

ARKANSAS LIBRARIES

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J V S T I C E

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ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARKANSAS

◦
WHY READ?
◦

2013 ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Arkansas Library Association

Arkansas Library Association, 2013



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Arkansas Libraries

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FROM THE ARLA PRESIDENT: Making Connections Down Every Road

by *Trish Miller*, Learning Resource System Manager III
Remington College

It's hard to believe summer is over and school has started. I've received several emails from school librarians who retired this past spring. An email from one retiree stated, "Last day here... all alone – bittersweet locking up for the last time. You'll have to come see my plaque! It is beautiful, but it may disappear after five years... none of the children will remember who I was." I personally believe many current and past students will always remember the influence this librarian had on their lives. I'd like to wish all our retirees the best and thank them for their many years of service in the profession.



Miller

In May I attended the Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals spring conference in Hot Springs. Their goal for the conference was to share information through valuable sessions while networking with fellow attendees. The committee wanted members to leave motivated and with optimism for the future of their Division. It was an honor to speak on behalf of the Association at their luncheon on Wednesday. My goal was to assure each person how important he or she is to the organization, library field, and the communities he or she serves. I appreciated the invitation from Division Chair, Shya Washington, the council, and the conference committee.

The ALA Conference was held in Chicago this year. It was my first time to attend an annual conference. I'd like to thank the Association for this wonderful opportunity. At first it was overwhelming and intimidating, however, around the third day I began to feel comfortable and enjoyed attending sessions and meetings. ALA Councilor meetings were the most informative in regards to ALA and our Association. I was very impressed with the way the meetings were conducted and the representation by our ALA Councilor Hadi Dudley. The best program session I attended was the ACRL's Division program, "Standing on Marbles: Ensuring Steady Leadership in Unsteady Times" with Karol M. Wasylshyn. This program could easily be expanded

for a one day workshop. The auditorium speaker list was outstanding. It was difficult to choose which ones to attend. I'd have to say hearing Alice Walker speak and getting to meet her was one of my highlights. Also, congratulations to ArLA Interim President-Elect Devona Pendergrass who was elected SPVS Representative to the AASL Board of Directors at the ALA conference. There wasn't much time for sight-seeing. ALA Councilor Hadi Dudley coordinated an Arkansas evening for dinner at a quaint Italian restaurant downtown on Sunday evening. It felt like being home, that is, until we got in the cab. We were quickly reminded we were in a big city where our southern accent was totally misunderstood. Ah, but that's another story. I was honored to attend the Inaugural brunch for incoming ALA President, Barbara Stripling. After brunch I made it down to the Chicago Public Library. It is the largest municipal, public, circulating library in the country. There are over 700,000 square feet and over 70 miles of shelving. The interior and exterior materials include granite, marble, terrazzo, brass, mahogany, red brick, and natural bronze. It has ten floors and includes a beautiful indoor winter garden. It is also home to \$1,000,000.00 worth of public art. The self-guided tour was an incredible experience.

I received an invitation and will be attending the opening of the ArASL conference in Little Rock on July 29th. I'll be sharing information on current goals of the Association, the fall conference, and the partnerships of our organization with ALA.

Our conference chair, Nicole Stroud has been very busy working on the 2013 conference to be held in Hot Springs October 6-8 at the Embassy Suites in Hot Springs. The registration form is located on the website at <http://arlib.org/organization/>. The program schedule features a variety of topics and speakers. We are pleased to have ALA past President Maureen Sullivan and Pam Sandlin-Smith, 2010 Colorado Librarian of the Year, as keynote speakers this year. Also, *MAD Magazine* editor, Joe Raiola and the Intellectual Freedom committee will be doing a preconference session, October 5th. Nicole has worked hard to put sessions together for all library types. We're looking forward to having a wonderful conference. Please join us and experience the journey of "making connections and meeting needs down every road."

Trish Miller, the President of the Arkansas Library Association, is Learning Resource Manager III for Remington College.

EDITORIAL WHIT: Expecting a Busy Summer

by *Whitney Ivy*

Managing Editor

School has begun once again, but instead of pulsing with stress like I normally would be, I am radiating serenity and calm. I have two reasons for this newfound serenity and calmness. The first is I am, for the first time, getting to enjoy being a full-time librarian in my school district rather than taking on classroom duties as an English teacher as well. I am so excited about this change in our district because I will finally be able to do all of the programming and collaborative projects that I have been dreaming about being able to accomplish for seven years. I am very appreciative of my district for making this wonderful change. I truly believe that the implementation of Common Core is making districts all across the state see the true value that lies in having great library media programs with great librarians, rather than a place to JUST check out books.

The second reason I can be so calm in the storm that is typically the beginning of a new school year is that I know my days are limited—if Lucy has not made her debut by next Thursday (August 29th), we will go into the hospital to have her. I spent a good portion of my summer preparing for her arrival—serious nesting mode. My sweet little family is



Ivy

very excited about her imminent arrival; although, it has dawned on four-year-old Henry that he will no longer be the baby, so we are trying to ease his anxieties. One way that I believe we will help him cope with this new change and bond with his baby sister is keeping him home from daycare while I am on maternity leave. I will be off for twelve weeks and am extremely grateful for the Family Medical Leave Act which will allow this precious time with Lucy and Henry. Grey will continue to go to kindergarten, where he is doing as well as can be expected of a typical, rambunctious, five-year-old boy. The first day of kindergarten was a success complete with a sticker for being “good.” The second day was a bit more challenging for him in the behavioral department—he got check marks for talking in the line (if you know me, you know where he got the talkativeness gene).

The only downside to my maternity leave is that I will not be able to attend the fabulous conference that Nicole Stroud has planned for all of us in Hot Springs this year. I hope that all of you will be able to attend the conference so I may live vicariously through you—be sure to bid at the basket auction! The ArLA Conference provides so many networking opportunities for the many different types of library positions across our state and is truly valuable to our professional growth and development. I look forward to hearing about your great experiences at the conference—perhaps in the form of an article for the winter issue of *Arkansas Libraries*. As always, I hope you enjoy this issue. Happy Reading!

Whitney

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

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Encyclopedia of Arkansas

by *Guy Lancaster*

Central Arkansas Library System

The *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture (EOA)*, a project of the Butler Center from Arkansas Studies at the Central Arkansas Library System (CALs), arose from the need for a comprehensive and reliable reference work on Arkansas. Tom Dillard, then curator at the Butler Center, began planning the *Encyclopedia* in late 2002, leading a team who researched other state encyclopedias and then held regional meetings across Arkansas to solicit input from local historical and genealogical societies, county and regional museums, academic institutions, relevant state agencies, and archival and research facilities.

In the fall of 2003, the *Encyclopedia's* newly formed Oversight and Editorial Boards met for the first time. In December of that year, the project received a grant of \$1.28 million from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, placing it on firm financial footing. Other major contributors followed, including the Department of Arkansas Heritage, the Arkansas Humanities Council, and the Arkansas General

Assembly. Dillard resigned from the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies in 2004 and went to the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, but the project continued.

When the *EOA* debuted as a work in progress in May 2006, it contained approximately 700 entries and 900 pieces of media. At present, the *EOA* has over 3,200 entries and 4,200 pieces of media. The website has been visited from all seven continents (including Antarctica) and 217 countries. (Of course, debate ranges over what constitutes a country—our number includes some occupied territories, overseas colonies, autonomous administrative districts, etc.) When the grant funding from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation was exhausted, CALs director Dr. Bobby Roberts and Butler Center head Dr. David Stricklin elected to retain the *EOA* staff, thereby sustaining the project with direct institutional support, which it maintains to the present day. This generous support has allowed the project to continue to grow even beyond what was originally imagined.

In recent years, the *EOA* has received grants from the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission to develop entries on many of the minor

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Encyclopedia of Arkansas. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: "About the Encyclopedia / Get Involved / Resources / Helpful Tips / Site Map / Contact Us". Below this is the main header with the logo and title "THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARKANSAS HISTORY & CULTURE". A navigation bar below the header includes "encyclopedia navigation:" followed by buttons for "BROWSE ENTRIES", "BROWSE MEDIA", "SEE WHAT'S NEW", a search box with "Enter keywords...", and "SEARCH Advanced Search".

The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column features "PHOTO OF THE DAY" with a photo of a silver service presentation and a caption: "The presentation of a silver service to the crew of a newly commissioned ship is a time-honored tradition in the U.S. Navy. On April 23, 1919, Daisy Dalony presented the service shown here to the crew of the USS *Arkansas* on behalf of the people of Arkansas and Governor Charles Brough. As of 2011, it is on loan from the navy to the State of Arkansas and is housed at the Governor's Mansion in Little Rock (Pulaski County). View Photo Gallery". Below this is the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation logo and text: "Major funding provided by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation".

The center column features a large photo of a group of people, with a timeline below it showing years from 1950 to 2000. Below the timeline is a "Welcome" message: "The Encyclopedia of Arkansas is a free, authoritative source of information about the rich history, geography, and culture of Arkansas. It is updated regularly to ensure the people of Arkansas have an accurate and accessible resource to explore our heritage. It will also benefit people outside the state who are seeking information about Arkansas. We invite you to browse our text entries and media galleries to learn more about the people, places, events, legends, and lore of the 25th state. This site is a work in progress. We are continually adding new entries, photographs, maps, videos, and audio files."

The right column features "THIS DAY IN ARKANSAS HISTORY" for "September 14, 1948". The text reads: "Johnny Franklin Sain, with teammate and future Hall of Fame member Warren Spahn, became enshrined in a popular rhyme originally published in the *Boston Post*: 'First we'll use Spahn / then we'll use Sain / Then an off day / followed by rain / Back will come Spahn / followed by Sain / And followed / we hope / by two days of rain.'" This later became shortened to, "Spahn and Sain and pray for rain." Sain was an Arkansas-born star major league pitcher and is widely considered to have been the best pitching coach in major league baseball history. As a pitcher, he won 139 games, the third-highest total for an Arkansas native; only Dizzy Dean, with 150 victories, and Lon Warneke, with 192, won more. (more)

At the bottom right, there is a calendar for "SEPTEMBER" with a table showing the days of the week and dates. The date 14 is highlighted in red.

Visit the Encyclopedia of Arkansas online at EncyclopediaOfArkansas.net.

skirmishes that occurred across the state, and to date we have added over 100 of those to the website, with many more in progress. These are some of the understudied events of the Civil War that, minor they may be in the grand scheme of things, nonetheless had an important impact upon local areas and more accurately represent the varied experience of the war for the majority of soldiers than does an exclusive focus upon the grand, set-piece battles. But what the *EOA* is doing for the Civil War, it is also doing for so many other subjects. For example, right now, the *EOA* has entries on all counties and county seats, all first-class cities and most second-class cities, but it continues to add to its store numerous towns and unincorporated communities—even places that do not exist anymore, such as the Randolph County town of Columbia, one of the oldest settlements in northeastern Arkansas, or Villemont, which was the first seat of Chicot County but later, in 1847, washed away into the Mississippi River. Nowadays, we are also taking entries on any location on the National Register of Historic Places.

At one time, we thought that we might reach an eventual stopping point in adding content, but the more we add, the more possibilities that open up for other entries, especially when it comes to developing content focusing upon local history. Much of what drives the readership of—and contributions to—the *EOA* is the desire to publicize the stories of people's own communities. As the authors Gillian R. Overing and Marijane Osborn write, "It seems as though the nature of the story does not matter so much as the fact that a place has a story. A place with a story is special, for those who live there and those who wander there alike." Unfortunately, growing up in Arkansas can often lead to the belief that history is something that happens elsewhere—that our state stands on the sidelines of the great movements that have taken our country by storm. However, nothing can be further from the truth. In a log schoolhouse, eight miles southwest of Des Arc, there was formed in 1882 an organization known as the Agricultural Wheel, a farmers' union that expanded into ten other states, becoming a political force for late nineteenth-century populist organizations such as the Grange or the Knights of Labor. During much of the Cold War, Titan II ballistic missiles were stationed in several sites in the Arkansas River Valley region. The second-wave feminist experiment in creating intentional communities had many representatives in the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas, including the Yellowhammer community and the Ozark Land Holding Association. More recently, the EAST

Initiative—a nationally recognized educational model combining elements of technology education, collaborative teamwork, and service learning—premiered in the high school of Greenbrier in 1995.

In short, Arkansas has never been on the sidelines of American history. History has happened here, and history continues to happen here. Our entries cover a vast span of time, starting about 10,000 years ago, when the first human beings began settling into what is now Arkansas, to the present day. Our entries cover a varied subject matter beyond just the highlights of history. Though this project is the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*, this does not mean that the realms of science or law, for example, lay outside our purview. Check out the entry on "Slime Molds" for a slightly different take on "culture" (along with some wonderful photographs). Or take a gander at the famous court case of *J. R. Poisson v. Etienne d'Avril*—famous because it never actually took place but was instead an April Fools' Day joke by the renowned Justice George Rose Smith. And since all of our history takes place on the ground beneath our feet, it only makes sense to have pieces covering the physical geography of the state: its hills, prairies, rivers, caves, and bayous.

As should now be clear, Arkansas history is not just the Civil War and Central High. It's the oddities: the White River Monster, which is the only state mythical creature with an actual wildlife refuge set aside for it; the ghost legends that encompass so many areas of the state; and the Zerbe Air Sedan, an early flying machine that had its only successful (in the loosest sense of the word) test flight in Fayetteville.

It's the scoundrels: famous medical quack John Richard Brinkley, who claimed to be able to restore men's virility with goat gonad transplants; House Speaker John Wilson, who killed state Representative Joseph J. Anthony with a Bowie knife on the floor of the House during a debate about wolf pelts; and Leo McLaughlin, the undisputed political boss of Hot Springs who fostered the town's gambling operations.

It's also the unsung heroes: Hilda Kornish, founder of the state's birth control movement; the members of the Arkansas Council on Human Relations, who helped foster peaceful desegregation of Hoxie schools in 1955; and Margaret Pittman, who developed a vaccine for whooping cough.

That the *EOA* has been so successful in capturing these stories, in capturing the imagination of readers throughout the state and the world, depends, in large part, upon the project's origins within a public library system. After all, public libraries have typically been

those organizations which have sought to preserve local history, served as the anchors of county and community historical societies, and set up rooms devoted to Arkansas history, long before public schools or universities had it on the curriculum. Libraries, after all, work to balance the needs and wants of a community, to represent for its public the state of the literary world at large (all those canonical texts) while also serving those basic human needs for entertainment, inspiration, and practical instruction. While the *EOA* can provide plenty for those three categories (just look up “Jonesboro Church Wars,” “Louise Thaden,” and “Soil Conservation”), we, more importantly, work to address the more basic need to have some grounding in the world around us, to understand the place we inhabit, to give voice to those stories of which we are a part.

Last year, the *EOA* received a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council to develop a mobile-device friendly website—one you can more easily navigate on your smart phone, for example—as well as more entries on local places and culture. We launched that project at the beginning of this year, and feedback has been quite positive, including an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History. Since so much information these days is accessed through mobile devices, our hope for this project was to provide a platform by which people out and about across the state could easily look up something about the town they are passing through, or a means for teachers to access authoritative information while conducting a field trip.

Right now, we have on staff an education coordinator who travels the state, leading programs on using *EOA* content to teach almost any subject according to Common Core standards, and many entries have links to lesson plans developed by the Butler Center; for example, the entry on the *Aaron v. Cooper* civil rights court case links to the “Walk in My Shoes” lesson plan developed for Grades 5–8. Teachers should feel comfortable using the *EOA*, for unlike a lot of material online, it is designed to be authoritative. When an entry comes in, it is reviewed by an editor and a staff historian before going to an outside reviewer for additional scrutiny. Often, the entry will be sent back to the author with the request that s/he respond to select comments or criticisms. Once it comes back, the editor and staff historian look it over again and fact-check its content before having it copy edited. Of course, errors do sometimes creep in, especially those errors that have long been repeated by secondary sources, but one of the

advantages of being an online encyclopedia is that content can be tweaked once any inaccuracy has been brought to our attention.

We aim to be as accurate as possible and always welcome reader attention. Our readership consists of more than just teachers and students. As mentioned above, we have had visits from 217 countries across the world. The *EOA* has been cited in the *New York Times* and the website of CNN.com, among other national outlets, as well as numerous state and local media, including the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, the *Arkansas Times*, and SportingLifeArkansas.com, just to name a few. In addition, state and local government regularly rely upon the *EOA*. (Indeed, an unfortunate technical glitch while the state legislature was in session a few years back made us aware that the governor’s office and members of the Arkansas General Assembly were among our readers, since they were calling regularly to find out why it was down.)

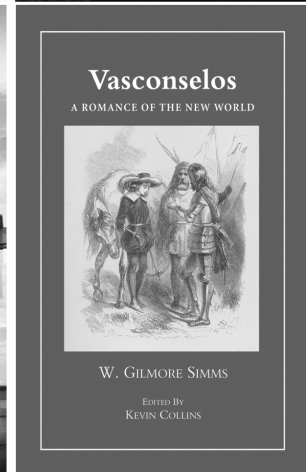
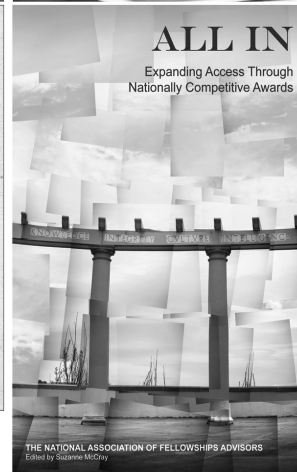
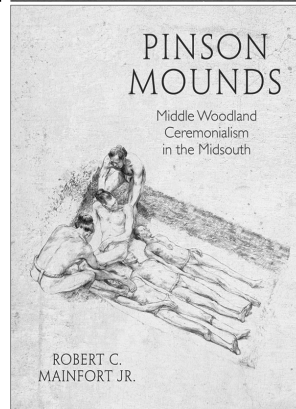
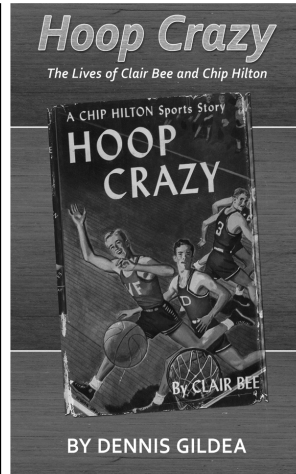
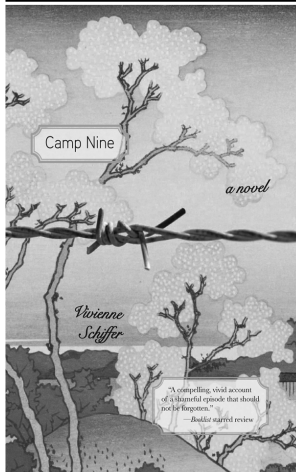
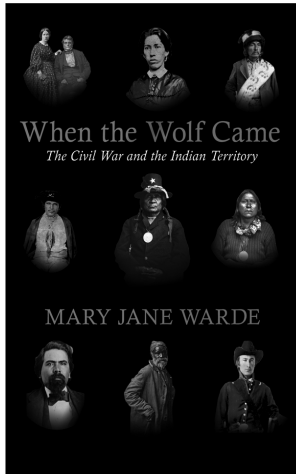
What does the future hold? We have begun to investigate the possibility of developing a mobile application (app) that would read your position and generate for you a list of entries that fall within a designated radius. Want to know what might be in your immediate area that is of historical interest? This could do that for you. We continue to work with teachers and students to make our content more easily accessible for classroom or outside-the-classroom use. And we are always open to ideas about how we can better serve the public.

Our future, however, largely consists of more of the past—more of those uncovered stories brought to the light of day. As of this writing, we are just over half-finished with 2013, and already we have added over 200 entries to the *EOA* website during this year alone, entries written by professors, history professionals, students, and amateurs, all united by a love of learning and writing about Arkansas. Anyone is welcome to write for the *EOA*—all it takes is time and a willingness to do the research. Or you can send us scans of any historic photographs you might have that would help to illustrate any of our entries. There are any number of ways to become involved. After all, the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas* is your encyclopedia. You get to help make it better and better.

Guy Lancaster is the Editor of the Encyclopedia of Arkansas and thanks the staff of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies for their assistance in writing this article.

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ASK THE STATE LIBRARIAN: Why Read?

By *Carolyn Ashcraft, State Librarian*
Arkansas State Library

When I tell people I am a librarian, they often respond with “You must love to read!” I would guess that a large percentage of my colleagues have had that same experience. There is nothing like the joy of working with children as they learn their ABC’s and start putting words and sentences together. We start them out with board books and hope to instill a love of reading that will carry them through their childhood and on into adult life.



Ashcraft

In a previous article Zoe Butler, Coordinator of the Arkansas Center for the Book at the Arkansas State Library, highlighted the Letters About Literature program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Since 2001 the Arkansas CFB has sponsored the state competition and recognized the many students who have participated.

Margaret Lim of Searcy and Abbie Beaver of Jessieville, two of the winners at the state level in 2012, were selected as national winners. The announcement of their selection as national winners was not made until after the 2012 ceremony so Butler invited them to return to the 2013 Letters About Literature ceremony on May 4th at the Old State House in Little Rock. They were asked to write an original essay on the topic “Why Read?”

As Margaret and Abbie stood at the podium and read their essays, I was inspired by their words. I marveled at their intelligence and insight, their creativity and their poise. I saw the pride and love that emanated on the faces of their parents, grandparents, teachers, and sponsors.

With their permission, we are delighted to bring to you their original essays.

Why Read?

Today I want to take you back in time. The place might have been your living room couch, your classroom or that ever so comfortable bed

you curled up in when you wanted to be safe. No matter where you were, this was the day your world opened up right before your eyes. It was the day you discovered your first real taste of independence. How it happened you probably aren’t quite sure. However, when you discovered that the wavy lines on the page with pictures were words, your world changed. It was the day you knew you could read, and with this new independence, whether you knew it or not, your life was changed forever.

In our world of advanced technology many people take for granted the ability to read. After all, the easy thing to do is push on an app where a picture appears to take you to any venue you can imagine; sports, music, news, and, yes, even books. However, what happens when the picture isn’t there because of a power outage or your battery is dead? No matter how advanced society gets we all need the basic skills of reading. We need the feeling of independence that comes with knowing you can never be at a loss of knowledge that comes with reading the printed word. No electronic device or technology – just you and the words printed on paper pages.

I am asked by a lot of my friends, “Why do you read so much?” I usually just smile and think to myself, “Why don’t you read more?” I never really thought about why I love to read. It has been something I have had a passion for as long as I can remember. Most people say I acquire my love for reading from my Mom, Grandmother, and Godmother. If so, thank you for all the books you have purchased and giving me a key to something that can never be taken away – the key to reading.

With this key I have had the power to travel to different planets with *The Illustrated Man* and to Neverland with *Peter Pan*. I have talked with *Angelina Ballerina* and helped lead a revolt with the animals of *Animal Farm*. I have experienced life before I was born by reading history books and learned the miracles of science through biology. I have cried over love notes, rejoiced over birthday cards, and cuddled with loved ones as we laughed over the adventures of *Junie B. Jones* and *Captain Underpants*. I have looked into the depths of Poe and even saved the world with Captain America.

Now I want to ask each person here to remember the day you knew you could read; the day you got your key to independence. Now I challenge everyone to help someone learn to read. They can be a child or an adult, but please pass

on the key to reading. Technology is here to stay; however, it might travel too fast for all of us to keep up. The pages of a book will only move as fast as we want them to, and the story can only be limited by our imagination. Open up someone's world. Give them a key.

With my key I have let my imagination roam freely over land, sea, and space, always knowing that I can come back to my own special place. The key of reading is the key to compassion, knowledge, and wealth. It is the one key I will never lose, and the key that has and will continue to open the world to me. So when people ask me "Why Read," I will answer because it sets me free. It is the key to finding me.

-- *Abbie Beaver, Jessieville Middle School*



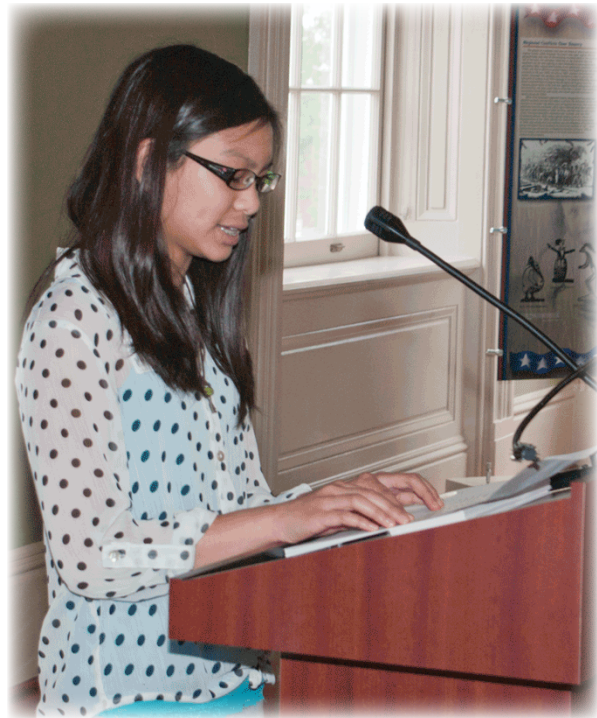
Abbie Beaver

Why Read?

Reading is powerful. It can make an angry person laugh and a happy person cry. It shows you excitement and builds up suspense. Reading is also travel. Your body stays where ever you are, but your mind goes to a faraway place. While you are in the refuge of the book's pages, your stress is taken from you. The words wash your worries away and trade it with thrilling moments of bliss. Some books are roller coasters. They keep you at the edge of your seat and don't stop bringing

up unexpected turns and twists until the very end. Since reading has all of these effects, why wouldn't you read? Reading teaches us life lessons and helps us understand that we're not alone in our problems. Even if a book is solid fantasy, you can find insight and conflicts that are very similar to real life. Reading also gives us best friends that we know we'll never forget. When it feels like no one else is there for us, books are. They welcome you with the smell of crisp, fresh pages, and introduce you to all the characters. And then there are the books that you're having so much fun with, you can't pull away from them until the very last page. Books are magical.

-- *Margaret Lim, Ahlf Junior High School, Searcy*



Margaret Lim

I want to thank the classroom teachers and school librarians, the parents and family members, who encourage their students to enter the Letters About Literature competition. I appreciate the efforts of the judges who work with Zoe Butler to read through the hundreds of entries and select our state winners. For more information about the Letters About Literature program, visit www.read.gov or www.library.arkansas.gov.

Carolyn Ashcraft is the State Librarian for Arkansas State Library.

ALA COUNCILOR'S REPORT 2013 ALA Annual Conference

by Hadi Dudley, Bentonville Public Library

The 2013 American Library Association Annual (ALA) Conference was held in Chicago, IL on June 27th-July 2nd. The theme was “Transforming libraries, engaging communities” and 26,362 attendees learned at sessions, attended meetings, visited exhibits, and networked with colleagues.



Dudley

Keynote speakers included Giada De Laurentiis, Alice Walker, and Ann Patchett. Additionally, several other notable authors were featured and autographed books for participants such as Khaled Hosseini, Oliver Stone, Peter Kuznick, and Jaron Lanier. The closing general session featured Octavia Spencer chatting with 2013-2014 ALA President Barbara Stripling. For more information, see the “annual conference wrap-up” featured in the July/August 2013 *American Libraries* magazine.

As the Arkansas Library Association (ArLA) Chapter Councilor, I attended nine different meetings, sessions, and forums. During council sessions, I voted on “hot topic” issues. Additionally, I was elected by council to serve on the Planning and Budget Assembly



ALA 2012-2013 President-Elect Barbara Stripling and ALA Councilor Hadi Dudley with the “Declaration for the Right to Libraries” scroll. Photo submitted by Hadi Dudley.



for the next two years. I also presented a resolution to council reaffirming ALA’s commitment to basic literacy; this was a resolution that originated in the ALA Committee on Literacy. The resolution passed!

Membership Meeting

During the ALA membership meeting, we heard reports from 2012-2013 President Maureen Sullivan, 2013-2014 President-Elect Barbara Stripling, and Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels. Of great interest was Stripling’s discussion of her planned presidential initiative, “Libraries Transform Lives.” This “Declaration for the Right to Libraries” focuses on three issues: Literacy, Innovation, and Community Engagement.

The initiative launched in July with planned events at school libraries and a full media campaign this October in recognition of School Library Week. Libraries of all types will be encouraged to participate in this program by hosting signing celebrations across the United States. The act of physically signing is meaningful and will be important to this program, but digital promotion and electronic signatures will also be incorporated into ALA marketing opportunities. In the spring of 2014, signatures will be “presented at a national summit and ceremony.”

According to Stripling, “We are an ecosystem of libraries” and this initiative will be a “vibrant system” of “all libraries working together.” Her hope for this campaign is to engage “active voices in support of all libraries.” ArLA is forming an ad hoc committee to communicate and coordinate state efforts, so watch for details as we bring this advocacy tool to Arkansas libraries. Refer to the conclusion of this report for a copy of the “Declaration for the Right to Libraries.”

At the end of the membership meeting we learned more about the 2012-2013 Special Presidential Task Force on School Libraries. The mission of this group is to “lead a campaign addressing the urgent need for advocacy for school libraries, as well as the impact of the de-professionalization and curtailment of school library instructional programs on students and student

achievement.”

According to ALA Executive Director Fiels, saving our school libraries and staff is the “battle of our lifetime” and “we must prevail.” Fiels proclaimed that “generations of students” depend on cooperative efforts and significant advocacy. Since conference, the National Education Association (NEA) unanimously voted to support school libraries. According to a media release from the American Library Association of School Librarians (AASL), the NEA will assist the AASL with “public support” for its “lobbying efforts with regard to the Strengthening America’s Schools Act.”

Council I

A video address from President Barack Obama was presented at the beginning of the Council I session. The Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is a federal partner with Medicaid / Medicare to promote the Affordable Care Act. The October 1st launch will be an opportunity for libraries across the United States to provide access to government information at www.healthcare.gov. According to President Obama, this act provides for quality insurance, allowing every American access to affordable healthcare.

During council meetings, several resolutions were presented with various outcomes. This report briefly outlines a few resolutions that may be of interest. The “Declaration for the Right to Libraries” resolution passed unanimously. A resolution supporting Edward Snowden as a whistleblower passed by a large margin. Discussion from the floor focused on the National Security Agency (NSA) and protecting library patrons’ right to privacy and confidentiality.

Council II

Several committee reports were made during this meeting. The Freedom to Read Foundation encouraged people to join the organization at www.ftrtf.org. New



Twenty-three Arkansans attended the Sunday evening dinner. *Photo submitted by Hadi Dudley.*

Business featured additional resolutions for council consideration.

A resolution recognizing library services to communities in disasters passed with tremendous support. A resolution on divestment in holdings in fossil fuel companies was narrowly defeated by a standing vote count. This resolution was rewritten from the ALA Midwinter Conference.

A resolution on prayer in ALA meetings narrowly passed and required a standing vote count. The resolution was described as a clarification of current policy and states that ALA “refrains from having public prayer during its meetings.” This statement reflects our secular, professional institution which represents our membership that is “increasingly diverse religiously.” The resolution recognizes that “moments of silence may be observed during meetings.”

The Snowden resolution that passed during Council I was reconsidered with a motion to refer it to the Committee on Legislation and Intellectual Freedom Committee. The reconsideration and referral generated additional discussion by councilors who expressed that the issues surrounding the case, including privacy and government transparency, should involve a more deliberative and policy-driven resolution. ALA’s action should be timely, but should also be comprehensive to allow for longevity.

Council III

The meeting began with memorials, tributes, and testimonials. The ALA Treasurer Jim Neal presented the FY2014 income estimates and budgetary ceiling which was approved by council. Like many libraries and associations across the country, ALA is experiencing budget challenges. ALA is actively seeking opportunities to continue



Everyone in Chicago celebrated the Blackhawks’ Stanley Cup victory, even the Art Institute of Chicago Lions! *Photo submitted by Hadi Dudley.*

quality operations with fewer resources. According to the ALA Treasurer's report, "massive changes" in the publishing industry have negatively impacted anticipated revenue from publications. ALA is committed to focusing resources on strategic priorities and continues to reduce expenditures for a balanced budget. Personnel vacancies are intentionally unfilled, approved salary increases have not been implemented, and administrative staff have taken voluntary pay cuts. ALA's "member value and engagement" are the "highest priority." Membership dues and conference registration are the largest income generators for the association.

The Committee on Legislature presented its report and discussed new advocacy resources at www.ala.org/liberty. Specialized materials covering liberty, privacy, and surveillance are featured through useful toolkits. The Civic Engagement materials offer guides for libraries hosting forums and moderated discussions in conjunction with Choose Privacy Week. The Privacy Toolkit features policies and procedures for libraries, as well as marketing materials and legislative advocacy. Links to related issues and legislation provide other avenues for ALA members to get involved.

The Committee on Legislature also presented a resolution to replace the Snowden resolution. According to their report, ALA "cannot know all the implications and facts surrounding the people who have released classified information...; however,

we can make a difference by working to reform the laws and practices surrounding surveillance and open government issues." The resolution was "written to sustain the test of time; mentioning individuals,... is not an appropriate approach...." With this justification in mind, the major tenets of the resolution are listed below.

The resolution on the need for reforms for the intelligence community to support privacy, open government, government transparency, and accountability resolves that the American Library Association:

- "Calls upon the U.S. Congress, President Obama, and the Courts to reform our nation's climate of secrecy, overclassification, and secret law regarding national security and surveillance;"
- "Urges U.S. Congress and President Obama to provide authentic protections that prevent government intimidation and criminal prosecution of government employees and private contractors who make disclosures of wrong doing in the intelligence community;"
- "Calls upon the public to engage in and our members to lead public dialogues discussing the right to privacy, open government and balancing civil liberties and national security;"
- "Encourages the public to support bills ... that both secure and protect our rights to privacy, free expression ... and promote a more open, transparent government;..."



ArLA President Trish Miller, 2012-2013 ALA President Maureen Sullivan, ALA Councilor Hadi Dudley. *Photo submitted by Hadi Dudley.*

Councilors who supported the revised resolution believed the document was a better example of ALA policies. The compelling content identified problems and solutions in an appropriate manner. The key principles of concern are addressed in a platform that allows forward movement. Councilors who opposed the revised resolution were critical of the process, skeptical of motives and did not want to set a standard for reconsidering prior resolutions. Councilors again participated in a standing vote count for narrow passage of the revised resolution.

I personally think the reconsidered and revised “resolution on the need for reforms for the intelligence community to support privacy, open government, government transparency, and accountability” was a stronger statement than the “resolution in support of whistleblower Edward Snowden.” The improved resolution was comprehensive and steeped in ALA core values: privacy, open access, and freedom in our civil liberties. I believe it will serve the Association’s legislative lobbying efforts now and in the future.

ALA council documents, including full text of the resolutions discussed in this report, are posted on the website at <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/node/567>.

Arkansas Dinner in Chicago

On Sunday evening, June 30th, a group of 23 Arkansas folk gathered to visit and enjoyed delicious Italian cuisine at The Village. Attending were

Jennifer Ballard, Cassandra Barnett, Carol Coffey, Connie Cook, Dean Covington, Hadi Dudley, Sarah Ernst, Willow Fitzgibbon, Karen Goodkin-Xiang, Sarah Gowdy, Ashley Graves, Brandi Holt, David Johnson, Donna McDonald, Jamie Melson, Trish Miller, Britt Anne Murphy, Helen Claire Murphy, Matthew Murphy, Paul Murphy, Devona Pendergrass, Marcia Ransom, and Mike Sawyer.

Conclusion

It has been interesting to reflect on council actions, reconsiderations, and resolution “do-overs.” Some councilors may abstain from voting on particular issues. Unless there is a clear professional conflict of interest, I will vote on every issue. The democratic nature of the American Library Association requires a vote. Even if the vote is to reconsider a prior decision, it is important to exercise this responsibility. My voting method: careful consideration for the given facts, reasonableness, and a willingness to change my mind.

“Libraries Transform Lives: Declaration for the Right to Libraries” is reprinted on Page 14 with permission; More information is also available at www.ala.org/advocacy/declaration-right-libraries.

Hadi Dudley, Library Director at Bentonville Public Library, is the Arkansas ALA Councilor.

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LIBRARIES CHANGE LIVES

Declaration for the Right to Libraries

In the spirit of the United States Declaration of Independence and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we believe that libraries are essential to a democratic society. Every day, in countless communities across our nation and the world, millions of children, students and adults use libraries to learn, grow and achieve their dreams. In addition to a vast array of books, computers and other resources, library users benefit from the expert teaching and guidance of librarians and library staff to help expand their minds and open new worlds. We declare and affirm our right to quality libraries—public, school, academic, and special—and urge you to show your support by signing your name to this Declaration for the Right to Libraries.

LIBRARIES EMPOWER THE INDIVIDUAL.

Whether developing skills to succeed in school, looking for a job, exploring possible careers, having a baby, or planning retirement, people of all ages turn to libraries for instruction, support, and access to computers and other resources to help them lead better lives.

LIBRARIES SUPPORT LITERACY AND LIFELONG LEARNING.

Many children and adults learn to read at their school and public libraries via story times, research projects, summer reading, tutoring and other opportunities. Others come to the library to learn the technology and information skills that help them answer their questions, discover new interests, and share their ideas with others.

LIBRARIES STRENGTHEN FAMILIES.

Families find a comfortable, welcoming space and a wealth of resources to help them learn, grow and play together.

LIBRARIES ARE THE GREAT EQUALIZER.

Libraries serve people of every age, education level, income level, ethnicity and physical ability. For many people, libraries provide resources that they could not otherwise afford—resources they need to live, learn, work and govern.

LIBRARIES BUILD COMMUNITIES.

Libraries bring people together, both in person and online, to have conversations and to learn from and help each other. Libraries provide support for seniors, immigrants and others with special needs.

LIBRARIES PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO KNOW.

Our right to read, seek information, and speak freely must not be taken for granted. Libraries and librarians actively defend this most basic freedom as guaranteed by the First Amendment.

LIBRARIES STRENGTHEN OUR NATION.

The economic health and successful governance of our nation depend on people who are literate and informed. School, public, academic, and special libraries support this basic right.

LIBRARIES ADVANCE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP.

Knowledge grows from knowledge. Whether doing a school assignment, seeking a cure for cancer, pursuing an academic degree, or developing a more fuel efficient engine, scholars and researchers of all ages depend on the knowledge and expertise that libraries and librarians offer.

LIBRARIES HELP US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.

People from all walks of life come together at libraries to discuss issues of common concern. Libraries provide programs, collections, and meeting spaces to help us share and learn from our differences.

LIBRARIES PRESERVE OUR NATION'S CULTURAL HERITAGE.

The past is key to our future. Libraries collect, digitize, and preserve original and unique historical documents that help us to better understand our past, present and future.

ALPS AT WORK: Annual Spring Conference

by *Shya Washington, ALPS Chair*

Flapper dresses, gangsters and mystery were all present as ALPS roared through its 20s during its annual spring conference. This year's conference was held at the spectacular, historic Arlington Hotel and Spa in Hot Springs, May 13th – 15th. The theme for this year's conference "ALPS Roars Through Its 20s" was chosen because the organization was celebrating its 20th conference.

There were sessions that would jazz up any library and make it a dynamic part of the community it serves. We, the Conference Committee, were elated that all our hard work and dedication paid off. We planned organized "crime raids" (breakout sessions) geared towards motivating attendees, while they networked and enjoyed historic Hot Springs.

The Gangster Museum of America hosted our Ice Breaker. We were taken back to the days when mineral water, gambling, bootlegging, and other pleasures brought visitors from all over the world to Hot Springs, Arkansas. We enjoyed the audiovisual experience of the seven galleries, "gambled" in the antique casino, and heard the historian in the museum theater.

"Adaptability and All That Jazz" was the keynote address delivered by Face to Face Communications,

a dynamic duo made up of Gail Johnson and Pam Parr. Adaptability is the most sought-after skill of this decade, and this session raised the question, do you 'bend like a willow', or 'snap like a dried up twig?' They also did two breakout sessions "What I Wish I'd Said – Dealing with Difficult People" and "Take This Job and Love It!!!"

Here is a list of a few of the sessions that were available for attendees: "Dealing with Diverse Patrons," "Leadership in the Library," "Quick Fix Book Repair," "To Know One's Onions is the Bee's Knees, – Connecting Schools and Public Libraries," "There Ought To Be a Policy For That," "Heifer International, Around the World and Here in Arkansas," and "To Dewey or Not to Dewey –The Metis Challenge to 'Ditch' DDC." The Conference Committee put on a "Speakeasy Murder Mystery" for dinner entertainment.

Presenters from all over the state helped make this a successful conference, including our lunch speakers Carolyn Ashcraft, State Librarian, and Trish Miller, ArLA President. There was a "New Member Session" for the 34 first time conference attendees and roundtable discussions for all attendees.

Shya Washington is the Library Circulation Supervisor at the Dean B. Ellis Library at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.



FactCite: Lincoln Library Online

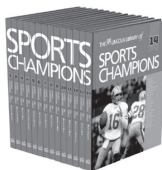
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WHAT'S UP? DOCS.

Digital Justice: The New Arkansas Judiciary Website

by Rod Miller, Arkansas Supreme Court Library

The late Supreme Court Justice Tom Glaze, in his book *Waiting for the Cemetery Vote*, wrote: “As the Court with its new justices moves forward to the next century . . . we cannot rely just on the past or the old ways of doing business.”

The new Arkansas Judiciary website (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/>), named one of the 2013 Top Ten Court Websites by the Forum on the Advancement of Court Technology, went live in January 2013.

Its blue and gray design welcomes visitors with an image of the Arkansas Justice Building, “JUSTICE” and George Washington’s aphorism, “The Administration of Justice is the Firmest Pillar of Government,” inscribed above the building’s entrance to convey the purpose of the Arkansas Judiciary, one of three co-equal branches of the Arkansas state government.

The Arkansas Judiciary website’s redesign was executed by the Administrative Office of the Court’s web team under the supervision of Stephanie Harris, Communications Counsel for the Arkansas

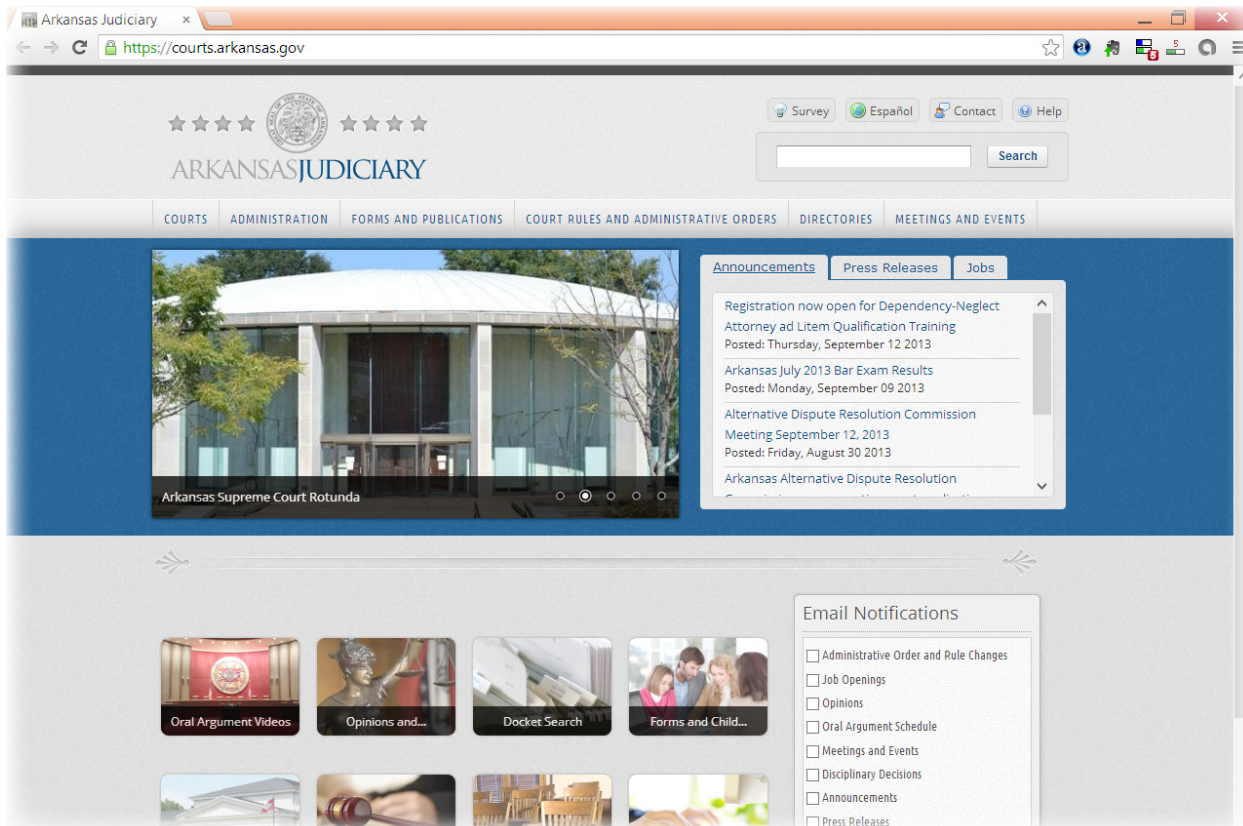
Supreme Court. While Adobe ColdFusion served as the framework for the old website, Drupal, a free open-source content-management platform, was chosen as a more adaptive web technology for the website redesign. Drupal offers functionality, ease of maintenance and an update manager module that authorizes each office or department to manage their updates.

The targets for the redesign, according to Ms. Harris, included making the website more user-friendly; organizing content in a way that is intuitive to users; making it useful as a research tool; making it easier to search; and making it more visually interesting. The redesign was inspired by the Arizona Supreme Court website’s (<http://www.azcourts.gov/>) clean and simple look, and by the Tennessee Supreme Court website’s (<http://www.tncourts.gov/>) use of interactive maps.

Quick Buttons

Eight graphic icons, known as “quick buttons,” anchor the new home page, streamlining access to website information:

- **Oral Arguments:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/courts/supreme-court/oral-argument-videos>) Access live-streaming of oral arguments before the Arkansas appellate courts. Online archives date back to September 2010, when the Supreme



Court first started live-streaming appellate oral arguments. Downloading and installing Silverlight from Microsoft is recommended for streaming.

- **Opinions and Disciplinary Decisions:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/opinions-and-disciplinary-decisions>) Access the Arkansas judicial repository of Arkansas appellate court opinions, a database created by scanning the *Arkansas Reports*, Vol. 1 (1837) to Vol. 375 (2009) -- with Vol. 375 being the final *Arkansas Reports* volume to be published in print. On February 14, 2009, Arkansas became the first state to electronically publish its official appellate opinions.
- **Docket Search:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/docket-search>) Access active Supreme Court and Court of Appeals cases, including closed cases with activity within the last ninety days. The Docket Search is current only through May 2013, as the Clerk of the Court's office is transitioning to a new case management system called Contexte. Public access to current case information is scheduled to resume by fall 2013.
- **Forms and Child Support:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/forms-and-publications>) Access official court forms, the Arkansas Child Support Guidelines, judicial benchbooks, jury instructions, and other judicial publications.
- **Online Services:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/online-services>) Access CourtConnect, the public portal to county court cases in Arkansas, an ongoing effort of the Arkansas Court Automation Project (ACAP) to put all counties online. About a dozen counties are currently online, including Pulaski County, accounting for 80% of the state's caseload.
- **Proposed Rule Changes:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/proposed-rule-changes>) Access the latest proposed court rule changes and submit comments on the proposed changes.
- **Jury Service:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/jury>) Access the juror's web guide, jury training videos, and jury service contact information by county.
- **Self-Help Resources:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/directories/resources>) Access a full spectrum of online resources for government and legal information, including information for *pro se* self-represented litigants.

Toolbar Tabs

Integral to the new home page's cleaner and simpler design is a toolbar of six menu tabs, added for quick access to website information:

- **Courts:** Access overviews of the Supreme Court; Court of Appeals; Supreme Court Library; Clerk of the Court; circuit courts; and district courts. Access Arkansas Court Structure Diagram; Court

of Appeals maps; circuit court maps; and district court maps.

- **Administration:** Access overviews of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC); Domestic Violence Program; Office of Professional Programs; Office of Professional Conduct; Judicial Education; Juvenile Division; and Judicial Council. Access information on filing complaints against attorneys; filing complaints against judges; and Judicial Education calendars of meetings, workshops and conferences.
- **Forms and Publications:** Access official court forms; child support guidelines; judicial benchbooks; annual reports; and newsletters.
- **Court Rules and Administrative Orders:** Access Arkansas Supreme Court Administrative Orders (e.g., Administrative Order 19 "Access to Court Records") and Arkansas Court Rules (e.g., Rules of Civil Procedure; Rules of Criminal Procedure; Rules of Appellate Procedure; and Rules of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals).
- **Directories:** Access judicial contact information via the online *Arkansas Judicial Directory* for judges and clerks, prosecuting attorneys and public defenders, Supreme Court boards and committees, Arkansas attorneys, mediators, court interpreters, and self-help resources.
- **Meetings and Events:** Access calendar information on upcoming meetings and events.

Other Home Page Features

A new email notification feature, located just to the right of the eight "quick buttons," offers users the option to register for up to eight different categories of notifications:

- **Email Notifications:** Subscribe to email notifications for administrative order and rule changes, job openings, opinions, oral arguments schedule, meetings and events, disciplinary decisions, announcements, and press releases.

A search box located in the upper right-hand corner of the home page may be used to search the Arkansas Judiciary website. Just above the search box is a row of four useful links:

- **Survey:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/survey>) Used to provide feedback for improving the website.
- **Espanol:** Used to help Spanish-speaking users to understand the state judicial system by providing pamphlets, videos, and other resources in Spanish.
- **Contact:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/contact>) The Arkansas Judiciary Contact Us form is used to submit comments or to request information. Requests receive a prompt response from the Supreme Court Library. (NOTE: Court staff may provide legal information, but not legal advice).
- **Help:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/help>) Used to

access answers to frequently-asked questions.

Four additional links offering RSS feeds, website navigation help, policy information, and directions are found in the lower right-hand corner of the home page:

- **RSS:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/rss>) Used to subscribe to Arkansas Supreme Court news feeds.
- **Site Map:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/content/sitemap>) Used to help navigate the Arkansas Judiciary website.
- **Policies:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/policies>) Used to read the website's policies on accessibility; privacy; external links; accurate information; and acceptable use and linking.
- **Directions:** (<https://courts.arkansas.gov/directions>) Used to view a map showing the Justice Building's location, and to read directions to the Arkansas Justice Building, 625 Marshall Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Arkansas Code

The *Arkansas Code*, the official codification of statutory law in Arkansas, may be accessed via the Arkansas State Legislature website (<http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/>). The link to the *Arkansas Code* is found in the self-help resources section on the Arkansas Judiciary website.

Arkansas Legal Services Partnership

Free legal information and help with legal issues may be accessed via the Arkansas Legal Services Partnership (ALSP) website (<http://www.arlegalservices.org/>), an online library of fact sheets on legal topics and interactive legal forms. The link to the ALSP website is found in the self-help resources section on the Arkansas Judiciary website.

Arkansas Justice Building

The Arkansas Supreme Court marked its 175th anniversary last year by holding its first oral argument of the fall 2012 term in the Old Supreme Court Chamber in the Capitol Building.

The Supreme Court, created in 1836 when Arkansas joined the union, met in the Old Statehouse until 1912, when it moved to the Capitol Building. In 1958, the Supreme Court moved to its current home in the Arkansas Justice Building. The photo on the Arkansas Judiciary website shows the west wing of the Justice Building, dedicated April 27, 2001.

Guest Columnist Rod Miller is the Public Services Coordinator of the Arkansas Supreme Court Library.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Arkansas Legal Services Partnership. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, Call for Help, Legal Library, About Us, Pro Bono Portal, Donate, Calendar, and Free Forms. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links: Office Directory, Legal Dictionary, News, Employment, Contact Us, Help, and Quick Facts. The main content area features a large search box with the heading "Need Help with a legal issue?". To the right of the search box is a "LIVE HELP" chat window. Below the search box, there is a section for "Bilingual Intake Specialist position available (Little Rock, AR)". Further down, there are four categories of legal topics: Consumer, Education, Employment, and Family Law, each with a brief description and a small icon. On the right side, there is a "View Legal Aid Success Stories" section with a photo of a man and a child and the text "Seeking Justice Changing Lives".

The Arkansas Legal Services Partnership site provides a wealth of legal information and forms.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES: Lessons Learned

by *Ashley Cooksey*, West Magnet Elementary

Over the last few years, I have been responsible for remodeling a library, packing and moving two libraries, and relocating to an existing library following the retirement of the librarian. Throughout this entire process, I have learned (mostly from trial and error) some great tips for each of these situations. What follows might hopefully help any school librarian who finds herself in the same shoes.



Cooksey

Make time to meet your predecessor. She has a wealth of valuable information that is only known by a person in her position. We librarians are great record keepers, but we typically only keep this information to ourselves. Starting barcodes, library procedures, shelving habits, online logins, and classification and cataloging practices: these vary from school to school and person to person.

When I took the opportunity to meet with my predecessor, she gave me some wonderful information, binders, and took me on a tour of the library – not just the room itself, but all of the cabinets. She showed me where everything was stored and instructed me on items that belonged in the library but were often borrowed (ladders, posters, various other supplies). Without taking this time with her, I can honestly say I'd have been lost and would have overlooked many, many key elements, including the fact that staff meetings are held in the library and the table cloths, serving dishes, and extra tables were stored in a closet. Important information! Nobody wants to attend a staff meeting without the snacks.

The administration can be your biggest ally. Know how to contact your building principal, district superintendent, and secretaries. Introduce yourself to each of them. This may seem like a daunting task, since most of these people will be located at various places. Trust me, you'll want to know who they are and the best ways to get in touch with each of them. Your principal will love the initiative you've shown and knowing

everyone's contact information will come in handy, especially in an emergency situation.

Plan a meeting with your building principal to discuss your plans, desired changes, and any other information that she may want to relay to you. Always make sure that your plans and desired changes are

presented on the side of the students. Ask that you are allowed to introduce yourself at a staff meeting; if necessary, offer to provide a short introduction of your plans and changes to the building's staff. Be as organized as possible. One great device I've come to love is Duplo Blocks (large Lego blocks). Use a label to type information, in this case your contact information, and stick it to the block. Teachers can stack the blocks together from each PD you or another staff member does and keep them by the computer or on their desks.

If you find yourself in a situation where you must pack a library, labeling is essential. A great suggestion is to remove books in their shelf order and label the box as such. For example, the label would read Aaa-Abe for fiction or 796.25-796.36 for nonfiction. I asked that our staff members who were responsible for the move to contact me when the library was going to be picked up and delivered. I took the time to watch the movers, so that the boxes were loaded and unloaded in order. They were actually very grateful to have some guidance. It was helpful on my behalf because I knew where the boxes were located and in which order.

Remember that no matter how daunting the task is, there are always people out there to ask for advice or help. Join listservs and professional organizations. Keep abreast of new technologies, literature, and planning by joining or following school library/librarian blogs, wikis, or websites. As school librarians, we are often asked to adjust our roles in the blink of an eye. These few tips will make the transition smooth.



Ashley Cooksey is Library Media Specialist with West Magnet Elementary in Batesville. She has one children's book published titled My Mom is a Super Hero.

THE FACE OF ARKANSAS LIBRARIES:

Meet Phyllis Burkett

by *Judy Calhoun*, Southeast Arkansas Regional Library

As a young girl growing up in Searcy, Arkansas, Phyllis Burkett spent every Saturday at the public library. Her library story begins with fond memories of riding her bike to the library, and she recalls with affection the librarians who came to know her by the large amount of books she would check out.



Calhoun

Phyllis credits Ms. Helen Dacus as an early example of librarianship. “She was not a professional librarian, but loved reading, loved engaging others in what they had read, and was a wonderful role model of service for all age groups.” Those Saturdays spent at the library opened a door to a world in which Phyllis would dedicate over 45 years of her life in one capacity or another.

Upon graduation from Searcy High School, Phyllis earned her bachelor’s degree in history from the University of Central Arkansas at Conway. She received her Master’s in Library Science from the University of Denver, and became Director of the White County Public Library and held that position for almost five years before becoming Director of the Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library. After an illustrious 33 years at Craighead Public,



Phyllis Burkett (photo submitted by Judy Calhoun).

Phyllis Burkett retired this June. She leaves behind a powerhouse library system recognized at the state and national level as pioneering and customer-focused.

At the beginning of her library career Phyllis once said, “You have to know what people want and what their interests are to know how to administer a library. A library is part of the community.” It is that fundamental belief that has contributed to successful and innovative programming. She embraced change and encouraged a creative team to develop programs and ideas that got people thinking about the library. Most of the library community is familiar with the Youtube videos featuring a fictitious library. Craighead County Jonesboro also created quite the buzz with their billboard ads, particularly the one that sported the words “Spoiler Alert! Dumbledore dies on page 596.” The ad appeared on the front page of popular social news website Reddit giving Jonesboro national attention. On the last day of her retirement, the Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library was honored by the American Library Association with the distinguished John Cotton Dana Award, honoring outstanding library public relations and marketing with a \$10,000 award and plaque. It is considered to be the most prestigious of all library awards in the field of public relations and marketing.

Burkett’s belief in public libraries goes beyond her own backyard. She is a true champion of the cause. She has served as President of the Arkansas Library Association and Chair of the Public Library Division. She was awarded the Arkansas Library Association Distinguished Service Award in 2003.

We're stacked.



www.libraryinjonesboro.org

Cheap date?...You get dinner, we've got the movie.



www.libraryinjonesboro.org

Spoiler Alert!
Dumbledore dies on page 596.



www.libraryinjonesboro.org

Romance novels –
cheaper than cats.



www.libraryinjonesboro.org

A study in edgy library advertising.

Burkett has served on the boards of the Governor's Commission on Adult Literacy and the Arkansas Literacy Council. Phyllis is also an active member of the Arkansas Advocates for Public Libraries. Anyone who has ever spent a few minutes with Phyllis quickly discovers her passion for libraries. Barton Public Library Director, Nancy Arn, recalls, "I remember listening to Phyllis in Library Director's meetings educating us on State Library and government policies affecting libraries – policies that I had never even thought of. I wondered how she knew all this stuff!"

Phyllis has always believed that libraries change lives, "While libraries exist as collections of materials which librarians organize and maintain, nothing really happens until the book/information gets in the hands of a person who needs it. The role we play is understanding people, getting them to talk with us so we can put the best book in their hands. Some people will find the book or information on their own so maybe the only human intervention is

organize and maintain, but if I ask, 'Did you find everything you need?' I always get one more chance to add more value to their library experience."

Closing the chapter as Library Director doesn't mean Burkett is finished with libraries. "I retired from being a director. I will always be a librarian – I just want to help people," reports Phyllis. Carolyn Ashcraft, Arkansas State Librarian, states, "Phyllis has had a long and distinguished career in Arkansas's library community. She has been helpful to so many by participating in the Arkansas Library Association, serving on numerous committees, mentoring many a young professional, and advocating for libraries. I have no doubt that, even in retirement, Phyllis will continue to be a strong voice for libraries." This book isn't finished yet.

Judy Calhoun is the Regional Director of Southeast Arkansas Regional Library in Monticello.



Burkett and Colonel Witt Wood at at 1983 event kicking off the establishment of an endowment foundation for the purchase of books. (Photo submitted by Judy Calhoun).

ADVOCACY ARKANSAS: Tied-Up Intentions

by Daniel Page

During a visit with my family this summer, I had an opportunity to hear some interesting family stories. One of these was one in which my father-in-law shared that when his mother was in school her left hand was tied with a ribbon to force her to “learn” to write with her right hand.

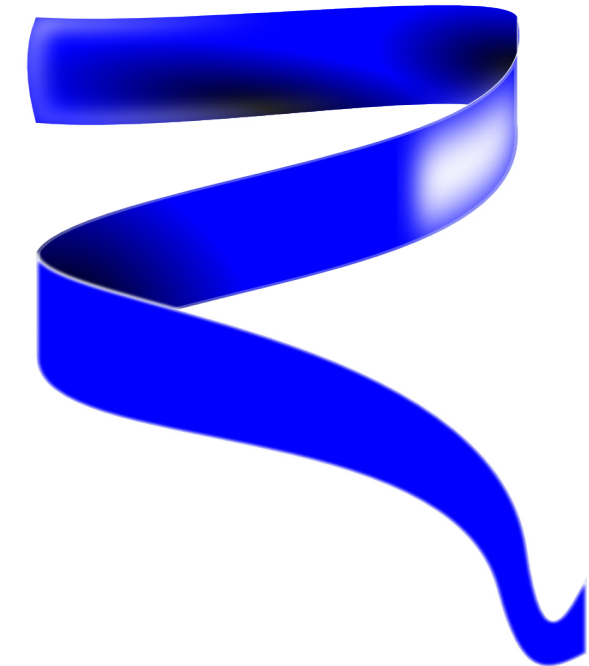


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It was shocking to contemplate a different era in which people with the best of intentions chose a methodology that now seems dehumanizing. This led me to think about promoting libraries and to consider if we ever have tied-up intentions.

One aspect of our profession that can harm advancing librarianship is facing professional frustrations. When we try to advance ideas but wind up running into proverbial brick walls, we face important moments in our cause. It is in these moments that it is very important, though sometimes difficult, to stay positive. This is especially true if our frustrations cloud our judgment and lessen the chances that our good intentions will be guided by wise decision-making. Once frustration sets in, our efforts to create positive changes can become negative forces, even if our intentions are the best.

Staying positive necessitates not being afraid to put ideas on hold and try them again later. New leadership, improved budgets, better communication, further brainstorming, and new situations can be great opportunities to dust off ideas that may not have been successful in past situations. Discouragement and fear are natural enemies of



library advancement, so don't be afraid to make future attempts at initiating a needed change, a new idea, or a better way.

When I find myself having grown bitter instead of better, it often is also the case that I have had tied-up intentions. If you have had similar moments, it can help to step back from the situations you are facing, examine the true intentions of your efforts, and re-evaluate your approach. In your efforts to advance Arkansas libraries, stay positive through your belief that your next good idea is just around the corner and advancing Arkansas libraries cannot be its best without you!

Daniel Page is a long-time Arkansas librarian and can be reached at danielpage1@gmail.com.

Arkansas Books & Authors

compiled by Bob Razer, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

Editor's Note: Bob Razer compiled this bibliography for the Winter 2012 issue of Arkansas Libraries. Due to an editorial mistake, the Spring 2012 bibliography was published instead, and so we are printing the Winter 2012 bibliography with apologies to Bob Razer and the readership.

Cerami, Joseph R. *Leadership and Policy Innovations: From Clinton to Bush*. New York: Routledge, 2012. 9780415527828 \$130.00 224 p.

Chafe, William H. *Bill and Hillary: The Politics of the Personal*. New York: Farrar, Strauss, & Giroux, 2012. 9780809094653 \$20.00 400 p.

- Cohen, David Elliot. *The Clintons: Their Story in Photographs*. New York: Sterling Publishing, 2012. 9781402787881 \$24.95 224 p.
- Conley, Richard S. *Historical Dictionary of the Clinton Era*. New York: Scarecrow Press, 2012. 9780810859722 \$95.00 373 p.
- *Ditto, Beth. *Coal to Diamonds: A Memoir*. New York: Spiegel & Grau, 2012. 9780385525916 \$12.00 176 p.
- *Eason, Fred. *500 Miles to Nowhere: The Legend of Bass Reeves*. Campbell, CA: FastPencil, 2012. 9781607468085 \$20.95 156 p.
- *Echols, Damien. *Life After Death*. New York: Blue Rider Press, 2012. 9780399160202 \$26.95 399 p.
- *Goss, Kay Collett. *Mr. Chairman: The Life and Legacy of Wilber D. Mills*. Little Rock: Parkhurst Brothers, 2012. 9781935166498 \$20.00 256 p.
- *Grisham, John. *Racketeer*. New York: Doubleday, 2012. 9780385535144 \$29.95 352 p.
- *Hamilton, Laurell. *Kiss the Dead*. New York: Berkley, 2012. 9780425247549 \$27.95 368 p.
- *Hawkins, Ruth. *Unbelievable Happiness and Final Sorrow: The Hemingway-Pfeiffer Marriage*. Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2012. 9781557289742 \$34.95 391 p.
- *Hill, Fitz. *Crackback! How College Football Blindsides the Hopes of Black Coaches*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing, 2012. 9781613462157 \$26.00 344 p.
- *Huckabee, Mike. *Dear Chandler; Dear Scarlett: A Grandfather's Thoughts on Faith, Family, and the Things That Matter Most*. New York: Sentinel, 2012. 9781595230935 \$24.95 240 p.
- Hunting, Mary Anne. *Edward Durell Stone: Modernism's Populist Architect*. New York: Norton, 2012. 9780393733013 \$55.00 176 p.
- *Jacobs, John Horner. *This Dark Earth*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2012. 9781451666663 \$15.00 352 p.
- Levin, Martin A., Daniel DiSalvo, and Martin M. Shapiro, eds. *Building Coalitions, Making Policy: The Politics of the Clinton, Bush, and Obama Presidencies*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 2012. 9781421405087 \$65.00 cloth; 9781421405094 \$30.00 paper 416 p.
- *Maxwell, Angie, *Todd Shields and *Jeannie Whayne, eds. *The Ongoing Burden of Southern History*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2012. 9780807147566 \$42.50 240 p.
- McCray, Michael. *Race, Power & Politics: Memoirs of an ACORN Whistleblower*. Pine Bluff: American Banner Books, 2012. 9780984690671 \$20.00 376 p.
- Perotti, Rosanna, ed. *The Clinton Presidency and the Constitutional System*. College Station: Texas A& M University Press, 2012. 9781603446600 \$49.95 336 p.
- *Portis, Charles. Jay Jennings, ed. *Escape Velocity: A Charles Portis Miscellany*. Little Rock: Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, 2012. 9781935106500 \$27.95 380 p.
- *Reed, Roy. *Beware of Limbo Dancers*. Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2012. 9781557289889 \$34.95 257 p.
- Roberts, Bryan. *Walmart: Key Insights and Practical Lessons from the World's Largest Retailer*. London: Kogan Page, 2012. 9780749462736 \$48.75 240 p.
- *Schexnayder, Charlotte Tiller. *Salty Old Editor: An Adventure in Ink*. Little Rock: Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, 2012. 9781935106364 \$22.50 306 p.
- *Scott, Melissa. *Lost Things*. New York: Crossroads Press, 2012. 9781937530037 \$15.00 350 p.
- *White, Calvin, Jr. *The Rise to Respectability: Race, Religion, and the Church of God in Christ*. Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2012. 9781577289773 \$34.95 239 p.
- *Willoughby, Robert. *The Brothers Robidoux and the Opening of the American West*. Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 2012. 9780826219916 \$45.00 280 p.

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Inclusion does not indicate recommendation.

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