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ASSOCIATION

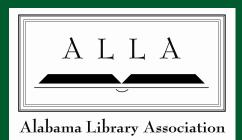
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ALABAMA

Volume 13, Number 4 May/June 2012 Issue

Editor Contact Information: Carolyn Jo Starkey alla.communicator@gmail.com



MAY/JUNE 2012 ISSUE

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 4

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MAY/JUNE 2012

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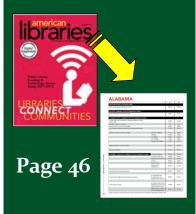
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Graphics are hyperlinked to web locations. Simply click to read.





FROM THE EDITOR

CAROLYN JO STARKEY

As the busy conference circuit that consumes the month of June begins to wind down, I have had time to reflect on the June 7th meeting of the ALLA Executive Board. I had the pleasure of talking with ALLA President Emily Tish and other likeminded folks concerning our desire to step up library advocacy efforts in Alabama (see *A Conversation with Emily Tish* on page 3).

Like Emily, I believe that advocacy can be effective when accomplished through the voices of our patrons. Earnest stories of libraries as the heart and change agents of their communities provide daily inspiration that ensures librarians continue the struggle to keep the doors open. It is unfortunate that lawmakers and funding decision-makers do not have columns in their spreadsheets and budgets that automatically tally the full nature of the human condition into their balances and bottom lines.

Nevertheless, it is that very lack of sentiment in spreadsheets and budgets that emphasizes the critical need we have to back up the heartfelt voices of our patrons with cold, hard library statistics. In ALA's recent *Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study* 2011-2012, public access to computers, the Internet, and Internet-related services in U.S. public libraries, and the impact of library funding

changes on connectivity, technology deployment, and sustainability was assessed (see links to the left). On the Alabama break out page 46, we see how Alabama public libraries stack up to the national average.

While we are certainly at or even ahead of the national average in some areas (notably, homework help and job services), we are way behind in others (funding and ebooks). Our top Internet speeds are glacial in comparison to those in other states as is our total operating expenditures per capita. It is a testament to the tenacity, innovation and capacity-building strengths of Alabama librarians that our services are comparable nationally despite our limited funds.

By following this ALA report and the accompanying infographic as examples of easily understood visual advocacy, we can effectively disseminate information about our state's existing library services as well as the future needs of our growing patron base to bolster our legislative efforts. My suggestion is to fill your emails and letters, your reports and publications with statistics. Create clever infographics (the intended topic of my ALLA 2013 presentation next year) with your numbers and plaster your library walls with the results. Be graphic Be vocal. Be loud.

carolyn

A CONVERSATION

WITH EMILY TISH

Emily Tish, Director of Trussville Public Library, was installed as the new ALLA President at the conclusion of the 2012 ALLA Convention. Emily has selected advocacy as the primary focus of her term of office.

Emily sees funding as the most important challenge facing Alabama libraries and librarians this year, just as it is for libraries and librarians across our nation. "Whether public, academic, school media centers or special libraries, all face budget cuts, reductions in staff and lack of funding for material purchases. Additionally, in an effort to keep pace with ever changing technology, Alabama librarians are being forced to choose between computer upgrades or material purchases. Alabama libraries also face cutting public service hours as a way to limit the impact of staff reductions."

A united effort from all libraries and librarians is essential for effective advocacy. "All Alabama libraries have important aspects in common: individual patron service, group programs and classes, current and accurate library materials, and computer training. By consistently stating our common message—that libraries matter and that great libraries matter greatly—we can share our common story."

Emily's passion for advocacy has

inspired the theme of the 2013 ALLA Convention over which she will preside. "Alabama Libraries: Find Your Voice! will feature a wide spectrum of programing, speakers and events to highlight Alabama libraries. Our efforts will center on sharing advocacy initiatives and advocating for Alabama libraries at the national, state and local levels."

Emily believes that advocacy efforts should emphasize patron voices as libraries struggle for innovative ways to serve a growing patron base. "In the current economic climate, it is becoming more and more important for Alabama libraries to tell their stories and let their worth be known to their funding sources and to Alabamians as a whole. As household budgets are stretched to the limit, libraries are called upon to become the family Internet provider, the local movie rental franchise and an economic development site. Historically, Alabamians have had library resources near at hand and trained library professionals ready to aid in the use of those resources. Now, many libraries in our state are facing tough choices due to funding cuts. By letting our voices be heard, we can enlist the very citizens that use our facilities to become advocates for their libraries."

—Carolyn Starkey



ALLA President Emily Tish



Emily gavels the June 7th Executive Board meeting to order at Homewood Public Library.



Emily at the 2012 ALLA Convention in Hoover, AL.



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: VOTING MEMBERS

Officers

- President: Emily Tish, Trussville Public Library, 201 Parkway Drive, Trussville, AL 35173, (205) 559-4639, etish@bham.lib.al.us
- President-Elect: Jeff Simpson, Troy University-Montgomery, Rosa Parks Library, 252 Montgomery Street, Montgomery, AL 36104, (334) 241-8604, simpsonj@troy.edu
- Past President: Steven Yates, Mountain Brook High School, 3650 Bethune Drive Birmingham, AL 35223, (205) 825-3303, yatess@mtnbrook.k12.al.us
- Secretary: Paula Laurita, Athens-Limestone Public Library, 405 E. South Street, Athens, AL 35611, (256) 232-1233, drago.biblioteche@gmail.com
- Treasurer: Tim Bailey, Auburn University at Montgomery, PO Box 244023, Montgomery, AL 36124-4023, (334) 398-0825, tbailey1@aum.edu [term begins 7/2011 and ends 6/2013]
- Member-at-Large: North Alabama: Paula Barnett-Ellis, Jacksonville State University, Houston Cole Library, 700 Pelham Road, Jacksonville, AL 36265, (256) 782-5249, pbarnett@jsu.edu
- Member-at-Large: Carrie Steinmehl, Hoover Public Library, 200 Municipal Drive, Hoover, AL 35216, (205) 444-7748, carries@bham.lib.al.us
- Member-at-Large: South Alabama: Kent Snowden, Troy University-Montgomery, Rosa Parks Library, 252 Montgomery Street, Montgomery, AL 36104, (334) 241-9783, kesnowden@troy.edu

All Executive Council meetings are open to the membership and take place at 10:00 am at Homewood Public Library.

Meeting Schedule

2012-2013

Friday, December 14, 2012

Friday, June 8, 2012

Friday, Sept. 14, 2012

Friday, March 8, 2013

Division Chairpersons

- Children's & School: Carolyn Jo Starkey, Shades Valley High School/ Jefferson County IB School, 25 Warren Road, Albertville, AL 35950, (256) 302 -1009, admin@jojo-starkey.com
- College, University & Special: Michael W. Pearce, University of Alabama SLIS, 4 Forest Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404, (205) 246-9134, pearcoo7@ua.edu
- Public Library: Amanda Jackson, Gadsden Public Library, 254 College Street, Gadsden, AL 35901, Amanda@gadsdenlibrary.org





Ex-Officio Members

- ALA Councillor: Henry Stewart, Troy University Troy/Main Campus, 501 University Avenue, Wallace Hall Library, Troy, AL 36082, (334) 670-3263, hstewart@troy.edu
- ALLA Communicator Editor: Carolyn Jo Starkey, Shades Valley High School/ Jefferson County IB School, 25 Warren Road, Albertville, AL 35950, (256) 302-1009, admin@jojo-starkey.com
- Archivist: Donnelly Walton, W.S. Hoole Special Collection Library, University of Alabama, P.O. Box 870266, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0266, (205) 393-3245, dfwalton@ua.edu
- Association Administrator: Dena Luce, 9154 Eastchase Parkway, Suite 418, Montgomery, AL 36117, (334) 414-0113; admin@allanet.org
- AVL Representative: Danny Stewart, Pell City Public Library, 1923 1st Avenue North, Pell City, AL 35125, (205) 884-1015, danny@asc.edu or dannystewart@epell.net
- SELA Representative: Tim Dodge, Auburn University Libraries, 231 Mell St., Auburn University, AL 36849-5606, (334) 844-1729, dodgeti@auburn.edu
- Web Administrator: Jodi W. Poe, Jacksonville State University, Houston Cole Library, 700 Pelham Road, Jacksonville, AL 36265, (256) 782-8103, jpoe@jsu.edu

Right: Incoming officers and division chairs at ALLA Convention 2012.

Below: Incoming officers, ex-officio members, roundtable chairs, and committee chairs at ALLA Convention 2012/





ALLA Communicator Publication Calendar 2012-2013

March/April 2012 Articles Due April 10.

Publish April 23.

May/June 2012 Articles Due

June 10. Publish June

July/August 2012

Articles Due August 10. Publish Au-

September/ October 2012 Articles Due October10. Publish Oc-

tober 23.

November/ December 2012 Articles Due December 10. Publish December

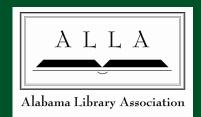
23.

January/ February 2013 Articles Due February 10. Publish Feb-

ruary 23.

March/April 2013 Articles Due April 10. <u>Publish </u>April

23.



ROUNDTABLE MODERATORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Roundtable Moderators

- Alabama Library Instruction (ALIRT): Ellen Wilson, University of South Alabama Library, 5901 USA Drive North, Library 250, Mobile, AL 36688, (251) 460-6045, ewilson@southalabama.edu
- Collection Development and Management (CDMRT): Kevin Walker, Alabama State University, 1914 Norman Bridge Court, Montgomery, AL 36104, (334) 229-4114, kevinwadewalker@gmail.com
- Government Documents (GODORT): Bethany Latham, Jacksonville State University, Houston Cole Library, 700 Pelham Road North, Jacksonville, AL 35901, (256) 782-8195, blatham@jsu.edu
- Multicultural (MCRT): Paul Blackmon, Trenholm Technical College, P.O. Box 10048, 1225 Air Base Blvd., Montgomery, AL 36108, (251) 575-9222, pblackmon@trenholmstate.edu
- Paraprofessional (PART): Anthony J. Pendleton, Auburn University Library, 231 Mell Street, Auburn, AL 36849-5606, (334) 844-4094, pendlaj@auburn.edu
- Reference and Adult Services (RASRT): Ron Dial, Air University Library, Muir S. Fairchild RIC 600 Chennault Cir.,—Bldg 140, Maxwell AFB, AL 36112, (334) 953-8301, ron.dial@us.af.mil
- Technical Services & Systems (TSSRT): Muriel Nero, Univeristy of South Alabama Library, 5901 USA Drive North, Library 250, Mobile, AL 36688, (251) 460-7026, mnero@southalabama.edu
- Young Adult Services (YASRT): Emily Rae Seymour, Tuscaloosa Public Library, 1801 Jack Warner Parkway, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401, (205) 886-1147, eseymour@tuscaloosa-library.org

Committee Chairs

- Association Awards: Mary Moore, Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 1317 McCullough Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35801, (256) 534-3812, mmoore@hmcpl.org
- **Author Awards:** Jason Cooper, University of Montevallo, Carmichael Library, Station 6114, Montevallo, AL 35115, (205) 665-6114, cooper@libraryprofessionals.com
- **Bibliographic:** Nancy Dupree, University of AL Libraries, 2816 Shannon Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404, (205) 348-1489, ndupree@ua.edu

Meeting Schedule 2012-2013

Friday, June 8, 2012 Friday, Sept. 14, 2012 Friday, December 14, 2012 Friday, March 8, 2013

All Executive Council meetings are open to the membership and take place at 10:00 am at Homewood Public Library.

ROUNDTABLE MODERATORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS



- Budget and Finance: Tim Bailey, Auburn University at Montgomery, P.O. Box 244023, Montgomery, AL 36124-4023, (334) 398-0825, tbailey1@aum.edu
- **Bylaws:** Jeff Graveline, University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB), Stern Library, SL 172, 1530 3rd Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35294, (205) 979-8921, jgraveli@uab.edu
- Convention: Paul Blackmon, Trenholm Technical College, P.O. Box 10048, 1225 Air Base Blvd., Montgomery, AL 36108, (251) 575-9222, pblackmon@trenholmstate.edu
- Education: Marliese Thomas, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229, (205) 726-2770, msthomas@samford.edu
- Emeritus Council: Steven Yates, Mountain Brook High School, 3650 Bethune Drive Birmingham, AL 35223, (205) 825-3303, yatess@mtnbrook.ki2.al.us
- Employee Evaluation: Steven Yates, Mountain Brook High School, 3650 Bethune Drive Birmingham, AL 35223, (205) 825-3303, yatess@mtnbrook.kı2.al.us
- **Handbook:** Jane Daugherty, Thomas B. Merton Library, 221 West 19th Avenue, Gulf Shores, AL 36542, janecdaugherty@gmail.com
- Intellectual Freedom: Craig Scott, Gadsden Public Library, 254 College Street, Gadsden, AL 35901, (256) 549-4699 ext. 120, craig@gadsdenlibrary.org
- Legislative Development: Tim Dodge, Auburn University Libraries, 231 Mell St., Auburn University, AL 36849-5606, (334) 844-1729, dodgeti@auburn.edu
- **Membership:** Marylyn Wright Eubank, Emmet O'Neal Library, 50 Oak Street, Mountain Brook, AL 35213, (205) 445-1115, marylynw@bham.lib.al.us
- **Nominating:** Steven Yates, Mountain Brook High School, 3650 Bethune Drive Birmingham, AL 35223, (205) 825-3303, yatess@mtnbrook.k12.al.us
- **Planning:** Jodi W. Poe, Jacksonville State University, Houston Cole Library, 700 Pelham Road, Jacksonville, AL 36265, (256) 782-8103, jpoe@jsu.edu
- **Public Relations:** Gail Sheldon, Oneonta Public Library, 221 2nd Street South, Oneonta, AL 35121-2109, (205) 274-7641, oplib@otelco.net
- **Publications:** Jackie Brodsky, University of Alabama SLIS, Box 870252, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0252, (205) 792-0451, jackie.brodsky@ua.edu
- Scholarship Board: Angela (Angie) Moore, Faulkner University, 5435 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL 36109, (334) 386-7209, almoore@faulkner.edu

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23.

January/ February 2013

Articles Due February 10. Publish Feb-

ruary 23.

March/April 2013 Articles Due April 10. Publish April

23.



TREASURER'S REPORT

TIM BAILEY

As of June 7, 2012, account totals were reported as follows:

Checking

\$71,428.96



Tim at the June 7th Executive Board meeting at Homewood Public Library.

- General Fund
 Funds for operation and support
 of organization as a whole
 \$20,603.03
- Convention
 Funds for the support of annual ALLA Convention
 \$37,762.21
- Auxiliary Accounts
 Funds for support of Roundtables
 \$13.063.72

Savings \$41,521.54

• Savings account of the organization

Small Business CD \$12,297.21

• Started in July 2009 as an interest-bearing certificate of deposit. It matured in Sept. 2010 at 1.0% and will mature at .3% in May 2011.

Special Projects \$543.20

 Started in June 2011 to coordinate funds to assist libraries affected by the April 2011 storms.

Total of all accounts

\$125,790.91

DISASTER ASSISTANCE

DENA LUCE

At this year's Annual Convention in April 2012, ALLA awarded its first Library Disaster Assistance Grant to five libraries. The grant was created in the spring of 2011 to assist libraries in Alabama who had received damage due to tornadoes or other disasters. The amount of award is \$250.00. The Disaster Assistance Grant is a way for members of the library community to support libraries affected by disasters for years to come. The Association hopes the grant will continue to be a location for community members and businesses to direct financial assistance to the areas of greatest need.

The ALLA Executive Council voted to award double the original grant amount to each of the five recipients, awarding \$500 to each.

For those of you interested in providing funds, please see the Donation page under "Forms" on our website, www.allanet.org. Please direct any questions to Association Administrator Dena Luce

(<u>admin@allanet.org</u> or <u>334-414-0113</u>).

Grant Recipients for 2012

- Northside Middle School--LeeAnna Mills, School Librarian/ Bobby Beasley, Principal Northport, AL
- Phil Campbell Elementary
 School--Alana Swinney, Librarian
 Phil Campbell, AL
- Woodville Public Library--Karen Chambers, Librarian Woodville, AL
- 4. Hackleburg Elementary School--Andi Paganelli, Librarian/Joan Baker, Principal

Hackleburg, AL

5. Hackleburg High School--Andi Paganelli, Librarian/John Hardin/ Principal

Hackleburg, AL 35564





SAVE THE DATE

PAUL BLACKMON, 2013 ALLA CONVENTION CHAIR

Greetings Fellow Librarians & Colleagues:

The Alabama Library Association will host its annual convention and meeting in Montgomery, Alabama, April 23 – 26, 2013. The convention will be at the Renaissance Hotel, 201 Tallapoosa Street. The theme for the convention is "Alabama Libraries: Find Your Voice." This year (2012-2013) the association will concentrate largely on advocating for libraries. Each library has its own unique story to tell in addition to the one we all share.

One of the biggest events at the convention will be Library Legislative Day, Wednesday, April 24, 2013. On this day all convention attendees will go to the state capital and share our stories with our legislators. The program will begin at 1:30 and end around 3:30 p.m. or when all librarians have made contact with their legislators. To do this we need representatives from every county and every institution to show-up and meet with their respective legislators. This

will send a message that librarians on every level are united and committed to keeping libraries opened, staffed and funded across the state.

The 2013 convention planning committee is working hard to ensure the 2013 convention is a success, but we need your help to do it. Please start making plans to attend the 2013 convention. If you can only attend for one day please come on Wednesday, April 24, 2013 and join us at the state capital for Legislative Day. Bring friends, friends of the library, principals, teachers, instructors, students and all who support libraries. Please visit www.allanet.org for the latest updates on the convention as well as the ALLA Communicator, the association's newsletter. Find your representatives at http:// www.legislature.state.al.us/ index.html.

Stay Tuned --- More to come!

Paul

ALLA 2013

ALABAMA LIBRARIES: FIND YOUR VOICE

SAVE THE DATE

JEFF SIMPSON, ALLA PRESIDENT-ELECT

We are already getting ready for the 2013 Convention. Join us in Montgomery at the Renaissance Hotel, April 23-26, 2013, for "Alabama Libraries: Find Your Voice!"

Emily Tish, 2012-2013 ALLA President

<u>Paul Blackmon</u>, 2013 Convention Chair

Matt Williams, 2013 Convention Co-Chair

<u>Dena Luce</u>, 2013 Convention Treasurer

Planning activities for the Apr. 23-26, 2013 ALLA Convention are rapidly underway. Our Association's next Convention will return to Montgom-

ALABAMA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONVENTION 2013
Albelloms Laborists Find You're Vocaled April 2013
Albelloms Laborists Find You're Vocaled April 2013
Convention Committee 2013
INTIAL SUBVEY FORM
The time about to command by an own and committee or and it is a committee or an

ery after a nine year absence - and now is the time to submit your programming proposals. An <u>Initial Survey</u> form is provided for Divisions, Roundtables, Committees, and others who wish to request programming in the 2013 Convention Schedule.

This year's theme is "Alabama Libraries: Find Your Voice!" In conjunction with the theme, we are focusing on the topic of "advocacy." Alabama Libraries and their staffs speak out for our libraries! We speak in many ways including: Library Advocacy, Community Outreach, Readers Advisory, Library Promotion, Collection Development, Information Literacy, and Research Skills Instruction. We are advocates and we believe in advocacy!

So, put on your creative hats and send us your proposals. Tell us how "Alabama Libraries: Find Your Voice!" All completed Initial Surveys and programming proposals should be sent to the address below, by the DEADLINE of Sep. 21, 2012. Thank you and we look forward to a fantastic 2013 ALLA Convention in Montgomery!



ALLA 2013

ALABAMA LIBRARIES: FIND YOUR VOICE



A ADMINISTRATOR DENA LUCE

HOW TO...

NAVIGATE THE ALLA HANDBOOK

The ALLA Handbook is available in Word and PDF formats. Simply go to http://www.allanet.org/ and click on the 'About ALLA' tab at the top left of the screen. Then click on the link for the format you wish to view.

Quick tip...FIND what you want. Whether you use the Word or .Pdf version of the handbook, one quick

version of the handbook, one quick way to find what you are looking for is the Find function.

- In Word, you can do Ctrl + F
 and a box will pop up. You enter the word(s) you wish to find
 and specify what part(s) of the
 document you wish to search.
 Then click on Find Next and
 each time the word(s) is mentioned in the text, you will see it
 highlighted. Simply click on
 Find Next to move to the next
 appearance of the word(s).
- In Adobe Reader, you will see the Find search box at the top of the window. Enter your word(s) and press Enter. The word(s) will show up highlighted where it is located in the text. You can go forwards and backwards by clicking on the arrow icons next to the search box.

The Table of Contents can be your best friend.

Never forget to use this handy tool as it will guide you to the page or

section of the document that you need. Once you know the page or section number you want, you can then activate the Go To function in either Word or Adobe Reader.

- In Word, do Ctrl + F as you do for Find. This time, select the tab for Go To and then choose the portion of the text you wish to maneuver—page, section, line, etc. Next enter the page number (or other number) and click on Go To. You will be taken to the specified area without having to scroll or hit page down continuously.
- In Adobe Reader, you will see this feature at the top of the window just below the toolbar. Type in the page number and press Enter. You will be taken to the page in the document (this will not be the number on that page but the number of the page within the total document).

Don't forget the Appendices.

Just like the Table of Contents, an appendix can be a quick tool to locate charts, lists, forms, and other specialized content that supplements the text of the document. For example, Appendix C of the AL-LA Handbook contains the various forms used by the Association. **NOTE:** the most current version of all ALLA forms is available on the website under the 'Forms' tab.

HOW TO...

ACCESS YOUR MEMBER PROFILE

To renew membership or update your profile

- Go to http://www.allanet.org/
- Click on the Member Login link in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. Then log in with the user name and password you received via email/welcome letter OR you may contact the Association Administrator if you do not have a login and password.
- Once you sign in, you should be looking at your member profile page. You now have the options to add an image, edit your profile, and change your password.
- If you need to renew your membership, you should have received a renewal invoice with an invoice number via email. This invoice should appear in the Accounting Information section of your profile screen.
- Click on the link for the appropriate invoice to open it and make a payment.
- You can either print the form and mail it to the Association Administrator along with your check payment OR pay online by credit card.
- You must click on the submit button to finalize your transaction. Once your payment is processed, you will receive a receipt via email that you can print for your records.

To register for an event

- Go to http://www.allanet.org/
- Click on the Member Login link in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. Then log in with the user name and password you received via email/welcome letter OR you may contact the Association Administrator if you do not have a login and password.
- Once you login as a member, all of the events show up on your member profile page. Click on the Register link next to the desired event.
- Simply complete the registration form and click to continue as prompted.
- As with membership renewal, you will have the option to pay by check or credit card online. If paying by check, submit a copy of your registration invoice with your check and mail to the Association Administrator.

Forgot your password?

If you forget your password, type in your user name and then click on the "Forgot Password" link. You will receive an email with instructions to reset your password. The ALLA office does not have access to passwords.



http://www.allanet.com

Mailing address for payments:

Alabama Library Association

9154 Eastchase Pkwy, Suite 418

Montgomery, AL 36117





Dena hard at work at the June 7th Executive Board meeting at Homewood Public Library.



Dena and Steven Yates at the 2012 ALLA Convention.

Carolyn Starkey and Wendy Stephens (both ALLA CSLD) of Buckhorn High School were awarded the Carrie C. Robinson Library Program of the Year by the Alabama School Library Association.



Michelle Wilson (ALLA CSLD) of North Highland Elementary School was awarded the Lois E. Henderson Presidential Award by the Alabama School Library Association for outstanding contributions to library service and ASLA.



Carolyn Starkey was awarded the Ann Marie Pipkin Technology award for technology innovation by the Alabama School Library Association.

CONGRATULATIONS

AWARDS

The Thomas B. Norton Public Library in Gulf Shores was honored to receive the Gold Star Standards Achievement Award at the Public Library Division Breakfast on April 26th at ALLA's Annual Convention.

The ALLA Gold Star Standards Achievement Award is presented each year to libraries throughout the state that represent the "Alabama Public Library Standards" at an exemplary level. These standards are the guiding principles for all statewide public libraries and encompass facility, administrative, planning, budgetary, collection, public service and technology standards.

"The Thomas B. Norton Public Library was deeply honored to receive this award," said Wendy Congiardo, Thomas B. Norton's Managing Librarian. "To be recognized by the Alabama Library Association is a tribute to the enthusiasm and hard work of everyone on our staff and to the collaborative effort and support put

forth by our entire city."

After the receiving the award, Wendy and her staff were recognized again by the Mayor of Gulf Shores, Robert Craft, at a City Council meeting. The Thomas B. Norton Public Library Friends of the Library group and Advisory Board chose to reward the librarians with a lovely dinner out for the staff and their guests as well, to top off the achievement.

This year's award will mark the fourth time the Thomas B. Norton Public Library has been recognized. The library was the recipient of the association's highest honor, now known as the Blue Ribbon Award, in 1998, 2000 and 2003.

"That is the next goal on our horizon," Congiardo said. "Our staff has already begun working on our application for next year and we look forward to continuing the rich legacy of our library and improving each and every year."

Left to right: Melody Solstad-- Circulation Supervisor; Amy Maliska-- Children's and Young Adult Services; Sherry Hoffman-- Serials; Christie Shannon -- Museum Director; Wendy Congiardo, MLIS-- Library Director; Deanne



Fincher-- Adult Services and Programming; Jane C. Daugherty, MLIS-- Reference; Julie Teague-Maly--Technical Services; Vern Cresap, MLIS-- Library Assistant; and Lisa Gunter-- Library Assistant.

TRANSITIONS

NEW FACES IN NEW PLACES

Sheetija Kathuria (MIS, UT Knoxville, 2011) has joined the UAHuntsville M. Louis Salmon Library in March 2012 as Instruction and Outreach Librarian. She also holds a bachelor's degree at in sociology from the University of Georgia.



Adelia Grabowsky has joined Auburn University Libraries' Reference Department as Health Sciences Reference Librarian effective June 4, 2012.

Bridget Farrell has joined Auburn University Libraries' Reference Department as Business and Economics Reference Librarian effective June 18, 2012.





Michelle Wilson, ALLA's CSLD Secretary, has moved to Hueytown Middle School from North Highland Elementary School in the Jefferson County School System.

Carolyn Starkey, ALLA's CSLD Chair and ALLA Communicator Editor, has moved to Shades Valley High School/ Jefferson County IB School in the Jefferson County School System from Buckhorn High School in the Madison County School System. Carolyn was also recently selected as President-Elect of the Alabama School Library Association.





Dede Coe (ALLA CSLD) (left) and Meg Lowry (ALLA CSLD) (right) have been appointed to the new Digital Content/ Library Media Division at the Alabama State Department of Education.



Lee Anna Mills (ALLA CSLD) has been appointed Lead Librarian for the Tuscaloosa County School System.



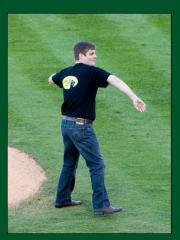
Patsy Jeffcoat (ALLA CSLD) has recently retired from R.E. Lee High School in Montgomery County Schools.



CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR



The scoreboard welcomes ALLA to Regions Park where the Librarians Rock! Welcome Party was held.



ALLA President Steven Yates throws the first ball of the game.



Ballgame?? There's a ballgame going on?

The 2012 ALLA Convention: AL-LAccess was held at the Wynfrey Hotel in Hoover, Alabama from April 24-27. The convention's theme centered on librarians as their communities' rock stars who give their patrons all access passes to a world of information. From the convention logo to the back stage pass name tags, the rock star theme was cohesive and a real crowd pleaser.

Librarians Rock! Welcome Party

The convention began with the Librarains Rock! Welcome Party at Regions Park, where the attendees were treated to ball park food, a DJ and a Birmingham Barons game. While the home team lost that night, everyone present had a lot of fun catching up with old friends, making new ones and getting down on the dance floor.







CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

Opening Session

The convention's opening session began with the National Anthem sung by A Bunch of Guys from Mountain Brook High School. Introductions were made by Carrie Steinmehl, Convention Chair, Hoover's mayor welcomed attendees to the city, and President Steven Yates awarded the inaugural grants for disaster recovery to three libraries as well as announced the winners of the Executive Council elections. Linda Andrews, Hoover Public Library Director and convention advisor, introduced the keynote speaker, Janis Ian. Singer, songwriter, activist and library lover, Ms. Ian entertained the audience

with her two of her most memorable hits "At Seventeen" and "Society's Child" and relayed how libraries saved her life while growing up in upstate New York. Ms. Ian received a standing ovation and was gracious to sign books and CDs after her presentation.

Welcoming speeches at the Opening Session came from 2012 Convention Chair Carrie Steinmehl; ALLA President Steven Yates; Hoover Mayor Gary Ivey; and Hoover Public Library Director Linda Andrews.











A Bunch of Guys from Mountain Brook High School sang the national anthem during the Opening Session and later entertained the crowd with a selection of songs.





2012 Convention Chair Carrie Steinmehl (left) and Hoover Public Library Director Linda Andrews (right) welcomes Hoover Mayor Gary Ivey to the Opening Session.



Library Lover/Singer/ Songwriter/Activist Jan Ian spoke and performed at the Opening session as well as signed books and CDs after her presentation.













CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

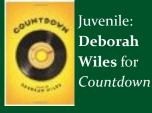
Four authors were honored at the **Author Awards Luncheon**:



Nonfiction:
Condoleezza Rice for
Extraordinary, Ordinary People
(in absentia)

Fiction:
Sonny Brewer for The
Widow and
the Tree





Young Adult: **Watt Key** for *Dirt Road Home*



President's Luncheon

The President's Luncheon featured guest speaker Ridley Pearson, author of the Walt Fleming series, the "Peter and the Starcatchers" series and the "Kingdom Keepers" series. The full house listened intently as the *New York times* best-selling author dis-

cussed his career development and books. He later signed books for admirers.

Author Awards Luncheon

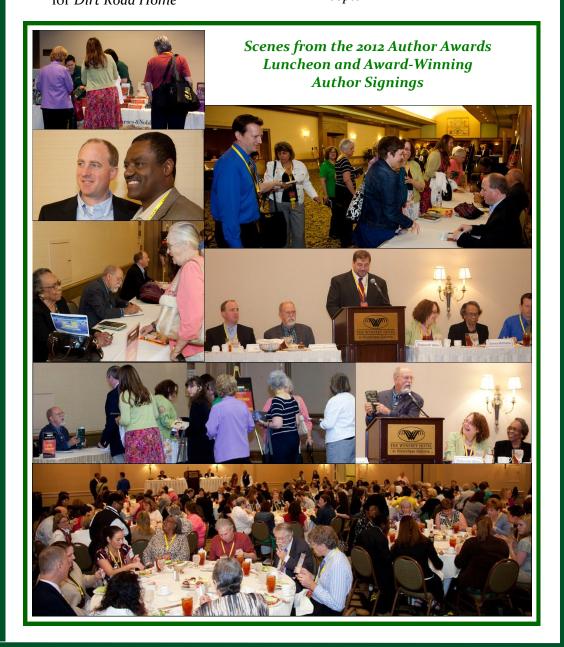
The Author Awards Luncheon featured four Alabama authors whose stories ranged from the deep woods of Alabama to the



CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

White House. Those award winners were:

- Children's Literature: Deborah Wiles for Countdown
- Young Adult Literature: Watt Key for Dirt Road Home
- Adult Fiction Literature: Sonny Brewer for *The Widow and the*Tree
- Adult Nonfiction: Condoleezza Rice for Extraordinary Ordinary People





Condoleezza Rice's aunt accepts her award.



Sonny Brewer



Deborah Wiles



Watt Key

CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

Wednesday Poster Presentations at the 2012 ALLA Convention.











Alive on Arrival

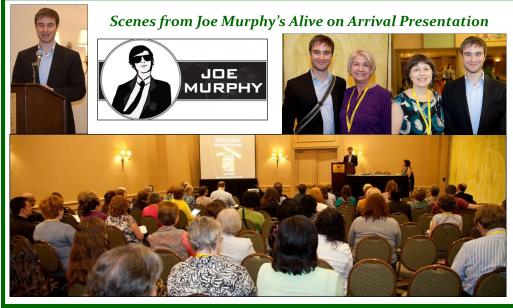
Joe Murphy, librarian and technology trend spotter, spoke on the top tech areas to watch so that we can be librarian rock stars in the information arena.

In his blog posting about his ALLA presentation (see at the right or at http://
joemurphylibraryfuture.com/
alive-on-arrival-presentation-in-alabama/), Joe mentions the conference lanyard (designed by Elin Glenn, Wendy Geist, and Mike Benson, all of the Hoover Public Library) reflecting the conference theme of Librarians Rock! and ALLAccess as "one of the coolest" he's ever seen. Joe's visit was sponsored by Bibliotheca.

University of Alabama's SLIS Reception

The School of Library and Information Studies hosted a reception for the school's newest director, Heidi Julien.





CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

Division Annual Breakfast Meetings

The Children's and School Library Division (CSLD)/ Young Adult Ser-

vices Roundtable (YASRT); the Public Library Division (PLD); and College, University, and Special Libraries Division (CUS) held their Annual Breakfast meetings on Thursday.

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Hosted by CSLD, speakers at the CSLD/ YASRT Annual Breakfast were Author Beck McDowell and Scholastic Library Publishing Digital Initiative VP Evan St. Lifer.

Emily Tish, Chair of the PLD Standards Committee, was speaker at the Public Libraries Division and Standards Achievement Awards Breakfast.





Jerry Stephens was the speaker at the College, Universities, and Special Libraries (CUS) annual breakfast. Thursday Poster Presentations at the 2012 ALLA Convention.











The ALLA divisions hosted many concurrent sessions on topics ranging from library advocacy and children's programming to multiculturnalism and scholarly re-



search.

Preparing Your Library for Disaster Speaker: Jim Smith (PLD)



Deciding If and What Open Source Software is Right for Your Library Speaker: Peter Murray

ALLACCESS

CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

Scenes from Concurrent Session Programming



Accessing the Power of the Web: Great Web 2.0 Tools for Libraries Speaker: Carolyn

Speaker: Carolyn Starkey (CSLD)

Writing Successful LSTA Grants Speakers: Kelyn Ralya, Delores Car-



lito, and Janet Silvernail (PLD and APLS)



Zap It! Zap It good: Qr Codes for Your Teen Library

Speaker: Emily Seymour (YASRT)

A Little of This, a Little of That: Cooking Up Fun and Learning @ the Library Speaker: Frances Smith (CSLD)





Accessing Literacy for Children: Collaboration and Cooperation between School and Public Libraries

Speaker: LeeAnna Mills (CSLD)

Connect, Collaborate, Grow with

Twitter!

Speaker: Nikki Robertson (CLSD)



CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

Scenes from Concurrent Session Programming



 $Saluting\ Access:\ The\ Tuskgee\ Air-$

mer

Speaker: Joseph Carver and Daniel

L. Haulman (RASRT)

Accessing Great Books for Children: The Alabama Camelia Children's Choice Book Award Speaker: Terry Atchison (CSLD)



Beyond Dressing Up: Accessing Thoughtful Storytelling Ideas Speaker: Kassie Millwood (CSLD)





The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute: Promoting Civil and Human Rights Through Education Speakers: Wayne Coleman and

Laura Anderston (MCIRT)

Digital Non-Natives in the Library Speaker: Jane Daugherty (PLD)





Serving Your Multicultural Audience Speaker: Irania Patterson (PLD)



SLIS Research Roundup Speakers: Jamie Naidoo, Laurie Bonnici, Danny Wallace, and Heidi Julien (SLIS)



Open Source Integrated Library Systems Speaker: Ann Marie Pipkin (CSLD)

The ALLA divisions Scenes from Concurrent Session Programming

hosted many concurrent sessions on topics ranging from library advocacy and children's programming to multiculturnalism and scholarly research.



ASERL Collaborative Federal Depository Program: Making Government Information More ACCESSible Speaker: Cheryle Cole-Bennett and Chelsea Dinsmore (GODORT)

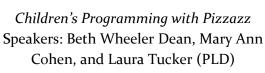
ALLACCESS

CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR



Ticket to OverDrive and

Kindle Speakers: Jeremy Davis and Shannon Freeman (YASRT)







Library Advocacy, Clear Speakers: Marilyn Ochoa, Rebecca Mitchell, Paula Laurita, and Ricky Best (AACL, CUS, PLD, APLS, ALLA Legislative Development Committee)



Effective Fundraising for Your Library Speakers: Jessica Ross and Carol York (PLD)

Searching the Deep: Methods and Tools for Accessing the Deep Web Speakers: Naomi Gold Sara Whitver, Brett Spencer, and Jackie Brodsky





All Access to YA Authors! Speaker: Wendy Stephens (YASRT)

CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

The President's Reception

The President's Reception was held on the Library Plaza at the Hoover Public Library where the association awards were presented. Award winners included:

- Eminent Librarian Award: Sue De-Brecht, Director of Emmet O'Neal Library
- Distinguished Service Award: Thomas C. Wilson, Associate Dean

for Library Technology at The University of Alabama

- Public Servant Award: Clyde Bolton, Trussville Public Library Board
- Library Roll of Honor: Ruth Hammon, former Director of the Rainsville Public Library
- Merit Award: The Friends of the Washington County Public Library
- Humanitarian Award: Nancy M. Rohr



Nancy M. Rohr received the Humanitarian Award.



Ruth Hammond received the Library Roll of Honor Award.

Amanda Jackson,
Director of the Gadsden
Public Library, received
the Intellectual Freedom Award.



Sue DeBrecht (left), Director of Emmet O'Neal Library, received the Eminent Librarian Award.

Thomas C. Wilson (right), Chair of the Alabama Digital Preservation Network, received the Distinguished Service





Clyde Bolton (below) received the



Friends of the Washington County Public Library (above) received the Merit Award.



CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

Executive Board Transition Meeting

New officers and division chairs were sworn into office and new committee chairs introduced.











Executive Board Transition Meeting

The convention ended with the changing of the guard as the newest members of the Executive Council were sworn into office. The first meeting of the new council was held on Friday, June 8th at the Homewood Public Library.

Convention Committee

The convention committee had a wonderful time working on the convention and would like to extend its support to the 2013 Convention Committee, which will hold the convention in Montgomery. Contact information for chairs can be obtained by emailing Carrie Steinmehl at <u>carries@bham.lib.al.us</u>.

Conference Facts and Figures

Registration

- Registration was handled through the association's new online service through Affiniscape.
- 528 registrants; 20 participants registered on site
- Registration fees totaled
 \$39,576.00; as of the time of this report, \$1,481.00 is still outstanding.
- \$16,227 in ticketed event registrations

Exhibits

- Number of booths sold: 41
- Dollars taken in from Exhibitors and advertisers: \$18,300 (this includes \$500 in contributions and \$1,000 in advertising)
- For the first time the association offered a limited number of premium booth spaces just outside the doors to the exhibits area.
 Two premium booths were sold and both exhibitors seemed pleased with the increased exposure.
- Instead of hosting an exhibitors' reception, the convention committee decided to invite the exhibitors to the Tuesday evening Welcome Reception. Eighteen exhibitors attended the reception.

Hospitality

- breaker/meet your peers game that proved to be a big hit among attendees. As part of their registration packet, attendees were given a button with a picture of a rock star or group. If an attendee found another participant with the same button, they could enter their name into the drawing for a Mastercard gift card at the Hospitality Table.
- The Hospitality Table was con-

CARRIE STEINMEHL, 2012 CONVENTION CHAIR

veniently located in the prefunction area and committee members were on hand to hand out information on local restaurants and attractions as well as provide a source for frequently asked convention questions.

Local Arrangements

- The committee worked closely with the Program committee and the Wynfrey Hotel to ensure that the programs were offered in adequate rooms and that A/V equipment needs were met.
- The committee used a combination of borrowed equipment from local libraries and rented equipment from the hotel's A/V vendor to satisfy the technical needs of the program planners.
- The committee counted participants at each session and reported these numbers to the Program Committee.

President's Reception

- The Hoover Public Library donated the space on the Plaza to hold the reception, which helped cut down on costs.
- Occasions by the Wynfrey catered the event, which helped the
 convention meet the minimum
 catering costs as outline in the
 contract.
- Funds originally budgeted for en-

- tertainment were reallocated to pay for refreshments not provided by Occasions by the Wynfrey.
- To cut down on costs and to provide continuity throughout the convention, the Author Awards and the Association Awards were purchased from the same vendor.

Programs

- 51 programs were offered.
- Division and Round Table sponsorships of programs totaled:

o AACRL: 5

o ALIRT: 1

o CDMRT: 1

o CSLD: 9

o CUS: 7

o GODORT: 1

o MCRT: 1

o PLD: 12

o PLDCA: 1

o RASRT: 1

o YASRT: 7

<u>Treasurer</u>

Projected Income: \$65,600

• Projected Expense: \$63,040

Projected Profit/Loss: \$2,560

Actual Income: \$67,022.44

Actual Expenses: \$61,393.87

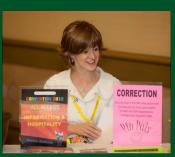
Actual Profit/Loss: \$5,628.57

Hospitality and Information Center















TIM DODGE, LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Incoming ALLA President Emily Tish has graciously invited me to serve as Chair of the ALLA Legislative Development Committee. Over the next year I will be reporting on library-related legislative news in this capacity in addition to continuing to serve as ACRL (Association of College and Research Libraries) Chapters Council Legislative Network Representative. Some of you may recall I served as ALLA Legislative Development Co-Chair during the years 2005-2010, so I look forward to getting "back in the saddle again" to quote singing cowboy star Gene Autry (1939) (http://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=o6dx8AfTmQk).

Jodi Poe, who served as ALLA Legislative Development Committee Chair for 2011-2012, reports that on April 3 at the (Library) Legislative Day event, ALLA combined with NAAL (the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries) and the AVL (Alabama Virtual Library) Taskforce to staff a table in the Alabama Statehouse next to one staffed by APLS (the Alabama Public Library Service). While public librarians had pictures taken of themselves with their state representatives while accepting quarterly checks, Jodi and others from NAAL and the AVL Task Force visited state representative offices and others to convey the im-



Jodi Poe's report, along with that of Ann Marie Pipkin and Barbara Bowling (Alabama School Library Association representatives), and photos from 2012 Alabama Legislative Day may be found in the March/April issue of the ALLA Communicator at http://issuu.com/ALLA.Communicator/docs/ alla communicator march-april 2012/1.

TIM DODGE, LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

portance of the Alabama Virtual Library to the citizens and libraries of Alabama.

Paul Blackmon (Trenholm State Technical College), who is coming in as both the 2013 ALLA Conference Committee Chair and as Moderator of the Multicultural Information Round Table (MCRT), has informed me that plans are already in the works for a Legislative Day activity to

take place during next year's annual ALLA convention. We hope to include the participation of other groups such as NAAL (Network of

Alabama Academic Libraries), the Alabama Virtual Library Council, and the Alabama School Library Association.

This year, National Library Legislative Day, which is annually sponsored by the American Library Association, was held unusually early – April 23-24 – which was during the same week as the annual convention of the Alabama Library Association, held in Hoover. Normally, NLLD takes place in May in Washington,

D.C. It is a great opportunity to be an advocate on behalf of libraries and you get to be directly in contact with your own state's Congressional delegation in the nation's capital.

All communications are useful, whether one sends a letter or an e-mail message or places a telephone call, but personal contact with a legislator or his/her office staff is even more effective. Congresspeople are

busy but they are definitely interested in hearing from their constituents. Sometimes a Congressperson or his/her office staff is genuinely

ignorant of how federal legislation – especially that involving financial appropriations – can affect libraries back in his/her home state or Congressional District. At other times, your advocacy can be important in terms of showing your legislator(s) that a particular issue has the support or opposition of library supporters back home. I encourage you to contact your Representative and Senators throughout the year but the inperson experience made possible by







TIM DODGE, LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

participation in National Library Legislative day is truly useful and has a more direct impact. I was fortunate enough to participate in the May 2008 NLLD and hope to participate in next year's event, schedule and finances permitting.

I know a number of you reading this column had a chance to attend a great program at the ALLA annual convention on April 26 titled "Library Advocacy – Clear and Simple" sponsored by several groups both within and without the Alabama Library Association: the PLD (Public Libraries Division), the CUS (College, University and Special Libraries) division, the ALLA Legislative Development Com-

(Athens-Limestone Public Library), Denise Wetzel (Alabama Public Library Service), and Marilyn Ochoa (University of Florida).

The State of Alabama General Fund and the Education Trust Fund have been under budget-cutting pressure during the most recent Legislative Session. Originally, the Alabama Virtual Library budget was going to be cut from its Fiscal Year 2012 appropriation of \$3,022,627 to \$2,522,627 for Fiscal Year 2013, a decrease of 16.54%. As of May 18, Senate Bill 2 was cutting the AVL by a lesser amount to \$2,822,627 but this still represents 6.62% decrease. The final status of the bill is still uncertain

mittee, the AACRL. (Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries), and the APLS (Alabama **Public Library** Service). Speakers included Ricky Best (Auburn University in Montgomery), Paula Laurita



TIM DODGE, LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

as of this writing. The Alabama Legislature adjourned on May 24 "sine die" which means adjourned without having established a date for reconvening. According to ALISON (Alabama Legislative Information System Online at http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/acas/ACASLoginie.asp), the status of Senate Bill 2 is "pending Committee action in House of Origin."

Budget-cutting on the federal front also threatens to eliminate ac-

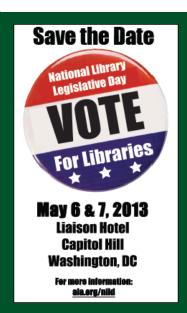
the Economic Census is a crucial resource providing reliable and freely-available statistics on the economic condition of our country. Everyone, from academic researchers to businesses of all sizes to members of the general public, will lose access to this crucial statistical information if the Congressional budget-cutters have their way.

As of this writing (June 7), the United States Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, health and



cess to important informational resources. Last year Congress defunded the U.S. Census Bureau's Statistical Compendia Unit. Among the casualties was the free distribution to depository libraries and the free Internet access to *The Statistical Abstract* of the United States; apparently, a commercial publisher will produce this major reference source starting in 2013. This year the Economic Census is under threat of elimination. Normally produced every five years,

Humans Services, and Education was scheduled to vote on the Fiscal year 2013 budget on June 12 which would include the annual funding for the Library Services and Technology Act (LASTA) and funding for school libraries. As of this writing, the bill provides level funding for the LSTA at \$184.7 million and level funding for the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) program at \$28.6 million. This latter provision provides direct funding for school libraries.





SUMMER READING

ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Sign the Pledge to Read All Summer Long

For Alabama's students, summer is a time of fun, but those months away from school can result in a loss of knowledge and reading ability. To combat summer learning loss, the Alabama Department of Education is excited to announce the Summer Reading Challenge, encouraging students to pledge to read and learn over the summer months. Find a Book links, videos and other resources including printable bookmarks have been posted at www.alsde.edu/ summerreadingchallenge to assist parents and teachers in finding books for students to read over the summer months.

"During the school year, most students achieve some level of growth in their reading abilities. Then summer break starts, the formal learning process ends, and, instead of progressing, students start to slip in their abilities," said Dr. Tommy Bice, State Superintendent of Education.

The Alabama Department of Education, along with local libraries and schools, is coordinating a state-led summer reading initiative to bolster student reading achievement during summer break. The Summer Reading Challenge will raise national awareness of the summer loss epidemic, share compelling research on the im-

portance of personalized reading activities, and provide access to a variety of free resources to support targeted reading and the initiative as a whole.

All students experience some level of learning loss—commonly referred to as the summer slide—when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer. What is even more alarming is that summer slide impacts low-income students the most—generally those students residing in low-literacy environments where daily reading is not encouraged and appropriate reading materials are not available.

Parents and educators can take the opportunity now before the summer begins in just a few weeks to sit down with a child and go online to find book lists that are fit for his or her grade and reading ability. Also, all public libraries in the state can help to find an enjoyable and suitable book for a child's reading ability. Ensure your student or child retains and increases his or her knowledge by logging on to the ADE Summer Reading Challenge website for linksto websites that offer specific booklists for your child's age and reading level, along with instructional materials and resources for parents and educators.

SUMMER READING

ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SUBMIT YOUR SUMMER READING PLEDGE!

http://www.lexile.com/fab/alabama

SUMMER READING LINKS

Find a Book by Lexile - Choose your or your child's grade level and reading ability for a full list of books to read all summer long! In English and Spanish. http://www.lexile.com/fab/alabama

All Alabama Public Libraries

Visit your public library for book lists and summer reading programs for kids of all ages.

http://www.publiclibraries.com/alabama.htm

Print your own Bookmark!

https://docsalsde.edu/documents/55/bookmark AL.pdf

SUMMER READING TIPS, RESOURCES AND RESEARCH

Summer Reading Challenge Video on YouTube featuring State Superintendent Dr. Tommy Bice

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8q1N-LL1do&feature=youtu.be

APT Spotlight on Education: Summer Learning Loss

Mrs. Sherrill Parris, Deputy State Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, describes the importance of summer reading and literacy in this informative video.

http://video.aptv.org/video/2228715693

10 Tips to Keep Reading Skills Sharp Over the Summer

http://www.parentcentral.ca/parent/articlePrint/826773

Summer Learning Loss: The Problem and Some Solutions

http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref Summer Learning Loss/

PTA: Literacy Information for Parents

http://www.pta.org/4402.htm

The 25 Best Summer Books for Kids







HEALTH INFONET

KAY HOGAN SMITH, PROJECT DIRECTOR

Introduction

"Have you heard of Health InfoNet (Figure 1)?" It's a question I ask almost every visitor to every exhibit booth for Health InfoNet of Alabama that I staff at professional meetings and health fairs throughout the year. Given our perpetual lack of marketing funds (beyond these intermittent event exhibits), it isn't surprising that most people say they've never heard of the program. I then happily go into my spiel about this marvelous collaborative project of the medical and public libraries in the state, which provides free, reliable health information to Alabama residents.

However, it has occurred to me as director of this project that one reason the customers may not be getting the message about Health InfoNet is because far too many librarians and library staff are unfamiliar with the

project, despite my efforts over the past 10 years to promote it through training sessions and talks. So, I decided to find out just how well I was getting the word out.

I posted a Survey Monkey survey of public librarians and their staff in March 2012, and invited them to participate via the APLS discussion list. The purpose of the survey was to assess the library personnel's familiarity with InfoNet and their satisfaction with the services. There were only a relative handful (about 30) responses out of the 1700+ people employed in public libraries. However, the information this handful provided gave me a good glimpse into their use of the service - or the lack thereof - and why or why not.

Results Summary

The first question asked respondents to estimate how many reference



HEALTH INFONET



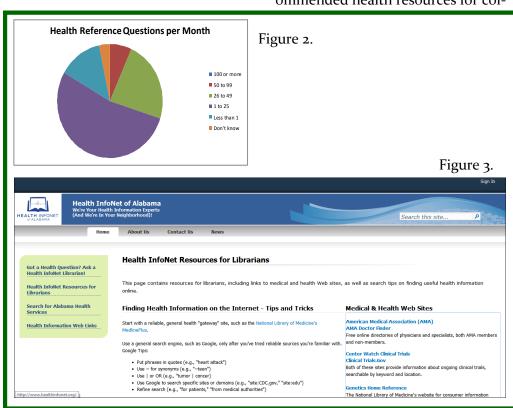
KAY HOGAN SMITH, PROJECT DIRECTOR

questions related to health were fielded in their libraries per month. As the chart below indicates, most respondents (16) calculated that number between 1 and 25 per month (Figure 2).

The response to the next question was discouraging. The outcome indicated that about 83% of respondents had not visited the site in the past year. Of those that had, most (64%) hadn't looked at the "Health InfoNet Resources for Librarians" page (Figure 3). (http://healthinfonet.org/Pages/Librarians.aspx). Likewise most (79%) had not found Health

InfoNet on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/
HealthInfoNetAlabama).

Questions about medical library services to public libraries via Health InfoNet were similarly, if not unexpectedly, answered by the respondents. A vast majority (89%) had never consulted with any medical librarians about health questions. Most (77%) had never received consumer health information service training via InfoNet either. Even the most popular service to the public librarians (based on anecdotal evidence, admittedly), the regularly updated core list of recommended health resources for col-



FEATURE



HEALTH INFONET

KAY HOGAN SMITH, PROJECT DIRECTOR

lection development, was not often used. Only 15% of respondents had ever used the core list (Figure 4).

One encouraging note could be found in the fact that the vast majority of respondents were moderately likely to extremely likely to visit the InfoNet site, Facebook page, consult with the medical librarians, the core list of recommended materials or other services in the future (Figure 5).

In addition, of those who responded to the question (19), "How likely would you be to recommend Health InfoNet to other librarians and users?," most were at least moderately likely to do so (Figure 6).

As usual, the most interesting results were in the comments and open ended questions responses. While more respondents skipped the question about, "What do you like most about Health InfoNet of Alabama?," there were 12 respondents who provided comments. After the "haven't used it/never heard of it" responses (7 of the 12), there were a number who liked the ease of access to reliable health information. One who didn't know about the service, indicated that he/she would be making use of it in the future in the response.

Other notable comments included the following:

"We are not allowed to help patrons

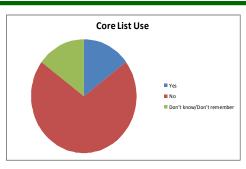


Figure 4.

Likely to Use InfoNet in Future

Extremely Likely
Very Likely
Moderately Likely
Slightly Likely
Not Likely

Figure 6.

HEALTH INFONET

HEALTH INFONET
of ALABAMA

KAY HOGAN SMITH, PROJECT DIRECTOR

with medical issues. We can only show them the books referencing medical info and they have to take it from there."

"We are advised not to get involved with patron's health issues."

"[Consulting the core list of recommended materials] sounds like something I should do."

"More publicity will help, so that people know of the resources available to them."

"Now that I know, I am going to familiarize myself with the site, so I can better help our patrons." Many other comments indicated a general lack of familiarity with InfoNet and the services for public librarians.

Conclusion

It seems clear from these results that, despite our best efforts, the word about Health InfoNet is not getting out to our primary partners in this initiative, public librarians and staff. In order for this work to have value, we have to find ways to make the service known among those on the front lines of user services. Any and all ideas about how to do this would be welcome!

Health InfoNet of Alabama Releases Updated Core List of Recommended Materials for Consumer Health Collections

The 2012 Recommended Core List of Books and Journals for Alabama Public Libraries is now available on the Health InfoNet of Alabama web site at www.healthinfonet.org/Documents/HealthInfoNetCoreListrev2012.pdf.

Based on reviews from Library Journal and the Medical Library Association's Consumer and Patient Health Information Section (CAPHIS) newsletter, the "essential" titles total less than \$400.00. In addition (List title notwithstanding), it includes suggested web sites for specific health topics, such as physician directories and laboratory test results. Other features of the list include several books written for clients with low reading skills, and freely available health magazines such as NIH MedlinePlus.

Health InfoNet Project Director Kay Hogan Smith compiles this list annually – but she welcomes your input! Contact her at (205) 934-2208 or 1-855-INFONET, or khogan@uab.edu with suggestions.

FEATURE TEATURE

WOODVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

PAIGE PARKER

Auburn High School Library

Photo (*left to right*): Nikki Robertson (ALLA CSLD), New York Times Best Selling author Sharon Draper, and Gabiella DuBose.



Gannett-Estes Library of Southeastern Bible College

The Gannett-Estes Library of Southeastern Bible College was awarded the 224 volume library from The International Society for Science & Religion. The ISSR Library spans all areas of the interface between science and spirituality. Experts from many academic disciplines, faith traditions, and regions selected the core group of books. The subject areas range from the sciences and social sciences to history, philosophy and the environment.



PRESCHOOL READING PROGRAM:

Held each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Bring your child and join the fun!





April Birthdays

The Woodville Public Library Preschool Reading
Program recently held a celebration for all children with April birthdays.

Policeman Week

The Woodville Public Library Preschool Reading Program recently celebrated Policeman Week with a visit from Officer Roger Hornbuckle from the Grant Police Department. The program meets every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m

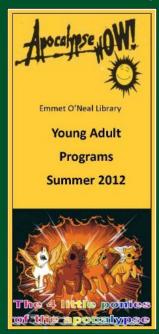


EMMET O'NEAL LIBRARY

RACHEL HEBERT



Summer Events for Teens at Emmet O'Neal Library









Alabaster Kids Dream, Read, & Have Fun

Special programs and activities during the Dream Big – Read/Own the Night Summer Challenge.

Animal Antics



Kids Craft Corner



Drama Workshops



Maynard, Magic & Music



Lego League



ALBERT L. SCOTT PUBLIC LIBRARY

FRANCES SMITH, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Traveling Theatre's Tales Treats Tots

Alabaster children enjoyed being entertained and educated as they explored character-building stories from around the world at the Albert L. Scott Public Library on June 7. Surrounded by oversized stuffed jungle animals the youngsters listened to a griot, or traditional storyteller, spin yarns. It was a production of the Good-Times Traveling Theatre which

presented *In the Shadow of the Bao-bab Tree: Folktales from around the World.* Safiya Johnson the Traveling Griot mesmerized the children by incorporating a stuffed giraffe, lion, tiger and other items into her tales. She also led the kids in call and response, song, and movement. The program was part of the Summer Challenge at the library during which children keep up their reading skills, earn prizes and enjoy free programs.

Children enjoy *In the Shadow of the Baobab Tree: Folktales from around the World* told by traveling griot Safiya Johnson of Good-Times Traveling Theatre. She entertained them at the Albert L. Scott Public Library in Alabaster during the Summer Challenge.



Children's Book Week + Legos=Fun in Alabaster

Children at the Albert L. Scott Public Library in Alabaster celebrated Children's Book Week during the May 8 session of the Lego League. Besides building with Legos of all sizes and color the youngsters saw a display of library books including The Lego Ideas Book: Unlock Your Imagination by Daniel Lipkowitz.



ALBERT L. SCOTT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Dream Big—READ Summer Challenge Kickoff

FRANCES SMITH, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Kids Turn Out for Reading Challenge

Reading and Dreaming Big

More than 300 children signed up during the first four days of the Summer Challenge at the Albert L. Scott Public Library in Alabaster. The Dream Big -- READ Summer Challenge started on June 4 for children from birth to 10 years old. More than 200 people were treated to the wonder of magician Russell Davis. The Own the Night Summer Challenge kicked off on June 5 for children 11 to 18 years old. They got dessert making tips from professional chef Angela Schmidt from Chef U and enjoyed eating their creations.

The Alabaster library's goal is to encourage children to read for pleasure when they are not in school. Parents can sign children up until July 13. The challenge ends on July 18. Parents and other caregivers are invited to participate and help pre-literate children enjoy books and develop a love of reading. The 2012 Summer Reading Program is supported in whole or in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Alabama Public Library Service.

The library would like to thank the following sponsors for enhancing the



challenge:

Alabama Shakespeare Festival, AmStar Stadium Movie Theater (Alabaster), Arby's (Alabaster), Birmingham Barons Baseball, Bike Link, Bud's Best Cookies, Chick-fil-A, DeSoto Caverns Park, Oak Mountain Lanes, Parent Teacher Store (Hoover), Red Mountain Theatre Company, UPS Store (Pelham), Walmart (Alabaster), Whataburger.

PHOTOS

Kids' Summer Challenge Kickoff (right, top three photos):

Families have a great time during the Russell Davis magic show that kicked off the Dream Big – Read Summer Challenge.

YA's Summer Challenge Kickoff (right, bottom three photos):

Tweens and teens enjoy zombie brain cupcake decorating with Chef Angela Schmidt of Chef U (in the blue jacket) during the Own the Night Summer Challenge.













Alabaster Kids Dream, Read, & Have Fun

Special programs and activities during the Dream Big – Read/Own the Night Summer Challenge.

Own the Night Mini Lock-in



Teddy Bear Tales and Picnic





ALBERT L. SCOTT PUBLIC LIBRARY

FRANCES SMITH, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Alabaster Library Honored Again

Keats Grant Awarded a Second Time

The Albert L. Scott Public Library in Alabaster has for the second time been awarded an annual Ezra Jack Keats Foundation minigrant. The grant is to continue its **Alabaster Book Blasters Book Club** that was started with a previous Keats minigrant. Once again the club will showcase the books of children's author and illustrator Ezra Jack Keats. Keats won the Caldecott Medal for his book *The Snowy Day* the first children's book to depict an African-American child as the main character.

The library won the \$500.00 minigrant after creating a proposal for the book club to explore more of Keats's work. The club will be for children age six years old to 10 years old. The minigrant will support the book club exclusively. "We are thrilled to be able to read more of Ezra Jack Keats books with children

and to enjoy more fun activities inspired by the stories," said Frances Smith, youth services librarian.

The first session is "Keats's Whistling Wonderland" in January 2013. The featured book will be Whistle for Willie and the guest entertainer will be Phil "Mr. Mac" McEntee. Each child will have a musical souvenir to take home that relates to the book. Space is limited and registration is required. "Parents shouldn't worry about their child coming every time, although we hope they will," Smith explained. Smith said sign up will start in late December and patrons should check the library's in-house calendar, the city newsletter, and website (www.cityofalabaster.com) for updates.

Ezra Jack Keats was born in 1916 to poor Polish immigrants of Jewish descent in East New York, which was then the Jewish quarter of Brooklyn, New York.



ALBERT L. SCOTT PUBLIC LIBRARY

FRANCES SMITH, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Crunch & Munch, Read with Lunch

Alabaster Library Starts New Program

Crunch & Munch, Read with Lunch is a new youth literacy, nutrition, and fitness program launched during the Summer Challenge by the Albert L. Scott Library in Alabaster. To kick off the program youth services librarian Frances Smith headed to Alabaster's Kids First Awareness 21st Century Community Center in the Simmsville neighborhood on June 20th. She was joined by the following professionals who conducted the program: Chef Alison Lewis of Ingredients, Inc., story teller "Miss" Jennie Bunton, and fitness trainer Suanne Ferguson. Nearly 20 children participated. Lewis and the youngsters made Bistro Pasta Salad, Greek Yogurt Banana Bread, and Green Smoothie. Bunton led the kids in stories, songs, and dance. A favorite was the library book *On Top of Spaghetti* by Paul Brett Johnson. Ferguson led the group in several exercises including marching, weight lifting, and a choreographed version of the folk tale Stone Soup. The goal of the project is to enhance children's health and literacy by combining cooking, reading, and exercising. The program will be offered periodically.

PHOTOS

Cooking (right, top photo): Professional Chef Alison Lewis taught children how to make three recipes at Kids First Awareness 21st Century Community Center in Alabaster during an outreach program by the Albert L. Scott Library. The children enjoyed eating their cooking for lunch.

Story Telling (right, second and third photos): Professional story teller "Miss" Jennie Bunton stirs up imaginations during her segment of Crunch & Munch, Read with Lunch at the Kids First Awareness 21st Century Community Center sponsored by the Albert L. Scott Library in Alabaster.

Exercising (right, fourth and fifth photos): Professional fitness trainer Suanne Ferguson leads children in a workout at Kids First Awareness 21st Century Community Center during the Crunch & Munch, Read with Lunch outreach program of the Albert L. Scott Library in Alabaster.

Group (right, bottom photo): Children at the Kids First Awareness 21st Century Community Center thank chef Alison Lewis, story teller Jennie Bunton, and fitness trainer Suanne Ferguson after Crunch & Munch, Read with Lunch sponsored by the Albert L. Scott Library in Alabaster.

Crunch & Munch, Read with Lunch Program













GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Library Public Programming Grants for Civil War 150

Deadline: July 15, 2012

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, in partnership with The Library of America, is now accepting applications from libraries and National Park historic sites for grants to develop public programming around the free traveling panel exhibition Civil War 150. The exhibition is part of Civil War 150: Exploring the War and Its Meaning through the Words of Those Who Lived It, a major three-year project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The project is centered on the four-volume Library of America series The Civil War Told by Those Who Lived It and includes a collection of readers (discussion guides) drawn from the series.

Fifty sites selected by competitive application to host the Civil War 150 exhibition will each be awarded a grant of \$1,000 to plan accompanying public programming. The exhibition is available for three-week periods from October 2012 to March 2015. Hosting sites will also receive supporting interpretive and contextual materials, including the Civil War 150 readers and access to a multimedia website with robust digital resources. Public, academic, and special libraries as well as National Park historic

sites are invited to submit applications for the public programming grants and exhibition. To apply, please visit www.gilderlehrman.org/civilwar150grant

Gale/Library Media Connection TEAMS Award

Deadline: June 30, 2012

The Gale/Library Media Connection TEAMS Award program recognizes and encourages critical collaborations between teachers and media specialists to promote learning and increase student achievement. Nominations are evaluated based on demonstrated collaboration between media specialists and teachers, effective techniques that positively impact student learning and achievement, support received from school leadership, and ability for others to replicate this best practice.

All K-12 public and private schools in the United States and Canada are eligible to enter. Three winners will receive a \$2,500 cash award, \$500 of Gale products, a one-year subscription to Library Media Connection, and an Educator's Professional Bookshelf (approximate value \$500) from Linworth Publishing. For more information and application guidelines visit the Gale Schools website at http://www.galeschools.com/TEAMS/.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Build-A-Bear Literacy and Education Grants

Deadline: August 31, 2012.

Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc. is accepting grant applications as part of its annual giving program. The Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation supports charities in the US and Canada through grant programs including Literacy and Education Grants which provide support for children in literacy and education programs such as summer reading programs, early childhood education programs, and literacy programs for children with special needs. Grants are a one-time contribution, and range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 USD.

For more information visit the Build-A-Bear Workshop website at http://www.buildabear.com/shopping/contents/content.jsp?

Best Buy Community Grants Program

Deadline: July 1, 2012

Through the Community Grants program, Best Buy teams across the United States select non-profit organizations that give teens access to opportunities through technology to help them excel in school and develop 21st century skills. This year, the Best Buy Children's Foundation will

give \$2.8 million in Community
Grants. Grant amounts will average
\$4000-\$6000 and will not exceed
\$10,000.Best Buy seeks applications
from 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations
and public agencies that have taxexempt status and are giving teens
access to opportunities through technology. For eligibility criteria and
online application, visit the Best Buy
website at http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/community grants.htm.

Other Grants

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation invests \$200 million each year in communities that help diverse individuals and families around the globe. Funding priorities for Alabama include arts and culture, community development/ neighborhood preservation, education and youth development, and heath and human services. Applications are accepted year around. Contact: Bank of America 1-800-218-9946

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Youth Literacy Grants provide funding to schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations to help students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. For more information and to apply online visit the http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/youth_grants.aspx

P. D. OPPORTUNITIES

Internet Librarian 2012

October 22-24, 2012 Monterey Conference Center Monterey, California

Information Today, Inc. returns to Monterey once again in 2012 to present the 16th annual Internet Librarian – the ONLY conference for information professionals who are using, developing, and embracing Internet, Intranet, and Web-based strategies in their roles as information architects and navigators, Webmasters and Webmanagers, content evaluators and developers, taxonomists, searchers, community builders, information providers, trainers, guides, and more.

Whether you are managing information for a business, law firm, university, school or public library, keeping up with new tools and techniques is always a challenge. Internet Librarian 2012 definitely meets that challenge.

Internet@Schools, a two-day-long track especially for library media and technology specialists who are using the Internet and technology in K-12 schools, wil once again this year be a part of Internet Librarian 2012.

Join us at the most comprehensive conference for library and information professionals interested in technology to discover the insights, strategies and practices that will allow us to tame the net, manage libraries and digital information, and enhance the information and learning experience of people in our communities. Internet Librarian 2012 provides attendees with many chances to meet and hear from leading edge information professionals in all types of environments-leaders in the information industry who are integrating content and delighting their clients, organizing and managing digital content in creative ways, setting the context for excellence in information utilization in their organizations, revolutionizing the roles of info pros, building strong collaborative communities among their customers and colleagues, and using new technologies in creative and exciting ways.

For more information: http://infotoday.com/il2012/.

Electronic Resources & Libraries

March 17 – 20, 2013 AT&T Conference Center Austin, Texas & Online

You belong at ER&L if you are a professional—vendor, service provider, publisher, library professional—working in eresources management and digital services.

You should expect to see the most current updates, best lessons learned and detailed challenges discussed in every session supporting these focus areas.

P. D. OPPORTUNITIES

Managing e-Resources in Libraries
Collection Development and As
sessment
Workflow & Organizations
External & User Relationships
Emerging & Future Technologies
Scholarly Communication & Li
censing
Library as Publisher
For more information: http://

AASL 2012 Fall Forum: Transliteracy and the School Library Program

www.electroniclibrarian.com/about/

October 12 - 13, 2012 Greenville, South Carolina

more-about-erl.

Transliteracy is the ability to read, write and interact across a range of platforms, tools and media from signing and orality through handwriting, print, TV, radio and film, to digital social networks. – www.transliteracy.com

While still important, information literacy skills are but one component of the range of skills students need in order to participate as consumers and producers in the current information landscape.

Transliteracy and the School Library Program is designed to help school librarians develop strategies for integrating transliteracy skills into subject areas across the curriculum. Discussions will articulate the

range of skills known as transliteracy skills and highlight current research on how young people learn and play in the contemporary online environment

For more information: http://www.ala.org/aasl/
conferencesandevents/fallforum/fallforum/

Institute for Computer Policy and Law: Internet Culture and the Academy

September 19-21, 2012 Ithica, New York

The Cornell University Institute for Computer Policy and Law (ICPL)—the "go-to" conference for information technology policy and law in higher education—will broaden its reach in 2012 in order to address rapidly evolving legal, policy, and social concerns related to Internet culture and the Academy.

Featuring influential keynote speakers and ample opportunities for collaborative conversations, this year's annual institute will focus on the critical legal and policy challenges and opportunities that technology poses for academic libraries and higher education as a whole.

For more information: http://www.sce.cornell.edu/exec/
programs.php?v=CPL&s=Overview

CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

The ALLA Communicator, the publication of the Alabama Library Association, is seeking articles, announcements, news, and photos for publication. See publication for bimonthly deadlines. Items should be sent to Editor Carolyn Starkey at alla.communicator@gmail.com.

The Alabama School Librarian is a combined association newsletter and peer-reviewed (refereed) journal published by the Alabama School Library Association (ASLA). It is devoted solely to the field of school libraries and technology as related to school libraries. Although all submissions are welcome, those that clearly focus on issues and topics related to Alabama school libraries have publication priority. The Alabama School Librarian is published digitally four times per academic year and is sent electronically to all members of the Alabama School Library Association and supporters of Alabama school libraries.

For Author Instructions and deadlines, visit http://www.alasla.org/
Default.asp?
PN=Articles&L=1&DivisionID=7820&LMID=315719&ToggleSideNav=ShowAll
LMID=315719&ToggleSideNav=ShowAll
LItems should be sent to Editor Carolyn Starkey at admin@jojo-starkey.com.

Online Northwest 2013

Call For Proposals - Deadline October 15, 2012

Online Northwest is a one-day conference focusing on topics that intersect libraries, technology and culture. The conference is sponsored by the Oregon University System Library Council.

The 2013 conference will be held at CH2M Hill Alumni Center, Corvallis, Oregon (on the Oregon State University campus) on Friday, February 8, 2013.

The conference explores how technology is applied within library settings and its impact on access and services for patrons. Academic, public, school, and special librarians are strongly encouraged to submit proposals.

Online Northwest seeks 45-minute presentations or 5-minute lightning talks on all topics relating to technology and libraries.

Submit Proposals: http://www.ous.edu/onlinenw/
For more information and examples of past presentations, see: http://www.ous.edu/onlinenw/

New England code4lib!

Dates: Friday, October 26 and Saturday, October 27

Location: Yale University, New Haven, CT

CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

Proposal deadline: July 15, 2012.

This will be a great opportunity to meet your peers at local institutions and generate conversation on code4lib related topics in which you are interested! Please add your proposals now for

- (a) Prepared talks (20 minutes
- (b) Lightning talks (5 minutes)
- (c) Posters

To submit a proposal, fill out the form code4lib New England - Call for Proposals at:

https://docs.google.com/ spreadsheet/viewform? formkey=dEQ5SEF4aXljTU5jZFNoU DRsSnJPb2c6MQ

If you are interested in making multiple proposals, e.g. for both a prepared talk and a poster, please submit separate proposal forms.

About the venue:

http://wiki.code4lib.org/index.php/ Infor-

mation about meeting rooms and available equipment

E-Resource Round Up Column for the Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship

Headed to ALA or another professional conference this summer? Please consider sending reports on programs dealing with electronic resources in libraries to the "E-Resource Round Up" column for volume 24, number 4 of the Journal of

Electronic Resources Librarianship (IERL).

The "E-Resource Round Up" column is dedicated to helping JERL readers better understand topics related to the ever-changing world of electronic resources and their roles in libraries. It covers developments in the areas of new and emerging technologies and systems related to electronic resources and the digital environment; reports from professional discussion groups, meetings, presentations, and conferences; news and trends related to electronic resource librarianship; tips and suggestions on various aspects of working with electronic resources; opinion pieces; vendor activities; and upcoming events of potential interest to JERL readers.

Your contribution to the column does not have to be lengthy, and could be on any of the topics listed above. This could be an ideal opportunity for you to report on sessions you attended that may benefit others in our profession.

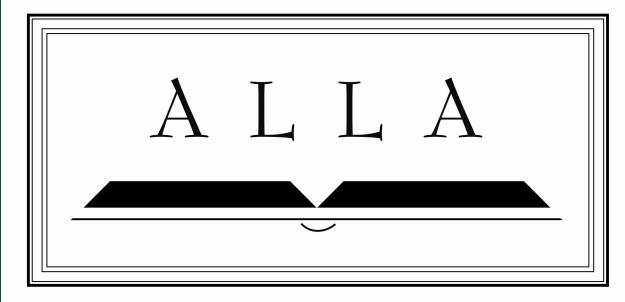
The editors would like to receive contributions to the column by Friday, August 10, 2012.

If you have a submission or questions, please contact the column editors:

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Karen Davidson Mississippi State University Libraries kdavidson@library.msstate.edu



Alabama Library Association

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