

# MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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For additional information and a list of committees and roundtables, see the Mississippi Library Association's Web site at <http://www.misslib.org/>

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

### LIBRARY ADVOCACY – IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!

Mississippi's libraries – whether public, school, college, university, or special – are critical to the populations they serve. Public awareness of maintenance of funding is crucial, and it is our responsibility to keep our funding needs in our users' consciousnesses. I wonder how many of us really understand how our libraries are funded. Libraries' budgets are facing critical times. The state legislature has the difficult job of balancing the entire state's budget needs. We should all be aware of legislative actions regarding libraries and librarians. Awareness and education are imperative!

The uniting of voices across the state certainly has had a positive impact on the future of school librarians! A huge **Thank You!** to each and every person who contacted an elected official to express concerns regarding legislation that would have adversely affected our school libraries and the students who depend on certified school librarians.

Thanks, also, to everyone who helped to make our first MLA Midwinter/Library Advocacy Day and Legislative Reception a success. Special thanks go to the staff of the Eudora Welty Library and the Jackson-Hinds Library System. Each year they open their doors and allow us to welcome our Representatives and Senators to express our appreciation for their efforts on our behalf. The Legislative Committee organized a wonderful event and the legislative update, immediately prior to the reception, was very informative. My appreciation goes to all who participated in the success of the day.

Several committees, sections and



Susan Cassagne

roundtables met to plan their programs for the Annual Conference, which will be held in Vicksburg, October 25-27, 2005. Library advocacy must be a year-round commitment. I would encourage each one of you to become a more active participant in our organization. Membership is important, but active membership is imperative. Networking, in a non-technical sense, is an indispensable part of our professional lives; and active membership in MLA provides the vehicle for meeting and sharing.

Please note the clarification regarding the Legacy Club and Lifetime Membership. The old membership form states: *Payable up to 5 years in increments of \$250 per year until paid in full.* There was some confusion about the total cost of lifetime membership; therefore, the form has been updated to read: *Payable in increments of a minimum of \$200 each year, until paid in full.* An updated form is available on the MLA Web site as well as in this issue of *Mississippi Libraries*.

Public Relations Awards will be presented at the annual conference in October. Please check the MLA Web site for the updated information. **This year only**, entries will cover the time period from January 2004 (the date of the last awards) through August 2005. Entries will be due by October 1, 2005, and awards will be presented during the awards luncheon on Friday during conference.

If you do not currently subscribe to the MLA e-mail list, please consider subscribing. The list is the quickest means of sharing information! The address is on the MLA Web site at <http://www.misslib.org>. An e-mail list for school librarians is available at [subscribe-libmedia@list.mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:subscribe-libmedia@list.mde.k12.ms.us).

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On the cover: *Josephine*, by Amy Lowe. Amy, an Oxford, Mississippi native, received her BFA in painting in 2003 from the University of Mississippi and held her first solo exhibition at City Grocery in Oxford in the same year. She has also taken part in several group exhibitions: the University of Georgia's Lamar Dodd School of Art; Cortona, Italy; Oxford's Frame-Up Gallery; twice in the Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition, where she received an Award of Excellence; and currently in Little Rock, Arkansas at the Amy Richmond Howard Fine Art Galleries. To see more of Amy's work, visit <http://www.AmyLowe.com>.

# MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

*Mississippi Libraries* is a publication of the Mississippi Library Association (MLA). The articles, reports, and features herein represent the viewpoints of their respective authors and are not necessarily the official opinions of the Association.

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**Advertising Deadlines:** Spring: February 10; Summer: May 10; Fall: August 10; Winter: November 10

**Submissions:** Manuscripts must be submitted in electronic format in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, or ASCII text format. Documents can be sent as an attachment via e-mail or on a CD-ROM or a 3 1/4 inch disk via surface mail.

**Deadlines for submission:** Spring: February 2; Summer: May 2; Fall: August 2; Winter: November 2.

In order to assure the widest possible audience for the work published in *Mississippi Libraries*, that work is added in electronic form to the Mississippi Library Association Web site and, by contractual agreement, to one or more EBSCO Publishing databases. *Mississippi Libraries* is also indexed in *Library Literature and Information Sciences Abstracts*.

Dues must be paid by March 1 in order to receive the Spring issue of *Mississippi Libraries*.

# The Academic Library as Place

*Elizabeth Stephan*

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*Library as place. User in the life of the Library. Library in the life of the user.* These are all phrases used often when talking about libraries – the last one most recently discussed by Wayne Wiegand in his article, “Critiquing the Curriculum” in the January 2005 issue of *American Libraries*. Public libraries have often served as community centers – a place to meet, a place to relax, a place to check out books, movies, and music, and a place to check one’s email, of course. What about the academic library? More and more, academic libraries are moving toward being community centers as well as research centers. The community most often served is that of the university, but now that community often includes the area surrounding and supporting the university. In the Spring 2005 issue of *Mississippi Libraries*, we want to address some of these issues. How are academic libraries reaching out to their communities and why? How are academic libraries creating a more attractive place for their users? How do academic libraries adapt to their users’ needs? Has this outreach increased use of the library? Has it created any new funding opportunities?

Academic libraries have had to compete with the Internet and the likes of Google for several years, but they have also had to compete with Barnes & Noble, Borders, and coffee shops. Bookstores are including coffee shops and comfy furniture for their customers, and coffee shops are including soft furniture and books. Now academic libraries are following their lead. Libraries are relaxing



*Starbucks in the Cook Library at The University of Southern Mississippi. Photo: Barton Spencer.*

food and drink policies and teaming up with outside entities to add coffee shops and cafés. J. D. Williams Library at The University of Mississippi added soft furniture during the spring of 2004. Wireless Internet access was made available at the beginning of the 2004-2005 school year, and a coffee bar was installed later in the fall semester. Cook Library at The University of Southern Mississippi opened a Starbucks the first day of the spring 2005 semester. Both have been very successful, with lines forming between classes.

Adding extras like coffee bars and wireless Internet can greatly affect the number of people who go to the library. Daily gate counts at the entrance of USM’s Cook Library for the first three weeks of the spring semester indicate traffic in the building increased over the same time period last spring semester by

42%. Gate counts at The University of Mississippi increased 7.4% from Fall 2003 to Fall 2004. But more important than gate counts and circulation statistics, these changes make people more aware of the library. At The University of Mississippi, one will see more students in the library using the soft furniture for meetings, reading, and, of course, sleeping. They are also in the library with their laptops and using library computers. While some may see these extras as unnecessary, it is undeniable that the additions turn the library into a university community center as well as a research institution. In this issue of *Mississippi Libraries*, several other academic librarians discuss what they have done to reach out to their surrounding communities.

In his article, “Paperbacks and a Percolator,” Mark Sanders discusses how

Louisiana State University added a paperback exchange program and free coffee during finals as a way to reach out to their users. With little initial promotion except word of mouth, the two separate programs increased student knowledge of the library and attracted more traffic into the building. Like USM and Starbucks, LSU partnered with an outside vendor. Community Coffee provided coffee and travel mugs for the library's free coffee promotion.

Reaching out to other university departments is another way to increase awareness of the library and establish the library as a gathering place. In her article "Library Campus Outreach Collaboration at Mississippi State University," Outreach Coordinator Gail Peyton tells how University Libraries teamed up with MSU's International Student Organization and the Indian Student Organization to present two awareness seminars to promote and advertise an Indian festival, as well as to promote awareness of other cultures to the student body. By using the University Relations office to promote the event and involving academic departments, the awareness seminars created ties across campus.

McLendon Library at Hinds Community College, Raymond Campus, worked with the Speech and Theatre Department to purchase books for a "Read Aloud" project. Nancy Tenhet, in her article "Lagniappe: Something Extra at Hinds CC McLendon Library," tells how the library purchased recommended read-aloud books for students to check out and read to children at home. The library went a step further and set up a comfortable area for students and children to browse and read the children's collection. By providing students the books to check out and take home, the library hoped to encourage literacy among their students

and the children in their lives.

When the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit "Key Ingredients" made a stop at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, MGCCC reached out to the both the college and local communities. Putting on a national exhibit can be a financial strain. In her article, "American Odyssey: Planning for a Smithsonian Exhibit on a Shoestring Budget," Pam Ladner explains how MGCCC was able to do just that: with the help of those in their learning resource center and the donations and time of local merchants and media outlets, MGCCC was able to present and promote a national exhibit to its students and community.

You may notice some other changes to this issue of *Mississippi Libraries*. Sherry Laughlin, Head of Information Services at Cook Library at The University of Southern Mississippi, is the new editor for 2005. Sherry was editor of *Mississippi Libraries* from 1986 until 1991. Elizabeth Stephan, Business Reference Librarian at J. D. Williams Library at the University of Mississippi, is the new assistant editor. Any comments about content, current or future, can be directed to them at [sherry.laughlin@usm.edu](mailto:sherry.laughlin@usm.edu) or [estephan@olemiss.edu](mailto:estephan@olemiss.edu).

The 2005 issues of *Mississippi Libraries* will each focus on a specific



*Java City in the J.D. Williams Library at The University of Mississippi. Photo: Elizabeth Stephan.*

theme. The theme of the Summer issue will be multi-type library collaborations. If you have suggestions for subjects or submissions, contact either Sherry or Elizabeth. Watch the MLA e-mail list for requests for content.

The covers of the 2005 *Mississippi Libraries* will also feature artwork from graduates of The University of Mississippi's art department. This month's cover features the painting *Josephine* by Amy Lowe. Lowe is an Oxford, Mississippi, native and received her BFA in painting in 2003. She held her first solo exhibition at City Grocery in Oxford the same year. She has also taken part in several group exhibitions: the University of Georgia's Lamar Dodd School of Art; Cortona, Italy; Oxford's Frame-Up Gallery; twice in the Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition, where she received an Award of Excellence; and currently in Little Rock, Arkansas, at the Amy Richmond Howard Fine Art Galleries. To see more of Amy's work, visit <http://www.AmyLowe.com>.

# Paperbacks and a Percolator: Fostering a Sense of Community in the Academic Library

Mark Sanders

Outreach Services Librarian  
Louisiana State University Libraries

## ABSTRACT

*More and more academic libraries are attempting to enhance their image as not only the university's academic center, but its community center as well. Many things can help achieve this aim, such as providing more comfortable furnishings, installing displays of art throughout the building, and even sponsoring film and lecture series. It has become especially important to foster a sense of place in the academic library, given the competition many face from the rise of patrons' exclusive reliance on Google and also their increased preference for meeting and studying in bookstore cafés. The Louisiana State University Libraries recently implemented two inexpensive and innovative outreach services with this goal in mind. The services are a book exchange to support recreational reading among students and the provision of free coffee during final exams week. Both have been very successful in raising the library's profile as the community and cultural center of the campus.*

Providing a collection of popular reading materials is often seen as a function of the public library but not the academic research library. Some academic librarians perceive romance novels, westerns, and other popular literature as not having a place in the collection. Academia focuses upon instruction and research, not entertainment or recreational reading. Similarly, while the subject of putting cafés in libraries has been a topic of recent interest, providing free coffee for the university community is judged a service better left to student organizations.

However, an important article in the

*Chronicle of Higher Education* highlights how academic libraries have lost the patronage of many students and faculty by their focus upon delivering the latest technology at the expense of maintaining a sense of place (Carlson 35-38). Attracting this lost attention are retailers such as Barnes & Noble who provide plush furniture, pleasant aromas, and an overall more welcoming atmosphere. These establishments entice people into the building, but not all are necessarily paying customers. Many simply seek a nice place to study or just relax. Academic libraries must learn that in addition to the traditional role of supporting the university's teaching and research, they should try harder to showcase the overall institution as a community center. Two small but easy ways to do this are by implementing a book exchange and providing free coffee to students during final exams week.

## BOOK EXCHANGE

Book exchanges appear in many public places as an innovative and inexpensive service provided to customers in hotel lobbies, recreational and community centers, and reception areas. At Louisiana State University (LSU) Libraries, a book exchange was implemented as an outreach to library patrons in Spring 2004. Before beginning the service, the Outreach Services Librarian solicited advice from colleagues who had recently started a paperback exchange at a peer university library. Their response was encouraging; the exchange had started with a couple of hundred volumes and after the first year of operation was completely self-sustained by students. This model was replicated at the LSU Libraries. An initial email was sent to an e-mail list soliciting donations from library faculty and staff. The feedback was tremendous, and after two weeks there were 250 volumes to start the collection.

The Libraries' facilities manager arranged to place a pair of bookshelves in an open space near the entrance to the Reference Department. Signage indicating the purpose and policies of the exchange, as well as a donation bin, were located near the bookshelves. Anyone may take a reasonable number of books and, although it is not required, readers are encouraged to return the books so that others might enjoy reading them. Classification is very informal, as books are arranged by genre: romance, sci-fi/fantasy, bestsellers, non-fiction, and classic literature. Patrons can simply browse their favorite section instead of having to scan all of the titles. Overlap naturally exists, but this scheme seems to have worked well. Publicizing the book exchange has been strictly word of mouth among the university community, aside from a brief article in the student newspaper.

It is particularly interesting to observe students peruse the titles and talk amongst themselves at the display. Circulation patterns of the books at the exchange are very informative as well. They have produced completely unexpected insights into the non-academic reading habits of our university community and helped refine the "collection policy" of the exchange. While raising the community profile of the library has remained true, the mission to support recreational reading has been modified to reflect the patterns of the users. The exchange is now open to all books, paperback or hardcover, popular fiction or the esoteric. Literary categories such as self-help guides, devotionals, cookbooks, and automotive repair guides (just to name a few) were originally not included, since the exchange was implemented to support recreational reading. However, to pigeonhole a reader's style is now determined not to be the best strategy since recreational reading for many peo-

ple includes publications other than trade paperback fiction.

While the exchange still relies on donations from library faculty and staff, it is clear that students are participating more and more in the exchange. Recently, after a substantial number of the sci-fi/fantasy books were taken, a new crop of titles in the same genre appeared just a few days after. Furthermore, the tell-tale red "DISCARDED" stamp inside all books verifies that many patrons have been returning books to the donation bin once they are read. Since the popular service began, there have been approximately 300 confirmed exchanges and a little more than 2,000 donations. As an editor from the early 1990s observed, "A paperback exchange is an excellent way to promote reading since it calls attention to books students *have* read. The social nature of the activity encourages future participation by nonreaders" (Williams 7).

### FREE COFFEE DURING FINAL EXAMS

Another outreach service that highlights the LSU Libraries as a community center is the provision of free coffee to students during the week of final exams. This is an excellent chance to demonstrate the Libraries' responsiveness to students' exigencies during this stressful time. Indeed, for many students this may be the only time they visit the library during the semester, so it represents an important opportunity to project a positive image. And as with the paperback exchange, the service can be implemented with little cost or inconvenience (Russo and Colborn 140).

From 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. during each semester's exam week, a small table is placed in the main library's lobby with a percolator, stirrers, beverage napkins, and canisters of sugar and non-dairy creamer. The only caveat is that students have to provide their own travel mugs, since Styrofoam cups with plastic lids are not permitted in the library. Periodic checks by reference staff ensure that coffee is always fresh and available.

The free coffee service began in December 2003. Publicity was limited to a sign placed near the entrance's turnstiles



*A student helps himself to free coffee in the LSU library during finals week. Photo: Mark Sanders.*

and a listing in the student newspaper. Initial response was low, and coffee was often thrown out because it had been sitting for hours. However, as word spread among the campus community, the free coffee became more and more popular. This was expected, since word-of-mouth is among the most effective ways to market services among the university population. As the week progressed, it became clear that students were becoming aware of the service and taking advantage of it. By the end of the week, use declined moderately as many students had finished exams and left for vacation.

A partnership was established with hometown favorite Community Coffee Company LLC. to improve the free coffee service during the following spring semester's exam week. Not only did Community Coffee donate a substantial amount of coffee and supplies, but they also gave the library a limited number of travel mugs to give to empty-handed students coming to the library. The free

travel mugs were dispensed at the reference desk, so interaction was fostered between patrons and reference librarians that might not otherwise occur.

The free coffee service during the spring semester's exam week was an outstanding success. Advertising the service through signage, the library's Web page, a featured story in the student newspaper, a limited number of free travel mugs and word-of-mouth all contributed to triple the fall semester's total of dispensed coffee. The service was so popular by the following fall 2004 semester that any subsequent increase would require the installation of a café within the building to keep up with student demand.

### CONCLUSION

Starting a book exchange and providing free coffee during exam week are just two examples of outreach services that are very easy to implement and very much appreciated by academic library patrons. Both qualitative data such as patron anecdotes, and quantitative data including numbers of book exchanged and pounds of coffee dispensed, confirm their success. As a response to the LibQUAL+ survey at LSU states, "I think that the library is viewed by many students to be boring and they don't believe that the library is a place to spend quality time. If the library could be merged with the above items [coffee, etc.] to provide students an interactive experience, they would see how valuable the library really is and enjoy spending time there and in turn add value to their college experience." The goal of these two services is to enhance the image of the library as not only the academic center of the university but its community center as well.

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# American Odyssey: Planning for a Smithsonian Exhibit on a Shoestring Budget

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## ABSTRACT

In July 2003, the Mississippi Humanities Council selected Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College as one of seven sites in Mississippi to host the Smithsonian's exhibit *Key Ingredients: America by Food*. Because this was a time of severe community college budget constraints and cuts, we had to find alternative methods to raise money for supplies, gift basket items, food, programs, and decorations. The *Key Ingredients Team* produced a Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College "Key Ingredients: America by Food" cookbook to sell. Approximately forty-five businesses in our four-county district donated over sixty items for a silent auction. We applied for and were awarded a \$2,000 mini-grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

The exhibit opened on Monday, October 18, 2004, with the official ribbon cutting at 5:00 p.m. One hundred ninety-eight people were in attendance, including faculty, staff, students, College Board members, city/county officials, and a member of the state legislature. During the month-long exhibit, three presentations ("How the Gourmet Replaced Grandma," "Military Food Rations of the 20th Century," and "How to Set a Proper Southern Table") and a book talk, "Readin 'n' Eatin," were conducted with a combined total of 312 attendees. Seven elementary and high schools in our surrounding communities took advantage of the exhibit by scheduling field trips for their students. Overall, 208 adults and 2,166 students visited

the exhibit before it closed on November 11, 2004.

A little over a year ago, I opened my email expecting to see the routine meeting and data requests. One email stood out: an email asking me to apply for a Mississippi Humanities Grant to display a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit. I did as instructed, not really expecting to be chosen for such a prestigious honor, but to my surprise, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College was selected to host the Smithsonian's exhibit *Key Ingredients: America by Food*. What I didn't realize, at the time, was how much work would be involved – especially for a Project Director with an archetypal Type A personality.

## KEY INGREDIENTS

Curated by Charles Camp, *Key Ingredients: America by Food* examines the evolution of the American kitchen and the connections between Americans and the foods they produce, prepare, preserve, and present at the table through a selection of artifacts, photographs, and illustrations. *Key Ingredients* also focuses on the community aspect of food through celebrations and restaurants ("Key Ingredients," *Museum*).

A Key Ingredients Team (KI Team) was formed to take on the organization and planning of the exhibit. It was a combination of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College brain, brawn, and creativity. Doug Mansfield, Learning Resource Center Television Studio Technician/Photography Instructor; Gwendolyn Carter, Librarian; Johanna Martin, Secretary; Zina Fountain, Housekeeping; Tim Koehn, Librarian; Josh VanZile, Secretary; and I planned for over a year to make this a memorable experience for us and our surrounding communities.



The Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College "Key Ingredients" team. From left: Tim Koehn, Doug Mansfield, Gwendolyn Carter, Josh VanZile, Pamela Ladner, Johanna Martin, Zina Fountain. Photo: Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Learning Resource Center.

## PREPARING FOR THE EXHIBIT

Due to severe community college budget constraints and cuts, we had to find alternative methods to raise money for supplies, gift basket items, food, programs, and decorations. Taking a lead from the subject of the exhibit, the KI Team produced a Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College "Key Ingredients: America by Food" cookbook. College employees and their family members and community members contributed recipes along with a paragraph about the history of each recipe. We even had an autograph session with our first recipe donor Tom Eason, author of the *Balony Samich* recipe. Sales of the cookbooks, which sold for \$10 each, raised \$175.

We raised money through a silent auction held on the opening night of the exhibit. Approximately 45 businesses in our four-county district donated more than 60 items to be auctioned. Items donated included a three-piece 10-karat gold-and-silver bracelet set from Friedman's Jewelers in Pascagoula and three pen-and-ink watercolors from renowned Ocean Springs artist Glenn Miller. Lowe's donat-

ed a cast-aluminum park bench; local restaurants donated 16 gift certificates; and five gift baskets came from local businesses. The auction raised \$1,013.50 to assist with the cost of the exhibit.

We applied for and were awarded a \$2,000 mini-grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council. This money was used for Key Ingredients shirts for the volunteers and team members, signage, and invitations.

Two major donors played a vital part in the success of this endeavor. Ken and Frances Smith of WKFK Television Channel 7 Cable and Broadcast in Pascagoula donated all the commercials, crawlers, and the 30 minute program. Pat Lasecki and Leroy Taylor of Valley Food Services donated all of the food for the opening night reception.

We advertised prior to and during the month-long exhibit. In addition to the commercials, crawlers, and program donated by WKFW, we had flyers, a newspaper article, a news brief, and a five-minute television spot on WLOX's "The 4 o'clock Show," and a 30-minute television program on NCN Cable Channel 7 publicized the event.

The exhibit opened on Monday, October 18, 2004, with the official ribbon cutting at 5:00 p.m. One hundred ninety-eight people were in attendance, including faculty, staff, students, four board members, city/county officials, and Representative Hank Zuber from the Mississippi Legislature.

### EXHIBIT ACTIVITIES

Each host of the *Key Ingredients* exhibit was required to provide four activities in conjunction with the exhibit. After researching other host sites from different states, the KI Team wanted to do something a little different. In addition to the opening night ribbon cutting/reception, book talk, and silent auction, there were three presentations: "Military Food Rations of the 20th Century," "How to Set a Proper Southern Table," and "How the Gourmet Replaced Grandma." Attendance at all the presentations totaled 306.

Malcolm White, restaurateur, promoter, food enthusiast, author of articles about food in Mississippi, and the creator of award-winning recipes in the southern genre, presented two workshops on "How the Gourmet Replaced Grandma: Dining Out in Mississippi vs. Eat at Home." White discussed the phenomenon of eating out in Mississippi.

A member of the KI Team, Doug Mansfield, suggested and volunteered to conduct a presentation on military food rations. Mansfield, a distinguished military memorabilia collector and founder of the GI Museum in Oceans Springs, Mississippi, developed and presented "Military Food Rations of the 20th Century" in honor of our armed forces and their family members. Mansfield showcased military food rations and other memorabilia from the twentieth century in order to inform the public of some of the conditions under which our soldiers in the military do battle. Visitors tasted samples from a modern MRE (Meals Ready to Eat).

Jan Mullen, Language Arts Instructor at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, presented "How to Set a Proper Southern Table." Initially two presentations were scheduled, but an additional presentation was conducted for a group of special education students.

The book talk, "Readin' and Eatin': Our Favorite Things," was scheduled on a Friday afternoon. Each participant was asked to bring their favorite dish and join us for a talk about *Under the Tuscan Sun* by Frances Mayes. Five faculty/staff took part in this event. We regret that this event did not draw the community input that we hoped. The low attendance may have been due to the time frame.

In addition to having elementary, junior high and high school students from our district tour the exhibit, we had 23 students from Germany and ten visitors from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

### FINAL THOUGHTS

The exhibit was a great success and a learning experience for everyone

involved. We were able to provide our students with the opportunity to view an actual Smithsonian exhibit. We invited the community in as well. Students from the local schools were given special tours and lessons to enhance their visit and coincide with their studies.

The exhibit would not have been possible without the organization and planning of the Key Ingredients Team members: Doug Mansfield, Gwendolyn Carter, Johanna Martin, Zina Fountain, Tim Koehn, and Josh VanZile.

The following individuals offered their continued support and assistance over the past year: Dr. Willis Lott, President of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Dr. Rick Christmas, Vice-President of the Jackson County Campus; Dr. Cheryl Thompson, Vice-President for Academic Instruction and Student Affairs; Dr. Barbara Carpenter, Executive Director of the Mississippi Humanities Council; Lil Lovette, Key Ingredients Project Specialist; the Jefferson Davis and Perkinson Campuses of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; and the many volunteers who helped with the exhibit.

*Key Ingredients: America by Food* has been organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) and in association with the Federation of State Humanities Councils and the Mississippi Humanities Council. This project was made possible through the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Southern Foodways Alliance.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College "Key Ingredients: America by Food" cookbooks are still available for \$10. For more information, contact Pamela Ladner at [pamela.ladner@mgccc.cc.ms.us](mailto:pamela.ladner@mgccc.cc.ms.us)

### REFERENCES

"Key Ingredients." *Museum on Main Street*. 2002. Smithsonian Institution. 24 January 2005 <[http://www.museumonmainstreet.org/exhibs\\_key/key.htm](http://www.museumonmainstreet.org/exhibs_key/key.htm)>.

# Lagniappe: Something Extra at Hinds CC McLendon Library

Nancy Tenhet

Archives and Instructional Services Librarian, Hinds Community College

## ABSTRACT

In the spring of 2002, McLendon Library on the Raymond Campus of Hinds Community College renovated an area near the Circulation Desk for the newly acquired children's books (purchased in conjunction with the "Read Aloud" project of the campus Speech Department) and audio books. The area was redecorated with a rug, reading lamps, and comfortable seating and designated the "Lagniappe" area.

## BACKGROUND

Hinds Community College is a comprehensive two-year educational institution serving approximately 15,000 students annually at its six locations. Begun as an agricultural high school in 1917, Hinds started offering college level courses in 1922. The student body consists of traditional high school graduates and non-traditional adult learners. Hinds enrolled 9,798 students in college credit programs in the fall of 2002, and 4,805 were enrolled in non-credit courses and at high school career and technical education centers operated by the College.

The Raymond Campus, located about eight miles west of Jackson in Raymond, provides both traditional university transfer classes as well as technical and career (vocational) classes. Having an "open door" policy, Hinds enrolls a diverse group of individuals with a variety of learning levels and educational backgrounds.

Even with its nine residence halls, the Raymond Campus has a large number of commuters from the Hinds Community College five-county area of Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Rankin, and Warren. Commuters also attend from other areas of Mississippi as well as Louisiana.

## NEW BOOK AND VIDEO AREA

For years McLendon Library, on the Raymond Campus, maintained an area near the Circulation Desk to house new books, recreational reading (mostly paperbacks), and, more recently, videos. The library's acquisition policy provides for purchase of items supporting the curriculum with some leisure-related purchases which were housed here. This area blended with the rest of the library in décor and had no seating.

## CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Before her retirement, Marjorie Morris, Hinds speech teacher, taught SPT 1103, a three-hour (institution only credit) speech course that stresses basic communication skills. This course is normally taken by students without the qualifications for the traditional freshman speech course, SPT 1113.

Morris developed the textbook that she used for SPT 1103. One of the areas stressed in the book was "read aloud" skills for her students. Many of her students had poor reading skills and seldom read aloud. As a practical application for them, she encouraged them to read to children at home. Many of the students had siblings at home or children of their own.



Read aloud books in McLendon Library at Hinds Community College. Photo: John Blair, Production Assistant, Instructional Technology, Hinds Community College.

The "read aloud" assignment had a twofold benefit. Not only did it help her speech students, but it also benefited their siblings/children at home. Morris found in preparing her textbook that research had been done that validated the importance of reading to young children every day. She found that despite the growing amount of evidence that reading and talking to infants and toddlers may be the single most important thing in determining the child's intellectual, social and economic success, (Zuckerman, 92) fewer than half (48 percent) of parents read or share a picture book daily with their preschool children. Pediatricians now believe that a child who has never held a book or listened to a story is not a fully healthy child. (*America Reads Challenge*, [http://www.ed.gov./inits/americanreads/families\\_raising.html](http://www.ed.gov./inits/americanreads/families_raising.html))

As a result of Morris' research, the Speech and Theatre Department at Hinds developed a "Read Aloud" project in the spring of 2002 that was designed to educate the public about the importance of reading aloud to preschool children. In conjunction with the Speech and Theatre Department and the Child Care and Development Department, McLendon Library developed an annotated list of quality "read aloud" books for infants, toddlers, and three to five year olds. The list (*Read-aloud Books that Every Preschool Child Should Hear*), some tips for reading to children, and a list of Web sites for further information were posted to the Hinds Community College Learning Resource Center Web site (<http://lrc.hindscc.edu/Resources/>).

In conjunction with the "Read Aloud" project, McLendon Library purchased recommended read-aloud books for students to check out and read to children at home. It was hoped that the convenience of having the children's books where students could check them out when checking out books for classes would encourage their use. Also, a comfortable and

relaxing area was needed for browsing the children's books, a place that highlighted the books and added to the ambiance of selecting titles for reading.

Since McLendon Library has limited space and a very visible area was desired, it was decided to convert the new book and video area near the Circulation Desk into a pleasant and inviting area with the children's books on low, easy to reach shelving. A rug, reading lamps, and comfortable couches and chairs were purchased and the nook by the Circulation Desk was converted into a cozy reading area.



The Lagniappe area in McLendon Library at Hinds Community college. Photo: John Blair, Production Assistant, Instructional Technology, Hinds Community College.

### AUDIO BOOKS

Also in the spring of 2002, at about the same time as the "Read Aloud" project was being enacted, the District Dean of Learning Resources, Dr. Juanita Flanders, decided that we should purchase audio books for McLendon Library. The large number of commuting students as well as commuting faculty and staff at the Raymond Campus made audio books an obvious selection for McLendon Library. Audio books can provide a pleasant commute and also assist in "keeping up" with current titles in our busy lives. Titles chosen for the audio books included current best sellers and classics. It was decided, for convenience and visibility, to place the audio books in the area where the children's books were housed.

### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

With a newly renovated area that included children's books, audio books,

videos, new books, and recreational reading, it was decided to give the area a name. A name was wanted that reflected not just the children's books but also the other items in the area. Most of the items in this area were purchased for the enjoyment and convenience of the students and faculty and to promote a love of reading. These items were something extra, something provided above and beyond the required curriculum purchases.

After much thought and discussion the area was named "Lagniappe." According to the online *American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language*, fourth edition (2000), lagniappe comes from Louisiana French and means "an extra or unexpected gift or benefit."

"Lagniappe" suits this area perfectly. The students enjoy the cheerful area and the comfortable seating, and both the children's and the audio books have been a hit with everyone.

### REFERENCES

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*America Reads Challenge*. (2000) "What Can You Do?" [http://www.ed.gov./inits/americanreads/families\\_raising.html](http://www.ed.gov./inits/americanreads/families_raising.html)



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# Library Campus Outreach Collaboration at Mississippi State University

*Gail Peyton*

*Associate Professor and Coordinator  
Reference Services & Campus Outreach  
Mississippi State University Libraries  
and*

*Philip G. Bonfanti, Director  
International Services Office  
Mississippi State University*

## ABSTRACT

*A strong, proactive campus outreach program at Mississippi State University Libraries continues to be a major focus of the library. In order to accomplish this goal, the Library Outreach Program was established in the spring of 1998 to develop and create new relationships and collaborations with the University's administration, the teaching and research faculty, staff, students, and campus affiliates. In 2004, the Library Outreach Program partnered with the International Services Office (ISO) and the India Student Association to develop and present two awareness seminars. These seminars allowed the India Student Association to promote and raise funds for an upcoming festival. At the same time the library was able to reach out to students, faculty, and university administration as well as raise student awareness of the library.*

During a scheduled meeting between the Dean of Libraries and the Coordinator of Campus Outreach about campus outreach initiatives, it was decided there was a need to reach out to the MSU international student population. The Coordinator of Campus Outreach attended the 2004 National Diversity in Libraries Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, sponsored by SOLINET, ASERL and HBCU Library Alliance, where such initiatives were discussed. At the conference, individual

librarians discussed how their libraries benefited from diverse populations on their campuses, and how they looked for opportunities to reach out to international students to make sure that their needs were being met. After returning to campus, the Coordinator of Campus Outreach arranged a meeting with the Director of the International Services Office, Dr. Phil Bonfanti. The meeting revealed that the library and the International Services Office had similar goals and needs.

Mississippi State University enrolls almost 600 international students and their dependents from over 70 different countries. Students from India comprise close to one-third of the international student population, as do students from mainland China, with students from the remaining 68 countries rounding out the number. One of the goals of the ISO is to develop interactive cultural programming, or programming designed to create greater interaction between American and international students. The ISO requires that international student associations make an effort to attract American students in order to receive funding. When approached by the library with the idea of co-sponsoring an outreach project, Bonfanti was very receptive to the idea. When he was approached by Arun Ramakrishnan, the president of the India Student Association, for funding for the Diwali Festival, held each fall, Bonfanti suggested that they meet with Peyton at the library to discuss ways the three organizations could partner to offer a cultural event.

## PLANNING

In the fall of 2004, Peyton, Bonfanti, and Ramakrishnan met to discuss possible events. Ramakrishnan commented that he had had several questions from

American students regarding India and Indian culture, and the idea of an awareness seminar was born. The library auditorium could accommodate 90 students, and University Relations could advertise the event both on and off campus. The collaborative effort would educate American students about India, build relationships across campus – both between students and library and between the two cultures – and help highlight a major Hindu festival on campus, Diwali.

Publicity for the awareness seminar was handled by University Relations. Participants were interviewed and photographs were taken in order to publicize the event. A press release was distributed



*India Native Sailabala Tungtur prepares to demonstrate the classical Bharata Natyam dance of her country. Photo: MSU University Relations.*

to various news outlets, including the university newspaper and a number of local newspapers. However, the real key to getting students to attend was to reach out to the faculty and students. Flyers were placed in high traffic areas on campus – the Union, the Holmes Cultural Diversity Center, and the library news board. The library advertised the event on its Web page. Faculty members from Music, History, Anthropology, Food Science, and Religion were made aware of the seminar; several music and anthropology professors required their students to attend.

### THE SEMINAR

On the day of the seminar, Indian students came to the library dressed in their native attire and set up several tables with sweets, cultural artifacts, silk cloths, musical instruments, and jewelry. The seminar began with the Dean of Libraries welcoming the students and faculty. The Indian students gave an overview of the Diwali festival, why it is celebrated and how. Performers discussed their performances and gave demonstrations. For example, one of the performers discussed classical Indian dancing and then performed a classical dance. This was followed by musicians who did the same. The seminar was offered twice, several days prior to the festival. Attendance at the first session was quite good because of the required attendance for some classes. Attendance at the repeat session was more modest and made up mostly of library staff and other university faculty and staff.

The awareness seminars were a success. The students put on a professional performance for those in attendance, and the Diwali festival held later that week attracted a crowd of over 500, including more than 50 American students – more than double the number in attendance at

past festivals. The faculty, staff and MSU students attending the seminars learned more about Indian culture. The MSU Library Outreach Program was able to achieve its goals by reaching out to the university community, and new and stronger relationships with other university departments were created. By being

proactive, the library was able to increase its visibility on campus to both American and international students, faculty, and university organizations. Most important, the library staff learned that by being proactive and reaching beyond the library walls, they could work with other campus organizations to accomplish common goals.

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# MLA 2005 Officer Nominees



Julia M. Rholes

## Vice-President/President-Elect

### JULIA M. RHOLES

**Education:** B.A. Mount Holyoke College, 1972 (Biology); M.A. University of Texas (Austin), 1974 (Zoology); M.L.S. Rutgers University, 1978.

**Professional Experience:** Dean, The University of Mississippi Libraries, 2003-present; Assistant Dean, University of Kansas 1998-2001, 2002-2003; Interim Dean, University of Kansas, 2001-2002; Head, Reference Division, Texas A&M University, 1990-1998; Acting Assistant Director, Texas A&M University, 1992-1994; Head, Maps & Microtext Depts., Texas A&M University, 1983-1990; Reference Librarian, Texas A&M University, 1978-1983; Information Scientist, American Cyanamid, 1974-1978.

**Professional Activities:** ALA, Member, 1980 to present; active participant on numerous ALA committees; MLA, 2003 to present; currently serving on MLA Legislative Committee; Texas Library Association (TLA), 1981-84.

**Publications and Presentations:** (most recent): "Developing Partnerships to Create Electronic Reserves at the University of Kansas Libraries," (with Nancy J. Burich) in *Journal of Access Services*, 1(4)59-70 (2003). "What Do the



Jeff Slagell

Patrons Think? Library Surveys: Old & New Approaches to Assessment," (with Kay Wall), SOLINET Workshop presentation, Starkville, December 5, 2003.

**Honors:** Frye Institute Fellow, 2002. Association of Former Students Outstanding Librarianship Award (Texas A&M University, 1994. Whitney-Carnegie Award, (American Library Association), 1990.

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## Vice-President/President-Elect

### JEFF SLAGELL

**Education:** M.A. 1999 University of Arizona (Information Resources and Library Science); M.A. (ABT) University of Miami (Communication) (A.B.T.); B.A. 1991 University of Iowa (Psychology).

**Professional Experience:** Assistant Director of Library Services, Delta State University, 2002 – present; Head of Serials/ILL, Delta State University, 1999 – 2002.

**Professional Activities:** ALA: 1996 – present; ACRL 2000 – present; Legislative Network State Representative 2001 – 2002; NMRT 2000; MLA: 1999 – present; ACRL section, 2000 – present; Archives & History Committee, 2005;

Continuing Education Committee, 2005; Hospitality Committee, 2004; Executive Board, 2002; Chair, ACRL Section, 2002; Web Page Committee, 2000 – 2002; Vice-Chair, ACRL Section, 2001; NMRT, 2000; SELA: Member, 2000 – Present; Peer Reviewer, Southeastern Librarian, 2003 – present; Interstate Cooperation Committee, 2003; Planning and Development Committee, 2001; NASIG: (North American Serials Interest Group) 2000 – present; Mentor Program, 2002 – present; Co-Chair, Awards and Recognition Committee, 2004 – 2005, Awards and Recognition Committee, 2002 – 2003; Web liaison, 2002 – 2003; Other: Friends of the Library, Bolivar County Library System, 2001 – present.

**Publications:** "Linking E-journals and Customer Service: The Serials Information Chain Panel." *The Serials Librarian*, 47(3) 153 (2004); "E-Journal Management Systems Panel." *The Serials Librarian*, 45(3) 119 (2003); "Start Small – Think Big." *Library Connect Pamphlet – How to Get Published in LIS Journals: A Practical Guide*, 2003, Elsevier Publishing, p. 4; "An Interview with Sam Brooks." *Serials Review*, 28 (2) 142 (2002); "Library Profile – W.B. Roberts Library." *Against the Grain*, 13 (5) 68(2001); "NASIG 2001: A SERIALS ODYSSEY – Horizon Award Essay." *The North American Serials Interest Group Newsletter*, 16 (2) 16 (2001); "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Evaluating Electronic Journals." *Computers in Libraries*, 21 (5) 34 (2001); "Academic Librarianship in a Digital Age." *Mississippi Libraries*, 64 (4). 116 (2000); "Academic Librarianship in a Digital Age." *Proceedings of the Association of College and Research Libraries Annual Meeting*, Mississippi Library Association Conference, Jackson, MS (October 2000); "Using a Web Exhibit About the Past to Build a Foundation for the Future." *Computers in Libraries*, September 20 (8) 34 (2000).

**Presentations:** "Librarians in Film Festival," Mississippi Library Association Conference, Natchez, MS (October 2004) [*Moderator*]; "Frumpy or Fabulous? The Image of Librarians in Popular Culture," Mississippi Library Association Conference, Natchez, MS (October 2004) [*Panel Presenter*]; "TALK ABOUT Images and Issues of Professional Librarianship: Professional Reflections in Turbulent Waters," North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) Annual Conference, Milwaukee, WI (June 2004) [*Strategy Session Presenter*]; "Branching Out: The Importance of Networking in a Library Landscape," NASIG Annual Conference, Portland, OR (June 2003) [*Workshop Presenter*]; "Linking E-journals and Customer Service: The Serials Information Chain," Working Together to Solve the E-journal Puzzle - NASIG Continuing Education Seminar, Mississippi State University (April 2003) [*Panel Moderator*]; "Archival Web Exhibits for Smaller Institutions," Society of Mississippi Archivists Annual Meeting, Cleveland, MS (March 2003) [*Program Presenter*]; "Aggregator Gripes," The Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC (October 2002) [*Plenary Panel Presenter*]; "Association of College and Research Libraries Annual Chapter Meeting," Mississippi Library Association Conference, Hattiesburg, MS, (October 2002) [*Program Moderator*]; "E-Journal Management Systems," Mapping the Journey to E-Journal Access," NASIG Continuing Education Seminar, Mississippi State University (July 2002) [*Panel Moderator*]; "Don't Tread on Me: The Art of Supervising Student Assistants," NASIG Annual Conference, Williamsburg, VA (June 2002) [*Workshop Presenter*]; "Avoid the Pit and Accept the Pendulum: Strategies and Resources for Selecting a Library Automation System," SELA Annual Conference, Jekyll Island, GA (October 2000) [*Poster Session Presenter*]; "Library Security and Confrontation Skills," W.B. Roberts Library Staff Development Workshop, Cleveland, MS (September 2000) [*Program Presenter*].

**Grants and Honors:** Delta State University Faculty Research Grant, 2001, 2002, 2003; Kent and Janice Wyatt Fac-



Betty Cox

ulty Development Grant, 2001; NASIG Horizon Award, 2001; GALE/Southeastern Library Association Professional Development Grant, 2000.

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#### Secretary

#### BETTY COX

**Education:** B.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1972; M.L.S., University of Southern Mississippi, 1992

**Professional Experience:** Library Media Specialist, Mississippi School of the Arts, 2003-present; Library Media Specialist, N. R. Burger Middle School, Hattiesburg, MS, 1999-2003; Thames Elementary School, Hattiesburg, MS, 1988-1999; Elementary Libraries Coordinator, Hattiesburg Public School District, 1981-1988; City Bookmobile Librarian, Library of Hattiesburg, Petal and Forrest County, 1978-1980

**Professional Activities:** Member of MLA and AASL and current chair of the School Section of MLA; member of Delta Kappa Gamma and past-president of Alpha Mu chapter; recipient of a Mississippi Arts Commission Arts in Education mini-grant, 2001; partner in a U.S. Department of Education PT3 Technology grant in support of pre-service teachers working with middle school students, 2003; advocate for others seeking National Board certification support at the Mississippi World Class Teaching Program at the University of Southern Mississippi, 2003-2004



Otha Keys

**Honors:** National Board Certified Teacher, Library/Media-Early Childhood through Young Adulthood, 2002; member of Beta Phi Mu, Library and Information Studies International Honor Society.

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#### Secretary

#### OTHA KEYS

**Education:** B.S. Mississippi University for Women; M.L.S., University of Southern Mississippi.

**Professional Experience:** Library Media Specialist, South Jones High School.

**Professional Activities:** Member of the American Library Association, the American Association of School Libraries, and the Mississippi Library Association. Former Chair of the MLA School Library Section, Co-Chair of the Membership Committee, as well as a member of the Scholarship Committee, Information Literacy Committee, Author Awards Committee and a member of the Black Caucus Roundtable. National board certified teacher in library media and a trainer for the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards. Serves as a mentor for librarians as they go through the national board certification process. She has written articles for *Mississippi Libraries* and *Knowledge Quest Online Edition*.

**Honors:** Recipient of the Carroon Apple Award at the MLA Annual Conference in 2004.

# MLA Midwinter: Library Advocacy Day

Mississippi Library Association sections, roundtables, and committees met in Jackson on Tuesday, February 15, 2005, in order to plan programs for the association's annual conference to be held in Vicksburg in October.

The highlight of the day was a legislative update at the Eudora Welty Library, followed by a reception for legislators, where librarians, friends and trustees discussed the needs of libraries throughout the state.



*From left: Dorothy Vance, Central Mississippi Regional Library System; Terry Burton, Senator, District 31; Kaileen Thieling, CMRLS; and Carol Smith, CMRLS Board of Trustees Chair.*



*From left: Benjamin Peterson, Columbus Lowndes Public Library; David Gibbs, Representative District 36; Mary Helen Waggoner, Tombigbee Regional Library System.*



*From left: Glenda Segars, Itawamba Community College and MLC Board of Trustees; J. B. Markham, Representative District 20; Mary Helen Waggoner, Tombigbee Regional Library System, Benjamin Petersen, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.*

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*From left: Fredda Sanderson, Iuka Public Library; Ricky Cummings, Representative District 1; Dorothy Hopkins, Corinth Public Library Trustee; Harvey Moss, Representative District 2; Betty Cranwell, Northeast Regional Library System; Ann Coker, Corinth Public Library; and Cathy Kanady, Northeast Regional Library System.*



*From left: Mary Helen Waggoner, Tombigbee Regional Library System; Dannie Reed, Representative District 35; Ginny Holtcamp, Starkville-Oktibbeha County Public Library System.*



*From left: June Schmidt and Frances Coleman, Mississippi State University; Jan Willis, Lee County; Jack Gordon, Senator District 8; Glenda Segars, Itawamba Community College and MLC Board of Trustees; Celia Fisher, MLC Board of Trustees; Preston Sullivan, Representative, District 22.*

## People in the News

The Mississippi State University Libraries announces two new appointments. **Newkirk Barnes** has been appointed Assistant Professor and Education Reference Librarian. Barnes has a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Alabama and a Bachelor of Arts in communications from Tulane University. **Patrick L. Carr** has been appointed Assistant Professor and Serials Librarian. Mr. Carr has a MLS from Clarion University, as well as a Master of Arts in English from the University of Rochester and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Bonaventure University.



**Dr. Pamela Ladner**, Assistant Dean of the Learning Resources Center at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Jackson County Campus, received word that the journal *Advances in Library Administration and Organization* will print a 65-page summary of her dissertation entitled “Mississippi Public Community and Junior College Distance Education Students’ Perceptions of Library Support Services.”

Ladner’s work will be published in the journal’s 22nd volume, along with papers from Northern Illinois University and Rutgers University, and is only one of ten doctoral dissertations on distance education chosen internationally to be published in this journal. The journal will be available in early March.



The Dixie Regional Library System, headquartered at the Pontotoc County Library and serving Calhoun, Chickasaw

and Pontotoc Counties, is pleased to announce that **Annette McGregor** has been named Pontotoc Branch Librarian.

Before joining DRLS, McGregor worked at the Lee County Library as Circulation Manager. She also served as mayor of the Tocopola community for four years, helping to build a new community center during her term.

With thirteen years of experience working in libraries and her strong ties to the community, McGregor will bring interesting new perspectives to the Pontotoc County Library and to the Dixie Regional Library System.



**Staff members of the Hancock County Library System** were recently recognized with technology pins for their work in implementing the new Easy Access Catalog. The Easy Access Catalog is just one phase of the FOCUS (Free Online Computer User Services) project which began in early 2002. “Staff put in long and hard hours getting ready to implement the new automated library system,” said Prima Plauché, Hancock Library System Director. “We wanted to recognize them for their dedication in assuring that our customers receive the best in library and information services.” The FOCUS Project is funded by a Library Services and Technology Act Grant administered by the Mississippi Library Commission and a gift from the Leo Seal Family Foundation.



**Annette McGregor**  
Pontotoc Branch Librarian



**Mary Perkins**, Public Affairs/Development Officer at HCLS, was recently re-elected to the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for a three-year term. Perkins previously served on the Chamber Board of Directors from 1976 to 1988.



**Sheila Cork**, HCLS Coordinator of Public and Information Services, was recently installed as 2005 recording secretary to the Hancock County Historical Society.



**Sue Prendergast** has been named

branch manager of the Waveland Public Library, according to Prima Plauché, Hancock County Library System Director. Prendergast’s duties include day-to-day management of the Waveland Public Library, including customer services, programs for adults and children, reference and research assistance, and public use computer services. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from The University of Southern Mississippi. She has been employed by the library system since 1998, and served as the Assistant Coordinator of Reference and Information Services.

“The Hancock County Library System (HCLS) is fortunate to have Sue on our



**Sue Prendergast**  
Branch Manager  
Waveland Public  
Library

team,” said Plauché. “She is truly an asset to the customers of the Waveland Public Library.”



**H.T. Holmes** has been selected to serve as the new director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Holmes succeeded **Elbert R. Hilliard**, who retired on January 1st after thirty-one years in the position. The search for Hilliard’s successor began last year with the formation of a special committee of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The committee conducted an extensive search process before making its recommendation.



**H.T. Holmes**  
Director  
Mississippi  
Department of  
Archives and  
History

Holmes, director of the department’s Archives and Library division since 1988, began his association with MDAH in 1969 as a college intern. He went on to serve as oral historian, archivist, records analyst, manuscript curator, map curator, and head of the special collections section. A native of Winona, Holmes earned his Bachelor of Arts in English from Millsaps College in 1973 and a Masters in Library Science from The University of Southern Mississippi in 1982.

“I cannot think of a more appropriate choice for director than Hank Holmes,” said William F. Winter, president of the board of trustees of the Department of Archives and History, who announced the search committee’s recommendation Tuesday, August 24. “I know that under Hank the department will continue to meet the high standards set by Elbert Hilliard during his decades of leadership.”

“Hank will do a splendid job as director,” said Hilliard. “He is uniquely qualified both to guide the department in its mission and work closely with the Legislature. I look forward to working with him in this transition to a new administration.”

“I am honored to have been selected by the search committee for this position,” said Holmes. “The number of projects the department is involved with continues to grow. I am excited by these opportunities, but it will be a tremendous task to maintain the levels of professionalism and service established by Mr. Hilliard.”



**Julia Marks Young**, the former head of Special Collections and Archives at Georgia State University, has been named the new director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History’s Archives and Library division. Young will succeed outgoing division head H.T. Holmes, who became department director on January 1, 2005.



**Julia Young**

Young earned a Bachelor of Arts in history from Emory University in 1972, a Master of Arts in history from Auburn University in 1978, and a Masters in library science from the University of Michigan in 1981. Young was employed by The University of Southern Mississippi from 1983 to 1990, first in the School of Library Service, and later as senior manuscripts processor at the McCain Library and Archives.

“Julia Young has an exemplary record in archival administration and will be a strong leader of the Archives and Library division,” said former MDAH director Elbert R. Hilliard. “We are pleased to

have her at the Department of Archives and History.”

“During her years in Mississippi, Julia contributed greatly to the development of archival administration at MDAH and other state archives,” said Holmes. “She returns with a wealth of new experience that will be of great benefit to the department.”

Young has worked as assistant archivist at the University of Michigan; head of Special Collections for the Superconducting Super Collider Laboratory, Dallas; head of Special Collections and Archives, Pullen Library, Georgia State University; and director of development and external affairs, University Libraries and Information Technology Division, Emory University. Young is also the former editor of *American Archivist*, the journal of the Society of American Archivists.



Also at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, **Sandra Boyd**, longtime Paper Archives Supervisor, retired December 31st and **Carolyn Woodley**, Published Information Section Head, retired January 31st.



**Chebie Bateman**, Director of the Columbus-Lowndes Public Library System, announced her retirement to the Columbus-Lowndes Library Board of Trustees, ending a professional career that spanned nearly half a century.



**Chebie  
Bateman**

Effective December 31st, Bateman stepped down from the position she had held since October 1961. Dudley Carter, Chairman of the Board, said the announcement was unexpected, and a blow, coming on the heels of the retirement two months ago of longtime Assistant Director Charon Hardy. "Everyone on the board was saddened when they heard Chebie was going to retire," Carter said. "It hit me by surprise – it floored

me. She has been there so long. If it had not been for Chebie Bateman, the library as it stands today wouldn't exist. She has tirelessly worked to make it a gem of the community."

She spearheaded efforts to building the modern, 22,000-square-foot, two-story building that the library now occupies. Constructed in 1972, the building was named in her honor in the late 1990s.

Bateman will continue to support the library after retirement, and believes her lifelong mission to support and build the library was preordained. "The library is the people's university. I always thought God put me in the right place at the right time – it was my purpose to be instrumental in this library," Bateman said. "This was what I was supposed to do."

# Mississippi Library Association Annual Conference

October 25-28, 2005  
Vicksburg Convention Center

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## News Briefs

### REFERENCE BOOKS DONATED TO HIGH SCHOOL

Linda Howard of Howard Industries has agreed to purchase over \$2,000 worth of reference books for the South Jones High School Library. The purchased materials include the 2005 set of *World Book Encyclopedias* and *World Book Encyclopedia of People and Places*, along with *Developing Research Skills with People and Places*, *World Book Myths and Legends Series*, and a two-year subscription to *Political Research: Taylor's Encyclopedia of Government Officials: Federal and State*. The purpose of purchasing these items is to help students become more information-literate as well as to use their critical thinking skills as they complete class assignments. All of the collaboratively-planned activities and projects tie into several Humanities, Social Studies, Mythology, English, and Library and Research Skills classes that are taught at the school.

### SUMRALL PUBLIC LIBRARY CREATES A NEW CHILDREN'S ROOM

The Lamar County Library System's Sumrall branch is undergoing a renovation to make the current meeting room a children's room. This renovation adds approximately 600 sq. ft. to the total size of the library. The county is responsible for the actual work being done to make the interior more user-friendly for both staff and patrons. With the renovation of this room comes a new circulation desk, and for the children's room, a computer with online access, a storytelling area,

study tables, and new bookshelves, which were funded by a donation from the Friends of Sumrall Public Library. Overall, this renovation creates more space for the entire collection, particularly the adult area. Before the renovation, there was little room for patrons to come and read leisurely within the library.

Sumrall Public Library staff members are currently selecting new children's titles to go in the new children's room. Funding for these new titles was provided through a grant by the Lois Lenski Covey Foundation.

### AN EVENING IN TUPELO WITH JOHN GRISHAM

"The first thing we'd do," John Grisham told his audience this January of 2005, relating how his family would move from town to town during his childhood, would be to "join the local Baptist church, the second was go to the local library and get our library cards so we could check out all the books we were allowed."

That his "audience" was over 700 library attendees and yet the moment felt like it was a conversation between just two old friends, was just one of the many reasons "An Evening in Tupelo with John Grisham" will rank as one of the premiere national library events of 2005. Held on January 18, 2005, at Tupelo, Mississippi's Lee County Library, the special program was a gift, literally, from two Mississippi institutions – Reed's, a downtown Tupelo business celebrating its centennial in 2005, and John Grisham, the world's most popular author, who told the library

audience that returning to Tupelo for the evening was "like coming home."

Given the demands on his time, public appearances by John Grisham are rare and expensive, such as his December, 2003 appearance at a Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina library-sponsored event, at the cost of \$75,000.

The evening spent with him at the Lee County Library, however, explained director Jan Willis, was "free." It was a one-of-a-kind gift to the Northeast Mississippi community, the state, and the region from Reed's in celebration of their 100 years of service. It was also a gift from John Grisham to his readers, especially his Mississippi readers, who have supported him from the beginning of his career.

The audience included guests from as far away as Maine, and one family who drove from Cincinnati, Ohio, for this event. They and over 700 others were treated to a very informal and candid talk with John Grisham that spanned his life and career from his childhood to his upcoming nonfiction book project, and included questions from the audience.

"Libraries have always been very special to the Reed family of Tupelo and to John Grisham," Willis said. "We're so proud that Reed's chose the Lee County Library to host this program. The Reed family has strongly supported our library since its inception, and their love for reading has brought so many memorable writers to Reed's Gumtree Bookstore, one of their businesses and one of only four bookstores in the country that offered John Grisham a book signing opportunity when his career began."

**Renew your MLA membership online with PayPal.**  
**[www.misslib.org/buy/join.html](http://www.misslib.org/buy/join.html)**

## About Books

Hearn, Philip D. **Hurricane Camille: Monster Storm of the Gulf Coast.** Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi, 2004. [233 pp.] \$25.00 hardcover.

"History, at its most basic level, is about people. At no time is that more apparent than in a time of natural disaster, when the lives of individuals are snuffed out or forever altered by forces over which they have no control." This quote from Philip D. Hearn's preface to *Hurricane Camille: Monster Storm of the Gulf Coast* could have come from recent news coverage, as the world absorbs the impact of last December's devastating tsunami in South Asia. Using interviews with Camille survivors from the Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage at The University of Southern Mississippi, Hearn takes the reader back to another disaster much closer to home – the second-strongest hurricane ever to strike the continental United States. More than the story of a single storm, the book sets the stage for Camille with background information on the history of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, the dynamics of hurricanes, other notable storms in the region, and the technology of hurricane monitoring. Despite occasional lapses into purple prose ("that fateful night," "the sinister darkness of disaster"), the author effectively blends press reports and the narratives of individual survivors into a chronology of Camille, from its formation through its landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast on the night of Aug. 17, 1969, the deadly floods it brought to Virginia on its way back to the Atlantic, and the costly cleanup and recovery efforts. The awesome numbers associated with the hurricane (200-mph winds, a 24-foot storm surge) are revealed through their effects on human artifacts and lives: oceangoing ships grounded on the beach; historic buildings demolished; a man who lost 13 family members; a death toll of 131 in Mississippi alone, with 41 more people never accounted for; thousands of ani-

mals killed. Along the way, Hearn chronicles evacuation efforts and debunks the story of the infamous "hurricane party" that supposedly took place at Pass Christian's Richelieu Manor Apartments as the storm roared in – apartments that were completely washed away. Black and white illustrations, including a number of "before and after" photographs of buildings that were lost, reinforce the survivors' descriptions of lives turned upside down.

Hearn closes with a summary of Mississippi's booming coastal development in the years since Camille, noting the havoc that a similar storm could wreak today and issuing somber warnings on the hazards of overbuilding and inadequate evacuation routes. Published to coincide with the 35th anniversary of Camille's landfall, the book – and the warnings – took on new immediacy as the record-breaking hurricane season of 2004 unfolded, bringing Mississippi a close brush with Hurricane Ivan. This book is recommended for Mississippiana collections in public and academic libraries.

### Kathleen L. Wells

Senior Catalog Librarian  
University of Southern Mississippi



Lee, Joe. **Dead Air.** Mississippi: Dogwood Press, 2004. [254 pp.] \$19.95 hardcover.

Drawing from a background in journalism, radio, and television, Joe Lee weaves a tale of intrigue within the confines of the fast-paced, cruel, and often unprincipled world of the broadcast industry in his latest novel, *Dead Air*. The suspicious death of Shawn Forrest, ambitious, ruthless female head anchor for Channel Five News in Jackson, Mississippi, cracks open doors of secrecy within the newsroom when homicide detectives Jerome Washington and Tim McDaniel begin their investigation.

Beautiful and young, Forrest was

revered by her television audience, and at the same time, despised by her Channel Five colleagues. Forrest and her husband, Darren Clarke, have a decaying, long-distance marriage. She has no friends with the exception of an old childhood girlfriend. Her callous attitude toward her job and the town she covers, accompanied by the influential demands of her powerful father, contribute to the building tension in the newsroom. Several days after receiving a substantial raise and contract renewal, followed by a heated confrontation with her husband and a business dinner that leaves her drunk and drugged, Forrest is found dead in her apartment.

Detectives Washington and McDaniel work together as a well-oiled machine in a fast-paced investigation. Even when an ambitious district attorney indicts seven people in connection with the death, they do not let up on their search for the truth. Lee depicts Detectives Washington and McDaniel's perspective in the telling of his story. It is through their investigation that the reader learns the incriminating facts about the ambition and deceit surrounding Shawn's career. They are assisted in their investigation by Channel Five reporter Carolyn Davis, whose own suspicions and investigation lead to a threat against her own personal safety. These three uncover the truth hiding behind the corruption.

*Dead Air* is Joe Lee's second novel. With a faster pace than his first novel, *On the Record*, it is just as well-written and fully-developed. This book is highly recommended for all Mississippi libraries, especially those with an active mystery interest.

### Donna Phelps Fite

Purvis Branch Manager  
Lamar County Library System



Higginbotham, Sylvia. **Grits and Greens and Mississippi Things: People and Places Fabulous Foods.**

Columbus, MS: Parlance Publishing, 2002. [140 pp.] \$19.95 softcover.

The title aptly sums up the work by portraying the essence of foods and locations that make up Mississippi. Each region in Mississippi is given a separate chapter, such as the Mississippi River and river cities, the Delta, North Mississippi and the Hill Country, Central Mississippi and the Capital City, and last but not least, South Mississippi and the Gulf Coast.

The section on regions contains interesting facts about key cities in each area and pictures and recipes of foods that you might be served were you to visit the locale. In addition to the chapters on each Mississippi region, an additional chapter is provided that consists of Mississippiana with recipes for truly southern foods. Mrs. Higginbotham even lists her favorite old-fashioned Mississippi foods, including "chicken 'n' dumplings so rich and tender, almost like a stew. Thanksgiving Cornbread Dressing, with cranberry sauce and fat hen. Young spring Chicken, fried to a golden brown, with rice and gravy...." This list goes on and on and makes me hungry each time I read it. I recommend this book for collections in every Mississippi and Southern library.

#### Tracy Englert

Media Librarian

The University of Southern Mississippi



**Mississippi Atlas & Gazetteer.** 2nd ed. Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme, 2004. [64 p.] \$19.95 paperback.

Everyone needs an atlas of Mississippi, particularly if you want to explore the back roads, dirt roads, and trails on your next family outing, or if you are looking for a hidden lake, marsh, or swamp to go camping, hunting, or fishing. This second edition of the *Mississippi Atlas & Gazetteer* is filled with more detailed

information about every square mile of the state. In addition to a well-organized index of over 4,300 place names, geological features, and recreational sites, the atlas also lists historic sites, including 64 plantations and interesting places to explore along the Natchez Trace and other named trails in the DeSoto and Bienville National Forests. The trails chart even provides commentary about the length and difficulty of the trail, the significance of the trail in Mississippi history, and also which trails are specifically for hiking and the few that are designated for horseback riding. Fishing and hunting charts provide information about Mississippi lakes and bayous such as where to fish for spotted or yellow bass, redfish, and speckled trout, among others; and which wildlife management areas provide public access for hunting dove, quail, deer (nearly all) or opossum (only five). For your own personal golf tour, there is also a chart of all the best golf courses in the state. A chart on Mississippi casinos provides information on all the gaming opportunities in the state, even the few that offer a game of keno, royal match, or big six.

The atlas is divided into 47 quadrangular maps that are aligned true north and south, and east and west. Each page of the gazetteer covers the topography of about 30 miles wide by 40 miles high on a scale of 1:182,000, or one inch to 2.9 miles. If pieced together on a wall, the 47 parts would form the whole state of Mississippi. A legend and key instruct the user about the symbols used to indicate highways, roads and trails, even railroads, old and new. There are symbols for cities, towns, airports, historic sites, and scenic features, too. Much of the additional detail in the second edition was added as a result of the 2000 US Census, providing new road names and locations which conform to the federal Emergency 911 system. Because of its two greatest strengths, accurate mapping detail and current recreational information, the *Mississippi Atlas & Gazetteer*

would be very useful to any library in the state.

#### Ann Branton

Head of Bibliographic Services

University of Southern Mississippi



Logue, John, and Gary McCalla. **Life at Southern Living: A Sort of Memoir.** Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2000. [xi, 323 pp. Illustrations, index.] \$24.95.

Launched in 1966 as a spin-off of the staid and venerable *Progressive Farmer* magazine, *Southern Living* was created to be a publication for the newly prosperous urban South. Unfortunately, neither its agriculturally-minded publishers nor its inexperienced editors had any idea of what precisely it was supposed to be. In *Life at Southern Living*, John Logue and Gary McCalla, longtime managing editor and editor respectively, recall how the magazine slowly transformed itself from an embarrassingly amateurish piece of work to an astonishingly popular and profitable advocate of the good life in the South. Along the way they relate an immensely enjoyable story of some truly eccentric characters passionately committed to giving the South a periodical of its very own.

Logue and McCalla tracked down former *Southern Living* staffers, treated them to lunch or drinks, and reminisced about the old days. Their affable method of research gives the narrative a disarming quality that invites readers into the editorial meetings, company Christmas parties, and advertising sales calls with a relaxed and candid openness. The authors share memories of office politics and personalities that are always enjoyable and frequently laugh-out-loud funny. The *Southern Living* staff was quite an unpretentious crew with cavalier habits that would have doomed a magazine in any other region of the country.

Unfortunately, the authors' informal narrative style often results in some awful

ly choppy writing. They frequently digress from the narrative to get in some related story that happens to come to mind. They introduce a new person only to hit the brakes suddenly with the promise that so-and-so's story will come later in the book. The writing grows so casual at times that it degenerates into sentence fragments. It also becomes rather difficult to follow the chronology of the magazine's history, especially as the first half of the book tends to run mostly chronologically while the second half is organized more topically. Admittedly, its folksy form of writing does help the book in many places as it really captures the atmosphere of old employees recalling the audacious deeds of their youth. It can be really warm and charming, but sometimes it's just annoying.

While *Life at Southern Living* is an engaging history of a single publication, it is also a vignette from a transforming South in the second half of the twentieth century. Set in a depressingly gritty Birmingham recently disgraced by civil rights violence in the early sixties, the story echoes the region's often difficult move into its urban future. *Southern Living's* young editorial staff sought to celebrate positive endeavors in home design, urban planning, conservation, food, and travel in the affluent urban South; but they repeatedly had to fight the executives at the Progressive Farmer Company intent on using the magazine to buttress rural nostalgia and racial segregation. The story of how *Southern Living* both reflected domestic changes in the South while also bolstering them is one of this work's most welcome contributions. This book is recommended for public and academic libraries, especially those with particularly well-worn subscriptions to *Southern Living*.

**Hans Rasmussen**

*Catalog Librarian*

*University of Southern Mississippi*

## MSU Opens New Home for Templeton Music Collection

Oktibbeha County businessman Charles H. Templeton Sr. is being memorialized at Mississippi State with a permanent music museum in his honor at the university's main library.

Templeton, a keen businessman and avid music lover who died in 2000, was a 1949 MSU accounting graduate who played both oboe and piccolo during his student days in the Famous Maroon Band.

At a campus ceremony last month, his wife Mary Ann Templeton was formally thanked for funding the renovation of an existing room in Mitchell Memorial Library to permanently house the massive collection. Expected to open in March, the Charles Templeton Music Museum will be located on the fourth floor.



Charles "Chip" Templeton, Jr.; Mrs. Mary Ann Templeton; Dr. J. Charles Lee, MSU President; Mary Beth Templeton. Photo: MSU University Relations

"For more than 40 years, Mr. Templeton collected sheet music, instruments and other music memorabilia," said dean of libraries Frances Coleman. "His donation of this extraordinary collection of musical machines and period sheet music was given to MSU in 1986 and at that

time was valued at approximately \$500,000."

"This is a tremendous act of love for his alma mater and Mitchell Memorial Library is honored to receive this collection," Coleman added.

Speaking on behalf of the university, Mississippi State President Charles Lee expressed "Mississippi State's deepest and most sincere appreciation to Mary Ann Templeton for her generosity in making the Charles Templeton Music Museum a major addition to MSU's central repository of learning."

Dating from approximately 1897 through the 1940s, the 22,000 pieces of Templeton's sheet music have been, since 2001, in the process of being digitized so they may be accessible instantly for online researchers around the world.

Together with some 200 musical instruments, the collection represents what Templeton called "the business of music" – the popularization of music that ranges from ragtime and blues to Irving Berlin ballads and a generation of tunes documenting World War I. In its previous and temporary location in a campus residence off Blackjack Road, the collection became a popular stop for campus visitors, including writers for *Southern Living* magazine and other popular publications that helped to further publicize it in their pages.

"With its new location in the Mitchell Memorial Library, the Charles Templeton Music Museum will again be enjoyed by the public," Coleman said.

For more information on the Templeton Collection and Templeton Museum, contact Stephen Cunetto at (662) 325-8542 or [scunetto@library.msstate.edu](mailto:scunetto@library.msstate.edu).

# MLA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 20, 2004

## BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Juanita Flanders, *President*  
Susan Cassagne, *Vice President/President Elect*  
Jennifer Smith, *Treasurer*  
Allison Mays, *Secretary*  
Prima Plauché, *Immediate Past President*  
Robert Lipscomb, *ALA Councilor*  
Mary Beth Applin, *SELA Councilor*  
Anne Lipscomb Webster, *Special Libraries Chair*  
Bettie Cox, *School Libraries Chair*

## OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mary Julia Anderson, *Executive Secretary*  
Richard Greene, *Mid-Mississippi Regional Library*  
Molly Signs, *Millsaps College*  
James Kennedy, *Hinds Community College*  
Donna Posey, *West Biloxi Library*  
June Schmidt, *MSU*  
Linda Williams, *AASL*  
Yvonne Stanford, *Coahoma CC*  
Sharman Smith, *MLC*  
Lona Hoover, *MSU*  
Catherine Nathan, *First Regional*  
Jana Breeden, *USM*

President Flanders called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. The agenda was presented and a quorum was declared.

## OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS

- A. Secretary: A. Mays presented the minutes of the August 27 meeting. A. Webster made the motion to approve the minutes. S. Cassagne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Treasurer: J. Smith handed out her financial report (see attached). She stated that we are about \$3000 short on what was budgeted for membership dues this year. J. Flanders thanked Jennifer for her hard work this year.
- C. President: J. Flanders reported that we do not have editors for *Mississippi Libraries* for 2005. She met with library directors and deans of state universities and made the suggestion that the editorship be rotated among the universities. J. Flanders feels we need to have a co-editor who will be able to take over the next year.
- D. Past-President: P. Plauché reported that the 14 past-presidents voted on the Past-President's award and it will be announced Friday at the awards luncheon. She announced that the Board approved the Legacy Club and handed out the brochures. The lifetime membership includes one section; roundtable dues are separate. P. Plauché wants to announce the Legacy Club members at the membership meeting.
- E. Vice-President: S. Cassagne thanked everyone for attending the conference, said everything is going well. Registration as of October 19 was 460.
- F. ALA Councilor: R. Lipscomb reported that attendance at ALA Midwinter was down, as was vendor participation. There was lots of talk about budget problems at libraries, the fewer number of library students, and

library school closings. ALA is trying to buy a building rather than rent one. They are also working on getting health insurance benefits for ALA members.

- G. SELA Councilor: M. Applin reported that the SELA convention is November 9-13 and she is planning to attend.
- H. Executive Secretary: No report given.
- I. ML Co-editors: Editorship of *ML* has already been covered in the President's report above.

## SECTION REPORTS

- A. ACRL: J. Breeden reported for P. Price that the ACRL luncheon will be held on Thursday, October 21. They will have a business meeting after the luncheon to elect a new chair for 2005. J. Flanders stressed that all committees need to have a co-chair who moves up to chair the next year. There are some exceptions stated in the bylaws.
- B. School Libraries: B. Cox thanked everyone for supporting school libraries. She introduced Linda Williams, who represents the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and wants MLA to become an affiliate. We would fill out the application and apply over two years. MLA already qualifies because 43 members belong to AASL. If this is approved at the section meeting Thursday, the section will need to make a recommendation that the MLA Handbook be changed.
- C. Trustees: No report given.
- D. Public Libraries: No report given.
- E. Special Libraries: A. Webster reported that Special Libraries has problems getting people to volunteer to be officers. She asked for suggestions. J. Smith suggested that it helps to make personal contact. J. Flanders said to work on bringing in more members, those new to both the profession and MLA, to make the membership more diverse. C. Nathan suggested using the listserv. J. Flanders also suggested identifying the special collections people at libraries, as they are not always obvious.

## REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MLC

S. Smith said she is pleased to be involved with MLA, and to see the partnership. MLC is under contract negotiations for a new ILL system. They will bring up the public libraries first. This will create a union catalog so all public library catalogs can be searched simultaneously. MLC will contact community colleges about joining this system. S. Smith stated they have lots of emphasis on continuing education. The first Librarians 101 Institute was a big success and they received good feedback from attendees. A director's conference will be held in December where they will talk about management issues. The Librarians' Holiday will be in April, with bus tours of public libraries in the state. In legislative news, the budget hearing was held on September 28; all state agencies asked for 30% more than the previous year. S. Smith is afraid 2006 will be a problem as all the state's "rainy day" funds have been used up.

J. Flanders pointed out that MLC contributes a speaker's grant of \$10,000 to MLA, and this greatly improves the quality of the speakers that can be brought in for the conference. She thanked S. Smith for this generous contri-

bution and stated her appreciation.

## OLD BUSINESS

- A. Editorship of *Mississippi Libraries*: This has already been covered in the President's report above.

## NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation by Linda Williams of AASL: This has already been covered by the School Libraries section report above.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Legislative Committee: No report given.
- B. Membership Committee: L. Hoover reported that welcoming emails were sent to all online registrants. Her report is attached.
- C. Peggy May Scholarship Committee: J. Schmidt reported that they are excited about the revenues from the wine and cheese reception. The winner of the scholarship will be announced at the awards luncheon on Friday.
- D. Legislative Committee: R. Lipscomb reported that the battle this year was over HR 2674; notices were sent out asking people to contact their legislators. Frances Coleman will be the committee chair for 2005.
- E. Web Committee: M. Signs reported that DSL is not available for the Executive Secretary in her current office, nor can a cable modem be used. This will have to wait until she is in the new building at MLC.

## ROUNDTABLE REPORTS

- A. Automation & Networking (ANRT): No report given.
- B. Black Caucus: Y. Stanford thanked everyone for their support.
- C. Educational Communication & Technology (ECTRT): No report given.
- D. Friends of Mississippi Libraries: No report given.
- E. Technical Services (TSRT): No report given.
- F. Two Year College (2YCRT): No report given.
- G. Young People's Services (YPSRT): No report given.
- H. Government Documents (GODORT): No report given.
- I. Library Instruction (LIRT): No report given.
- J. New Members (NMRT): No report given.
- K. Special Collections (SCRT): J. Breeden stated that the movie to be shown Thursday night will be *Desk Set*. The program scheduled for Thursday night was cancelled so as not to compete with the gala event, but there will be a program on Thursday afternoon on librarians in pop culture.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The date of the next meeting is December 10 at 11:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the MLC.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business by the Board, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to adjourn. The Board adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Allison P. Mays  
*Secretary*

# "Libraries Build Community"

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF  
THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 25th - 28th, 2005  
VICKSBURG CONVENTION CENTER



***KEYNOTE SPEAKER,  
FIRST GENERAL SESSION:***

***Sarah Ann Long  
Former President,  
American Library Association***

*Conference Committee Chairs:*

Deb Mitchell & Jennifer Smith  
Local Arrangements

Pat Matthes  
Exhibits

Marsha Case  
Hospitality

Victoria Penny  
Registration

David Brown  
Publicity

Contact Info: Catherine Nathan  
cnathan@first.lib.ms.us

Plan to come to Vicksburg on Tuesday and stay until Friday! Among the programs we hope to offer are:

A SPECIAL Fundraising event on Tuesday night at the Warren County-Vicksburg Public Library...featuring Gayden Metcalf from Greenville, author of *"Being Dead is No Excuse: The Official Southern Ladies' Guide to Hosting the Perfect Funeral"*

Beta Phi Mu will present: "Focus on Miss Eudora" with actress Rebecca Jernigan playing the part of Mississippi's beloved Eudora Welty. Followed by an update on the plans for the Welty House Museum, given by Mary Alice Welty White, Director.

Intellectual Freedom Committee hopes to present: "The Joy of Censorship" with Joe Raiola, Editor, *Mad Magazine*

Public Library Section has plans to present: "An Evening with Aurora Teagarden" starring Charlaine Harris, Tunica native cozy mystery author who is also into werewolves and vampires.

**PLUS: *Tons of Exhibits, Great Local Restaurants, and Fabulous Live Blues***

# MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Year **January-December 2005**

**New Membership**       **Renewal**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

One of the primary forms of communication between MLA and its members is the MLA listserv. As a member of the MLA listserv you will receive important announcements from MLA via email and be able to discuss library related issues with your peers. If you are not already a member, can we add your email address to the MLA listserv?

Sign me up!       I decline

## A. MEMBERSHIP TYPES

**Membership** (Any person currently working in a library or information center. Mark by salary range.)

\$0 to \$9,999      \$15 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$10,000 to \$19,999      \$25 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$20,000 to \$29,999      \$35 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$30,000 to \$39,999      \$45 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$40,000 to \$49,999      \$50 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$50,000 to \$59,999      \$55 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$60,000 or above      \$60 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Student (2 Year Limit)

*Full or Part-time*      \$10 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Retired      \$15 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Trustee      \$15 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friend of Library      \$15 per year      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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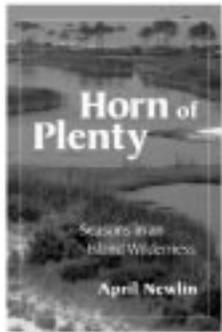
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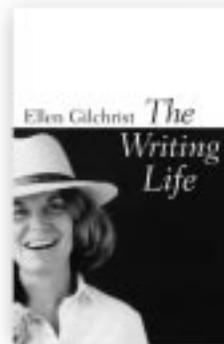
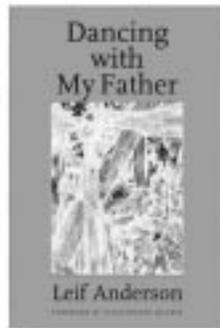
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