

ARKANSAS LIBRARIES

FALL 2014

VOLUME 71, NUMBER 3



STUTTGART PUBLIC LIBRARY

IN THIS ISSUE...

ALA LEADERS FORUM

2014 ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BIOS OF ARLA NOMINEES



Arkansas Library Association

Arkansas Library Association, 2014



Officers

President

Devona Pendergrass
Mountain Home High School
dpendergrass@mtnhome.k12.ar.us

President-Elect

Dr. Jud Copeland
University of Central Arkansas
jcopeland@uca.edu

Secretary/Treasurer

Jamie Melson
Central Arkansas Library System
jamiem@cals.lib.ar.us

Past President

Patricia "Trish" Miller
Remington College
trish.miller@remingtoncollege.edu

ALA Councilor

Hadi Dudley
Bentonville Public Library
hdudley@bentonville.ar.com

Roundtable Chairs

Government Documents

Rod Miller

Information Technology

Carol Coffey

Two Year Colleges

Sara Seaman

Youth Services

Sherry Simpson

Division Chairs

Arkansas Association of School Librarians (AASL)

Dr. Wendy Rickman

Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals (ALPS)

Erin Baber

College and University Libraries (CULD)

Sherry Tinerella

Public Libraries and Trustees

Ashley Burris

Reference Services

Pamela Meridith

Resources and Technical Services

Carolyn Baker

Special Libraries

Dwain Gordon

Committee Chairs

Arkansas Libraries - Managing Editor Britt Murphy

Awards - Cathy Toney

Conference - Kay Bland & Nicole Stroud

Constitution - Jamie Melson

Executive - Devona Pendergrass

Finance - Jamie Melson

Intellectual Freedom - Freddy Hudson

Legislative - Heather Hays

Membership - Patricia "Trish" Miller

Nominating - Dr. Jud Copeland

Planning - Patricia "Trish" Miller

Publications - Chrissy Karafit

Public Relations - Cassandra Barnett

Scholarship - Diane Hughes & Barbie James

Archivist - Bob Razer

Website - Dan Fitzroy

Arkansas Library Association Office

Lynda Hampel, Executive Administrator

PO Box 958

Benton, AR 72018-0958

501-860-7585

501-778-4014 (FAX)

arlib2@sbcglobal.net

Managing Editor:

Britt Anne Murphy

Associate Editor:

Heather Hays

Copy Editor:

Brent Nelson

Column Editors:

Carolyn Ashcraft
Erin Baber
Judy Calhoun
Ashley Cooksey
Elizabeth DiPrince
Joanna Ewing
Dan Fitzroy
Heather Hays
Chrissy Karafit
Britt Anne Murphy
Ashley Parker-Graves
Devona Pendergrass
Bob Razer
Karen Russ
David Sesser

Arkansas Libraries is the official journal of the Arkansas Library Association. It contains articles of current interest, historical significance or literary value, concerning all aspects of librarianship, particularly items pertinent to Arkansas. It also includes official statements of and information provided by the Arkansas Library Association.

The opinions expressed in this journal are the responsibility of the authors alone and should not be interpreted as the opinion of the Association. Likewise, acceptance of advertisements does not constitute endorsement by the Association. Materials may not be reproduced without written permission and must include credit to *Arkansas Libraries*.

This publication is mailed to members of the Association. Memberships may be obtained through the Arkansas Library Association: Executive Director, PO Box 958, Benton, AR 72018-0958. Telephone number: 501-860-7585.

Additional individual issues are available to members for \$5 per copy and non-members for \$15 per copy.

Arkansas Libraries is published four times each year: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Deadline for the materials to be published is the fifteenth (15th) of January, April, July and October. Submit articles of news items to:

Britt Anne Murphy, Managing Editor, *Arkansas Libraries*, murphyb@hendrix.edu.

Arkansas Libraries

Published quarterly by the Arkansas Library Association

From the ArLA President: ALPS Conference
Devona Pendergrass.....2

From the Editor: Changes
Britt Anne Murphy.....3

Creating Curriculum Connections with Library Collections
Sarah Gowdy and Hadi Dudley.....4

ALA Leaders Forum: Reflections from the ArLA Vice-President
Jud Copeland.....8

Arkansas History Commission Launches Online Digital Archive
Danyelle McNeill.....9

ALA Councilor’s Report: 2014 ALA Annual Conference
Hadi Dudley.....10

Nominees for 2014 ALA Officer Elections
.....14

Arkansas Teen Book Award 2014
Jessica McGrath.....17

Webmaster’s Corner: Hello and Goodbyes
Daniel Fitzroy.....18

What’s up? Docs.: Exploring the CDC
Karen Russ.....19

Ask the State Librarian: Presidential Sites and Libraries Conf.
Carolyn Ashcraft.....20

Bentonville Library Highlighted at ALA Conference Session
.....22

Emerged Leader 2014
Lacy Wolfe.....23

Training: Tips, Topics, and Techniques
Joanna Ewing and Chrissy Karafit.....24

Arkansas Books & Authors
Bob Razer.....26

Around Arkansas
Heather Hays.....29

Also in this issue:

Photos, *Unshelved*.

Cover photo: The “new face” of the Stuttgart Public Library includes a new Main Entrance & Foyer, and a new Children’s Department. These additions were completed in April 2014. Photo submitted by Assistant Director Anna Bates of the Stuttgart Public Library.

Journal design: Ethan C. Nobles, NoblesLawFirm.com

FROM THE ArLA PRESIDENT: Happy, Happy, Happy

by *Devona Pendergrass, NBCT*

ArLA President

This month's presidential column is going to be a bit different than my usual columns. At the risk of sharing boring technical information, I have kept you current on board meetings and ArLA presidential activities.



Pendergrass

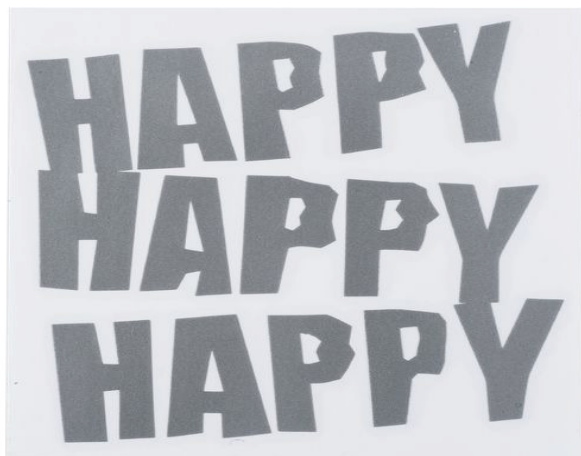
This column is a little different, as Phil Robertson says, "HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY." That is how I feel about the career path I took nearly twenty years ago. Although it was not my choice to become a school librarian (my school made that decision for me), I can't imagine doing anything else.

As we work on the final touches for our annual conference I want you to focus on the HAPPY parts of your career and your library. My top ten reasons for being HAPPY in my library are:

10. BOOKS, BOOKS and more BOOKS. What librarian doesn't love books? The look, feel, smell and, of course, the thrill of opening a new book for the first time: how it warms the heart.

9. HISTORY. Look around your library. You are surrounded by the greatest minds in the history of the world. Open up a book on any subject or any idea. It's all there.

8. DATABASES. Out of space or out of room, a database can fill the minds of our patrons. They can be accessed 24/7 and there are literally thousands to choose from.



7. NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES and PERIODICALS. The library is full of archived periodicals as well as print. Nothing says "morning" like a great cup of coffee and the ink on my hands from the morning paper.

6. LIBRARIANS. They come in all sizes and shapes, but they all have one thing in common. We all share our knowledge and expertise for free.

5. INTERNET, TECHNOLOGY. The internet and all that goes with it. Free wi-fi, free computers, free technology, what's not to love? Need to scan a photo but can't afford a scanner? Head to the nearest library.

4. BOOKS. Did I mention books? Buying all the new bestsellers or trying out the newest e-books can break the bank, but not at the library.

3. PROGRAMMING. Learn how to keep the fish in your aquarium alive or learn about bugs, snakes and other creepy crawlies.

2. COOKING. Who doesn't love to cook and eat? Use the resources at the library to find the correct temperature to cook a turkey or a recipe for sweet potatoes. YUM!

1. CONFERENCES. With such a wealth of expertise and knowledge, you will want to make sure you TWEET on over to Hot Springs for the ArLA Annual Conference. There will be sessions, food, awards, networking and lots of fun and fellowship with librarians all across the state.

Until next issue,

Devona

Devona Pendergrass, the President of the Arkansas Library Association, is Librarian for Mountain Home High School Career Academies.

FROM THE EDITOR: Changes

by *Britt Anne Murphy*

Library Director, Hendrix College

As some of you may have noticed, we had a few changes in the leadership of *Arkansas Libraries* beginning with this issue. Whitney Ivy changed jobs and could no longer be involved with the Arkansas Library Association as she wished, and so she handed the reins back to the Executive Board, who then asked me to step up to the Managing Editor position. As Associate Editor for the last 11 years, I, of all people, know the commitment and quirks of the job and agreed to it on the condition that we find an exceptional Associate Editor. When Heather Hays from Bentonville Public Library took on the Associate Editor role, I knew that we would be in good hands, and hope the readership not only enjoys this issue but appreciates the time and skill Heather and the other editorial team members (Ethan Nobles, Brent Nelson, Chrissy Karafit, Joanna Ewing, and Laura Speer) contribute on a quarterly basis.

Editorial skills should come somewhat naturally to librarians, who are, in many ways, the ultimate word smiths. It struck me in an instruction session I was conducting for an anthropology class at Hendrix



Murphy

that most of what I was trying to convey to college students was to be aware of words and how we can manipulate them to tap into research. Boolean search methods, truncation, and subject headings...these are concepts that involve the careful and conscious maneuvering of words. The more skilled and creative a researcher is with using words, the better the outcome of his or her research.

The editing we do in *Arkansas Libraries* is facile, thanks to the writing skills of our contributors, and we try to preserve the voice of the author as much as possible. All librarians shudder when what is evaluative turns into what is censored; a profession that celebrates the freedom to read should endeavor to make the delivery of information from authors to readership as honest and true as possible.

This fall's issue showcases leadership that Arkansas librarians exhibit across the state and nation – in school and academic libraries, public libraries, at conferences, and in the impressive number of Arkansas library professionals who desire to take their leadership a step further and run for office in the Arkansas Library Association. A notable first for ArLA is a pre-conference on leadership offered on the Saturday before ArLA's annual conference commences. Look for a report on this leadership initiative as well as profiles of ArLA's award winners and newly elected slate of officers in the next issue of *Arkansas Libraries*.

Britt Anne Murphy, the Managing Editor of Arkansas Libraries, is the Director of the Olin C. Bailey Library at Hendrix College.



(L-R) ALA Chapter Relations Director Michael Dowling, ArLA President Devona Pendergrass, Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe and ArLA Vice-President Jud Copeland at the Arkansas Association of School Librarians Conference Dinner.

Creating Curriculum Connections with Library Collections

by Sarah Gowdy, Teen Services Librarian
and Hadi Dudley, Library Director
Bentonville Public Library

In the last year, the Bentonville Public Library (BPL) launched a new reader's advisory and information literacy tool called "Curriculum Connections." Curriculum Connections is a document that identifies public library resources in order to help students succeed in school assignments.

As a new Teen Services Librarian at Bentonville Public Library, I wanted to update the young adult (YA) non-fiction (NF) collection to be relevant, current, and useful for teen students. The collection needed titles to support what students were currently learning in school. The best way to determine core non-fiction materials was to work with the local school district to learn what are the curriculum guidelines for each grade level, critically review existing titles and purchase new materials.

Sue Ann Pekel, BPL's Children's Librarian, and I met with Bentonville Public Schools' literacy specialists to discuss a partnership. During our meeting, we learned that informing teachers about our library resources was the first step in making students aware of BPL offerings. Based on this idea, we identified a plan of action that involved good communication and information sharing. The schools' literacy specialists provide BPL with specific grade level curriculum units. BPL librarians use the units to create targeted reader's advisory lists, or Curriculum Connections, to be regularly distributed as monthly newsletters. With a focus on the Arkansas Department of Education Library Media Frameworks and Common Core State Standards, BPL highlights non-fiction, but we also feature fiction, videos, graphic novels, digital content and other formats for diversity and to meet varied students' information needs. Our goal is to supplement and support school libraries, too, as we educate and inform a broader audience about the public library's resources.

Every month Sue and I prepare elementary, middle, junior high and high school level newsletters for students, parents, and educators. While creating the curriculum aspect of the newsletter we work with the unit guidelines for each grade (see "7th Grade Curriculum Map and Curriculum Connection"). For example, the seventh grade English students will be reading *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton in September. I listed titles such as *Understanding the Outsiders*

and *Novels for Students* as literary resources these students could use for essay analysis. I also like to provide a similar fiction title to the text as a reading recommendation. The upper grade level Curriculum Connections also include a "highlighted online resource" that introduces a database, explaining how that resource will help students in their classes. The document serves as an annotated pathfinder that includes a summary and BPL's call number for easy location by students.

Ideally, the goal is to create unique curriculum units for different core subjects each month. I found this to be challenging at the high school level due to the different student tracks (Standard, Honors, AP, and International Baccalaureate) in core classes. Instead, I focus on subject generalities at the high school level. For example, the "Science Curriculum Connection" document focused on wide-ranging science topics broken down by specific subject area, such as biology, earth science, chemistry and physics. This approach showcases a wider array of library resources instead of a targeted curriculum unit.

The format of the Curriculum Connections document is a single page that is fairly simple in design; BPL prepares digital copies and hard copies. The back side of the page is used to highlight programs, duplicating information from BPL's event guides. As a communication tool, this monthly newsletter highlights our public library's resources, introduces a broader audience to the collection and promotes BPL programs. Upon completion of BPL's monthly curriculum units, Sue Ann and I email the newsletters directly to the school principals, literacy specialists, and librarians for distribution within the district. The newsletters are also posted on our library's website and printed for in-house distribution.

As a first-year librarian at Bentonville Public Library, the Curriculum Connections project has made me more familiar with our collection and keeps me in touch with important educational goals for community teenagers. The process of creating the Curriculum Connections revealed strengths and weaknesses in the library's collections. I continue to correct weaknesses by weeding outdated non-fiction and purchasing new books that are relevant to today's students. In sharing the newsletters, library staff have received positive feedback from school faculty, parents, and students who have used our resources to support classwork.

According to Hadi Dudley, Library Director, “I am very proud of Sarah’s work on the Curriculum Connections project. In addition to qualitative improvements to our collection and supporting students’ information literacy skills, BPL gathered quantitative data that illustrates the initiative’s success. Our YA circulation grew 18% in the last year, and circulation of our young adult non-fiction increased 109%. This statistical increase clearly demonstrates the usefulness of BPL’s core non-fiction collection. It is a direct reflection of the professional work and impact Sarah has accomplished in service to our community’s teenagers.”

Any library can use Bentonville Public Library’s Curriculum Connections project as a model. Teen Services Librarian Sarah Gowdy concludes, “I encourage other librarians to develop similar resources that support students’ education, because this program encourages public libraries to become

visible partners in providing public education to our community; to become destinations where users can find credible resources for their educational pursuits; and to develop vested interests between students and educators in their public library.”

Note: To view Bentonville Public Library’s Curriculum Connections (archived and current lists), visit our website at www.bentonvillelibrary.org/teens/curriculum-connection or www.bentonvillelibrary.org/kids/curriculum-connection. Libraries may use these documents as sample guidelines in creation of similar resources.

Sarah Gowdy is the Teen Services Librarian at Bentonville Public Library. This article was co-authored with Hadi Dudley, Library Director at Bentonville Public.

See sample curricula on pages 5-7

7th Grade Curriculum Map

Quarter 1 Essential Question: Who am I? (Nature/Where do I fit in?)

Quarter 1 Standards	Content Objectives	Texts
<p>FOCUS STANDARDS</p> <p>Reading Literature</p> <p>RL.7.1 Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</p> <p>RL.7.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.</p> <p>RL.7.3 Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot).</p> <p>RL.7.6 Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text.</p> <p>Reading Informational Text</p> <p>RI.7.1 Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</p> <p>Writing</p> <p>W.7.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events. <p>W.7.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.</p> <p>W.7.5 With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.</p>	<p>I CAN STATEMENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can read closely and make inferences (RL/RI1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ I can annotate to show evidence of my thinking during close reading. • I can cite several pieces of relevant evidence. (RL/RI1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ I can provide meaningful commentary for each piece of evidence. ⊙ I can use correct MLA format for all citations. • I can determine a theme of a literary text. (RL2) • I can analyze the theme’s development over the course of a text. (RL2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ I can use conflict, resolution, setting, character traits, and other literary elements to analyze theme development. • I can determine the central idea of a literary text or a portion of a text. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ I can differentiate between central idea and theme. • I can objectively summarize a literary text. (RL2) • I can analyze how elements of a story interact. (RL3) • I can analyze how an author develops characters’ points of view. (RL6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ I can see how different characters have a variety of perspectives and responses to the events in the piece. ⊙ I can question and analyze why the author would give the characters these motivations. • I can contrast points of views of different characters. (RL6) • I can write a developed narrative. (W3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ I can establish context and introduce characters/narrator/point of view. (exposition) ⊙ I can focus my story around a logical sequence of events. (plot) ⊙ I can enhance my narrative by using techniques in a meaningful way. (dialogue, explore the moment, sensory language, and dynamic characters) 	<p>EXTENDED TEXT (unit anchor):</p> <p><i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton</p> <p>SHORTER TEXTS: Menu Options (Choose pieces from each section.)</p> <p>Poetry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “On Turning Ten”—Billy Collins • “I, Too, Sing America” & “Let America Be America Again”—Langston Hughes <p>Informational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Freaking Out: The Science of the Teenage Brain</i> (mini-book) • Dateline NBC’s “My Kid Would Never Do That” (documentary on bullying) • *Navajo Code Talkers WW2 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5rSvm3m8ZUA) • “Who Am I?” from teenink.com (nonfiction essay) http://www.teenink.com/fiction/author_interviews/article/535947/Who-are-you-Who-am-I/ • “How Reading a Novel Can Improve the Brain”—ABC News article <p>Short Fiction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Fish Cheeks”—Amy Tan • “Orange Crush”—Yiyun Li • “To Build a Fire”—Jack London • “The Moustache”—Robert Cormier • <i>Westside Story</i> (Excerpt from play and lyrics to “America” from the musical)

Junior High English Curriculum Connections

7th Grade Resources

Understanding the Outsiders —YANF 813.54 HOW
Need some extra help understanding this YA classic novel? This is the perfect book for you, with plot explanations, literary themes, and character analysis.

Novels for Students—YANF 809.3 NOV
YANF 808.5 ROY—Each entry contains: an introduction, author biography, plot summary, characters, themes, style, historical and cultural context, critical overview, sources, for further study, and criticism. *Also available as an online resource @ www.bentonvillelibrary.org.*

This is Not a Writing Manual : Notes for the Young Writer in the Real World—YANF 808.3 MAJ
Focuses on the skills and techniques necessary for good writing and combines inspirational anecdotes and writing prompts with practical writing guidance on how to develop characters and plot, make revisions, and overcome writer's block.

Sharpen Your Good Grammar Skills—YANF 372.61 ROY
Discover why grammar is important, the parts of speech, the simple sentence, and the importance of punctuation and proofreading.

Jumped In —YAF Flores-Scott, Patrick
If you enjoyed the compelling and gritty *Outsiders*, check out this read-a-like. Sam considers himself an outsider until a frightening new student is partnered with him to perform slam poem for school.

7-8 Grade Film Resources:

The Outsiders— YVID *Outsiders*
The novel and film are classics in their own right, see the movie and see which version you prefer.

8th Grade Resources

Darius & Twig—YAF Myers, Walter Dean
If you enjoyed “The Treasure of Lemon Brown” read the last book Myers published before he past away this year, *Darius & Twig*.

Sharpen Your Story or Narrative Writing Skills
YANF 808.02 ROY—Learn the parts of a narrative, the steps in the writing process, and writing examples and ideas.

How to Write Short Stories—YANF 808.3 SOR
A practical handbook that explains all of the steps in writing short fiction. Includes sample short stories with critical analyses.

Pathfinder—YAF Card, Orson Scott
Thirteen-year-old Rigg has a secret ability to see the paths of others' pasts, but revelations after his father's death set him on a dangerous quest that brings new threats from those who would either control his destiny or kill him.

Modern American Poetry—YANF 813.54 LLA
Explores modern American poets, including biographies of twelve poets such as Robert Frost, Ezra Pound, and Langston Hughes; excerpts of poems, literary criticism, poetic technique, and explication.

Highlighted Online Resource: Literary Reference Center

Literary Reference Center contains full text for plot summaries, synopses and work overviews, literary criticisms, author biographies, literary journals, book reviews, classic and contemporary poems, classic and contemporary short stories, author interviews, classic texts and much more. Find this ‘Online Resource’ @ www.bentonvillelibrary.org

Science Curriculum Connections @ BPL

Biology, Earth Science, Chemistry

Biology

Core Concept in Science Series—YANF

This series provides readers with a comprehensive study of a variety of topics including: cell biology, animal systems, basic biology, ecology, evolution, genetics, microbes, and more.

Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia—YANF 590.3 GRZ

One of the most authoritative and comprehensive sources on the world's animals. It includes high-quality photographs and illustrations and a comprehensive index to all volumes

Earth Science

The Prehistory Earth Series—YANF 560 HOL

Prehistoric is a comprehensive series devoted to dinosaurs and other fascinating prehistoric creatures, including mammals, birds, flying reptiles, ocean life, and human ancestors.

The Living Earth Series: —YANF

The 'Living Earth' series is a thorough collection that explore landscapes and ecosystems of the earth including: forests, wetlands, rivers and streams, and even climate change.

Chemistry

Chemical Compounds—YANF 540 CHE

A volume collection that provides information on the ways chemical elements combine to form commonly used chemical compounds.

Chemistry: Foundations and Applications—YANF 540.3

An authoritative source presents any science learner with a clear introduction to chemistry. Covers all aspects of chemistry and its practical applications.

Physics, Scientists, and More

Physics

The History of Physics by Anne Rooney

YANF 530.09 ROO—A part of 'the History of Science' series, this book presents a history of physics, discussing atoms and elements, radiation and speed of light, and energy fields and forces.

Introduction to Physics Series—YANF 534 HOL

These entries in the *Introduction to Physics* series offer encyclopedia-like overviews of commonly studied topics in physics.

Famous Scientists

Notable Scientists from 1900 to the Present

YANF 509.2 NOT—The 1,289 scientist represent the most prolific and productive members of the scientific community.

AP Exam Prep Books

AP Environmental Science —YPRP 333.7 WIL

How to approach the AP Environmental Science exam; planning your time -- determine your test readiness. take a diagnostic exam -- develop strategies for success. approaching each question type, and more.

AP Biology—YPRP 570.76 ANE

Provides a study plan for the AP biology exam, discusses study skills and strategies, reviews key concepts, and provides five practice exams.

Film Resource:

Space Voyages—YVID 500.5 SMI

Explores the first half-century of the space age and the challenges and opportunities of modern space.

ALA Chapter Leaders Forum and the UCA MLS Initiative: *Reflections from the 2014 ArLA Vice-President*

by *Jud Copeland*

Associate Professor

Department of Leadership Studies,

University of Central Arkansas

My role as the Arkansas Library Association Vice-President has allowed me to engage in several dynamic and challenging opportunities this year.

I participated in the Chapter Leaders Forum at the American Library Association Conference in Las Vegas on June 27. The Forum was facilitated by Michael Dowling and Don Wood of the ALA Chapter Relations Office (CRO). Participants included library and information professionals from several states. I experienced a real opportunity to interact with library association members from Washington, Florida, Massachusetts, Hawaii, Kentucky, Utah, Virginia, Tennessee, Maine, California, Georgia, Idaho, and, of course, Nevada. The Forum Agenda focused on specific topics:

Topic I - Member Engagement Discussion: Idea of a Library Ambassador with a focus on a career development portfolio workshop that includes increasing benefits for ALA members through legislative efforts; professional development with mentoring, mock interviews, instructional technology training, and socials. Libraries (academic, public, and rural) should consider a Buddy System to support these goals.

Topic II - Librarians Build Communities: The Emerging Leaders Team is transitioning the initiative, The Librarians Build Communities: The



ALA President Barbara Strickland and ArLA Vice-President Jud Copeland at the American Library Association Annual Conference.

Past, The Present and The Promising Future, from an Emerging Leaders project into a sustainable, ongoing Member Initiative Group (MIG) within ALA. More details to follow. Link to the ALA Member Initiative Group: <http://www.ala.org/groups/lbc>.

Topic III - Engage – The New Capwiz, and What Your Chapter Needs to Do. Don Wood stated that the first step in this initiative is to appoint an ArLA Engage Administrator, and then Michael Dowling and he will contact the Administrator and proceed from there. Further details of this project are still being worked out.

Topic IV - Impactful Lobbying on the Local, State, and Federal Levels. This topic was presented by Doug Evans, Executive Director of the Ohio Library Council, and it focused on advocacy, information, and education.

During the Forum, participants had Open Discussion sessions on each topic and this was very interesting and informative. I made sure to inform our colleagues from the other states that the Arkansas Library Association has some very innovative and forward-thinking initiatives. I developed an e-mail list of participants so that we can continue our discussions until the Midwinter Meeting in Chicago, January 30 – February 3, 2015.

1. I met Barbara Strickland, President of the American Library Association, during the Conference.

2. In fact, Barbara was invited back to her home state for our Conference. She is very excited about coming to the 2014 Arkansas Library Association



Karen L. O'Brien, Director of the Office for ALA Program Accreditation and Jud Copeland of the UCA Leadership Studies Department.

Annual Conference, October 5-7, 2014, in Hot Springs. Plans include a presentation at the awards luncheon during the Conference. Of course, we are also excited that she will be with us.

Before leaving for Las Vegas, I scheduled a meeting with Karen O'Brien, ALA Program Accreditation Director to discuss the Proposed UCA Master of Library Science degree with a specialization in Children and Young Adult Services. We met during a conference break and reviewed the Accreditation Process, Policies and Procedures Manual (AP3). The next steps in the Pre-Candidacy Cycle Timeline and Fees were the focus of our discussion. Karen also provided supporting professional contacts who can assist in this initiative. These contacts have experience



ALA Chapter Relations Director Michael Dowling, ArLA Vice-President Jud Copeland and Chapter Relations Program Officer Don Wood.

in the accreditation process and they will be very important resources supporting the specialization component of our proposed program. I plan to meet with my colleagues in the Department of Leadership Studies Library Media/ITEC Program to follow up on these steps.

Jud Copeland is the Arkansas Library Association's Vice-President and President Elect.

Arkansas History Commission Launches Online Digital Archive

by *Danyelle McNeill*

Arkansas History Commission

The Arkansas History Commission has re-launched its online digital archive through the Online Computer Library Center's (OCLC) program, Content DM. Content DM is used by archives and libraries across the country to share digitized archival material online.

The AHC initially launched its online digital archive through Content DM in 2006 but with a limited selection of archival material. In recent months, the agency has redesigned the site and added a number of new collections, including all five of Arkansas's constitutions, a collection of historic maps, postcards, World War I material, and a collection of Ozark folk music. The project will be

ongoing; the AHC will continue to add new archival material and new collections to the site.

Some future collections will feature material reflecting the cultural diversity of Arkansas, Civil War era material, flag drawings from the 1913 state competition to design Arkansas's first official flag, and oral history interviews with World War II and Korean War veterans.

The redesign of the site and its future additions will allow the AHC to better serve its patrons by providing greater access to special collections materials. The link to the site will be available through the AHC website, www.ark-ives.com, and through social media.

For more information, contact us at (501)682-6900 or state.archives@arkansas.gov.

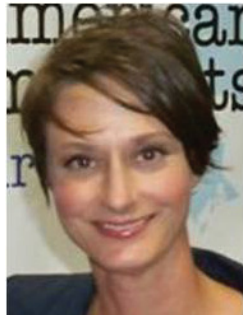
ALA COUNCILOR'S REPORT

2014 ALA Annual Conference

by Hadi Dudley, Bentonville Public Library

The 2014 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference was held in Las Vegas, NV from June 26-July 1. The conference theme was "Transforming our libraries, ourselves" and recorded 18,626 attendees, including exhibitor participation.

Jane McGonigal, best selling author of *Reality is Broken*, was the Opening General Session speaker. The ALA Awards Presentation and President's Program welcomed Lois Lowery and Jeff Bridges. Additionally, other notable personalities were featured auditorium speakers and autographed books for participants including Jane Fonda, Azar Nafisi, Stan Lee, and Alexander McCall Smith, among others. The Closing General Session featured B.J. Novak who was introduced by the 2014-2015 ALA President Courtney Young shortly after she received the official gavel from 2013-2014 ALA President Barbara Stripling. Novak discussed his love for



Dudley

libraries and *The Book With No Pictures*, a new children's book that celebrates words in a uniquely interesting way.

As the Arkansas Library Association (ArLA) Chapter Councilor, I attended eight different meetings, sessions, and forums. I also participated in a Committee on Literacy meeting, served as a panel presenter for a conference session, greeted Arkansas colleagues during Saturday evening's dinner and attended the United for Libraries / Reference USA Gala Author Tea.

ALA Membership Meetings

During the ALA Council/Executive Board/ Membership Information Session, attendees heard reports from ALA President Barbara Stripling, President-Elect Courtney Young and Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels. "Highlights on ALA Key Initiatives" were provided to the membership as outlined here.

ALA President Stripling reported on her Libraries Change Lives presidential focus, highlighting three key areas: literacy, innovation and community engagement. The *Declaration for the Right to Libraries* continues to garner support, with more than 100,000 signatures reported to the ALA Office for Library Advocacy. Due to overwhelming interest, the initiative will continue beyond the conclusion of Stripling's presidential year. She also discussed advocacy for school libraries and the Center for the



(L-R) ALA President-Elect Courtney Young, ALA Councilor Hadi Dudley and ALA President Barbara Stripling are photographed together after the ALA Council II session.

Future of Libraries. Stripling stated that it has been a “fulfilling year” both “interesting and challenging.” She concluded by encouraging members to be engaged and to work together toward goals leading to partnerships for a “future (that) is exceedingly bright for libraries.”

ALA President-Elect Courtney Young discussed her presidential focus of the Career Development Facilitators (CDF) program. The initiative will sponsor training for a national cohort of 25 librarians at the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting.

ALA Executive Director Fiels reported that ALA membership totaled 56,637 members. He discussed the Kitchen Table Conversations as a way to engage younger members. Fiels also mentioned the importance of the Workforce Investment Act as a new federal funding resource for libraries.

The ALA Membership Meeting included memorials and tributes, but no ALA Resolutions or New Business items were introduced. During this meeting, Stripling discussed her Presidential Task Force on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion. The purpose of this task force is to “develop a plan and strategic actions to build more equity, diversity, and inclusion among our members, the field of librarianship, and our communities.”

The Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC), ALA Treasurer and ALA Endowment Trustees provided financial reports. A three-year fiscal review provided a comparison for the figures. Membership is the most reliable revenue at approximately 50%, while conference and publishing revenue vary every year. The Planning and Budget Assembly (PBA) is undergoing changes to improve the group’s effectiveness and will focus on future planning for ALA.

ALA Council I

A video address from the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Tom Wheeler, was presented at the beginning of the ALA Council I session. Wheeler discussed the importance of connectivity in libraries, and the value of the eRate program. The video address is featured on the ALA Washington Office blog, District Dispatch, at <http://tinyurl.com/onfnckl>.

The Presidential Task Force on Electronic Communication for the ALA Council reported on guidelines for organizing and accessing information, which were presented to and passed by Council.

The Digital Content and Libraries Working Group (DCWG) reported to the Council. The DCWG reported that ALA has made a difference, in three years, with publishers and eBook providers.

The group’s focus will “continue to focus on the library ebook issue as many challenges (especially high prices) remain. Additionally, the group’s other priorities will center around digital preservation and media beyond ebooks.”

During Council I, a Resolution in Support of Stable Funding for Air Force Libraries was introduced, discussed and passed by Council.

ALA Council II

Several committee reports were made during the Council II session. The Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) encouraged people to join the organization at www.ftrf.org. According to its website, FTRF is “a non-profit legal and educational organization affiliated with the American Library Association. FTRF protects and defends the First Amendment to the Constitution and supports the right of libraries to collect – and individuals to access – information.”

New Business featured a special resolution for Council consideration. A Resolution on Granting the District of Columbia Government Budget Autonomy to Allow City Services, including Libraries, to Remain Open during a Federal Government Shutdown passed with good support.



The end of an era at the Las Vegas Hotel (LVH) was evident when the “LVH” came down from the iconic marquee.

ALA Council III

The Council III session began with memorials, tributes and testimonials. The Committee on Legislation (COL) provided a report to Council. The COL's volunteer members communicate regularly and closely with the ALA Office of Government Relations (OGR) staff to "advance the interests of libraries before the federal government" using ALA Council resolutions and ALA policies as guiding documents. The COL's Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) Task Force portion of the report states that "ALA should take on a facilitative role in the development of a national preservation plan...." Two action items from COL were presented to Council. The Resolution on Digitization of U.S. Government Documents was a referred document from the 2013 Annual conference that easily passed in Council III. Council also approved a Resolution Reaffirming Support for National Open Internet Policies and "Network Neutrality" that "calls on the Federal Communication (FCC) to codify network neutrality principles."

The Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) reported that ALA Editions plans to publish the ninth edition of the *Intellectual Freedom Manual*. The Interpretations to the Library Bill of Rights

prompted good discussion among councilors, with special attention to the section about Labeling and Rating Systems. Debate about philosophy versus best practices, cataloging data and inclusion of user-generated content ensued. ALA Council passed the document as presented by the IFC with the understanding that concerns surrounding labeling and rating systems will be addressed in the tenth edition of the *Intellectual Freedom Manual*.

Council Forums

I attended two late-night Council Forums sessions to learn more about key issues. I also participated in the Chapter Council Forum to network and discuss best practices with Association colleagues across the United States.

Arkansas Dinner in Vegas

On Saturday evening, a group of 19 people gathered to visit and enjoyed delicious food at the Grand Lux Café in the Palazzo. Attendees included Leigh Bernil, Carol Coffey, Dean Covington, Hadi Dudley, Chad Garrett, Verjeana Hunt, Donna McDonald, Pamela Meredith, Tina Murdock, Britt Murphy, Helen Claire Murphy, Matt Murphy, Paul Edward Murphy, Devona Pendergrass, Mike Sawyer, David Sesser, Lacy Wolfe, William Wolfe and Fallon Zschiegner-Bleich.



(L-R) Donna McDonald, Edward Masui and Hadi Dudley are photographed at the Japan Library Fair and Forum Organizing Committee exhibit booth.

Conclusion

Three themes emerged in my experience at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas: transformation, making connections, and the importance of sharing stories.

The end of an era at the Las Vegas Hotel (LVH) was evident when the “LVH” came down from the iconic marquee. The LVH was recently acquired by Westgate Resorts and began a re-branding campaign on July 1, 2014. Despite its historical significance, the place will be revitalized in order to be more relevant to modern visitors’ needs. Across the nation, a similar revitalization occurs daily in academic, public, school and special libraries. Libraries are no longer quiet warehouses for books. The 2014 conference theme, “Transforming our libraries, ourselves,” is evident in the many ways our profession has adapted to users’ information needs. From technology services, career help, and other value-added services, as well as how patrons are using library spaces as gathering places and community centers, all libraries are relevant to our respective communities. We must continue to embrace change and incite innovation, to lead ongoing and future successful transformations in our libraries.

Connecting with colleagues from across the United States, and around the globe, is one of the many unique opportunities afforded during an ALA conference. I traveled to Las Vegas with Donna McDonald, Director of the Arkansas River Valley Regional Library System and 2014-2015 Trustee at Large on the United for Libraries Board of Directors. We networked with ALA staff and other leaders of the American Library Association. Donna and I were also fortunate to meet Edward Masui who had traveled from Japan representing the Japan

Library Fair and Forum Organizing Committee. I believe it is important to make connections and develop positive relationships with others involved in librarianship. This support system prompts us all to be more personally invested, leading to a stronger organization.

In addition to transformation and making connections, the significance of sharing stories is especially meaningful in our profession too. Stories are methods for sharing the impact of libraries. Anecdotal evidence and testimonials put real faces on the important work we do in academic, public, school, and special libraries. *The Declaration for the Right to Libraries* has served as a vital tool for us to connect with our communities, explore our relevance, and share information with stakeholders. This spring, Arkansas libraries participated in the *Declaration* campaign and many unique stories emerged.

Our successes were formally compiled in an *Arkansas Libraries* report. ALA President Barbara Stripling quoted from this report in her closing presidential remarks, highlighting Delight Branch Library. Her speech exposed the work accomplished in The Natural State to more than 1,000 of our library colleagues. Hearing President Stripling cite a story from a small library in rural Arkansas, on the national stage, was an especially proud moment.

Note - for more information about Arkansas’ participation in the Declaration for the Right to Libraries campaign, refer to the summer issue of Arkansas Libraries journal (pages 16-20).

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



Saturday evening gathering at the Grand Lux Café.



Nominees for 2014 ALA Officer Elections

Vice-President/President Elect Nominees

Wendy Rickman

College of Education

University Studies Department

University of Central Arkansas

Conway, AR 72035

E-Mail: wrickman@uca.edu

Phone: 501-450-5431

Fax: 501-852-2826

Dr. Rickman is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Central Arkansas in the Department of Leadership Studies of the College of Education. She teaches for both the Library Media graduate program and the Instructional Technology graduate program. She has been at UCA for over 13 years, first as the Director of the Technology Learning Center in the College of Education and later as a tenure-track faculty member. Before working in higher education, Dr. Rickman was a school librarian in northeast Arkansas (Oak Ridge Central Schools and Valley View Schools) for several years.



Rickman

In 1994, she earned a B.S.E. degree in Social Studies Education from Arkansas State University. Dr. Rickman attended the University of Central Arkansas, graduating with an M.S. in Library Media and Information Technologies in 1996. After a number of years in both public education and higher education, Dr. Rickman earned an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership in 2007 focusing on Instructional Technology, also from Arkansas State University.

Dr. Rickman has been a member of the Arkansas Association of Instructional Media (AAIM), Arkansas Association of School Librarians (ArASL), Arkansas Library Association (ArLA), Association of School Librarians (AASL), American Library Association (ALA), National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), Association of Teacher Educators (ATE), Southeastern Regional Association of Teacher Educators (SRATE), and Arkansas Association of Teacher Educators (ArATE) for a number of years as a member, conference presenter, and participating in other organizational roles. She advocates for meeting the needs of children and young adult diversity populations and their reading and informational

needs. Her research agenda includes this advocacy issue as well as censorship and information access and integration.

Michael Sawyer

Library Director

Pine Bluff Public Library

200 E. 8th Avenue

Pine Bluff, AR 71601

Email: msawyer@pineblufflibrary.org

Phone: 870-534-4615

Michael Sawyer is the Director of the Pine Bluff/Jefferson County Library System (PBJC). He recently implemented a new ILS system at Pine Bluff, advancing from a text-based to a web-based system. This is the fifth library system for which Sawyer has overseen the implementation of a new ILS.



Sawyer

Currently, Sawyer is overseeing a monstrous digitalization project to enhance PBJC's local history and genealogy collections. Sawyer earned his B.A. at Columbia College and his M.L.S. at the University of Pittsburgh.

He began his library career working at a maximum/medium security prison before becoming a library director in the public library arena. Sawyer has worked in Ohio, Iowa, North Carolina, Colorado, California, and Louisiana before coming to PBJC Library. He is active in the community by being involved in civic clubs and ArLA.

Sawyer has won four national ALA awards in four different libraries. He has served on many committees at state library associations and is currently a member of the ArLA Marketing Committee as well as a reviewer for *L.J.* Sawyer has a passion for Intellectual Freedom and has served on several state and national IFC. Sawyer feels that an active role in these organizations has provided him with a well-rounded perspective on how library services can positively impact communities as well as the individual patron.

With over 37 years of embracing his profession, he has a wide range of skills and experience to ensure the Arkansas Library Association will continue to prosper far into the future.

Sawyer would appreciate your vote for Vice-President/President-elect. He stated, "I would

be honored to lead ArLA to the next level. We need to make ourselves known by marketing our organization to highlight who we are and what we can do for you and libraries across Arkansas.”

Judy C. Calhoun
Regional Director
107 E. Jackson
Monticello, AR 71655
E-Mail: dirsear101@gmail.com
Phone: 870-367-8584
Fax: 870-367-5166

Judy Calhoun began her library career in Star City, where she was the Branch Manager for 14 years. During her tenure there, she developed and maintained reading programs for children and adults, and Summer Reading Program attendance grew from 15 to 130. As the Library became more active, its open hours expanded from 30 to 40 hours per week, and its space became inadequate. Judy was instrumental in promoting a tax election which paid for a new 5,000 square foot building. She also raised an additional \$75,000 in grants and donations to furnish it.



Calhoun

In 2007, Judy received her master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Florida State University; and, in 2008, she accepted the position of Assistant Director at the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library. Among other responsibilities, she conducted Southeast’s Annual Workshops, where she educated staff from the 14 libraries in her region about Summer Reading and other programs, practical tips to increase reading awareness, and other topics related to day-to-day library issues.

She was active with the Lincoln County Literacy Council for a number of years, and is president of the Star City Women’s Book Club, one of the oldest active book clubs in the state of Arkansas.

She is a member of the Arkansas Library Association, American Library Association, the Public Library Association, the Young Adult Services Association, and the Association for Library Services to Children. She is a board member of the Association for Rural and Small libraries and was recently named as conference chair for 2015. She actively participates and presents workshops and regional events.

In 2012, she was named Director of the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library system and one month

later broke ground on a new 20,000 square foot Regional Headquarters/Monticello Branch Library.

Jamie Melson
CALS/Technical Services
100 Rock St.
Little Rock, AR 72201
E-Mail: jamiem@cals.lib.ar.us
Phone: 501-918-3074

I have worked with the Central Arkansas Library System for 35 years where I have worked as a cataloger for the past 19 years and out in the branches for the previous 16 years. I volunteered to serve on CALS’ barcoding team in 1995/96. I also served on the CALS Disaster Preparedness Team and served for 7 years on the Alice Gray Memorial Scholarship Committee. A co-worker and I helped collect cereal for THV’s Summer Cereal Drive for a few years and have worked on the B98.5 Telethon for Arkansas Children’s Hospital for the past few years as well as collecting toys for their Christmas Wish List.



Melson

I am a member of the American Library Association. I have been a member of the Arkansas Library Association for over 30 years. I served two years (1999-2000) as chair of the ArLA Paraprofessional Round Table/Division (ALPS). I helped spearhead the efforts to make the Paraprofessional Round Table become a Division during my second term as chair. I served as secretary for the Paraprofessional Round Table and as an area representative for Pulaski County. I was chosen as the Paraprofessional of the Year for 2001. I have chaired and served on the ArLA Awards committee several times, the Scholarship Committee many times, the Membership Committee for one year and the Constitution Committee for two years for which I am the current chair. I currently serve as the Association’s Secretary/Treasurer and served in that position for six years (three terms) prior to this term.

I’ve served as secretary of my church for over 30 years and am still serving in that capacity. I’ve also served as Sunday School teacher.

I served with the State Family Program of the Arkansas National Guard as the 189th Airlift Wing representative and served as the State Council’s secretary. I was also a certified instructor with the State Program. Prior to this position, I served as secretary for two years, then as chair for one year

with the 189th Airlift Wing Family Program of the Arkansas Air National Guard located on LRAFB. While there, I served as the Training Team Leader for the Wing Family Program. I have been a part of the National Family Program since being selected as a volunteer delegate for the state of Arkansas in 1994 and five more times after that all the way up to 2010.

I was married for almost 30 years to a wonderful cohort in crime, Ron. We were members of the 189th Airlift Wing Arkansas Air National Guard for 25 years and retired from that wonderful adventure in 2009. I enjoy cross-stitching and reading as my main hobbies. I've also been known to race cars with the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) on occasion and I'm a big NASCAR Sprint Cup race fan (Mark Martin, of course!). I was also one of the founding members of the Central Arkansas "PT" Cruiser Club where I served as treasurer and as club president.

My philosophy is serving today to become leaders tomorrow.

Secretary/Treasurer Nominees

Sloan Powell

Library Media Specialist

Simon Middle School

1601 East Siebenmorgan

Conway, AR 72032

E-Mail: powell@conwayschools.net

Phone: 501-513-6120

Fax: 501-513-6127

Sloan Powell has devoted the majority of her professional life to libraries and readers. For the past eight years she has served as the Library Media Specialist at Simon Middle School, where she has developed innovative programs that introduce her students to the wonders of books, literature and words.



Powell

After earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from the University of Arkansas, she then earned a Master's degree in Library Science from Emporia State University and a Master of Arts degree in History from Georgia Southern University. Prior to her work at Simon, she served as the Systems Librarian at the University of Central Arkansas and as the Registrar at Arkansas Territorial Restoration (now Historic Arkansas Museum).

She was born and raised in Little Rock, and still remembers the awe she felt when she realized she could take home any book she wanted from the

downtown public library. She loves to read, visit out-of-town libraries, walk, cook, knit and nap.

Jessica McGrath

Outreach Coordinator & Interlibrary Loan Supervisor

Arkansas State Library

900 W. Capitol, Suite 100

Little Rock, AR 72201

Email: Jessica@library.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-682-1299

Fax: 501.682.1529

Jessica McGrath is currently the Outreach Coordinator at the Arkansas State Library where her main task is collaborating with other state agencies. She started her library career in interlibrary loan at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas, while working on her M.L.S. at Texas



McGrath

Women's University. After completing her degree, she and her husband moved to Arkansas where she worked as the Young Adult Librarian and eventually the Head of Adult Services at the Saline County Library. She spent a few years in Louisiana public libraries before returning to the Natural State and joining the State Library staff. She and her husband Mike reside in Little Rock with their two little girls and an overabundance of pets!

Haley Rugger

Head of Main Library

Central Arkansas Library System

100 Rock Street

Little Rock, AR 72201

E-Mail: hrugger@cals.lib.ar.us

Phone: 501.918.3005

Haley Rugger is the Head of Main Library for the Central Arkansas Library System. Haley supervises adult services, including Reference and Circulation, for the system and the daily operations of the Main branch. As a member of administration, she participates in system projects and strategic



Rugger

planning. Haley has been a member of the Arkansas Library Association since she began her professional

career and is also a member of ALA and PLA. She has previously served ArLA as a conference presenter and conference ambassador. She holds a Masters in Library and Information Studies from the University of Alabama. Haley is interested in customer-driven public service, change management,

and library programming. She is known for being a detail-oriented problem solver and as an effective and efficient communicator. When she is not at the library, Haley enjoys reading nonfiction and coming-of-age novels, traveling with her husband Joseph, and baking cakes.

Arkansas Teen Book Award 2014

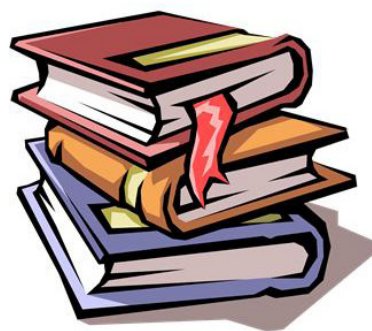
by *Jessica McGrath*

*Outreach Coordinator & Interlibrary Loan Supervisor
Arkansas State Library*

This year at the Arkansas Association Instructional Media (AAIM) conference we were delighted to present librarians with a brief ‘book talk’ about some of the exciting books eligible for the Arkansas Teen Book Award this year. Book talks are a huge part of what we do to get our kids to read... the talks sell the teens on books that “grab” them and compel them to access these titles immediately.

We were lucky enough (with a lot of communication from Lynette Thetford, Media Specialist from Nettleton Public Schools near Jonesboro) to have a Skype session with author Sara Zarr, whose works include *How to Save a Life*. Author visits are wonderful, but when money and time are tight, a Skype session works just as well. Most authors charge for their time, but because Sara had such great memories of libraries, she did it for no charge. She talked to us about not only her happy library memories, but also her writing habits, how her ideas came together, the whole process for writing and publishing, and then she let us ask questions. She was very friendly, and we all had a great time.

Currently we are cutting down on our initial



huge reading list and working on some of our “wild card” books. These are books that warrant further review, or that someone felt earned another look to see if they might make the final cut. We will soon have a final list of twenty books for each grade to read for next year’s event.

We want to encourage librarians and teachers to vote for their favorite books. How often are teens given the power to choose or vote on anything? Hardly ever. We want the readers of this generation to have a say in something they love, so read the entire list of books - there’s a lot of variety in book styles and genres. There truly is something for everyone. Offer a small prize for most books on the list they’ve read, or a cookie party for voting. Feed them and they will vote. Voting takes place in October, and we will be announcing the title list for 2015 at the ArLA conference.

The Award is sponsored each year by the Arkansas State Library. The Arkansas State Library provides the resources, services, and leadership necessary to meet the educational, informational and cultural needs of the citizens of Arkansas, and provides guidance and support for the development of local public libraries and library services. For more information on the library’s services, visit www.library.arkansas.gov.



WEBMASTER'S CORNER

Hello and Goodbyes

by Daniel Fitzroy, Henderson State University

Hello! I have to say that this new role came quite unexpectedly; however, I am both happy and excited to serve the Arkansas Library Association as Webmaster.

I am taking on this role as the association says goodbye to Jon Goodell, who held the role of Webmaster for over two years and who is leaving Arkansas to begin a new chapter in his career. As I slowly take stock and learn the duties associated with this role, my appreciation for the previous ArLA Webmasters has grown at least tenfold over the last couple of months.

In light of that, I would like to personally thank ArLA's outgoing Webmaster, Jon Goodell, for his years of dedicated service of maintaining and enhancing ArLA's website. Jon also tirelessly served the association in a myriad of ways, so I am sure ArLA members across the state wish him well in his new endeavors while sorely missing his presence, input, and knowledge. Jon, to you I say goodbye, good luck, and a great big THANK YOU!

It occurs to me that that my period of learning about the website is also the perfect time to remind readers of the various services and information found on the ArLA website (<http://www.arlib.org>). Do you need an ArLA Conference registration form? Check the website! Do you need a new job? Check the website! Do you want to read a back issue of *Arkansas Libraries*? Check the website! You can also visit the website to look for upcoming events, register for membership, and find the committee that will best allow you to serve the association. And if you ever notice anything that needs updating, simply

email me at the Webmaster email found at the bottom of any of the site's webpages.

In future issues of *Arkansas Libraries*, this column will also look beyond website information and will focus on technology and its use in libraries. And since the general theme of this article centers on goodbyes and transitions, I would like to relate some technology news from my library.

Just this week, the cataloging team here at Henderson State University's Huie Library transitioned to a new Zebra GK420t printer for printing spine labels. While the introduction of the new printer has gone smoothly, this transition marked the end of an era here at Huie Library, since it meant that we had to say goodbye to our last Panasonic KX-P3124 tractor feed, dot-matrix printer. That printer served the library well for nearly three decades, and it proved difficult for some to say goodbye even though the time was right.

This simple technological transition clarified my own thoughts on technology in general and within libraries. Technology and the adoption of new technology are truly exciting things; however, this does not mean that we simply adopt new technology for the sake of adopting new technology. That practice would simply waste our resources and make it more difficult to serve our mission and patrons. As long as something is efficiently working, keep it, but just be ready to move on and adopt something new when the time is right. Creating this balance of old and new technology with mindful adoption of new technology will allow us to efficiently use our resources to serve our library patrons across the state.

Daniel Fitzroy, Assistant Librarian at Huie Library at Henderson State University, is the ArLA Webmaster.



Huie Library says goodbye to the last Panasonic KX-P3124 tractor feed, dot-matrix printer. *Photo by Susie Kirk, HSU.*

What's Up? Docs. Exploring the CDC

by Karen Russ, Government Documents Librarian at UALR

Most of us have heard of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, frequently known as the CDC.¹

Based in Atlanta, Georgia, the CDC addresses national and international issues on illnesses and their treatment or prevention. The CDC regularly works with medical organizations and doctors, but they also provide information for the general public on how to avoid serious illness. Their website is a wonderful place to turn with patrons of nearly any age. Today, let's look at the use of the site as an adolescent might.

Now, often people would wonder why a teenager not required to participate in a science fair would care to explore the CDC's website. Perhaps the desire to find a new app? Yep, even the CDC has them!

*Solve the Outbreak*² puts the user in the shoes of a member of the Epidemic Intelligence Service (a real part of the CDC³) and allows them to earn a Disease Detective badge. When a new illness outbreak is suspected, participants need to race to the scene to determine what's happening, why, how it started, and how it's spreading. Fast action might save a whole town, state, or even nation. Incorrect decisions will result in widespread illness and maybe large numbers of deaths. I admit I never expected to find a site like this, but I can see how teens with an interest in the health sciences might want to spend more time investigating the subject if they could do so in a video game.

And, no matter how much they whine and try to avoid it, homework is always there. As more work is turned in electronically, the desire for color images is increasing. While color images are in books galore, the thought of looking in a physical volume is horrifying to many. It may not be necessary any longer.

The Public Health Image Library⁴ offers photos, illustrations, and videos on all aspects of public health. In addition to the expected categories like bioterrorism and influenza, images are filed in categories like natural disasters (pathogens that are

frequently associated with the sites of earthquakes and hurricanes, among others) and health behavior (topics like car seats and selecting fresh vegetables at the farmers' market).

The entire collection can be searched with a simple keyword option or an advanced screen, allowing for focused searches. Some images will be protected by copyright, but others are in the public domain. Results can also be limited to color or black and white, and the file format – video, photo, or illustration.

The disclaimer should be considered when recommending the file to younger students or those with known problems of weak stomachs: "This library includes subject matter that might be unsuitable for children. Viewing discretion is advised."

We all know that numbers can always assist in making a point when writing an essay or supporting a science project. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has an excellent website for Data and Statistics.⁵ Files are offered by topic, resources/research projects, and organization. In most cases, I would recommend the topics option. Each topic, like asthma or cancer, will take the user to a page focused on that subject that will then break down the concept into tables, graphs, and reports. Frequently, the data is provided at a state level allowing comparisons. In many cases, additional fact sheets and links to related agency reports can be found as well. Because each topic links to a different subdivision of the CDC, the nature of the information provided varies, and in some cases may not be at an appropriate reading level.

Exploring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with middle and high school students might provide them with a new perspective on health.

Note: The numbers below provide the link to websites referenced in the text above.

- 1) www.cdc.gov/
- 2) www.cdc.gov/features/solve-the-outbreak-android/?s_cid=cdc_homepage_whatsnew_003
- 3) www.cdc.gov/EIS/index.html
- 4) phil.cdc.gov/phil/home.asp
- 5) www.cdc.gov/DataStatistics/



Russ

Karen Russ is the Government Documents Librarian at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Ottenheimer Library.

ASK THE STATE LIBRARIAN:

2014 Presidential Sites and Libraries conference

By *Carolyn Ashcraft*, State Librarian
Arkansas State Library

I was delighted to attend the 2014 Presidential Sites and Libraries conference held in Little Rock at the Clinton Presidential Center, June 2-4. This national conference is held every four years and is hosted at a site with connections to the American presidency and includes attendees representing institutions from all regions of the country and from across the spectrum of the historical profession. The effort is coordinated by the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH).



Ashcraft

The theme, “Beyond the Presidency: Historical Context and Modern Reality”, was carried out in the numerous sessions by noted speakers. Attendees also had an opportunity to participate in off-site tours which included the Governor’s Mansion, Little Rock Central High School, the Historic Arkansas Museum and the birthplace of President William Jefferson Clinton in Hope, AR.

We were welcomed by local hosts Stephanie Streett, Executive Director of the Clinton Foundation, and Terri Garner, Director of the William J. Clinton Presidential Library.

Karen Russ, Government Documents Librarian/ Associate Professor at the Ottenheimer Library at UALR, has provided the following synopsis of several of the sessions:

I spent the first three days of this week at the Clinton Presidential Center for the sixth quadrennial Presidential Sites and Libraries conference, hosted by the Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton Foundation and hosted and coordinated by the American Association for State and Local History. About 200 people from Presidential Libraries, National Parks/ National Historical Sites commemorating presidents, and librarians and faculty from institutions around the country attended. I was joined by two other librarians from Arkansas: Carolyn Ashcraft, State Librarian, and Kathleen Fowler, Reference Librarian.

Dr. Peggy Scranton from the UALR Dept. of Political Science was also present. She and I spent a great deal of time speaking to each other

and numerous librarians/archivists from various Presidential Libraries as we worked to expand Internet links on the Research Guides for her American Presidency and First Ladies courses.

While every session offered numerous benefits, three stand out for their content and/or presenter(s).

Tuesday, June 3 -- General Session: “Recovering our National Treasures: Case Studies of Internal and External Thefts from the National Archives and Records Administration” - This session was more frightening than anything else, and that emotion appeared to be felt by nearly everyone in the room. The introduction to the issue of theft in the Archives was presented by Debra Steidel Wall, Deputy Archivist of the United States. After the scene was set, she turned the microphone over to Matthew Elliott, Assistant Inspector General for Investigation in the Office of the Inspector General at the National Archives and Records Administration. He proceeded to describe six thefts and related investigations at NARA in the past two decades. These resulted in thousands of pages being stolen. The first four thefts he described were by staff members and could have



Former U.S. President Bill Clinton was the keynote speaker at the Presidential Sites and Libraries VI Conference in Little Rock on June 3.

been prevented with better internal security and exit checks of staff clothing and purses/briefcases. None of the thieves had worked very hard to take the materials out of the secured buildings and most were selling them on eBay, thankfully leading to the recovery of many. (A list of the current known missing material is at www.archives.gov/research/recover/.) I was interested by the decision to prosecute some thieves under 18 USC 668 Theft of Major Artwork, rather than just theft. The definition of “artwork” in that law differs from what would first come to mind. It was used due to the estimated value of the stolen materials, not the format of the items taken. It was reported that eBay was very cooperative, knowing that “a large percentage of materials sold on the site is stolen.”

Evening Event Keynote Speaker: President Bill Clinton - Of course, the opportunity to see the forty-second President speak in person was a highlight for all present. As the article on page 3B of the June 4 *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* discusses, he focused on the value of Presidential Libraries, museums and related sites for maintaining the history of our nation and allowing people to understand how past decisions were made. He spoke at length about the deal-making involved in the creation of our nation, how it is not being used today, and how that is hurting our nation. The speech left most of us thinking about the changes in our legislatures, state and federal, in the past 20 years. Because we had assigned seating, dinner discussions involved people from multiple states, but nearly everyone seemed to agree with his main points. President Clinton did not stay for dinner as he needed to be in Philadelphia for a funeral on Wednesday, but I can attest that he missed an excellent meal. (I must say that the food at this conference was the best I have ever had when the meals were included in the cost of the registration. Many were actually underwritten by vendors or organizations.)

Wednesday, June 4 -- General Session: “Office of the First Lady” - This session was a panel discussion with five Social Secretaries of the White House that was moderated by a sixth, who is now an Ambassador. While each of the women had wonderful stories to tell about working with the first family and organizing nearly all activities in the White House (except those appointments for meetings in the Oval Office), Bess Abel (Johnson Administration) was the best. She had the entire room laughing with many of her stories. I think we all agreed that the best was in relation to the wedding dress of one of LBJ’s daughters. Bess

worked with the bride to have it designed and sewn through a well-known seamstress in the DC area. Shortly after it was finished, the President found himself being reprimanded by the President of the American Garment Workers Union, because it had been sewn in a non-union shop. Bess took the concern to the designer who assured her it could be taken care of. Not long after, a completely new dress was delivered, sewn in a union shop. Bess said she then cut the tag out of the second dress and sewed it into the first one. She finished the story with the following: “Remember, all weddings are supposed to involve something old and something new, something borrowed and something blue. I had taken care of ‘borrowed’.” -- Karen

I will have to join Karen in saying how delightful I found the panel discussion with the Social Secretaries. They provided an insight into their jobs, their connections with the First Ladies and Presidents, and the tremendous responsibility they carried. We could have listened to them for hours!

With approximately 200 individuals from across the country in attendance, I saw this conference as an opportunity to make connections with individuals and institutions with whom I was not familiar. I learned a lot and enjoyed the presentations immensely. I was also delighted to spend part of the time with my colleagues from the Arkansas library community: Karen Russ and Kathleen Fowler, Reference Librarian at the Arkansas State Library. One opportunity which we were given was to have our photograph taken in the Oval Office. This was a special treat that is seldom offered to visitors at the Clinton Presidential Center.

I am certain Karen and Kathleen would join me in saying the time we spent at the 2014 Presidential Sites and Libraries Conference was a valuable experience for each of us.

Founded in 1940, the American Association for State and Local History is a non-profit association for state and local history, with a primary focus on museums and historical societies. It is headquartered in Nashville, TN, and has over 6,300 members. To learn more about the AASLH, and possibly attend future conferences, check out their website at www.aaslh.org.

Note: This article is a joint effort of Carolyn Ashcraft and Karen Russ.

Carolyn Ashcraft is the State Librarian for Arkansas State Library.

Bentonville Library Highlighted at ALA Conference Session

Hadi Dudley, Library Director at Bentonville Public Library (BPL) was a panelist presenter at the American Library Association Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV. The session entitled “The American Dream Starts @ your library: Stories from the Field” featured key initiatives from the recent American Dream grant project. The American Library Association

and the Dollar General Literacy Foundation partnered to fund successful literacy programs in public libraries across the United States.

Dudley discussed family literacy events and immigration stories implemented with the grant award at BPL to celebrate diversity. Dudley was joined on the ALA session panel by Carmen Patlan, the Community Engagement and Spanish Literacy Services

Manager at Waukegan Public Library and Aida Quiñones Sáez, the Pinewoods Library Branch Manager with the Athens Regional Library System.

For more information about the American Dream initiative, visit <http://www.americandreamtoolkit.org/>.

For details about BPL’s family literacy campaign, refer to Sue Ann Pekel’s article “Celebrating the American Dream @ Bentonville Public Library,” published in the Spring 2014 issue of *Arkansas Libraries* journal (pages 22-24).



(L-R) Zina Clark, ALA Program Officer for the American Dream starts @ your library, presents Carmen Patlan, Aida Quiñones Sáez and Hadi Dudley with a special plaque commemorating the ALA conference session.

Unshelved (reprinted with permission from www.unshelved.com)



Unshelved by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum (c)2004 Overdue Media LLC unshelved@overduemedia.com www.overduemedia.com

Emerged Leader 2014

by *Lacy Wolfe*

Circulation/Reference Librarian
Ouachita Baptist University

Over the course of spring 2014, my Emerging Leaders group met virtually on a weekly basis to collaborate on our assigned project. We were tasked with developing a marketing and communications plan for the ALA Learning Round Table (LearnRT) (<http://www.ala.org/learnrt/>) that could be utilized by other ALA groups looking to improve their communications with members.

We began the process by surveying the membership on how the current communication methods were working. Our team evaluated the results of the forty responses looking for themes and trends. Members were primarily receiving communications through a newsletter and listserv, while the social media outlets and website were outdated and used rarely. We developed a marketing and communications plan based on the results providing suggestions and a timeline for implementation of marketing goals.

At ALA Annual in Las Vegas, our team presented the plan in a poster session. One other member of my team and myself attended the LearnRT board meeting and discussed the survey findings and our team's recommendations for implementation of the plan. We strongly suggested that another Emerging Leader team continue the project and re-evaluate the plan after implementation. Please take a look at our plan and poster: http://libguides.rutgers.edu/TEAM_L.

The collaboration process went well despite our team's geographical distance. From New Jersey,

Indiana, Louisiana, Arkansas, and California, we met via Google Hangout on a weekly basis. We chose a time that would work each week and adhered to that schedule throughout the semester. Although we had many life changes, the birth of a baby and a cross-country job change, we maintained our meeting time.

At the completion of Emerging Leader tenure, I began to think of ways to continue developing my leadership skills and will participate in Leadership Clark County, a county-wide program to develop local leaders, and the upcoming leadership seminar at ArLA.

Realizing the importance of mentoring in leadership training, I'm taking advantage of the LLAMA mentorship program and will be meeting virtually with my mentor as I learn first-hand about leading within the library world: <http://www.ala.org/llama/llama-mentoring-program>.

As a way to network with other leadership-minded young librarians, I've joined the LLAMA New Professionals Section. I worked with a group to match those with conference experience to first-time conference goers in a buddy program for the Annual Conference. This section will be growing and offering new opportunities for young professionals within LLAMA. Please take a few moments to see what we're up to and how you might fit within this group: <http://www.ala.org/llama/llama-new-professionals-section>.

As I noted in my article following my Emerging Leader experience at ALA Mid-winter, I'm grateful to have been given this opportunity and would encourage anyone with an interest in leadership to consider applying for the Emerging Leader program.



(L-R) Jenifer French (Shreve Memorial Library, Louisiana), Zara Wilkinson (Rutgers University, New Jersey), Lacy Wolfe, Kate Blinn (Earlham College, Indiana), and Natalie Blas (Loyola Marymount University, California).

TRAINING: TIPS, TOPICS AND TECHNIQUES

Lessons Learned Beyond Library School

by Joanna Ewing and Chrissy Karafit,

University of Central Arkansas, Torreyson Library

Despite years of information science courses and the endless stream of webinars and workshops, at some point we all encounter a task or project that requires the learning-by-doing approach. Learning on the fly has become an integral part of librarianship, but it is a significant challenge. How do we tackle the unforeseen problems when there is no opportunity for training? We have a few tips drawn from experience and a few more information sources for further reading as you negotiate the self-training process.

Joanna:

Learning new technology: Staying flexible and thinking outside the box!

Everyone knows how much technology has changed over time, and as librarians, we should be willing to both seek out and learn new programs and tools to help us do our jobs better. I have learned a great deal about Google Forms, screen capture software such as Jing and Camtasia, online polling software such as Poll Everywhere, and creating and maintaining online guides in LibGuides and Blackboard through on-the-job projects. Particularly if you are a solo librarian or working with a small staff, you will often have to be able to teach yourself to use new software programs on tight deadlines. Program help menus and technology blogs can become your best friends in these scenarios for quick answers to problems. You can also request suggestions of recommended tools to use for a particular project on listservs such as the Arkansas Library Association's own ARKLIB-L. Fellow colleagues are also a great resource for finding out about tech tools you may have never heard of or have wanted to try.

Some useful websites:

- Tech Soup for Libraries (techsoupforlibraries.org) -- Provides a host of good information primarily aimed at technology issues in public libraries, but other library types could benefit as well. Links to tons of upcoming and archived webinars, "library spotlights" featuring technology-related programs at individual libraries, and a blog including a wide range of library topics are just some of the features of this very useful website.

- Library Tech Talk (libtechtalk.wordpress.com) – Written by and for academic librarians, this blog "serves to showcase technology tips and tools

that can either be utilized immediately, or integrated over time." The apparently monthly "Tech Roundup" provides a nice summary of tools and related news.

- iLibrarian Blog (oedb.org/ilibrarian) – This prolific blog is maintained by the Director of IT at the New York Law Institute, and contains a great variety of library-related news, emerging technologies, and professional development tips. Although it appears to have a slightly academic slant, a lot of its information could be useful for other library types.

Teaching: Practice makes perfect!

For those library professionals without formal teacher training who are called upon to lead classes, whether it be a one-shot session on using Microsoft Word or a semester-long credit-bearing information literacy course, the thought of teaching a room full of strangers may be a little scary at first. Never fear, there are resources for novice librarian/teachers as well. Obviously, one of the best things a beginning teacher can do to improve this skill is to observe experienced teachers in action. Another option is either to have a group of individuals (regular patrons, coworkers, friends, etc.) watch you do a test-run of a class and provide honest feedback or videotape yourself doing a presentation for individuals to view and evaluate later. It is a good idea to do a "test-run" of a session, especially in front of an audience, in order to make sure any technology works as it should and you do not inadvertently leave out any crucial content. A good thing to keep in mind is that as library professionals, we are experts in the area of finding information, so we should not be intimidated about sharing our expertise. Again, there are a host of online resources out there with helpful advice on teaching strategies (a couple are included in this article), but the main thing is to be comfortable with the material you are covering and to PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE! Teaching may not come naturally to everyone, but it does get easier with time and experience.

Useful web resources:

- Lauren's Library Blog (laurenpressley.com/library/tag/teaching-strategies/page/3/) - This link directs readers to a 14-part series the author wrote on "Teaching Strategies" that appears to be a really in-depth discussion on the topic.

- ILI-L (lists.ala.org/www/info/ili-l) – Extremely active information literacy instruction listserv sponsored by ALA. If you are a librarian involved in teaching at virtually any level and are not subscribed to this listserv, you are missing out! So many great ideas here for teaching strategies and tools.

Chrissy:

Educate While You Collaborate: Working with Faculty

Something I never learned in library school is how to involve college faculty in the collection development process. When you are struggling to manage the ever-inflating expense of your electronic resource budget, soliciting faculty input about library collections can feel like opening a major can of worms. With faculty feedback, requests for additional resources far outweigh recommendations to discontinue resources. Libraries rarely have the budget to purchase everything that the faculty desires. At minimum, the library must subscribe to or purchase the resources required for accreditation, and databases in some fields are exponentially more expensive than databases in other fields of study. We do not wish to favor one academic department over another, but budgetary restrictions combined with accreditation requirements make it difficult to keep spending for all departments equal.

What I have learned through experience is that educating the faculty about the library's collection development policy is the first step in the collaboration process. I must remind the faculty that I am trying to represent the best interests of their academic department. When I inquire about a high-cost resource that is minimally used, my intent is to make sure that the faculty and students are getting the most important resources for their money. If I can identify and cancel under-utilized resources, then that frees up funds that can be spent on new high-demand resources. Providing options can soften the blow of canceling resources. I take time to explain that resources may be available through other avenues, such as interlibrary loan or using a deposit account with a publisher for purchasing articles, rather than purchasing a full subscription. If fulfilling all requests for new resources is too expensive, I can ask the faculty to rank their requests in order of importance so that I can meet immediate needs now



and put lesser needs on the wish list for the next spending cycle.

Luckily, there are a growing number of librarians with valuable experience who are willing to share. In addition to the scholarly literature, librarian bloggers offer useful insights and tips in plain English about the day-to-day challenges of the library world.

Useful web resources:

- The open access, open peer-reviewed journal *In the Library with the Lead Pipe* (inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org) has a two-part series on how librarians can collaborate with faculty, as well as numerous other articles on how libraries can better communicate their mission and value to their constituents.
- *The M Word* (themwordblog.blogspot.com) provides examples of library marketing techniques and tested methods for communicating with library constituents.

Since we don't always have the opportunity to get training on pressing topics, whether due to financial or time constraints, it is important to identify resources that can help you stay informed on current trends and offer guidance in a pinch. As you work through your share of challenges, you might also consider keeping record of your efforts in a professional blog, so that your peers can benefit from your experience. We may always be called to teach ourselves new skills, but if we all share our expertise, we won't have to reinvent the wheel.

Joanna Ewing is Cataloger and Chrissy Karafit is Serials Librarian at the University of Central Arkansas' Torreyson Library.

Arkansas Books & Authors

Compiled by Bob Razer

Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

The Crossroads of Memory: Carroll Cloar and the American South.

Disfarmer: Man Behind the Camera.

Kim O. Davis

The fine arts section of this issue's review column features a book about the state's most famous photographer, Michael Disfarmer, and an exhibition catalog for a show of paintings by the state's most famous painter, Carroll Cloar. No library can ever have too many books about Disfarmer or Cloar. Most earlier works about either are out-of-print and now valued far greater than their original selling price.

Kim Davis' self-published book about Disfarmer, *Disfarmer: Man Behind the Camera*, takes a different approach from other books about the photographer. Davis, while interested in the iconic photographs Disfarmer produced, is more focused on the person Michael Disfarmer. As a result, a lot of new information about the man is included in this book which also includes interviews with descendants and a lot of family photos. The now famous photographer becomes even odder when a more complete account of the man is provided. Davis prefaces each chapter with a quote from Frank Baum's *The Wizard of Oz*, an apropos reference since Disfarmer claimed to have been deposited by a tornado.

Davis also discusses the equipment and technique Disfarmer used in his photography. An unusual chapter deals with a psychological analysis of the man in which Davis concludes that Michael Disfarmer's mental make-up was closely aligned with psychologists' description of a narcissist or someone who lives behind a facade. Davis' book is very well done and a worthy addition to your library.

The Arkansas Arts Center recently concluded what was probably the largest showing of Carroll Cloar paintings ever as it included privately-owned works that are seldom if ever exhibited. The exhibition also appeared in Memphis and Atlanta.

The catalog from the show, *The Crossroads of Memory: Carroll Cloar and the American South*, surely represents the highest quality possible for such a catalog. The major Cloar book prior to this one was *Hostile Butterflies and Other Paintings*, out-of-print for decades, but not near the quality of this new book since *Hostile Butterflies* had only a few

color reproductions whereas most of the illustrations in *Crossroads* are in high quality color. No book can capture the real painting, of course, but having seen the exhibition I can say that this book comes darn close to that in-person experience.

Cloar's topics are drawn from life in east Arkansas and Memphis. His approach was frequently to paint works based on photographs he took or that he had acquired. Nothing says east Arkansas like a Carroll Cloar painting since so many of them reflect his growing up years in Earle.

His use of rich color is mind-blowing. You can identify a Cloar painting when you see one even if you did not know who the artist was. The blues, oranges, and yellows in particular leap off the canvas leaving the viewer to wonder "how did he get that shade?"

Cloar fans revisited their favorites at the exhibition and no doubt found new favorites too. My own favorites "Arrival of the Germans in Crittenden County," "Children Pursued by Hostile Butterflies," "Where the Southern Cross the Yellow Dog," and "Moonstricken Girls" were joined by a host of new favorites: "Halloween," which shows a girl in a mask in a field with ghosts in the background but a closer look shows that the ghosts are really hooded Klansmen; "Grandpa and the Panther Tree" is in shades of orange and shows grandpa sitting under a heavily foliated tree where panthers can be seen hidden in the leaves; "The Girl Tree" in shades of dark pink is similar though girls are substituted for the panthers; "The Wonderful Team" pictures the first Earle High School football team in wonderfully striped uniform sleeves; the yellows of "Bridge Over the Bayou" are stunning.

Another unusual feature of Cloar's work was the degree to which he painted scenes populated by black people. Many of these paintings pictured his childhood playmate CharleyMae and they are some of Cloar's better known works. "What Charley Mae Dreamt" is my favorite of the Charley Mae paintings. It shows Charley Mae and Cloar as children sharing some watermelon on a stump with a panther. Cloar liked panthers. "The Red Cross Lady" depicts a black relief worker in the Depression with a group of children and adults numbering well over one hundred. This painting was based on a photograph made by a black photographer in Earle whose work inspired more than one Cloar painting.

Stanton Thomas curated the exhibition and provides an informative introduction about Cloar and

his work for *Crossroads*. This is an Arkansas book not to be missed for it is likely to be the primary source for the public to view Cloar paintings for years to come.

***“This Day We Marched Again”: A Union Soldier’s Account of War in Arkansas and the Trans-Mississippi; The Civil War Diary of Jacob Haas.* Mark K. Christ, ed.**

***Muzzled Oxen: Reaping Cotton and Sowing Hope in 1920s Arkansas.* Genevieve Grant Sadler.**

Generally, I do not review many books published by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies since I work there. However, two of their recent publications are of particular importance for the student population and deserve to be brought to the attention of Arkansas librarians, especially those concerned with providing library materials to meet the new Common Core curriculum standards calling for more non-fiction reading and analysis.

Both of these publications represent primary documents: one is a diary, the other a memoir. Both provide the author’s first-hand observations and insights at a particular time in Arkansas history and comment on events of that time.

Diaries and letters of Civil War soldiers are a gold mine for those writing about the Civil War. However, the resulting books that use such resources are often heavy going for students and the actual words of the war veterans may be buried in the text. Copies of actual diaries are seldom available for student use as are any writings from that period that deal extensively with experiences in Arkansas by those fighting in the state.

Publication of *“This Day We Marched Again”* addresses many of those problems. It is a short publication (129 pages of diary text) and deals with Haas’ experiences as a member of the 9th Wisconsin Infantry fighting in Arkansas and other areas in the Trans-Mississippi area. The diary is edited by Mark Christ, author and editor of numerous books about the Civil War in Arkansas. Christ’s editorial work shows students what a well-edited document does and how it is presented, an educational lesson in itself.

Jacob Haas was a German immigrant. His war-time diaries and his subsequent transcription of them into one volume were written in German and translated to English many years later by a son-in-law. Haas’ words will soon dispel readers of notions that the Civil War was glamour and glory. Boredom,

heat, insects, lack of clean drinking water, little protection from the weather whether blazing heat or freezing cold, and little or nothing to eat far too frequently were more likely to be the daily life of the Civil War soldier. More soldiers died of disease than battle wounds though if you were unfortunate enough to be shot, medical care might harm you as much as help you since sanitation and sterilization of instruments were not in vogue. A Civil War soldier was far more likely to experience dysentery than glory. Haas never fully recovered his health following his military service.

Frequent sub-headings are present in the diary so that a topic is often presented in just a few paragraphs, brevity likely to be appreciated by students or anyone interested in a brief diary study of Civil War service. Haas relates his experiences fighting at Prairie Grove, visiting Helena and Little Rock, observing the hanging of David O. Dodd, marching and fighting during the disastrous Camden Expedition with particularly extensive fighting at Jenkins’ Ferry by the 9th Wisconsin. Haas presents a far more realistic look at Civil War experiences in Arkansas than students might receive from watching Civil War re-enactors on a Saturday.

Genevieve Sadler fought battles of a different sort. A Canadian by birth, a Californian by residence, she came to Arkansas by car from California in 1920 with her husband, two young sons, a mother-in-law, and a brother-in-law in hopes of farming the family farm in the Arkansas River Valley around Russellville. The stay lasted much longer than she anticipated – years in fact, before the failing agricultural economy of the late 1920s drove the family back to California.

The Sadlers in their Arkansas years were far better off than their neighbors who were sharecroppers, some of whom sharecropped Sadler land. Genevieve experienced culture shock hard to imagine as she was surrounded by desperately poor people who seemed resigned to their life of poverty, disease, and, frankly, filth. Malaria became a way of life. Finally, concern over their youngest son’s health, the older boys’ future, and the realization that their cotton crops were never going to provide the level of comfort they had hoped for resulted in the family moving back to California.

This is a most interesting book and how it came about is equally interesting. Sadler wrote the book after her return to California using the frequent letters she had written her mother (who remained in California) while Genevieve lived in Arkansas. Her mother had saved all the letters in a trunk, hundreds

of letters, and those letters provided the reference material for this memoir.

The Sadlers' son born in Arkansas contributed the foreword to the book: "Genevieve's letters, which were long and detailed, provided vignettes of the lives of the people among whom she lived, especially the sharecroppers and cotton pickers, both black and white, who worked on the Sadler lands and nearby. The letters included faithful quotations from conversations . . . [and] contained clear images of the Arkansas landscape, the farms and farm operations."

Genevieve was an excellent writer and her memoir represents one of the best accounts I have ever read of daily life for an Arkansas farm family in the 1920s. James Agee provided the best remembered look at poor Southern sharecroppers in *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men* and provided an even more telling account in the original manuscript for that magazine assignment which was recently published as *Cotton Tenants*. Sadler's account of the sharecroppers she encountered is, if anything, even more haunting than Agee's reporting though that is only a part of Genevieve's account of her Arkansas years.

While *Muzzled Oxen* in its entirety (358 pages) might be too much for students, creative teachers could incorporate portions of it in a look at 1920s rural Arkansas when "hard times" were really hard. A more general audience interested in Arkansas history would find the book of interest in its entirety. The book maintains its easy reading feel of letters home, or as Genevieve put it, the story is "naively told," but told by a very observant young mother and wife.

Gay Panic in the Ozarks.

Ed Bethune

Not many former Congressmen attempt to write a novel and those few who do usually are not very good at it. The exception just might be Arkansas' Second District alum Ed Bethune.

His novel, the unfortunately titled *Gay Panic in the Ozarks*, holds its own in the world of contemporary legal fiction. The book has good characterization, realistic dialogue, an intriguing plot, and a story that moves along nicely after a somewhat slow start.

The book's protagonist is newly elected prosecuting attorney Aubrey Hatfield who won election due to an acrimonious split in the other political party, the majority party in the district.

Hatfield is elected as a result of the losing

primary candidate in the other party throwing his support to Hatfield rather than his own party's nominee, not exactly a mandate from the people for Hatfield.

A high profile murder case lands in the new prosecuting attorney's lap. A local businessman has been killed by a high school football star after the businessman made a homosexual pass at the high schooler. No one suspected that the businessman was a homosexual. His death under these circumstances would have brought headlines and attention to the county regardless, but the county had been the site for another murder of a homosexual nearly forty years earlier that had gone unsolved, with the general feeling at the time being that no one was really concerned about a murder of a homosexual in the God-fearing, patriotic Ozarks. To further complicate matters, new law school graduate Aubrey Hatfield had been the assistant prosecuting attorney when the first murder occurred. Aubrey has resigned that post after a few months, partly because he too thought little was being done to investigate the killing.

Now, decades later, Hatfield has returned to the prosecutor's office and old skeletons were leaving the closet (no pun intended) to haunt him, the county, and the community's residents. Did it matter that a homosexual was murdered while making a play on a popular "good kid"? It isn't long before reporters are linking the two murders, an easy enough task given Hatfield's involvement in both cases. Hatfield decides to re-open the old case while at the same time prosecuting the current one. Readers as well as the prosecuting attorney go from one case to the other as pages turn.

The current case hinges on an unofficial legal defense of "gay panic" holding that the religious high school boy who believed homosexuality to be a major sin had "panicked" when the sexual advance was made and he had instinctively beat the sinning businessman with a dumbbell without realizing what he was doing. So was it justifiable homicide, manslaughter, or murder? I won't tell you the outcome.

Bethune neatly ties together the two cases in a believable way. This is a self-published book and the physical product is the equal of trade paperbacks published by commercial houses, but I do think a publisher's editor would have suggested a better book title and a designer would have provided a more appealing cover than a black one picturing a gray courthouse. But don't judge this book by its cover – or title – but rather give it a read. I think you will find it to be reading time well spent.

Arkansas Library Association
P.O. Box 958
Benton, AR 72018-0958

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Little Rock AR
Permit #2685

Arkansas Libraries
ISSN 0004-184X