Ashley Parker is the Director of the Mid-Arkansas Regional Library / Malvern-Hot Spring County Library.

Topic	Title	Site	Description
ALA Sponsored Blogs	ALA Blogs	http://wikis.ala.org/readwrite/connect/index.php/ALA_blogs	Aggregate of ALA blogs.
Administration	In the Library with the Lead Pipe	http://www.inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/	Constructive criticism of librarianship and related issues and topics.
Administration	LLAMA Leads	http://www.llama.ala.org/llamaleads/	LLAMA news and information of interest to LLAMA members.
Library News	INSIDE Scoop	http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/insidescoop	A collaborative blog focusing on library-related news.
Library News	LIS News	http://lisnews.org/	A collaborative blog focusing on current events related to libraries.
Library News	Library Stuff	http://www.librarystuff.net/	Library news and professional development.
Reader's Advisory	Book Finds	http://bookfinds.com/blog/	Literary news and book reviews.
Reader's Advisory	Pre Pub Alerts	http://www.libraryjournal.com/csp/cms/sites/LJ/CollectionDevelopment/PrepubAlerts/index.csp	Information about books six months prior to publication.

Reader's Advisory	Early Word	www.earlyword.com	Book news and reviews.
Reader's Advisory	Abby the Librarian	http://www.abbythelibrarian.com/	Children's and YA book reviews.
Reader's Advisory	Blogging for a Good Book	http://bfgb.wordpress.com/	Short reviews on books, movies, and more.
Reader's Advisory	RA for All	http://raforall.blogspot.com/	About reader's advisory with book reviews thrown in for variety.
Preservation and Archives	Here and There	http://hereandthere123.blogspot.com/	Archives and special collections.
Preservation and Archives	Primarily History	http://primarilyhistory.blogspot.com/	Primary sources.
Collection Development	Awful Library Books	http://awfullibrarybooks.net	Weeding. It must be done.
Technology	Free Technology for Teachers	http://www.freetech4teachers.com/	Online tools and technology.
Programming	Programming Librarian	http://www.programminglibrarian.org/blog.html#.UAcUU-HKVCU	Focus on cultural programming.
Digital Resources	The Handheld Librarian	http://www.handheldlib.blogspot.com/	Handheld computers and devices.
Digital Resources	Scholarly Open Access	http://scholarlyoa.com/	Open access publishing.
Digital Resources	ResourceBlog	http://web.resourceshelf.com/go/resourceblog/	Free resources on the web.
Cataloging	Planet Cataloging	http://planetcataloging.org/	Aggregate of cataloging-related blogs.
Quirky and Fun	This is What a Librarian Looks Like	http://looklikelibraryscience.com/	Librarians outside the stereotype.
Quirky and Fun	Librarian Wardrobe	http://librarianwardrobe.com/	How to dress like a librarian.
Quirky and Fun	Unshelved	http://www.unshelved.com/	Library related comic strips.
Quirky and Fun	A Librarian's Guide to Etiquette	http://libetiquette.blogspot.com/	Tongue-in-cheek humor.

Statement from Devona Pendergrass

Candidate for Arkansas Library Association President Elect

I have worked at Mountain Home Public Schools since 1985. In that time I have been a 6th and 7th grade social studies teacher, a bus driver, bowling coach, kindergarten librarian; since 2000, I have been the high school librarian and department head. I am responsible for our programming, staff training, and online catalog software.

When I was growing up on a small farm in a very rural area, my parents always told me that education and reading were the way to succeed. No matter how tight money was we always had material to read, and on our weekly trips to town we would get all the library books we could carry. That attitude has served me well.

In 1979, I graduated from MSU with a lifetime teaching certificate in elementary education and a minor in history. After teaching several years, I transferred to the kindergarten library, and I have never looked back. Being a librarian is my true calling in life. In 1995, I earned my MS in Educational Media and Library Science from UCA, and in 2003, I successfully completed my national boards.

I am proud to be my school district's first national board certified teacher. Since I believe the world is run by those that "show up," I have always been the first to volunteer. I currently volunteer as the state webmaster for USBC youth bowling, regional USBC secretary/treasurer; for nearly 20 years, I was the Riverlake Lanes volunteer youth director. I have also been involved in FIRST robotics and coached both the Lego League teams and the high school robotics team. During my time as the robotics coach, we won three regional championships and the Chairman's award among others.

I have been a member of AAIM and ArLA since 1992. During that time, I have served in many capacities and held virtually every position in AAIM including president and conference chair. I currently serve as : NAESC district co-op representative, AAIM treasurer, long range planning chair and exhibits chair, Mountain Home High School Leadership team and ACSIP team, Mountain Home Public Schools finance committee secretary, and ArLA Intellectual

Freedom Chair. I have served as ArASL president and conference chair as well. I have attended most ALA conference and mid winter meetings. I have been the Arkansas Affiliate Representative to the American Library Association AASL division, and I am currently serving my second elected term as national affiliate secretary. In 2005, AAIM honored me with the Librarian of the Year award. I have also been awarded the 2006 Hastings Educator of the Year award, 2007 Library Program of the Year, and in 2010 the Leadership award. During the summer of 2007, I was honored to work with the ADE on the first ever Library Media Frameworks for school librarians.

I have been so blessed in my career, and I want to give back to the organizations such as ArLA and ArASL that have helped me continue to grow and enjoy being a librarian. I have a sign on my desk that says "find a job you love and you will never work another day in your life." In 1992, that happened to me, and I have never looked back. There is no other career in the world that tops mine. I promise to work hard as your next president and "show up" with ideas to move our organization forward. I am a hard worker and have the time and desire to serve you.

Editor's Note: Devona Pendergrass joins five Arkansas librarians who are running for 2013 ArLA officer positions. The biographies of those five candidates appeared in the Summer 2012 issue of *Arkansas Libraries* and they are:

- **Holly Mercer**, Director of East Central Arkansas Regional Library System, Candidate for Vice President/President Elect
- **Jamie Melson**, Library Assistant III with Central Arkansas Library System, Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer
- **Hadi Dudley**, Library Director of Bentonville Public Library, Candidate for ALA Councilor
- **Ron Russ**, Assistant Librarian at Arkansas State University -Beebe, Candidate for ALA Councilor (incumbent)
- **Connie W. Zimmer**, Coordinator of Instructional Technology and Associate Professor of Secondary Education at Arkansas Tech University, Candidate for ALA Councilor

What's Up? Docs. No, My Child Isn't Using Drugs.

*Are You Sure You'd Know If They Were?
by Karen Russ, Government Documents Librarian at UALR*

The school year is underway again. By now the concerns over supplies and uniforms should be taken care of, but what about parents' and educators' worries about their children and students becoming involved with drugs?

The best way to have a safe child is to make them feel comfortable in approaching you or another adult when they have problems. It's easy to say, but is it really that easy to do? How do you approach the younger ones without scaring them? How do you make a serious point to the adolescents without losing your temper when they roll their eyes?

Start with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). They wrote a detailed guide, *Preventing Drug Abuse Among Children and Adolescents: A Research Based Guide for Parents, Educators, and Community Leaders*, publishing the second edition in 2003 (drugabuse.gov/sites/default/files/preventingdruguse.pdf). The tips on what to look for in a child will help parents and teachers intervene early in the child's life, before that child has an opportunity to turn to drugs. Chapter four describes numerous programs for students from elementary through high school. A wonderful list of resources is provided in chapter five, offering both agencies from across the nation and reading materials. While it is nearly ten years old, the concepts included are still very relevant today.

Would it be easier to ask a teenager to explore a website and then come back with questions? If so, maybe asking them to explore the website NIDA for Teens: The Science Behind Drug Abuse (teens.drugabuse.gov) will be the way to start the conversation. In addition to numerous blogs, videos, and games, there is a section for parents and teachers. The activities here allow parents and their children to build trust with each other, so that children readily communicate if they run into trouble.

The Shatter the Myths section provides full text access to an excellent booklet entitled *Drug Facts: Shatter the Myths* to assist in answering a teen's questions. While accessible online for parents and their children, it is also available to be ordered in hard copy, in quantity, for classrooms or other



Russ

organizations.

Again, helping children and adolescents means keeping up to date on the latest drugs and trends. How about the following statement:

"Marijuana is not the problem. More kids smoke cigarettes than pot."

Do you agree? I hope not because, unfortunately, it is not true. In 2011, over 15% of high school seniors smoked pot, more than smoked cigarettes. Synthetic marijuana is becoming a growing problem as well. Adolescents perceive it as a safe alternative because the mixtures used to create it could be obtained legally until recently. Last year, one in nine 12th graders reported using synthetic marijuana.

If you suspect your child or their friends are using marijuana, take the time to read the brochure *Marijuana: Facts Parents Need to Know* (<http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/marijuana-facts-parents-need-to-know>). After that, encourage your teenager to read *Marijuana: Facts for Teens* (drugabuse.gov/publications/marijuana-facts-teens). Both booklets can be read online or downloaded in multiple formats, as well as requested in hard copy.

Is your child an athlete? Are they eager to be the biggest lineman on the football team or hit the farthest home run in the school's history? You might want to recommend reading *Mind Over Matter: Anabolic Steroids*, to explain why steroids are not safe (drugabuse.gov/publications/mind-over-matter/anabolic-steroids). Too many youngsters assume they are safe because of the media coverage of professional athletes using them, legally or otherwise.

The Mind over Matter series also provides excellent guides on cocaine, inhalants, methamphetamine, and others (drugabuse.gov/publications/term/157/MindOverMatter). The series comes with a teacher's guide and all materials are available in Spanish as well.

Now that you know which drugs are popular and how to talk about your concerns, would you recognize the drug in conversation? Do you know the street names for the most popular ones? It would be advantageous to study the National Institute on Drug Abuse guides to commonly abused drugs (drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/commonly-abused-drugs). Three guides are offered: *Commonly Abused Drugs* (street drugs including alcohol), *Prescription Drug Abuse*, and the *Health Effects Chart*. Both drug charts offer a section with a detailed list of street names as well as the current brand and generic drug names.

Keeping your children (or students) safe means keeping yourself well informed. Regular consultation with these and other sites linked to them and the NIDA home page (drugabuse.gov) is one of the best places to start.

Get to Know Your ArLA Board

Part 3

By **Jamie Melson**

Central Arkansas Library System

In our third and final installment of getting to know your ArLA Board, we will meet our 2012 Committee Chairs.

Jamie Melson

Awards Committee Chair

I won't bore you with another biography of myself. We met in the last issue under nominees for the 2013 Executive Committee.

Holly Mercer

Conference Committee Chair

She, too, we met in the last issue as a candidate for Vice-President/President-Elect for 2013.

Bill Parton

Constitution Committee Chair

Bill Parton is Director of the Library at Arkansas Tech University. In addition to his MLS he has a Bachelor of Music in music theory. He is a trumpet player and has taught private lessons for ten years. In addition, he has experience playing in various bands, including rock, Astroworld band, Tijuana brass-style band, Dixieland, German oom-pah, big band, show band, and marching band, as well as the Houston Symphony, and many other miscellaneous gigs.

Bill has worked as a professional librarian where he received his MLS, University of Washington, and at the Waco-McLennan County Library, Howard Payne University, and in his current directorship at Arkansas Tech University, where he has been since 1990.

Bill is married with two children and two grandchildren. His hobbies and interests include music, movies, puzzles, craft beers, and books.

Devona Pendergrass

Intellectual Freedom Committee

Devona Pendergrass has worked for the last twelve years as the Librarian at Mountain Home High School Career Academies. She has been an employee of the Mountain Home School District for twenty-five years, eighteen of those years as a librarian. Prior to her current position she taught middle school social studies and was a kindergarten and pre-school librarian.

Devona earned her BSE from Southwest Missouri State University and her MS in Educational Media

and Library Science from the University of Central Arkansas. In 2003 she successfully completed her national boards and is her school district's first NBCT. She is a member of the American Library Association and has served on committees in the American Association of School Librarians. She has also served in leadership positions in both AASL and AAIM and is active in sponsoring several clubs and teams at her school. Devona was recognized by AAIM as School Library Media Specialist of the Year in 2005 and in 2007 for Media Program of the Year. Last year she was honored to win the Herb Lawrence Leadership Award.

In her leisure time, she volunteers for the Twin Lakes and Riverlake USBC Youth, a nationally affiliated youth organization. She has been married to her childhood sweetheart for 36 years and has two sons.

Hadi Dudley

Legislative Committee

Hadi Dudley we met in the last issue as an Executive Committee officer nominee.

Shawn Pierce

Membership Committee

Besides being Past President and serving as New Member Roundtable chair as part of her duties, chairing this committee is also a part of Shawn Pierce's responsibilities. Her biography was published in the first installment.

Patricia "Trish" Miller

Nominating Committee

We also met Trish Miller in the first installment of this series as our current Vice-President/President-Elect. Part of her duties includes chairing the Nominating Committee which involves searching out those interested in running for the ArLA Executive Committee.

Kathy Davis

Publications Committee

Kathy Davis's current position is Access Services Librarian at the University of Arkansas-Monticello.

Kathy was born and raised in Monticello, Arkansas. She received her Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems at UAM and her Master of Science in Information and Library Science at the University of North Texas. She began her library career at UAM as a library academic

technician in 2005 and was promoted to librarian a few years later. In February of this year, she received word from the Chancellor that he has recommended her for tenure. She is currently working on her Masters of Education in Learning System Technology at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Kathy is passionate about genealogy and family history research. She is a board member of the Preservation of African American Cemeteries and a member of the national Afro-American Historical and Genealogy Society. Kathy has one son, three daughters, and three grandchildren. Her oldest grandson, Marquis, who is six, lives in Monticello and she loves to spend time with him and listen to him read.

Ashley Parker

Public Relations Committee

Ashley Parker we met in the previous issue as the Chair of the Public Libraries/Trustees Division. As you can see, sometimes some of us serve with two and, in this case, three hats!

Daniel Page

Scholarship Committee

Daniel Page's current position is Library Director for the Magale Library at Southern Arkansas University. Daniel began working in academic libraries in 1999 as a student employee. He loves working in libraries and has a deep respect for the services they provide.

Whitney Ivy

Arkansas Libraries Managing Editor

Whitney Ivy is the K-12 Library Media Specialist at the Blevins Public School Library.

Whitney received a BA in English from Henderson State University and a few years later graduated from Southern Arkansas University with a Masters of Education. She taught Pre-AP English at Prescott High School for two years before becoming the K-12 Librarian at Blevins Public School where she has worked since 2006.

Whitney loves to spend time with her family, especially taking her boys to see and do things they have not experienced yet. She also loves to be social; she is in a book club and plays bunko once a month. Her favorite books are *The Dovekeepers*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, *The Help*, and *The Sound and the Fury*. Her favorite YA books include the Harry Potter series, the Hunger Games trilogy, and the Uglies trilogy.

Britt Anne Murphy

Arkansas Libraries Associate Editor

Britt Anne Murphy is serving as Acting Director

and Associate Librarian for Public Services at Hendrix College, where she has worked for fourteen years.

A native of Lawrence, Kansas, Britt was a Greek and Latin major at Kenyon College in Ohio, where she worked in the library. After spending a year in Germany as an au-pair, she went to graduate school at the University of Texas in Austin and obtained her MLIS in 1998. Thereafter she was lucky enough to get her dream job at a liberal arts college, and has responsibility over instruction, reference, and the library website. She has been Associate Editor for nine years and an active member of ArLA since she came to Arkansas.

In her spare time, Britt enjoys volunteering at the primary school where her children, Helen Claire and Paul, attend. She's active in two book clubs, enjoys the creations of her culinarily-inclined husband, and keeps up with her musical interests by participating in her church choir. She loves nothing more than reading aloud her childhood favorites to her two children.

Jon Goodell

Webmaster

Jon is the Web Services Librarian at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library.

After finishing his Masters in Library Science from the University of Missouri in Columbia, Jon moved his family to Little Rock to live near his wife's family. Jon works at the UAMS Library in the Education and Reference Department where he toils over the website, does health information outreach, and "a bunch of other stuff." Jon is an active member of the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association and was recently selected to attend the week-long Biomedical Informatics Course at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA. For the last three years Jon has coordinated the Arkansas Library Collaboration UnConference.

Jon has been married nearly eleven years, has two elementary school-aged children, a cat, and two chickens.

This concludes our 2012 ArLA Board biographies. I hope you have enjoyed learning about your Board as much as I have, and I hope we can continue this series next year! If you see a Division, Roundtable, or Committee you would like to be a part of, please go to arlib.org/organization/constitution.php and arlib.org/organization/bylaws.php to read the responsibilities of the different sections and the chairpersons. Then contact one of the Board members, and perhaps your biography will be included in next year's ArLA Board Bio series!

SCHOOL LIBRARIES: The Common Core Cometh

by *Rachel Shankles, Lakeside High School*

This year most school librarians are trying to figure out their place in the new Common Core Curriculum. Arkansas schools are raising the bar for all students by making each class have more rigor. Classics typically read in high school are being moved down to junior high, and so on down the ladder.



Shankles

Many of the suggested titles for outside reading are multicultural stories and non-fiction, and many of the classics that were getting dusty on our shelves are back in circulation, most free in eBook format.

I overheard one English teacher in my school say, “We won’t need the library books anymore because we will be doing everything online in Common Core.” I think this teacher must have misinterpreted the purpose of research in Common Core. True comparison and contrast essays can be done totally online by locating some of our great free database articles in Traveler (hopefully not on Wikipedia or googled articles by who knows who). However, critical reading can be done with print books too, and selecting topics with bird-in-hand is sometimes easier than spending hours looking over articles online.

The role of the library has changed again in Arkansas. After the big push the last eight to ten years to get kids reading for pleasure and providing lots of YA fiction, Manga, and magazines, we are back to ordering newer copies of classics. We had made relaxed reading areas, and now the kids are to do much more reading for information, reading manuals and technical items, and close or critical reading in every subject. I had weeded many titles in both fiction and nonfiction that have recently appeared on the exemplars list. After spending most of my budget on fiction, I will now be buying lots of non-fiction to fill in the gaps or spending lots of time locating the free e-copies and downloading them to our e-readers or to the students’ devices.

The other thing that has changed is the role of the library media specialist in Common Core. We will be a source for the teachers to come to for locating information, such as lesser-known



books and stories, and we will have to teach more about copyright laws so that the teachers don’t just download and use materials in their classes indiscriminately. More time downloading and more time locating materials means more collaboration with teachers. Common Core also requires greater usage of technology elements in lessons by giving students choices on projects that will ensure they are learning some new technology tools and not just sticking to the usual PowerPoint presentations. Glogs will need to have student-produced audio or video added, and Photo Stories will need to have slides converted to pictures. These are excellent reasons for librarians to delve into Web 2.0 in order to suggest tools that will fit teachers’ needs.

With the new Common Core standards, there is more collaboration across the board, and so school librarians will have a big role in the conversion process. Don’t miss the boat! Meet with each department as they work out their new frameworks. Let them see how varied the abilities of school librarians are, as information specialist, curriculum leader, information locator, teacher collaborator and all those other roles listed in the American Association for School Librarians’ Information Power. It just could be our time to shine. My wiki has a whole page devoted to all things Common Core (aaimlibrarywiki.wikispaces.com), so please download whatever you need without joining this wiki. Dive in, read up on PARCC and Gates and all the players in Common Core and bring the best to the table for your school.

Rachel

Rachel Shankles is the Library/Media Specialist at Lakeside High School in Hot Springs.

Look Out for NOOKs at the BPL

By Hadi S. Dudley

Bentonville Public Library Director

Beginning Monday, July 30th, patrons at Bentonville Public Library (BPL) may check out a NOOK for three weeks, with preloaded content. The Bentonville Library Foundation received a grant for \$12,500 from the Walton Family Foundation to purchase e-reader devices and e-books for community use, especially those in the community who want to take an e-reader device for a test drive and those who would not otherwise be able to afford one.

The grant funds allowed Bentonville Library to purchase 26 NOOK devices and more than 300 e-book titles, plus covers, bags and other accessories for the program. Each NOOK contains ten or more titles that are similar in genre. Hand-picked by Librarians, BPL's NOOKs will provide readers of all ages with the most popular e-books across varied subjects. New content will be added quarterly to keep BPL's NOOK collections current.

Bentonville Public Library has established responsible policies and procedures to protect the new NOOK investment. The loan program includes "kit" style packaging for the device, accessories and

program information. WIFI capabilities are disabled, to protect Library settings on each device.

To check out a NOOK, patrons must be 18 years or older and provide a valid library card and current government-issued photo identification. Patrons will also sign a NOOK agreement, accepting responsibility for the device. Loan periods are three weeks and late fees are \$1.00 per day. At this time, NOOK loans are not renewable. Patrons are required to return the NOOK inside the Library, as opposed to the Library's bookdrop terminals. The library will disable the device and charge the patron the full cost if a NOOK becomes ten days overdue.

The Library Foundation partnered with Barnes & Noble for NOOKs because of the local support from the retail store in Rogers. Brenda Compton, Development Director explains, "The Foundation wanted this initiative to enhance and support library services in our community, but we needed the program to be easily manageable for BPL staff." Local training and support is important with new technologies. Additionally, the e-book content will be managed by Barnes & Noble, saving the library staff time.

To learn more about BPL's NOOK program, call 479-271-3192 or visit bentonvillelibrary.org.



A Bentonville Public Library patron uses one of the NOOK e-readers purchased with a \$12,500 grant from the Walton Family Foundation. *Photos submitted by Hadi S. Dudley.*

ASK THE STATE LIBRARIAN: The State of the State Library

By Carolyn Ashcraft, State Librarian
Arkansas State Library

For this issue's "Ask the State Librarian" column, we did just that. What follows is a conversation with Arkansas State Librarian, Carolyn Ashcraft.

In November you will complete seven years as State Librarian, what has been your biggest challenge during this time?

The biggest challenge would have to be the move from the Big-MAC building at One Capitol Mall to our current location at 900 West Capitol Avenue. We spent almost two years in the preparation and that meant weeding of our collection and evaluation of our other contents. The move was accomplished from Dec. 26, 2009 through Jan. 15, 2010. Relocation was not one of the changes we had envisioned, but I can say that it has been a good thing for this agency, and we are in a beautiful facility with outstanding furnishings and great meeting rooms.

What other challenges has the State Library seen?

We've had several staff retire and new staff has been hired. We've been through a needs assessment and sought feedback from our patrons (i.e. state government and Arkansas libraries) on the services and programs we offer or should offer. That report was also a starting point for the development of our new LSTA Five-Year Plan (2013-2017), which has been submitted to the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for approval.

In light of the economic recession, how has the State Library fared?

I'm pleased to report that since 2008 our agency has seen a 2% increase in federal funding and a 5% increase in State funding. Arkansas State government has weathered the recession very well, in my opinion, and that's mostly due to the strategic planning of Governor Beebe, the members of the Arkansas Legislature, and the wise counsel



Ashcraft

of Richard Weiss, director of the Department of Finance and Administration. Those increases aren't large, but I'll take a small increase over a decline any day! The public libraries have seen an increase of 16% in the State Aid to Public Libraries funding during this same time period. That shows the commitment of the Governor and the Legislature in assisting libraries.

I am a member of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), and when we gather for meetings we go around the room, state by state, and tell how things are going. I've heard reports of massive budget cuts, loss of state aid funding, frozen job positions, staff cuts, restricted travel, and so on. Approximately 45 of the states have negative stories to tell. I sit there and feel very fortunate that I don't have those kinds of stories to tell because our state has a balanced budget and we have weathered the storm very well.

You often speak of the need for change. Can you tell us what changes have occurred already and what will we see in the future?

I'm a believer in the adage that change is necessary for growth. We've taken a hard look at our agency, our services and programs and we have begun to make changes – one step at a time. Part of this effort has included shifting job responsibilities within sections, renaming of areas to more accurately reflect their focus, realignment of positions, additional training for staff, and even rearrangement of some of the collection.

One goal is to expand the State Library's role in support of State government by increasing our efforts in digitizing and providing access to State documents and publications. We hope to use various forms of technology to make the collection accessible to all residents of Arkansas.

Another goal is to focus more on collaborating with others in state and federal government, as well as the library community as a whole. We've had great success with the Traveler database project (which is funded in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education), and I am certain we can develop other opportunities for partnerships. Sharing knowledge, expertise, ideas, and funding will lead to new options and change – and that is exciting!

Additionally, we will continue our efforts to improve the programs and resources we have which support libraries. In recent years we expanded our consulting staff from three to five

positions. They can assist with general library issues, as well as in specific areas (for example, E-rate, technology, children's programs, Center for the Book, and so on). They travel the state to work directly with librarians, library boards, library staff, and book clubs. Our reference staff uses various means to provide resources, including a presence on Facebook and a reference blog. Our information officer has taken the newsletter to an online version.

What do you see for the future of the State

Library?

We are in the midst of our 75th year as an agency and we are in a really good place right now. In the next decade, we will continue our efforts and stay open to change. We will embrace new technologies as they develop. We will strengthen our partnerships and develop new ones. We will refocus on our mandate to support government and the development of libraries.

In 75 years we've come a long way. I think our best years are still ahead!

ArLA Constitutional Amendments 2012

Resolution 1: That the Arkansas Library Association dissolve its relationship with the Southeastern Library Association effective Jan. 1, 2013, and that the Arkansas Library Association Constitution and Bylaws be modified as needed to reflect this change.

Resolution 2: That the Arkansas Library Association create a 'Website Committee' as a standing committee of the association, that the chair of the Website Committee replace the 'Webmaster' as a voting member of the Executive Board, and that the Arkansas Library Association Constitution and Bylaws be modified as needed to reflect this change.

Resolution 3: That the Arkansas Libraries Managing and Associate Editors be given voting rights on the Executive Board, and that the Arkansas Library Association Constitution and Bylaws be modified as needed to reflect this change.



Getting down at the American Library Association Annual Conference which kicked off in Anaheim, Calif., on June 22. If you haven't already done so, see Ron Russ' report on the conference on page 6. *Photo submitted by Ron Russ.*

regulations, the materials in the ASL collection, and items for the Arkansas History Commission. Michael has stayed up-to-date on numerous technological and professional developments affecting cataloging and classification services and is considered by many to be an expert on the new RDA (Resource Description and Access). We editors are especially grateful for Michael's expertise and willingness to provide the yearly index for Arkansas Libraries.

Elizabeth Danley, whose primary responsibility is reference, is retiring after thirteen years at the ASL. Elizabeth's knowledge has been particularly helpful in assisting patrons with searches in the Patent and Trademark resources. State Librarian Carolyn Ashcraft notes, "Her commitment to quality customer service is well known and many customers ask specifically for her when they return." In addition to practicing librarianship, Elizabeth has also taught courses at Florida State University and the University of Central Arkansas.



Alice Coleman, Director of the Texarkana Public Library, is retiring in October. During her 31 year tenure, TPL has seen many changes and dealt with many challenges. Alice's leadership skills have been evident in both Arkansas and Texas as she has been an active participant in meetings and workshops. On the Arkansas side, she has served as an officer and committee member of the Arkansas Library Association and has always been willing to serve on the advisory committees to the State Library. We wish her the best in her retirement!



Connie Zimmer, Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Master of Education in Instructional Technology at Arkansas Tech University, wanted to inform the Arkansas library community that the School Library Media Program at ATU has been nationally recognized by the ALA/AASL/NCATE Specialty Program Area Reviewers. This review cycle is the first since the Program at ATU switched from AECT to AASL.



Sara Seaman, the Director at National Park Community College's library, is proud to announce the completion of a remodeling project. The library sports new paint, new carpet, and new seating, as well as a new shelving arrangement to expand the "reading room" area and to showcase their Arkansas collection. Moving it from a back wall to a center aisle has increased usage and interest in the collection.



A reminder to Arkansas librarians: please submit news items to me for the next Arkansas Libraries issue! Births, deaths, new hires, retirements, funding, new buildings, and news that affects Arkansas libraries would be perfect fits for this column. Just jot me an email at murphyb@hendrix.edu, and you'll most likely see it published in our journal.

Britt Anne Murphy is the Associate Librarian at Bailey Library at Hendrix College.



The National Park Community College's library has reopened after an extensive remodeling project. Photo submitted by National Park Community College Library Director Sara Seaman.

Library of Congress Rep Visits BPL

By Hadi S. Dudley

Bentonville Public Library Director

In late July, Beth Davis-Brown, a librarian visiting from the Library of Congress, met with staff of the Bentonville Public Library about the LOC and her work, and she demonstrated some online resources freely available from the Library.

Some of the helpful links and information Miss Beth shared with the group include the following items. The Library of Congress's main web site is reached via loc.gov.

About LOC Collections

Today's Library of Congress is an unparalleled world resource. The collection of more than 151 million items includes more than 34.5 million cataloged books and other print materials in 470 languages; more than 66.6 million manuscripts; the largest rare book collection in North America; and the world's largest collection of legal materials, films, maps,

sheet music and sound recordings.

- General Information: tinyurl.com/6fupeu
- Collection Development Policies: tinyurl.com/9qtblh8 and tinyurl.com/9ncha99
- Catalogers Learning Workshop: tinyurl.com/989kblb
- Prints & Photographs Online Catalog: loc.gov/pictures
- Chronicling America: chroniclingamerica.loc.gov
- Teachers – Classroom Materials (also good for home schooling): tinyurl.com/8yfszgz
- Library of Congress Webcasts: tinyurl.com/yr2znn
- Most Frequently Asked Questions about LOC: loc.gov/about/faqs.html



Bentonville Public Library staff visits with Beth Davis-Brown from the Library of Congress. *Photo submitted by Hadi S. Dudley.*

NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM THE ARKANSAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ARKANSAS PRIOR BIRTH INDEX VOLUME 10

Volume 10 of the Prior Birth Index continues the work of the Arkansas Genealogical Society in indexing the birth records of Arkansans born prior to 1 February 1914. This volume indexes records of births that occurred in the late nineteenth century and up through 1911. The original certificates contain a wealth of information of interest to genealogists and historians. As with the previous volumes, these records have not been published previously and none of the data in the volume set is duplicated. The births are indexed from the original certificates held by the Vital Records section of the Arkansas Health Department in Little Rock. The Health Department allows AGS to publish the index to all birth certificates that are 100 years old. The index includes the year of filing, binder number, volume number, and certificate number necessary to order a copy of the original certificate from Vital Records. This book is priced at \$80.00 + shipping. State and local sales tax must be added for Arkansas residents.

CD OF ARKANSAS PRIOR BIRTH INDEX, VOLUMES 1-10

This CD contains the combined indexes of Volumes 1-10. It is searchable by birth name, mother's maiden name, and county. The index provides the year of filing, and binder, volume and certificate numbers necessary to order a copy of a certificate. The CD sells for \$15.00 + shipping. Arkansas residents must add state and local sales tax.

THE ARKANSAS FAMILY HISTORIAN – CD 1962-2011

In celebration of our 50th Anniversary, we have published on CD all issues of *The Arkansas Family Historian*, the quarterly journal of the Arkansas Genealogical Society, from our first 50 years. It is searchable using Adobe Reader and sells for \$15.00 + shipping. Arkansas residents must add state and local sales tax.

Item	Qty	Price	Total
<i>Arkansas Prior Birth Index Vol. 10, 867 pages, hardbound</i>		\$80	
<i>Arkansas Prior Birth Index Vols. 1-10, CD</i>		\$15	
<i>The Arkansas Family Historian: 1962-2011, CD</i>		\$15	
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Subtotal including shipping			
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\$50.00-\$100.00	\$10.00
Over \$100.00	10% of order

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Calendar of Events

*** Arkansas Library Association (ArLA)**

October 14-16, Springdale

Check out the Arkansas State Library's Events page

For additional events: <http://www.library.arkansas.gov>