

# MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

## LIBRARIANS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Most of you have probably had experiences similar to mine. They often occur while I am traveling, but sometimes they happen in my home town or even on the campus where I work. I encounter a stranger and we strike up a conversation. When we get around to talking about what we do for a living, I am often fascinated by the reaction I see when I tell my new acquaintance that I am a librarian.

Why do librarians often receive peculiar reactions when someone finds out what we do for a living? Numerous individuals have conducted research on this subject and you have probably read your share of essays on the topic. My simplistic assessment is that most people do not understand the range of our responsibilities and what we do on a daily basis. Don't you wish you had a dollar for every time someone thought that librarians spend most of their day reading?

It is human nature to simplify and misunderstand. When we do not comprehend and appreciate something, we are less likely to be a strong advocate for its welfare. The misconceptions that people have about us, particularly those that influence the allocation of resources to libraries, are detrimental to both the work that we perform and the salaries that we receive.

Most local and state libraries, as well as library organizations such as the Mississippi and American Library associations, focus their outreach efforts on the benefits that libraries bring to their communities. We often neglect to mention the contributions that individuals make, yet we all know that little of the good that libraries contribute to a community would occur if it were not for the dedication of



Terry Latour

you and your colleagues.

Mitch Freedman, president of the American Library Association, is helping us to realize that our modesty is preventing us from being strong advocates for the individuals who make libraries the important educational and social organizations that they are. Through his efforts, the American Library Association has launched the **Campaign for American Librarians**.

He created a Task Force on Better Salaries and Pay Equity for Library Workers with the charge of developing training and resource materials to help us raise public awareness about the importance of library workers.

At the ALA conference this summer, Billy Beal, our ALA Councilor, and I attended an advocacy workshop held by the Task Force. We made a commitment to return to the State and share with you the ideas and tools that we learned about. At the MLA conference in October and possibly at the MLA National Library Week workshop in January, we will be conducting mini-workshops on this theme. To prepare for these, we have been gathering salary and comparable worth information that may be useful in local and statewide advocacy efforts. If you have this type of information and are willing to share it, we would like to hear from you.

As Mitch Freedman has said, "Everyone loves libraries. Unfortunately, library workers can't continue to live on love alone." Good libraries, those that make a significant contribution to the community that they serve, need to have good, well paid librarians. This seldom happens without someone, or a group of individuals, assuming an activist role. Please join me in being a stronger advocate for library workers, as well as for libraries.

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On the Cover: Mural painting "Ocean Springs: Past, Present & Future" located on Bowen Ave., Ocean Springs, MS. Painted by artist Christopher Inglis Stebly, the mural depicts over 300 years of the people and wildlife that inhabit this area. Photographer: Vanessa Ritchie, Public Services Librarian at MGCCC, Perkinston, MS; used with permission from the Ocean Springs Chamber of Commerce.

## MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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**NOTICE:** Dues must be paid by March 1 in order to vote in election of officers and to receive the Spring issue of *Mississippi Libraries*.



# The Emerging Virtual Reference Desk

By Lorraine Strom

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In the last one hundred years, there has been dramatic change in libraries and library users. No longer an institution serving a small group of residents satisfied with a good collection of fiction and nonfiction, the library now struggles to serve a very diverse group of demanding users in increasingly remote locations. The library's reference area has been of particular concern. Perhaps one of the biggest challenges is the change in user expectations. It is estimated that half of all the adults in the United States now use the Internet. That is a 54% increase just since 1998. (Grey 2000, 366) Users who access the library collection from remote locations, or who cannot physically come to the library, are a growing population with information needs. Libraries are confronted with the realization that reference will have to be offered not only in the traditional manner, but also virtually. Provision of online catalogs, bibliographic databases, and informational resources to remote users has become an important component of reference services. In addition, library collections are becoming increasingly digital. Digitization means that library users expect more of their information demands to be met online; as digital resources increase, the demand for such resources will also increase.

## DOES DIGITAL MEAN VIRTUAL?

It is incorrect to think of a digital library as a virtual library, though a digital library has the potential of being a virtual library. A digital library is one that stores information primarily in an electronic or digital form. Just having digital resources, however, does not make a library virtual. A virtual library provides remote users with almost all the services of a physical library, and by providing

access to these digital resources. The confusion of terms between the virtual and digital library ensues because most virtual libraries are based on a digital collection. Hopefully, this dichotomy between digital and virtual is just a transitional phase. The ideal would be a universal virtual library, a vast depository of digital information with increasingly improved indexing, extraction and summarization techniques accessible from anywhere in the world by any remote user. It would be a full library without walls or national boundaries (Sreenivasulu 2000, 14). The library would become a *cybrary* and the librarian a *cybrarian*.

## TESTING VIRTUAL SERVICES

Currently, there are a few virtual libraries that are now offering reference service. The Virtual Reference Desk and the Internet Public Library are just two. The Virtual Reference Desk uses a 'frequently asked question' format and functions as a site locator for information with many links. The opening pages of the Internet Public Library Reference area are constructed visually to be similar to what you would find in a traditional library, but the sources accessed are digital. Email questions are accepted. There is generally a fast acknowledgement of an email question, although the information requested usually takes a bit longer to acquire (generally three to five days).

As a test, this author emailed the Internet Public Library Reference with a request for a list of county and state fairs and festivals in the U.S. and Canada. Knowing that the *Directories in Print* lists a *Directory of North American Fairs, Festivals, and Expositions*, the answer to the request was eagerly anticipated. An acknowledgement of the email request was received that evening and the answer was sent by email three days later. Although the message was friendly and personable, the answer merely stated that the librarian had done a Google® search

for the information.

While the information received was relevant, it was not complete information. No mention was made of *Directories in Print* or the *Directory of North American Fairs, Festivals, and Expositions*. This was disappointing, as many patrons would already have done a Google® search before ever contacting the Internet Public Library. One wonders how reliable a virtual reference service is if relevant information is ignored by librarians who rely on an Internet search without ever consulting print resources, as well.

## VIRTUAL SERVICES: CONCERNS

A survey of academic libraries found that 97.3% have Web sites and 44.7% have digital reference services. Most questions are submitted and answered through email or some type of chat or Web software (Saunders 2001, 25). There are some disadvantages to both the user and the library when attempts are made to move from the library to the *cybrary*, however. Thomas A. Peters states that "Our attempts to morph the traditional mode of reference service to meet the unfolding future of environments may not be particularly effective," and points to the delay in reference response by traditional mail, phone, and email, stating that none have been widely acceptable or useful to the customer (Peters 2000, 339). Librarians dislike not being able to get visual clues such as body language or facial expression in the reference interview. Additionally, the impersonal aspect of virtual reference is dissatisfying. Librarians and library users alike prefer in-person communication.

There is also great expense involved. The switch to digital material is just the first increase in costs. Expensive hardware and software are also necessary. While prices may decline with time and some software is freely available, the library must invest in the means to provide virtual reference services. In addi-



tion, there is an expense in providing training to both the library staff and the user in the necessary skills to query and respond to each other. Finding new personnel with the needed technological and educational background is a challenge, as is securing the technical support for the library hardware and software.

### RELIABILITY OF DIGITAL INFORMATION

There is also a concern about digital information itself. In one case, it has been found that important military files of Vietnam War POW and MIA data were nearly lost because of the numerous errors and omissions in the original digital records. Ten to twenty percent of the data tapes of the Viking Mars mission have been lost because magnetic data tapes degrade and are unacceptable as an archival storage medium (Marcus 1998, 5). In addition, the technology of today will be superseded tomorrow. Yesterday's state of the art technology, such as the old Decotape and Univac drives that held vast amounts of government data, cannot be read today.

Subscriptions to digital data, such as information provided in e-journals, do not always guarantee or include archival services. In addition, the resistance to new technology by both librarians and users must be considered. There is some fear, from those who are comfortable with technology as well as from those who are not, that a mentality of "techno-lust" leaves reason in the dust. They point to Abraham Maslow's statement that "when the only tool you own is a hammer, every problem begins to resemble a nail" (Tennant, March 2001, 30). If too much attention and too much of the budget is allocated to technology, other materials and services will suffer. Certainly, libraries must judge their venture into cybrarianship with caution.

### CYBER SOLUTIONS

Some solutions, however, are beginning to emerge. Chat reference is just in its infancy and has a long way to go

before it is as easy and spontaneous as an in-person reference interview. But there are some inexpensive and workable chat-based utilities; some are even free. Netscape's Instant Messenger® or Microsoft's MSN Messenger Service® are used often in home computing and have been adopted by some libraries (Breeding 2001, 45). Human-Click® and LiveHelper® are also utilities libraries have selected. [Note: Human-Click is now part of LiveHelper®.] For libraries that prefer open source software, Temple University has created a chat-based utility called Camden® (Breeding, 2001, 42).

However, chat systems lack the important element of visual contact that is so important in a reference interview. Videoconferencing addresses this problem, and fortunately costs for this technology have dropped dramatically in the past three years with the introduction of landlines that replace more expensive satellite hook-ups (Apte 1997, 3). With some success, the University of Michigan attempted to use videoconferencing by installing the necessary equipment in residence halls and at the main library. Library science students man the equipment and offer assistance, eliminating the up-front cost of the student service by obligating the library to an expenditure of dollars, personnel, and maintaining rigorous schedules. They use videoconferencing software developed by Cornell University called CU-SeeMe®. CU-SeeMe® is available commercially, and a black-and-white version of it is available in the public domain and can be downloaded at <http://cu-seeme.net/>. The commercial version is far better but is expensive and requires specific equipment such as a Pentium computer and a major commitment in training (McGeachin 1999, 54).

Some remote control communication is better suited to libraries, however, and offers some semblance of one-to-one service. This software allows the librarian and the user to interactively share computer screen displays and computer applications, including Internet browser sessions, so librarians can visually demon-

strate applications for the user and see what is happening on the user's screen, as well. If a user is having a problem, the librarian is able to view the user's computer screen, see what is happening, and offer advice. The librarian can 'push' Internet pages to the user's screen and, in some cases, gain actual remote control of the user's computer in order to correct a problem. Using this technology, they can share such things as a bibliographic database or an online catalog. 'Chat,' 'type-talk' or whiteboard screens are usually included.

Some software is easily attainable. eGain® software offers co-browsability and is completely Web-based. Neither the library nor the user needs to install any special hardware or software. If computers are provided access to the Internet, then eGain® is available. A Web browser controls the remote sessions and toolbars facilitate the information exchange. Windows are used to view the remote user's computer screen. eGain® can be accessed at <<http://www.egain.com>>. Another suitable program that allows co-browsing is LivePerson®. It is also Web-based, incurring no major cost, and can be accessed at <<http://www.liveperson.com>> (Breeding, 2001, 43).

### EVALUATING VIRTUAL SERVICES

Evaluation of the virtual cybrary is important in determining user satisfaction. Technology is useless if it does not meet the user's needs. Good evaluation is necessary to justify costs and improve services. In a cybrary, session logs, exit interviews, user polls, and transaction log analysis can be used for evaluating the cyber-reference service. Techniques from Web-based businesses can be implemented with success. As an example, Customer Relationship Management (CRM) can offer some assistance to the user in comfort and ease of use, and to the library in evaluating the effectiveness of the service (Breeding 2001, 42). Using CRM techniques, the holistic survey approach of asking for user input, and



keeping site statistics could answer such fundamental questions as:

- Who are my users?
- Where do they spend the most time?
- Where do they spend the least time?
- What frustrates them?
- What information do they seek most?
- How successful is the software we are using?
- What opinions do users offer?

Evaluation has to be a constant activity for

the successful cybrary. Careful, logical, assessment often leads to change to improve user services.

Although technology has opened the virtual doors for the cybrary, and the cooperative software concept fulfills the idea of a truly open and user-friendly library, the user remains the focus of the library, both physical and virtual. Whether the users walk through real or technological doors, their needs can be

met and they can be made to feel comfortable. While a good virtual library and reference desk can provide a technological solution in providing access to information remotely, they never let the user operate in technological isolation. Instead, the ideal cybrary reference service will make every effort to fulfill the user's needs in a personable way, like any traditional library.

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# Planning the Circulation Desk Layout

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One of the primary service points in every library is the circulation service desk in Access Services. Access Services includes responsibilities of checking items in and out of a library's circulating collection, reshelving materials, and shelf management, such as periodically reading and 'edging' the shelves. In addition, circulation staff provide access to reserve materials for short-term loan. Very often staff in the access services department discuss policies to respond to user needs, answer directional questions, and resolve complaints that may or may not directly relate to circulation desk responsibilities. Other activities and services that may be found at the circulation workstation include interlibrary loan requests and deliveries, and document delivery of full text journal articles. Sometimes, in response to special user needs, circulation staff loan items that range from computer laptops to fishing rods and reels.

## DESIGNING FOR SERVICE

The task of designing a circulation desk that is both functional and aesthetically pleasing is a difficult one. Rather than having a desk specifically designed to suit their needs, many libraries simply "make do" with what is available. It appears at times as though the circulation desk and its work areas are the forgotten stepchild of the library rather than a primary focal point of service to library users. Numerous articles can be found

concerning the design of the reference desk, but it appears that very little literature is available concerning the design of the circulation desk. The sources available tend to focus on simple redesign and/or ergonomic redesign of the circulation desk in libraries but provide rather dated information.

The circulation desk area is the very first opportunity for a library to give the public a positive impression that says the library user is the primary reason for opening the doors to the library. Typically, it is the first service point a person sees when entering a library. If a library user walks in the door and sees a random group of desks, shelves, or equipment thrown together to form a service area, he/she may get the impression that the collection or even management of the library is organized in a similar fashion. In preparation for this article, eight Mississippi libraries, both public (5) and academic (3), were toured to ask questions regarding best practice and to view the circulation service areas. We wanted to gather information to make recommendations in the design and layout of the circulation desk and its service points for the new USM Gulf Coast Library completed this August. Of the eight libraries visited, only three had newly designed circulation desk areas. The other five libraries we visited were all using older model or makeshift circulation furniture.

## GOOD, BAD AND UGLY

Two of the libraries visited were public libraries in the same county system. Both libraries had been remodeled at the same time within the last five years, and both shared similar designs in the circulation desk area. The desks were very open, with user access from at least two sides of the area. There was very little under-counter shelving, drawers, or other impediments to a comfortable working environment. Modular units were used for storage, files, and the necessary shelving for miscellaneous items. The units were very attractive in design, and the fabric covering the modules was coordinated

with the upholstery of the chairs' seat covering. Each had several shelves and one file drawer per unit. Circulation furnishings can be attractive as well as functional.

The third library we visited was located at a small private college. According to the director, the circulation desk furniture dated from the 1960's. While the library itself had a decent collection and appeared to offer excellent services to the casual observer, the circulation desk looked like a collection of old desks, tables, and odds and ends shoved together. The underside of the desk was almost completely enclosed with cabinetry and shelving, making it difficult for staff to work seated at the desk.

The fourth library we viewed was a fairly new public library built about five years ago. The circulation desk was designed as a circular unit very similar to desks found in many reference areas. There was a certain amount of built-in under-counter storage. However, most of the storage space consisted of mobile units for greater flexibility. There were work desks built into the design so that staff had adequate workspace. The only real problem with this desk was that certain parts were made of a thin metal that eventually began to buckle under heavy weight and was easily scratched and dented.

Library number five was an academic library with a very imposing and traditional circulation desk. The underside of the service counter was filled with drawers, cabinets, and assorted shelving, making it almost impossible for a staff member to sit at the desk and work during slow periods. The desk, while uncomfortable, was serviceable and accessible to users from two sides. The main drawback to the desk, aside from all the cabinetry, was large pillars blocking the view which made it difficult for staff members to see library users approaching the desk.

The last of the public libraries visited had a circulation desk that was tucked to the rear of the building, making it very inconvenient for users to check out items



or ask questions. The desk was in the process of being renovated and was of a circular design similar to one at another public library we had visited. The desk was made of wood with some shelving and drawers underneath, but with adequate work desks for staff incorporated into the design. The design looked very functional and efficient. The primary problem with this desk was the remote location.

The last academic library viewed had a circulation desk comprised of old metal army desks, with a few pieces of furniture that might actually have been designed as library circulation desk furniture. The desk was long, with access from only one side, and it was situated right next to the front door.

### LEARNING FROM THE PAST

Finding money to remodel any area of a library is difficult these days, let alone being able to move into a brand new building specifically designed to be a library. Many libraries tend to design their work areas around the building rather than designing the building around their work areas. And librarians have become very adept at making do with what is available. That was the situation in our old library. While we are due to move into a new building by the end of summer, we had to make do for the summer semester with the desk we have had for 30 years.

Our current library building was previously used as an art studio. After the library occupied the building for nearly ten years, it was remodeled. Little has been done to the building since the remodeling almost twenty years ago. The old circulation desk is comprised of a Brodart sectional desk combined with odds and ends that were built by the physical plant. There are two-high counters in the front with a number of additional short cabinets put together to form an "L" shaped desk. It certainly serves its function as a service point for library users, but it is not a very easy work area overall.

Due to the layout of the access services area, staff at the circulation desk need to sit on a tall stool to work at the circulation counter or sit with their backs to approaching library users when seated at the regular desk. Ergonomically, this is not a comfortable way to work for extended periods of time. And being seated with one's back to the service counter can mean you sometimes do not serve users as soon as they step up to the counter if you are busy working at the secondary desk. The short cabinets are completely enclosed, and the tall counter space is used as a shelf for storage or other equipment such as the book drop and computer towers. To add to the confusion, the reference desk is located right next to the circulation service area, and library users often get confused about where to check items out and where to ask reference questions.

### MAKING CHANGES

As our new library began to take shape, we reviewed plans for the access service area with particular attention given to the circulation desk and all its service points. The plans initially called for a very traditional "L" shaped wooden desk, tiered with three levels. The underside of the desk was filled with various cabinetry, shelves, and drawers. The new desk was very traditional and elegant but just as difficult to work at as the current desk.

The plans for the circulation area of the new library had been finalized for about a year when we began our research to write this article. After visiting and speaking with colleagues at other Mississippi libraries, we decided to make some changes to the desk to make it more staff friendly. In subsequent discussions, the biggest complaint we heard from our staff about the old desk was that they simply could not work along most of the old circulation desk because of the cabinetry, as there was no knee and leg space at all. So the first thing we wanted to remove was the majority of the under-counter shelving, cabinetry, and drawers.

We elected to go with modular storage

similar to units we had viewed at two of the public libraries. We also decided to incorporate mobile under-counter units for greater flexibility. Without sacrificing sufficient storage for our needs, this change left most of the underside of the desk free so staff would have plenty of counter space with knee room to work easily at any point along the desktop. Two built-in shelf units were left, but all of the original drawers, computer cubbies, and cabinets were removed.

Viewing access service areas and particularly the circulation desks around Mississippi was a very helpful and enlightening experience. As we began to ask questions and look at different designs and layouts of circulation desks, it was interesting to find the inherent strengths and weaknesses of each individual library. Traditional does not have to mean inflexible; old does not mean non-functional; and new does not mean perfect.

We received a number of excellent recommendations from colleagues that proved to be very beneficial when it came to evaluating the form and function of our circulation desk and service points.

1. Talk to the Access Services staff. Ask what they like and dislike about the current desk layout and design.
2. Determine how the desk will be used by both staff and library users.
3. Decide what features should remain, what should go, and what you would like to have.
4. Decide what kind of storage units you prefer: built-in cabinets or roll-out units, or a combination of both.
5. Discuss the purpose of the circulation desk and the impression you want to give.
6. Anticipate your future needs and how you may want to incorporate them into the desk design.
7. How functional is the circulation desk; is it designed and positioned to maximize all service points?
8. Do you have a special service point for physically disabled library users?



# Traveling Trunks: Bringing Mississippi Museum Collections To Your Library

By Donnelle Scott

Information Services Librarian

USM Gulf Coast Library

The University of Southern Mississippi

[donnelle.scott@usm.edu](mailto:donnelle.scott@usm.edu)

Great educational tools are not always found in books or on computers; sometimes they are found in traveling trunks. Museums throughout Mississippi offer a grand assortment of artifacts, activities and lesson plans, bringing Mississippi's museum collections to students, from preschool to adult. Trunks covering topics on general and Mississippi-related history, culture, art, and science are sent to educators free of charge, except for the cost of shipping, anywhere in the state for most kinds of programs. School librarians can direct classroom teachers to museum trunk programs around the state, and public libraries can use the trunks and kits for children and young adult reading programs.

## UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS TRUNK PROGRAM

The University Museums at Oxford, Mississippi house impressive collections in the classic fields of archaeology, art, anthropology, decorative arts, and history, as well as in science and technology. Highlights include the D. M. Robinson Collection of Greek and Roman Antiquities, the Millington-Barnard Collection of 19th-century scientific instruments, and collections of American southern, West African and Caribbean folk art.

Like the Museums' collections, the trunk program encompasses a variety of topics including African Masks, 19th-Century Life, Mississippi Folk Art, and Space Science. Several trunks are designed for the pre-kindergarten level. They include Art, Cooking, Dramatic Play and Manipulatives. The Museums work with educators in choosing trunk contents, which include lesson plans, activities, artifacts, and games, and are adaptable for students

at any learning level.

Trunk presentations are available free to teachers, librarians, scout leaders, and others within a hundred-mile radius of Oxford, Mississippi. Educators who live at greater distances check out the trunks and arrange for transportation, or the Museum will mail the trunk at a cost of \$15.00.

For additional trunk topics or to arrange for a trunk, visit the Museums site at [http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/u\\_museums/education.htm](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/u_museums/education.htm) or contact Chandra Williams, Museum Educator, at (662) 915-7205.

## MISSISSIPPI HANDS-ON HISTORY

The Old Capitol Museum in Jackson, Mississippi is managed by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and is one of the first in the nation to be accredited by the American Association of Museums. Its collections document Mississippi history from prehistory to the Civil War and Reconstruction, from Mississippi's civil rights struggle to the present.

Funded by a grant from the Phil Hardin Foundation, Mississippi Hands-on History is one of a variety of educational programs offered by the Museum. The programs are free to schools and libraries throughout the state. The trunks meet the standards of the Mississippi Social Studies Framework, and are built around a specific topic of Mississippi history – Prehistoric Archaeology and Mississippi, Native Americans, European Explorers, and Africans in Colonial Mississippi. A Mississippi artist, Walter Anderson, is the subject of two trunks, one for primary grades and one for high school students. The trunks contain a five-day lesson plan, reproduction artifacts, reference materials, activities, and video or audiotapes; the contents of the trunk may vary depending on the topic and the materials used. The lessons that accompany the trunks are designed as one-to-two week units and are available in

the fall from August to November and in the spring from January to May. Trunks are sent out the week prior to the teaching of the unit so that teachers have time to prepare lessons with the contents. The only expense is payment for return shipping via UPS, and insurance, which ranges from \$10 to \$20.

For more information, call David Morgan at (601) 359-6920, or visit the Web site at <http://www.mdah.state.ms.us>.

## LYNN MEADOWS DISCOVERY CENTER

Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, located in Gulfport, Mississippi, was recently named one of *Child Magazine's* top 50 children's museums in the country. The Center opened in May 1998, and has since enjoyed national recogni-



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tion for its ongoing programs, special events and in-depth performing arts program.

"Celebrate the World We Share - China" is a new permanent exhibit at the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, and is accompanied by a trunk program. The program complements the exhibit, which is on display for the rest of this year. The Center offers two kinds of trunk programs for elementary grades. One is a two-week program based on the actual Discovery Center exhibit and is designed to be coordinated with classroom study. The trunks include costumes, masks, stories, games, and hands-on activities. Teachers attend a training workshop where they get ideas on how to incorporate the trunk materials into their lesson plans. The workshops usually take place in August, and teachers get the trunks for two weeks for a \$100 fee. Contact the Center at (228) 897-6039 for more information.

Additional trunks available at the Discovery Center are part of a series of shows created by WINGS Performing Arts Director Tonya Hays. The one-hour shows incorporate music, puppetry, and short plays based on Chinese legends and tales. The shows, *Fishing for the Moon*,

*Fables of the Chinese Zodiac*, and *The Bag of Fire*, are grade-specific.

To find out more or to schedule a trunk show, contact Tonya Hays at (228) 897-6039, ext. 22.

### MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

With its realistic exhibits and life-size habitats, the Museum of Natural Science in Jackson, Mississippi is a great place to experience the rich variety of fish and wildlife of Mississippi, both past and present. Not only does the museum boast a new spacious building, which opened in March 2000, but they also offer a loan program of kits for use in classrooms and libraries throughout the state.

Object kit topics include "Mammal Skulls: Tattletale Teeth," "Animal Tracks and Signs," "Butterflies," and "Fossils: Chapters in Stone," to name only a few. Each kit contains handouts and lesson plans that correspond to the science curriculum outlined in the Mississippi Science Framework. Both kits and videos should be scheduled several weeks in advance, and may be borrowed for a two-week period.

Contact Heather Sullivan at (601) 354-7303 for more details, or visit the

Museum on the Web at <<http://www.mdwfp.com/museum/html/education/loans.asp>>.

### MUSEUM IN THE SCHOOLS

Each year, more than 35,000 visitors drive to Laurel, Mississippi to explore the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art's collections of European and American art, Native American baskets, and 18th and 19th-century Japanese woodblock prints. Through its Museum in the Schools program, LRMA offers resources to educators throughout the state, and trunks have been sent to teachers as far away as South Carolina.

The Museum's Art Trunks focus on basic art principles and include trunks on color mixing, printmaking, basket weaving, and Mississippi artists. Each trunk contains paint and other materials for hands-on activities. The only cost for use of the traveling trunks is return shipping. Trunks are usually borrowed for ten days, but longer loan periods can be arranged if necessary.

Contact Mark Brown at (601) 649-6374 for more information on this or other educational programs, or visit the LRMA site at <http://www.lrma.org/education.html>.

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# Art and Books: A School and Public Library Joint Venture

## "Color the World with Books"

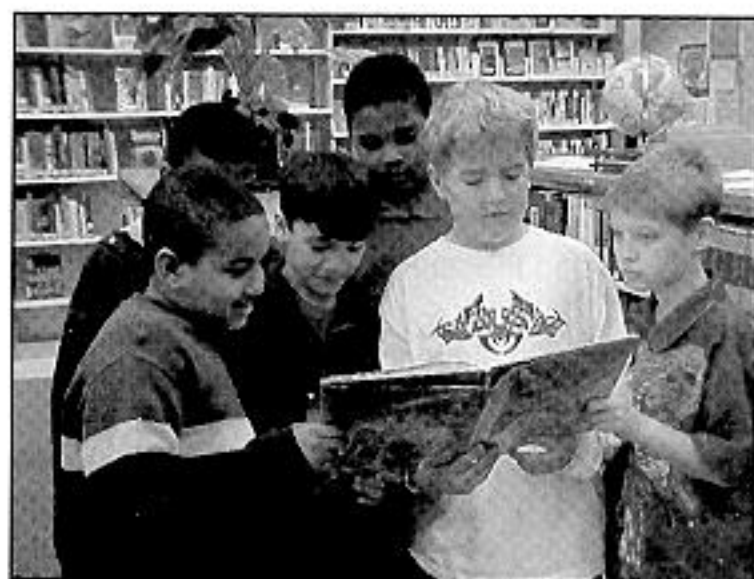
By Andrea Kyzar  
Branch Manager,  
Pearlington Public Library  
Hancock County Library System  
[akyzar@hancock.lib.ms.us](mailto:akyzar@hancock.lib.ms.us)

For three years, the Pearlington community, students and teachers at Charles B. Murphy Elementary School have enjoyed the Pearlington Public Library, the product of a partnership between the Hancock County Library System and Hancock County School District (see Plauché, Prima, "Pearlington Public Library: A Joint Use School/Library Facility" *Mississippi Libraries* 64:3 (Fall 2000) p. 81-82). The joint-use facility provides access to tens of thousands of books in the System's collection, periodicals and online databases. In addition, interlibrary loan and information services are provided.

### CONCEPT AND PLANNING

In January, 2002, Virginia Brooks, the Charles B. Murphy Elementary School librarian, and I, a former teacher and Pearlington Public Library branch manager, embarked on another joint venture: incorporating art and books for the students of the school. Brooks and I noticed how much the children looked forward to craft activities and opportunities to draw, paint, or create when they were in the library. We brainstormed ideas to combine the children's love of art and crafts with children's literature and art instruction.

Using a series of instructional videos from Mississippi Educational Television called *Posie Paints*, the concepts of color, line, shape, form, texture, and composition were introduced each week during the program. A story and an art activity employing the art concept followed in the same week. The six-week program was called "Color Your World with Books."



Students of the fourth grade class at Charles B. Murphy Elementary School participate in checking out books on art.

Easy and juvenile fiction and non-fiction were pulled from the shelves at the Pearlington Branch and from other branches to complement the art theme, the concepts to be explored and the artists to be highlighted. Not only was it important to expose the students to artistic concepts, but we also wanted to introduce students to celebrated artists such as Monet, Matisse, Picasso, and Pollock. Together we scoured through our books and the Internet to devise various art activities that encompassed what the students would learn about each concept every week.

### LESSONS AND PROGRAMMING

During the first week of the project, students learned about lines and practiced using Ed Emberley's drawing books. The second week, students worked on shape and form with tangrams using basic cut outs of circles, squares, rectangles and triangles put together to form recognizable objects such as people, buildings, animals, and scenes. *Bonjour Mr. Satie*, a children's book using Picasso and Matisse as characters, by Tomie de

Paola and *A Blue Butterfly: a Story About Monet* by Bijou le Tord were read to the students. Examples of these artists' works were introduced to the children.

The students learned about color during the third week. There were readings from *Hailstones and Halibut Bones*, a book of poetry about colors, for the older students and *Rainbow Fish* for the younger students. The children mixed different colors of "scratch and sniff" watercolor paints together (see box for recipe), painted pictures, and made Peacock color wheels (see Web site <<http://www.kidsdomain.com/craft/clrwheel.html>>).

During the fourth week, the children learned about texture through the picture books of Ezra Jack Keats and Eric Carle. They made rubbings from a variety of textured objects found around the library and put together collages using different textured papers and fabrics. For the fifth week of art instruction, students learned about portraits, landscapes, and still life, and were encouraged to employ one of those approaches when designing their



Children from the third grade of Charles B. Murphy Elementary School working on their art portfolios.



cover for their art book. During the sixth week of library classes, time was set aside for students to make up any art project for which they were absent or to finish or embellish any work from the prior weeks.

### ART SHOW

The six weeks of art instruction and activities culminated in an "Art Show" where students showed off their "portfolios." Mrs. Brooks bound the children's works of art together using a binding machine provided by the school. The Art Show was put on in conjunction with RIF (Reading is Fundamental) week at the school, where every student receives a free book. Author Cecilia Dartez from New Orleans, Louisiana, best known for her "Jenny Giraffe" books, was invited to give a book talk and celebrate the culmination of the art program. Louie St. Louis the Alligator, the Hancock County Library System's mascot, and Clifford the Big Red Dog (dressed up as an artist, complete with painter's smock and beret) were also on hand to celebrate the exhibition of student art. Louie, the library mascot, and Clifford handed out RIF bookmarks and library-donated bags of goodies such as little watercolor paint palettes and brushes and coloring sheets.

Students, teachers, parents, and Pearlinton residents all had an enjoyable day at their local library, viewing the students' art, reading and checking out books about art and artists, chatting with Dartez and having their copies of her books signed.

Through communication, commitment to teaching, learning, and reading, and dedication to the Pearlinton community and the students of Charles B. Murphy Elementary, the public library and the public school came together to promote literacy and art and all of the wonderful, endless possibilities that can result.

### SCRATCH AND SNIFF WATERCOLORS RECIPE

Taken from *The Ultimate Book of Kid Concoctions*, page 12, by John E. Thomas and Danita Pagel, The Kid Concoctions Company, 1998.

1 Tbs. unsweetened powdered drink mix

1 Tbs. warm water

Several small containers (we found styrofoam egg cartons work well and the book also suggests muffin tins)

1. Mix water and unsweetened drink mix together in a small bowl. Repeat this step several times, using various flavors of drink mix to create different colors of paint.
2. Allow finished works to dry overnight before scratching and sniffing.

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Thomas, John E. and Danita Pagel. *The Ultimate Book of Kid Concoctions*. The Kid Concoctions Company, 1998.



# Author, Awards, National Speakers, Opportunities and Fun Abound At the 2002 MLA Conference

## *Libraries: Making a Difference in Mississippi*

The Mississippi Library Association's 2002 conference program offers authors, awards, national speakers, and opportunities to learn, succeed, and build better library programs while networking with colleagues and friends.

More than forty workshops, meetings, programs, tours, and demonstrations designed for Mississippi's diverse library community are scheduled during October 16-18 at the Hattiesburg Lake Terrace Convention Center. (See pre-program in this issue.) But a conference is not just about professional development and continuing education. Entertainment and social functions abound, and early bird benefits are planned for conferees arriving on the evening of Tuesday, October 15.

The official conference hotel, Cabot Lodge, provides a serene retreat setting for conferees during their stay in Hattiesburg. Take advantage of the MLA conference rates with Cabot Lodge and book up to four occupants per room at the tax-exempt government rate of \$55 per night. Those not covered by the state rate can book up to four room occupants for \$59 per night plus applicable taxes. A daily complimentary breakfast bar and evening complimentary cocktail reception are part of the Cabot Lodge registration package.

An early-bird conference reception begins at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October

15, at the Cabot Lodge. Persons pre-registered for the conference can pick up their registration packet and final program schedule between 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the hotel. Members of the Conference Registration and Hospitality committees will be on hand to provide information and assistance to conferees arriving on Tuesday. Early birds will have the opportunity to register for a cash drawing to be held at 7:30 p.m.

The Sponsor Showcase opens at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday with coffee, refreshments, prizes and another cash drawing. A wine and cheese party is scheduled during a no conflict time on Wednesday to thank our sponsors whose purchase of exhibit space underwrites the majority of the conference costs. Jimmy "Buffer" Anderson and the Past President's Has Been (Better) Band playing their greatest hits is the featured entertainment. The MLA Exhibits Committee is host for this not to be missed event in the Sponsor Showcase exhibition hall.

The President's Reception is scheduled Wednesday evening on the convention center's beautiful Lakeside Terrace. The reception honors 2002 MLA President Dr. Terry Latour and special guest Dr. Robert Martin, Director of the Institute of Museums and Libraries. KAISO! will provide music and entertainment.

An ice-cream social sponsored by

Library Interiors, Inc. is scheduled during a no conflict time Thursday afternoon. Visit booths and exhibits while the Membership Committee serves ice cream in the Sponsor Showcase exhibition hall.

On Thursday evening following the Mississippi Author's Awards, put an O' in front of your name, wear the green and head back to the Lodge to enjoy food, drink and the Irish music of Jim Flanagan during "Jigs and Reels," hosted by the New Members Roundtable and the USM School of Library and Information Science. Alumni are especially invited!

The pre-conference program in this issue of *Mississippi Libraries* provides an overview of the 2002 conference made possible by MLA members who have given their time and talent on behalf of our Association. By the time you receive this issue of *ML*, conference planners will have confirmed programs and speakers and the MLA Conference Committees will have finalized food, fun and logistics.

Your job is to block out three days from your busy schedule, make your reservations, send in your registration form, and budget some funds to take advantage of this not to be missed event. For more information, visit the MLA's web site <http://www.lib.usm.edu/~mla/home.html> or contact Prima Plauché at [pplauche@hancock.lib.ms.us](mailto:pplauche@hancock.lib.ms.us).

## Join MLA!

**Fill out and return the membership form located on the inside back cover of *Mississippi Libraries* and see how libraries make a difference throughout Mississippi.**



# Mississippi Library Association 2002 Annual Conference

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- 24 Hour Coffee Service in main living area
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## Reservation Information 800-225-9429

When you make your reservations, be sure to tell the reservation clerk that you are with the  
"Mississippi Library Association Conference."  
(On-line reservations do not qualify for the negotiated rates.)

### NEGOTIATED CONFERENCE RATE

**\$59** (+7% state and 2% local tax) (Single/Double/Triple/Quad Occupancy)

### STATE/GOVERNMENT RATE

**\$55** (Must provide proof of tax exemption)

- Cash or major credit card accepted. Only government related checks. No personal checks.
- Direct bill requires agency purchase order and credit application. Credit application must be pre-approved by General Manager at phone, fax and address above.

**ROOM OPTIONS:** King size bed with single sofa sleeper (accommodates up to 3 occupants @ no additional charge)  
Two double beds (accommodates up to 4 occupants @ no additional charge)  
Specify smoking or non-smoking

### DEADLINE:

Make your reservations early!

Reservations received after **Tuesday, October 1, 2002**,  
will be provided on a space available basis.

If you require special assistance, please advise the reservations clerk.

**Check-In Time: 2:00 p.m. • Check-Out Time: 12:00 noon**

All late check-outs must be approved by sales department.

For more information, contact your Local Arrangement Chairs

Ann Branton @ USM (601) 266-4350  
Email: [Ann.Branton@usm.edu](mailto:Ann.Branton@usm.edu)

OR

Linda McKay @ Hancock County Library System  
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# LIBRARIES: *Making a Difference in Mississippi*

October 16-18, 2002  
Hattiesburg Lake Terrace Convention Center  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

## Preliminary Conference Program

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2002

2:00 p.m. HOST HOTEL CHECK-IN @ THE CABOT LODGE

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **EARLY BIRD RECEPTION/  
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**  
*Hosted by 2002 Conference Hospitality and Registration Committees*

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2002

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **REGISTRATION**  
Hattiesburg Convention Center Lobby

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. **MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BOARD  
MEETING**  
Executive Conference Room  
Dr. Terry Latour, MLA President, Presiding

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **MAGNOLIA DATABASE TRAINING**  
Lamar I & II Ticket Required  
*Sponsored by the Magnolia Training Committee*  
Catherine Nathan, First Regional Library System, Presiding

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. **TOUR #1: USM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS  
DIGITAL LAB**  
**TOUR #2: TREASURES OF THE de GRUMMOND  
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION**  
**TOUR #3: THE LIBRARY OF HATTIESBURG**

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AND  
NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK COMMITTEE  
MEETING**  
Forrest I

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **WHAT'S NEW AT USM'S SLIS**  
Garden Room  
*Sponsored by USM's School of Library and Information Science*  
Dr. Thomas D. Walker, SLIS Director, Presiding

Forrest II  
**PAY EQUITY FOR LIBRARIANS**  
*Sponsored by The Mississippi Library Association*  
Billy Beal, Meridian Community College, Presiding

# mla



Dr. Thomas D. Walker





Steve Bearden



Dr. Joe Cornelius



Deborah Wiles



Tammy Bridenbeck

**11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. SPONSOR SHOWCASE GRAND OPENING**

Exhibit Halls A &amp; C

Dr. Terry Latour, MLA President, Presiding

**Internet Café** opens, sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing, Bruce Davis, Representative**Scholarship Silent Auction** bidding begins

Wendy and Paul Cartwright, Copiah-Jefferson Regional Library System, Chairs

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. LUNCHEON PROGRAMS**

Lakeview II Ticket Required

**SOFT SKILLS: CREATE A BETTER WORKPLACE***Sponsored by the MLA ACRL Section*

Steve Bearden speaks on enhancing desirable work traits

Gretchen W. Cook, Belhaven College, Presiding

Lakeview I Ticket Required

**"HATS" OFF TO HISTORY***Sponsored by the MLA Black Caucus Roundtable (BCRT)*

Dr. Joe Cornelius presents an inspiring one-man show

Theresa B. Akbar-Ellison, Hinds Community College, Presiding

Exhibit Hall B Ticket Required

**YOUTH SERVICES DAY @ MLA AUTHOR LUNCHEON***Sponsored by the MLA Young People's Services Roundtable (YPSRT) and the MLA School Library Section (SLS)*

Young Adult Author Deborah Wiles, guest speaker.

YPSRT Chair Melissa Wright, MLC and SLS Chair Dee Dee Long, Pearl Lower Elementary School, Presiding

**1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. GET ORGANIZED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Lamar I

*Sponsored by the MLA Educational Communications and Technology Roundtable (ECTRT)*

Professional Organizer Tammy Bridenbeck, Presenter

Susan Prendergast, Hancock County Library System, Presiding

Forrest II

**FIRST IMPRESSIONS: SLIS STUDENT PAPER PRESENTATIONS***Sponsored by Gale, the MLA New Members Roundtable (NMRT) & Beta Phi Mu*

Carol Green and Mary Hamilton, USM, Presiding

Forrest I

**ERIC CLEARINGHOUSE ON RURAL EDUCATION AND SMALL SCHOOLS***Sponsored by MLA ECTRT*

Robert Hagerman, Technology Services Specialist, Presenter

Otho Keys, South Jones High School, Presiding

**1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. TALKING AND SWAPPING WITH COLEEN SALLEY: A YOUTH SERVICES SWAP SHOP & AUTOGRAPHING SESSION**

Garden Room

*Sponsored by the MLA Young People Services Roundtable (YPSRT) and School Library Section (SLS)*

YPSRT Chair Melissa Wright, MLC, and Swap Shop Chair Victoria Penny, First Regional Library System, Presiding

Lamar II

**PRIVATE ACADEMIC LIBRARIES OF MS DIRECTORS MEETING**

Tom Henderson, Millsaps College, Presiding



**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. POSTER SESSIONS I**

Lakeview Prefunction

**The Templeton Sheet Music Collection of Mississippi State University**

Elizabeth Urbanik, MSU, Presenter

**Public Libraries Offer Homeland Security Information Centers**

Rex Bridges, Jackson-George Regional Library System, Presenter

**Successful Merger of Cataloging and Acquisitions in the SIRSI UNICORN System**

Ann Branton and Tracy Englert, USM, Presenters

**Marketing Libraries to New Students: Freshman Previews at USM**

Carol Green, Peggy Price, Shirlene Stogner, USM, Presenters

Lakeview Prefunction

**STUDENT POSTER SESSION I****To Join or Not To Join MLA: USM SLIS Students and the Mississippi Library Association**

Sheila Cork, 2002 graduate, USM SLIS

**Politics, Religion, Images and Abortion: Do Internet Filters Block Controversial Sources of Information?**

Shugana Campbell, Catharine Holliday and Greg Johnson, USM, Presenters

**3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. AFTERNOON WITH TEA AND AUTHORS**

Exhibit Hall B

*Sponsored by the Friends of Mississippi Libraries*

This year's authors include: Patti Carr Black and Marion Barnwell, *Touring Literary Mississippi*; Alan Brown, *Haunted Places in the American South*; and Mary Carol Miller, *Lost Landmarks of Mississippi*. Auto-graphing session to follow.

Frances Delmas, President, Friends of Mississippi Libraries, Presiding

**4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. SPONSOR SHOWCASE PARTY (No Conflict Time)**

Exhibit Halls A &amp; C

*Sponsored by the Mississippi Library Association; hosted by the 2002 MLA Conference Exhibits Committee*

Entertainment provided by Jimmy "Buffer" Anderson and the Past Presidents' Has-Been (Better) Band performing their greatest hits.

**5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION**

Lake Terrace Patio

*Sponsored by Sirsi, Sun Microsystems, Inc. and the Mississippi Library Association*

Honoring Dr. Terry Latour, 2002 Mississippi Library Association President and special guest, Dr. Robert S. Martin, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Entertainment provided by KAISO!

**DINNER ON YOUR OWN****THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2002****7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. REGISTRATION**

Hattiesburg Convention Center Lobby

**8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. SPONSOR SHOWCASE OPENS**

Exhibit Halls A &amp; C

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. - Coffee with the Exhibitors; cash drawing

**8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. LIBRARY SECURITY IN AN UNSECURE WORLD**

Lamar I &amp; II

Ticket Required

*Breakfast sponsored by the MLA Two Year Colleges Roundtable (ZYCRT)*

Theresa B. Ekbar-Ellison, Hinds Community College, Presiding



Patti Carr Black



Marion Barnwell



Alan Brown



Mary Carol Miller





Susan Silk



Barton Spencer

**8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Lakeview I

Ticket Required

**POSITIONING YOUR LIBRARY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE***Sponsored by Public Library/Trustee Section*

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. - Registration and free Continental Breakfast.

A national communications expert takes you through the steps to becoming an effective spokesperson, developing your message and getting your message heard.

Susan Silk, President, MSI Strategic Communications, Presenter  
David Woodburn, Hancock County Library System, and Randy Sherard, Warren County Trustee, Presiding**9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.**

Forrest I

**MISSISSIPPI FUNNEL PROJECT: MISSISSIPPI PARTICIPATES IN NACO***Sponsored by the Mississippi Funnel Project Co-Operative*

Presenters: Kathleen Wells, Suzanne Graham, Tracy Englert, USM; Katie Dugan, MVSU; Sheryl Stump, Rick Torgerson, DSU.

Ann Branton, USM, Presiding

Lakeview II

**INFORMATION LITERACY IN MISSISSIPPI K-U***Sponsored by the MLA Information Literacy Committee*

Mary Beth Applin, USM, Presiding

Executive Conference Room

**CREATE YOUR OWN STREAMING VIDEO***Sponsored by the MLA Library Instruction Roundtable (LIRT)*

Barton Spencer, USM, Instructor

Shirlene Stogner, USM, Presiding

**9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

Lakeview Prefunction

**POSTER SESSION II****The Making of the Dancing Rabbit Library Consortium**

Annie M. Payton, Mantra Henderson, James Herbert White Library, MVSU

**Linux: An Alternate Operating System for Libraries**

Bobby H. Fugitt, MUW

**Thinking About Reference Linking**

Jill E. Grogg, MSU

**STUDENT POSTER SESSION II****Composers' Attitudes toward the Collection of their Personal Papers and Sketches**

Greg Johnson, USM SLIS

**The Performance of Accelerated Reader Schools on the Mississippi Reference Test**

Cindy Harper, USM SLIS

**10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Ticket Required

**GODORT TOUR & ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING***Sponsored by the MLA Government Documents Roundtable*

10:15 - 11:00 a.m. - Tour of USM's Cook Library begins in lobby.

11:00 - 11:30 a.m. - Annual Business Meeting in Room 123

Danielle A. Terrell, ASU, Presiding

**10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Forrest II

**FOCUS ON USM'S SLIS ALUMNI AND EMPLOYERS***Sponsored by USM School of Library and Information Science*

Dr. Thomas D. Walker, SLIS Director, Presiding

**11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Exhibit Halls A &amp; C

**VISIT THE SPONSOR SHOWCASE (No Conflict Time)**

New products, books, demonstrations, drawings, prizes.

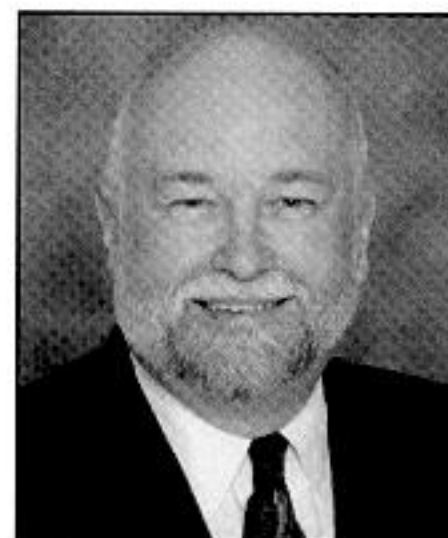
**Internet Café** sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing**Scholarship Silent Auction** bidding 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. LIBRARIES: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MISSISSIPPI**

**2002 Keynote Luncheon**

Exhibit Hall B Ticket Required Dr. Robert S. Martin, Director, Institute of Museums and Libraries  
Dr. Terry Latour, MLA President, Presiding



*Dr. Robert S. Martin*

**1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. POSTER SESSION III**

Lakeview Prefunction

***What do they really think of us? Feedback from Library Users***

Kay L. Wall, Rebecca Grey Campbell, USM, Presenters

***New Directions in Library Services for Theses and Dissertations***

Lona Hoover, Bob Wolverton, Susan Hall, MSU, Presenters

***A Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with Just One Step - Lessons Learned in Planning and Construction of the New USM Gulf Coast Library***

Kathy Davis, Vickie Gordon and Edward McCormack, USM, Presenters

Lakeview I

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIBRARY'S IMAGE**

*Sponsored by MLA Public Library/Trustee Section*

*Former News Editor and producer, Susan Silk, Presenter*

David Woodburn, Hancock County Library System, and Randy Sherard, Warren County Trustee, Presiding

Garden Room

**BETA PHI MU LEADERSHIP FORUM & 2002 INITIATION**

*Sponsored by Beta Phi Mu & USM SLIS*

Dr. Robert S. Martin, National Beta Phi Mu, Guest Speaker

Annual business meeting to follow ceremony.

Carol Green, USM, Presiding



*Charles Heim*

**2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. PUTTING THE FUN INTO FUNDRAISING**

Executive Conference Room

*Sponsored by the MLA Publicity Committee*

Charles Heim, FAHP, Presenter

Mary Perkins, Hancock County Library System, Presiding

**3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ICE CREAM SOCIAL (No Conflict Time)**

Exhibit Halls A & C

*Sponsored by Library Interiors, Inc.; hosted by the MLA Membership Committee*

**3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. BEYOND BOOKPLATES: RECOGNIZING YOUR DONORS**

Executive Conference Room

*Sponsored by the MLA Publicity Committee*

Andrew Forsythe President Forsythe-Bass, Presenter

Mary Perkins, Hancock County Library System, Presiding



*Andrew Forsythe*

Lamar II

**DREAM TO REALITY: ATTRACTING & MANAGING VOLUNTEERS**

*Sponsored by the MLA Public Library Section*

Alice Shands, Librarian and Certified Volunteer Manager, Presenter

Linda Tufaro, Pearl River County Library System, Presiding

Lamar I

**CRMDA: GRANTING ACCESS TO THE PAST**

*Sponsored by the MLA Conservation Committee and the Special Collections Roundtable (SCRT).*

Presenters: Dr. P. Toby Graham, Peggy M. Price and Diane Ross, USM

Mary Hamilton, Peggy M. Price and Diane Ross, USM, Presiding



*Dr. P. Toby Graham,  
Peggy M. Price and  
Diane Ross*

Forrest I

**EPIXTECH USER'S GROUP**

Susan Cassagne, Homochitto Library System, Presiding





Scott Brunner



Bill Fitzhugh



Jim Flanagan



Robert Latham

Lakeview I

**SIRSI USER'S GROUP**

Marty Coleman, First Regional Library System, Presiding

Forrest II

**THE LIBRARY CORPORATION: TLC**

Gerry Davies, The Learning Corporation, Presenter

Max Johnson, Jackson-George Regional Library, Presiding

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall B

**MLA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP & BUSINESS MEETING**

Dr. Terry Latour, Presiding

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall B Ticket Required

**2002 MISSISSIPPI AUTHORS' AWARD BANQUET***Sponsored by the MLA Author's Award Committee*Nonfiction Award Winner Scott Brunner, *Due South*Fiction Award Winner Bill Fitzhugh, *Cross Dressing*

MLA pays tribute to two outstanding Mississippi authors who will delight and entertain you with their award acceptance speeches. Autograph session to follow.

Sara E. Morris, MSU, and Allison Mays, Millsaps College, Presiding

8:30 p.m. until

Cabot Lodge

**JIGS & REELS: AN IRISH EVENING WITH JIM FLANAGAN***Sponsored by Gale, MLA New Members Roundtable (NMRT) & the USM School of Library and Information Science*

Jeff Slagell, DSU, Presiding

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2002**7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION**

Hattiesburg Convention Center Lobby

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Forrest II Ticket Required

**PAST PRESIDENT'S BREAKFAST**

Henry Ledet, MLA President 2001, Presiding

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Garden Room Ticket Required

**DISASTER/HOMELAND SECURITY: HOW PREPARED ARE YOU?***Breakfast sponsored by the MLA Special Libraries Section*

Robert Latham, Director of Mississippi Emergency Management, Presenter

Indira Bhowal, MLC, Presiding

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Lamar I

**THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE IN TECHNICAL PROCESSING***Sponsored by the MLA Technical Services Roundtable (TSRT)*

Robert Hulshof-Schmidt of SOLINET, Presenter

Suzanne Grafton, Meridian Community College, Presiding

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Lakeview I

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR FUTURE****Investing in Your Future** 9:00-11:00 a.m.*Sponsored by the MLA Fiscal Management Committee*

Robert Heaslip, Mississippi Public Employee Retirement System, Presenter

Linda McKay, Hancock County Library System, Presiding

Lakeview II

**Insuring Your Future** 11:00-11:30 a.m.*Sponsored by the MLA Insurance Committee*

Margarita Standford, Dental Dental Insurance, AFLAC, Presenter

Richard O. Greene, Mid-Mississippi Regional Lib. Sys., Presiding



Lamar II

**Making a Difference with Publicity***Sponsored by Friends of Mississippi Libraries**Business Meeting to follow*

Carole Kelly, Communications Manager, Presenter

Frances Delmas, President, Friends of Miss. Libraries, Presiding

**10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING**

Pine Belt Suite

David Woodburn, Hancock County Library System, Presiding

**Immediately followed by****Public Library Director's Discussion Group**

Diane Schule, Marshall County Library, Presiding

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. MLA 2002 Awards Luncheon**

Exhibit Hall B

Ticket Required

Dr. Terry Latour, MLA President, Presiding

Ruth Ann Gibson, Awards Chairman

*Robert Heaslip**Margarita Standford**Carole Kelly*



# MLA Mississippi Authors Awards: 2002 Winners



## NONFICTION: R. SCOTT BRUNNER, *DUE SOUTH*

**R. Scott Brunner** is a commentator on Public Radio in Mississippi and national Public Radio's *All Things Considered*. He is a Bessemer, Alabama, native and a graduate of the University of Montevallo and Auburn University at Montgomery. Currently, he is an association executive in Jackson, Mississippi. During his childhood, Brunner spent many hours on his grandparents' small farm near Parrish, Alabama, where he picked vegetables, fished with his grandfather, ate his grandmother's "Southern fried" home cooking, and took part in other activities typical of life in the American South. These experiences, as well as others involving Brunner's life with his wife and young children, form the basis for the essays that appear in *Due South* (1999). In the words of Pat Conroy, "He's much too young to know so much, but he sees things deeply and reports them to us with great style and wit and honesty." Brunner is also the author of *Carryin' On: And Other Strange Things Southerners Do*, which was published in 2001.



## FICTION: BILL FITZHUGH, *CROSS DRESSING*

**Bill Fitzhugh** grew up in Jackson, Mississippi, and now lives in Los Angeles, California. Fitzhugh's writing career began in high school as a Junior Achievement Program participant when he wrote and narrated a series of radio programs tracing the history of various rock and roll bands. After high school and a stint in the U. S. Virgin Islands, Fitzhugh attended Belhaven College and The University of Southern Mississippi; he eventually graduated from the University of Washington. Fitzhugh worked in radio as a disc jockey and program director and also wrote for, performed in, produced, and syndicated a radio program. In addition to writing for radio, Fitzhugh has also written television scripts and screenplays, including *Pest Control*, which he later transformed into a novel. *Pest Control* was published in 1997, and Fitzhugh's other works include *The Organ Grinders* (1998), *Cross Dressing* (2000) and *Fender Benders* (2001). *Cross Dressing* is a comic study of organized religion, the advertising industry, and the consumer habits of modern society.

## Mark Your Calendar

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| September 21-28, 2002 ..... | Banned Books Week                           |
| October 13-19, 2002 .....   | Teen Read Week                              |
| October 16-18, 2002 .....   | MLA Annual Conference, Hattiesburg, MS      |
| October 23-25, 2002 .....   | SELA Annual Conference, Charleston, SC      |
| November 18-24, 2002 .....  | Children's Book Week                        |
| January 24-29, 2003 .....   | ALA Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia, PA     |
| March 6-8, 2003 .....       | PLA Spring Symposium, Chicago, IL           |
| June 19-23, 2003 .....      | ALA/CLA Annual Conference, Toronto, Ontario |



# About the 2002 MLA Mississippi Authors Awards Books

**Brunner, R. Scott.** *Due South*. New York: Random House, 1999. 151 pp. \$19.95 hardcover.

The Mississippi Library Association has named *Due South* by R. Scott Brunner as the recipient of the 2002 Authors Award for Nonfiction. • *Due South* combines respect and value of Southerners and their traditions with warm and delightful humor. An Alabama native now living in Jackson, Mississippi, Scott Brunner understands the importance of the Southern family's need for roots and relationships.

Sharing his countless childhood memories, from fishing with his grandfather to eating his grandmother's fried apple pies, Brunner offers unforgettable essays about Southern life, relationships, culture and language. Throughout this collection of essays, Brunner offers informative explanations for readers who live "outside the southern regions." He tactfully explains how the southern disclaimer "Bless your heart!" displays a gracious manner for delivering a cutting insult. He offers various reasons concerning how many southern towns such as Eastaboga or Nitta Yuma derived their names and pronunciations.

What Southern child has not misinterpreted songs sung at church? Brunner explains how the pronunciations of a Southern congregation, particularly a country Southern congregation, have confused many a young child. When "Andy he walks with me, Andy talks with me" or "Gladly the Cross-eyed Bear" are sung with zest and vigor, what else is a child to think? Humor is no stranger to Scott Brunner, who is a commentator on Public Radio in Mississippi and National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*.

He recognizes the value of a good story as he brings alive the importance of family lineage and roots. His array of humorous stories is unforgettable. His insight into the details of everyday Southern life is wiser than his years.

*Due South* is a well-written work of warm humor and insight. It is recommended for collections in every Mississippi library. This book will appeal to true Southerners and "would-be" Southerners alike.

**Donna Phelps Fite**

*Branch Librarian*

*Purvis Public Library*

*Lamar County Library System*

**Fitzhugh, Bill.** *Cross Dressing*. New York: William Morrow, 2000. 338 pp. \$24.00 hardcover.

The Mississippi Library Association has named *Cross Dressing* by Bill Fitzhugh as the recipient of the 2002 Authors Award for Fiction. *Cross Dressing* is a comic, often-irreverent examination of organized religion, the advertising industry, and the consumer excesses of modern society. Bill Fitzhugh's previous novels are *Pest Control* (1997), *The Organ Grinders* (1998), and *Fender Benders* (2001). Fitzhugh spent his early years in Jackson, Mississippi, and currently resides in Los Angeles, California.

In *Cross Dressing*, a series of bizarre events bring together Dan Steele and Sister Peg. Dan Steele is a stereotypical Los Angeles advertising executive in his thirties with a waterfront apartment, luxury car, expensive clothes, fancy toys, and much consumer debt. He has also committed insurance fraud. Rather than

finance medical care for his twin brother, Father Michael, who has just returned in ill health from mission work in Africa, Dan opts to switch identities with Father Michael. This allows his twin to be treated under Dan's health insurance, but when poor Father Michael dies, Dan is forced to continue his priestly impersonation.

Dan, posing as his dead brother, takes a job at the Care Center, a home for abused children, the elderly, and others in need, which is run by Sister Peg. Sister Peg is a young, hardworking, unorthodox nun with consumer habits that are in direct opposition to those that Dan enjoyed in his previous life. Despite their seemingly opposite natures, a mutual attraction develops, and Dan and Sister Peg join forces to fight the upcoming foreclosure of the Care Center.

Included in the unusual mix of characters in *Cross Dressing* are Dan's wronged, former colleague, Scott, who is bent on revenge; "Third World Man," who is on a mission from Allah to kill Father Michael/Dan; Charlie Freak and Razor Boy, violent gang members; and Ruth, Dan's aged and mentally unbalanced mother. The book takes readers on a wild journey before reaching its surprising and satisfying conclusion.

This is not a book for those who are easily offended by impious portrayals of religious figures, but it is an entertaining read for those looking for a fast-paced tale that proves that good can overcome evil in even the most unlikely situations. *Cross Dressing* is recommended for adult fiction collections of public libraries.

**Sarah Spencer**

*Information Services Librarian*

*The University of Southern Mississippi*



## People in the News

**Jolee Childs Hussey** has been appointed by Governor Ronnie Musgrove to serve a five-year term on the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) beginning July 1. Included among the eight names submitted to the Governor by the Mississippi Library Association, Hussey succeeds Dr. Russell Burns of Brookhaven as the trustee representative.\* She currently serves as a trustee on the First Regional Library Board of Trustees.

**Joel Bullock**, reference assistant at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library, and **Andrea Kyzar**, Pearlinton Public Library Branch Manager, recently participated in a book signing at Bookends Bookstore with author Fred Womack. Womack's book, *Untaught and Unlearned Knowledge*, a book about faith, was illustrated by Bullock and edited by Kyzar.

**Stewart Carpenter** is the new Branch Librarian at the Walls, MS branch of the First Regional Library. Originally from Starkville, Stewart obtained his M.L.S. from The University of Southern Mississippi. Before accepting his new position with First Regional, Stewart was a librarian for a Department of Corrections drug rehab center in Brooksville, Florida. He was also the librarian at Moss Point High School and held a cataloging position at the Pike-Amite-Walthall Library System in McComb.

**Margaret Evans**, assistant director of Library Services at Delta State University since 1996, retired in June. She has returned to the Gulf Coast where she is currently serving as the librarian at Mercy Cross High School.

Genealogist/Local History Librarian **Else Martin** at the Pascagoula Public Library was honored in June at a "History Making Occasion" event. The retiring genealogist served the Jackson-George

Regional Library System for more than seventeen years. In December 1995, Else Martin was named to head of the Vincent Ros Genealogy/Local History Collection at the Pascagoula Public Library.

Martin has specialized in updating and maintaining the library's extensive family history files, which include detailed information on more than 2,100 local families. She has finished several books about various aspects of the history of Jackson County. She has been the vice-president of the Jackson County Genealogy Society and served on the board of the Jackson County Historical Society. Among her several professional accomplishments has been the creation of the Oral History program for the library, which recounts numerous family histories.



Else Martin

### PEGGY MAY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

**Jacqueline Y. Quinn**, of Terry, Mississippi, is the recipient of the 2002 Peggy May Scholarship awarded annually by the Mississippi Library Association. Quinn is pursuing a graduate degree in Library Science at The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) where she maintains a 3.75 GPA.



Jacqueline Y. Quinn

Quinn received an A.A.S. degree from Hinds Community College and a B.A. degree from USM before beginning her graduate program in the School of Library and Information Science. She is presently employed at the Hinds Community College, Jackson Campus, where she has served as a Library Technical Assistant for over thirteen years. She is a member of the American Library Association, the Mississippi Library Association, and the USM Library Information Science Student Association. In 2000, Quinn received the Virgia Brock-Shedd Heritage Award given by the MLA Black Caucus to the African American Library Science student who has shown dedication to the field.

Cited by supporters as being an outstanding, extremely dedicated and technologically adept employee and a highly motivated and capable student, Quinn is sure to be a credit to the profession of librarianship and to the memory of Peggy May, for whom the scholarship is named. Quinn indicates that she is "looking forward to the future as a professional librarian, using the years of experience, a wealth of technology, and a formal education to assist Mississippians with access to information."

The Peggy May Scholarship was established after Ms. May's death to honor her dedication to librarianship and support her commitment to recruit talented individuals to the profession. The Mississippi Library Association continually seeks contributions to increase the endowment so the scholarship award may better address the growing costs of a graduate education in library science. Your tax-deductible contribution to the Peggy May endowment would be greatly appreciated and should be sent to the MLS Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 20448, Jackson, MS 39289-1448.

# News Briefs

## YOUTH SERVICES AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

"Survival Mississippi" was the first program this summer to use the **Central Mississippi Regional Library System, Pearl Library's** newly created Teen Scene area of the library. Rearrangement of furniture, recovered chairs, teen posters, stacks just for YA books all provided a backdrop for a Friends-sponsored partnership program with The Black Rose, an award-winning local theater group. The audience-participation play was a spoof of CBS' "Survivor" with the challenge of being stranded on a sandbar in the Pearl River. Tickets were \$5 as a joint fundraiser for the theater and the Friends.

Nine cast members, carrying crepe paper torches and wearing a variety of costumes, led the 29 teens in Pied Piper fashion down the "track" from the meeting room to the temporarily vine-covered Teen Scene for the tests and votes. The decibel level of laughter and shouts indicated high enjoyment of the play and the food. The Friends furnished munchies and soft drinks to accompany donated pizza from Papa John's, Mazzio's, and Domino's. Branch manager Cecelia Sandifer was assured of a successful event when several teens asked the date of the next 'happening' at Pearl Library's Teen Scene.



## AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

The deadline for submission of applications to the **Fay Kaigler-Ruth Lamont Award** is January 15, 2003. The Kaigler-Lamont Award recognizes distinguished accomplishments in promoting children's reading by librarians and teachers in Mississippi schools and by children's librarians in the public libraries of Mississippi. The Award for 2002 was presented to **Linda Sikes** for her outstanding achievements in promoting children's literature at the Beechwood Elementary School Library in Vicksburg.

Each recipient of the Kaigler-Lamont Award receives a plaque, \$500 in cash and \$500 worth of books of choice from the Children's Book Festival book vendor, Southwest Books (a Texas compa-

ny). The 2003 Award will be presented at The Children's Book Festival in April, 2003, on the campus of The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

The generous financial support of Fay Kaigler of Gloster, Mississippi, has made the award possible since 1998. Since retirement, Miss Kaigler continues to promote books and reading in her local public library. Ruth Lamont, who for many years was a successful school librarian in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, shares her passion for making books integral to children's lives.

Applications for the **2003 Kaigler Lamont Award** will be available in September 2002 from Dr. Rosemary Chance, [rchance@student.necc.cc.ms.us](mailto:rchance@student.necc.cc.ms.us) or from William McMullin, [william@nereg.lib.ms.us](mailto:william@nereg.lib.ms.us).



(l-r) Dr. Joe McGilbery, Intern Director / MSU-ES Administration, Dr. Vance Watson, Director of MAFES Administration, Frances Coleman, Dean and Professor, MSU Library, and Dr. Charles Lee, Interim President, Mississippi State University.

## NEW SERVICES AND COLLECTIONS

The newly formed **Consortium for the History of Agricultural and Rural Mississippi (CHARM)**, housed in MSU's Mitchell Memorial Library, is collecting historical materials related to Mississippi agriculture, forestry and rural life. From documenting long-vanished activities such as local canning clubs to developing oral histories focusing on the state's farm economy, a new Mississippi State University effort is preserving an important part of Mississippi's past.

Initial CHARM partners are the MSU Libraries, the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, the MSU

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Extension Service, and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Collaboration among the four CHARM partners will bring visibility to the project as it seeks additional materials to document Mississippi's agricultural heritage.

Francis N. Coleman, dean of libraries, noted the collection already includes more than 300 handwritten scripts and nearly 17,000 negative photographs from the 1954-61 television feature, "Farm Family of the Week," broadcast by WLBT-TV in Jackson. The materials were donated by the late Howard Langfitt, longtime host of the program.

The manuscript materials document everything from small farms and family-run sawmill operations to corporate agricultural and forestry enterprises. Photographs, diaries, account ledgers, and a host of other textual materials provide glimpses into day-to-day concerns about

the weather, the economy and the changing face of agriculture. For more information about the Consortium for the History of Agricultural and Rural Mississippi, telephone Ms. Coleman at (662) 325-7661.

#### NEW BUILDINGS, RENOVATIONS, AND EXHIBITS

The **J. T. Biggs, Jr. Memorial Library** in Crystal Springs, MS of the **Copiah-Jefferson Regional Library System** reopened May 6, 2002 with a newly expanded and renovated building. On July 7th this year, the New Orleans *Times Picayune* interviewed Paul Cartwright and made photos of the Tommy Johnson Tombstone that is temporarily housed at the library. Tommy was a well-known Blues musician who has become popular since the recent showing of the movie "O Brother Where Art Thou." There is also a semi-perma-

nent exhibit in the library that contains memorabilia from the monument dedication as well as family mementos and rare books on Mr. Johnson.

#### WORKSHOPS

The MLA Special Collections Roundtable teamed up with The Society of Mississippi Archivists to present *Digitization and Its Discontents: Providing Access to Primary Source Materials in Mississippi* on July 26, 2002. Hosted by the USM Libraries, the workshop attracted librarians and archivists from Mississippi, Louisiana and Georgia. Participants created metadata records, learned the basics of scanning, and encoded finding aids using EAD. USM Libraries' Special Collections personnel, Dr. Toby Graham, Nadia Nasr, Peggy Price and Diane Ross, were presenters at the workshop.

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Florida Atlantic University

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# About Books

**Durstewitz, Jeff and Ruth Williams.** *Younger Than That Now: A Shared Passage from the Sixties.* New York: Bantam Books, 2000. 343 pp. 23.95 hardback, 13.95 paperback.

In February of 1969, high school senior Jeff Durstewitz mailed a letter to Yazoo City, Mississippi, that would change his life. Angered by the recent events in the nation, Jeff and some friends, working on *Hoofbeats*, the student newspaper of Calhoun High School, Merrick, New York, wrote a scathing letter to Ruth Tuttle. Ruth was the editor of the *Yazooan*, the school paper of Yazoo City High School.

That first letter blamed Ruth for many of the problems of her state and region. Fueled by the accusations, Ruth wrote back. After the initial correspondence, their letters no longer contained words of hate. Instead the two sought friendship and understanding. A few months after their letter writing began, Jeff visited Yazoo City along with two other Long Islanders. During the visit, the New Yorkers witnessed daily life in Mississippi, and Yazoo City got a glimpse of the social changes of the Northeast. Although this first meeting was an adventure for all involved, it was also a sign of what was to come.

After Ruth and Jeff entered college, it became obvious that despite differences in geography and upbringing they shared many problems common to their generation. Both joined the anti-Vietnam war movement, experienced life on college campuses in the days after the shootings at Kent State, struggled with living up to parents' expectations, and dealt with losing and finding love.

Ruth put her future on hold when she married a young political agitator. After a brief stop in Mississippi, an adventure in Portugal, and a divorce, she returned to the Magnolia State. Here she found her soul mate and the life she had been seeking – in the one place where she, as a high school senior, had been sure there was nothing for her.

Jeff's life was not without its own troubles. He watched a close friend die of cancer at 31, and suffered through the ebb and flow of his careers. Trained as a journalist, he worked for newspapers and political campaigns. After his childhood friends, Ben and Jerry, founded an ice cream empire, Jeff opened his own franchise in Saratoga Springs, New York, where he lives today.

There is something refreshing about a story of two people who are not famous. Jeff and Ruth are just two friends nice enough to share their friendship with the world. In Mississippi, *Younger Than That Now* should be shared in any adult oriented or Mississippiana collection.

**Sara E. Morris**

Reference Services Librarian  
Mississippi State University Libraries

**Fraiser, Jim.** *The Majesty of the Mississippi Delta.* Photographs by West Freeman. Gretna, La.: Pelican Publishing, 2002. 96 pp. \$18.95 hardcover.

When musing about the Delta, many writers tend to get by on tired clichés – they discuss the region's flatness or describe the economic hardship endured by many of the inhabitants. Many stick to the safe and well-worn path of the Delta's blues-based heritage (which is admittedly difficult to leave alone). Regardless of the device, it is that exact lack of cliché and crutch that makes this latest installment in Pelican's "Majesty of..." series such an enjoyable read. Author Jim Fraiser (*Mississippi Country Tales*) and photographer West Freeman (*Architectural Digest*, *Times-Picayune*, New Orleans Museum of Art) lead the reader through a modest, yet enjoyable and informative, journey through the Mississippi Delta's architectural gems – all with nary a mention of juke joints or Robert Johnson.

Editorially, *The Majesty of the Mississippi Delta* is skillfully composed. Choice informational tidbits abound, and the author adds just enough associated histori-

cal detail to each description to satisfy and complement the visual journey. By the same token, Fraiser's knowledge of the Delta and the history behind its more celebrated edifices gives the book a resonance that allows it to rise above what could easily have been a simple coffee-table tome about pretty buildings in west Mississippi. Of course, the text of such books ultimately serves to frame and complement their photographic content, and here Freeman's photography also shines, proving attractive, well-composed and occasionally superlative (as in the presentation of home interiors). Overall, *The Majesty of the Mississippi Delta* is a good choice and a fine pick – especially recommended for school and public libraries.

**Steven Turner**

Web Developer/Electronic Resources Librarian  
The University of Southern Mississippi

**Haynes, Melinda.** *Chalktown.* New York: THEIA, 2001. 317 pp. \$23.95 hardcover.

*Chalktown*, the second novel by Mississippi native and The University of Southern Mississippi graduate Melinda Haynes, has much in common with Haynes' first book, *Mother of Pearl*. The setting is again rural southeastern Mississippi – this time George County. Once again, Haynes has created two groups of "marginalized" characters who sink into their own forms of dysfunctionality and have lives that are significantly changed by interactions with members of the other group.

Hezekiah (Hez) Sheehand is the 16-year-old who tries to provide a thread of normalcy in a truly dysfunctional family. Older sister Arena is seeking success through promiscuity. Baby brother Levi, nicknamed "Yellababy," suffers physical and mental disabilities. Mother Susan Blair, never very stable, has sunk into a world of delusion and denial following her meeting with a traveling evangelist and the birth of her third child. Fairy, Susan



Blair's husband, has discovered that he is terminally ill and, except for a life-shattering attempt to save Arena, has essentially abandoned his family for his first wife.

The residents of nearby "Chalktown" are Aaron Class, Johnny Roper, Henry Prox, Rosie Gentle, and Rosie's daughter Annie. Chalktown's inhabitants have experienced a severe crisis of faith following the visit of a traveling preacher and the deaths of both Annie and her baby. In the wake of this upheaval, the surviving residents stop talking to each other and take to writing messages on small chalkboards set up in the street.

One day, Hez decides to take Yellababy and walk to Chalktown to see for himself the place he has heard stories about. On the way he meets Cathy, a girl about his age. Their arrival in Chalktown

seems to fulfill a dream Rosie had recorded on her chalkboard. The residents of Chalktown overcome their past and accept both Hez and Yellababy. After the departure of her children and her husband's incarceration, Susan Blair tries to find her way back to reality, and Fairy has his own meeting with a faith healer that has serious implications. Perhaps the Sheehands and the residents of Chalktown will never be what others would call fully functional, but the author leaves us with the feeling that all their lives have taken a turn for the better.

Haynes' story exudes the dusty, humid heat of a southern Mississippi summer, and she again captures the spirits of her characters. Her portrayals of the Sheehand family, the Chalktown residents, and the peripheral characters, both

black and white, are honest and sensitive. All libraries with an interest in Southern regional fiction will want *Chalktown*.

#### Louise Plodinec

Assistant Collection Development Officer  
Mississippi State University

**Wilson, Charles.** *Deep Sleep*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2001. 280 pp. \$24.95 hardcover.

Having been praised by the *Los Angeles Times* as "a wizard plotter," Charles Wilson once again has developed an intriguing, terrifying thriller filled with a blend of science and myth. In *Deep Sleep*, Wilson draws the reader into a story of terror and revenge using fast-paced action and edge-of-your-seat type tension.

Deep in the moss-covered woods of the Louisiana bayou, Parish Deputy Mark French is called to investigate the murder of a young woman, Deloris Rivet. He finds more than an institute for sleep disorders at the South Louisiana Sleep Disorders Institute. He finds a situation full of sinister purposes. During his investigation, he discovers yet another set of murders, that of a husband and wife, which appears to be an integral part of an overall plot originating at the institute.

Mark seeks help from Dr. Kelly Dalton, a visiting psychiatrist, to assist him in building a psychological profile of his killer or killers. The two of them face terrifying danger as their investigation takes them deeper and deeper into the world of voodoo and hypnotic suggestions.

*Deep Sleep* asks the question: who is in control of your sleep, you or someone else? It is an intriguing story which takes you on a whirlwind ride of terror and revenge. The author delivers a thorough, detailed thriller that cannot be easily laid down until the final outcome is known. This book is a must for all Mississippi libraries, especially those with a large mystery-loving patronage.

#### Donna Phelps Fite

Purvis Branch Librarian  
Lamar County Library System

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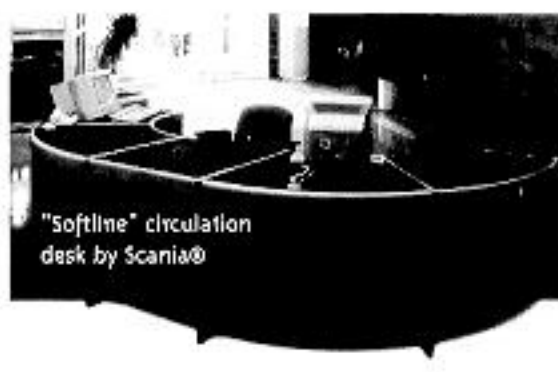
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# About Children's Books

## MICHAEL L. PRINTZ AWARDS 2002

For the third year a committee of nine librarians from the American Library Association's Young Adult Library Services Association has selected books of literary distinction for teenagers. The award is named in memory of Michael L. Printz, a school librarian from Topeka, Kansas, who enthusiastically promoted young adult literature. This year's winners include one Printz Award and four Printz Honor Books.

### MICHAEL L. PRINTZ AWARD

**Na, An.** *A Step from Heaven*. Asheville, North Carolina: Front Street, 2001. 156 pp. \$15.95.

Through first-person narrative, the clear voice of Korean-born Young Ju tells of her life from the age of four into her teenage years. When she and her parents fly to California, Young Ju thinks they are on their way to heaven. Her parents show "happy teeth" upon their arrival in America, but Young Ju says dully, "This is not heaven." Readers follow Young Ju's life through a series of simple tellings of events like well-focused snapshots. The birth of her brother causes her father to crow with pride, but Young Ju tells her second grade class that her brother died. The family is surprised when flowers are delivered to their home. Young Ju is forced to speak Korean at home although she learns English. She becomes adept at functioning in American society and in a Korean home. Young Ju emerges as a strong, intelligent woman, perhaps made more resilient by her stressful upbringing. In this first novel, An Na uses spare language to convey Young Ju's maturing process and to relate the difficulties of surviving and thriving in two different cultures. This memoir-turned-novel will appeal to a wide range of ages from 12 and up.

### MICHAEL L. PRINTZ AWARD HONOR BOOKS

**Dickinson, Peter.** *The Ropemaker*. New York: Delacorte Press, 2001. 375 pp. \$15.95.

Elements of magic and time drive this

fascinating fantasy by British master storyteller Peter Dickinson. Tilja, Tahl, their grandparents, and an ill-tempered horse set off on a quest to find the magician who can renew the ancient power in their valley. The first sign of trouble begins when Tilja's ma goes "to sing to the cedars," and Tilja and her grandmother find her lying on the ground covered with snow with barely a pulse. Once the quest begins, they face many strange dangers in the Empire they must travel through. Yet the dangers become challenges that set the stage for Tilja's discovery of her own extraordinary power. Suspenseful, surprising, and satisfying, Dickinson's novel entertains while leaving readers with a sense of life's possibilities. Fantasy fans in grades 7 through 12 will find this novel a rewarding read.

**Greenberg, Jan, ed.** *Heart to Heart: New Poems Inspired by Twentieth-Century American Art*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 2001. 80 pp. \$19.95.

Forty-three poets were asked to choose an American work of art from the twentieth century and write a poem to accompany it. Out of that intriguing request emerged a range of poetry styles from traditional rhyme to free verse to experiments with pattern. Their choices of art range in style from abstract to sculpture to more traditional choices. Their choices of media include oil, acrylic, pastel, gelatin silver print, mixed media, and more. Greenberg grouped the poems and artwork into four categories: Stories, Voices, Impressions, and Expressions. From Stories, William Jay Smith speculates on the type of music that Elie Nadelman's *Woman at the Piano*, a "tall, thin lady," would play. In Voices, Marisol's *The Family* stands silently while Susan Terris gives voice to one of the sisters who describes her family which has been abandoned by her Papa. In Impressions, Georgia O'Keeffe's *Poppy* is compared to a swirling Spanish dancer. And finally, Jane O. Wayne describes Milton Avery's *Girl Writing* as "just patches of pure color." Suitable for grades 5 and up, this thoughtful and creative collection of art and poetry has much to offer those who will take the

time to savor the images and voices.

**Lynch, Chris.** *Freewill*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2001. 148 pp. \$15.95.

Will's dad and stepmother died in an apparent murder-suicide when his "Dad drove off the road" and "into the water." Both the story and the style are odd and not easily read. Will speaks of himself in the second person "you." Unwillingly, he is enrolled in a woodworking class where he makes totems that appear on the beach after the deaths of several teens. He wonders if he has become a "carrier pigeon of death." Although he is disturbed by the deaths, his final sculpture is a memorial to his father and a way for him to heal. This dark novel is recommended for grades 9 through 12.

**Wolff, Virginia Euwer.** *True Believer*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2001. 264 pp. \$17.00.

In a sequel to *Make Lemonade*, Wolff uses her riveting verse-prose style to continue LaVaughn's story. Now at fifteen, LaVaughn has a crush on Jody, a childhood friend who returns to the neighborhood. She is disbelieving, and then heartbroken, when she sees him kissing another boy. So much changes for LaVaughn despite her own steadiness in school and as a person. The violence and the poverty of her neighborhood are all that remain the same. Occasionally readers glimpse Jolly, the unwed mother from *Make Lemonade*. Through the changes and the stress, LaVaughn is resilient. Near the end of the novel when Jody gives her a birthday gift and kisses her cheek, she thinks, "I get it. I get it! We will rise to the occasion/which is life." And the reader knows that LaVaughn will be all right. This rich novel is recommended for ages thirteen and older.

**Rosemary Chance**  
Assistant Professor, SLIS  
The University of Southern Mississippi  
[Rosemary.Chance@usm.edu](mailto:Rosemary.Chance@usm.edu)



# Apply Now for EDITOR of *Mississippi Libraries*

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Applications are now being accepted for the exciting and challenging position of Editor for the quarterly publication, ***Mississippi Libraries***. This award-winning publication, published by the Mississippi Library Association, has had a long line of excellent editors. The MLA seeks an enthusiastic and energetic person to follow in their footsteps.

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Please send a letter of application, resume and two work-related references by October 1, 2002  
to:

Mary Julia Anderson  
MLA Executive Secretary  
P.O. Box 20448  
Jackson, MS 39289-1448



# MLA Executive Board Minutes

MAY 17, 2002

## BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Terry Latour, *President*  
Prima Plauché, *Vice-President/President-elect*  
Kathleen Wells, *Secretary*  
Randy Sherard, *Parliamentarian*  
Henry Ledet, *Past President*  
Billy Beal, *ALA Councilor*  
Indira Bhowal, *Special Library Section Chair*  
Dee Dee Long, *School Library Section Chair*  
Jeff Slagell, *ACRL Chair*  
David Woodburn, *Public Library Section Chair*

## OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Theresa Akbar-Ellison, *ZYCRT/Black Caucus*  
Mary Julia Anderson, *Executive Secretary*  
Ann Branton, *Editor, Mississippi Libraries*  
Margarita Stanford, *Delta Dental Insurance Representative*

President Latour called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The agenda was presented.

## I. OFFICERS' AND STAFF REPORTS:

**A. Minutes.** The minutes of the March 8 meeting were distributed and reviewed. R. Sherard moved to approve the minutes; P. Plauché seconded. Approval was unanimous.

**B. Treasurer's Report.** In the absence of Treasurer K. Coleman, T. Latour presented a balance sheet current as of 4/30/2002. He noted that the association has received about \$4500 less in dues than was projected in the budget, and that a significant number of people who were members a year or two ago have not renewed for this year. Current statistics show 542 dues-paying members. The report was unanimously approved on a motion by R. Sherard with a second by J. Slagell.

**C. President's Report.** T. Latour reported that Mary Perkins has been named chair of the Publicity Committee. In light of Parliamentarian Jim Parks' retirement, Latour asked for a volunteer to serve in his place. R. Sherard agreed to serve as Parliamentarian.

**D. Vice-President/President-Elect.** P. Plauché reported that planning for the 2002 conference in Hattiesburg is on schedule. The Conference Planning Committee will meet June 3. All preliminary forms have been received from program planners. A. Branton has finalized arrangement with the Cabot Lodge. A draft conference schedule has been created, and meal planning is in progress. Vendor contracts and convention center brochures were mailed in early April. The exhibit area will be called Sponsors' Showcase, and no-conflict time will be built into the schedule to view the exhibits. Mini-programs and other events will be presented in the exhibit area at these times, such as an ice cream social sponsored by the Membership Committee. Plauché recommended Convention Display, which MLA has been using for recent conferences, to set up the exhibits. The Registration Committee will begin designing the registration area and registration forms. The Vice-President's report was approved on a motion by R. Sherard with a second by T. Akbar-Ellison. With regard to the 2003 confer-

ence, T. Latour presented a contract with Casino Magic in Bay St. Louis. Rooms in the original building will be \$49 a night, with rooms in the new hotel available for \$69. There will be no charge for the use of the convention center. Latour signed the contract and gave it to P. Plauché to return to the hotel.

**E. ALA Councilor's Report.** B. Beal reported on several items.

**1. School Library Grants.** There is an opportunity for people who work in school libraries to apply for grants or be grant reviewers for the FY 2002 Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Grant Program. Reviewers will be paid \$100.

**2. Government Printing Office.** The Office of Management and Budget is going to stop its exclusive use of GPO and will use private printers to produce government documents. Librarians are concerned at this decentralization.

**3. Salary Equity/Advocacy Workshop at ALA.** Beal will attend this workshop. After ALA, he will talk with P. Plauché about setting up an MLA workshop based on the material presented at ALA.

**4. Mississippi Candidates for ALA Council.** Beal noted that there were two Mississippi candidates for ALA Council in the recent election, but that neither of them won.

The Councilor's report was approved on motion by R. Sherard with a second by I. Bhowal.

**F. SELA Councilor's Report.** T. Latour distributed a handout from SELA Councilor Glenda Segars, who was absent. The handout announced the dates of this year's biennial SELA conference in Charleston, S.C., Oct. 24-26.

**G. Executive Secretary.** M.J. Anderson reminded the Board that postage will go up in June, and that the bulk mail rate will go up to \$150 a year.

**H. Mississippi Libraries Editor.** A. Branton reported that the theme of the summer issue is African American librarianship. She gave T. Latour a copy of an advertisement for a new editor of *ML* that will run in the next issue, and recommended that the Board create a committee to interview candidates at MLA. Branton also requested the opportunity to recognize the *ML* editorial staff and contributors at the conference awards luncheon. P. Plauché thanked Branton for her service as editor. There was some discussion of requirements for the editor position and of the composition of the review committee. B. Beal moved that the committee consist of the current Executive Board officers, the Executive Secretary, the outgoing editor, and a section chair to be named by the President. J. Slagell seconded. The motion was approved. The editor's report was approved on a motion by P. Plauché with a second by B. Beal.

## II. SECTION REPORTS:

**A. ACRL.** J. Slagell reported on the election of new officers for the section: the new Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect will be Suzanne Graham, and the Secretary will be Peggy Price. The ACRL program for the fall conference will be entitled "Softskills: Creating a Better Workplace." The

presenter will be Steve Bearden, a corporate coach in the Jackson area, and the topic will be listening and communication skills. Focus groups will be created ahead of time to enable people to participate through phone conferences if they can't attend MLA. Temporary 800 numbers will be created for the phone conferences. Material from the focus groups will be incorporated into the conference meeting. The ACRL report was approved on a motion by D. Woodburn with a second by R. Sherard.

**B. Public Libraries.** Section Chair D. Woodburn distributed a handout on a proposed MLA conference program to be co-sponsored by the Public Library Section and the Trustees Section. A grant from MLC would fund a speaker from Cilgate Communications, a firm of communications consultants that has worked with other state library associations. There would be two programs: one on communication, for approximately 100 people, and one for approximately 50 people on improving a library's image. Woodburn requested that the Board authorize a grant agreement with MLC for up to \$10,000. Workbooks would be a part of the program, and MLA would have them printed. H. Ledet moved to accept Woodburn's proposal and to authorize T. Latour to sign the letter of agreement, and the contract with the program speaker if the grant application is approved; J. Slagell seconded. B. Beal asked what would happen if the program were not funded; Woodburn replied that they have a backup speaker in mind. The motion carried unanimously. The Public Library Section report was approved on a motion by Beal with a second by D. Long.

**C. School Libraries.** Section Chair D. Long reported on programming for Youth Services Day at the fall MLA conference, to be sponsored by the Young People's Services Round Table, the School Library Section, and MAGNOLIA. The programs will be presented on Wednesday, Oct. 16, and will include MAGNOLIA training, an authors' luncheon, and a youth services swap shop. T. Latour suggested that the section have a flier printed and have a booth at LAMP Tour locations in August to promote the program; P. Plauché added that the Membership Committee could have representatives there to collect memberships. Latour reported that the Mississippi Dept. of Education has set up a committee to update the School Library Media Program guidelines; several MLA members are on the committee. B. Beal asked if school librarians are part of the state's Minimum Foundation formula; D. Long replied that they are not. Beal suggested that having school librarians added to the formula could be a possible legislative goal for the association; the issue has a direct tie to MLA's membership base. A. Branton asked if anyone from the USM School of Library and Information Science were involved. To the knowledge of anyone present, SLIS faculty are not involved. The Public Library report was approved on a motion from B. Beal with a second by K. Wells.

**D. Special Libraries.** I. Bhowal reported that the speaker for the section's MLA program will be the director of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. The topic will be on how



libraries can prepare the public for emergency situations. Bhowal and V. Champion from MLC have prepared a flier and sent it to special libraries requesting that they join MLA. The Special Library report was approved on a motion from D. Woodburn with a second by B. Beal.

- E. **Trustees.** The Trustees Section report was covered by the report of the Public Library Section.

### III. ROUND TABLE REPORTS:

- A. **Black Caucus.** T. Akbar-Elison reported on conference preparations; they are trying to get a grant to fund a conference speaker. The caucus is sending out a nominating ballot and will have new officers to present at the fall meeting.
- B. **2YCRT.** T. Akbar-Elison reported that the round table will have a breakfast program at the fall conference, with a program on library security.
- C. **GODORT.** T. Latour noted that e-mails have gone out to announce the spring meeting.
- D. **TSRT.** T. Latour reminded the Board that the spring TSRT meeting will be May 24 in the Jackson area.

### IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. **Election.** K. Wells gave the results of the election of MLA officers for 2003: Juanita Flanders, Vice-President/President-elect; Jennifer Smith, Treasurer; and Sara Morris, Secretary.
- B. **Insurance.** In the absence of Chair R. Greene, T. Latour presented Margarita Stanford, a representative of the Delta Dental Insurance program. Stanford distributed a brochure and outlined features and costs of the program. If a single person at a library enrolls, the premiums would be payable by bank draft; if three people at a site enroll, billing could be done through the library. Latour pointed out that MLA's recent effort to offer liability insurance failed because there were not enough participants; however, for the Delta Dental plan, there is no minimum number of participants required. He added that offering dental benefits could help attract members to the association. MLA would facilitate enrollment but would not be involved in collecting premiums. There was some discussion of association members' needs for information about insurance and benefits in general; P. Plauché noted that the Mississippi Public Employees' Retirement System will give a presentation at the MLA conference. Plauché moved that the Board authorize the Insurance Committee to prepare an insurance marketing plan and present a program on insurance options at the fall conference. D. Woodburn seconded. The motion was approved.
- C. **Legislative Committee.** In the absence of Chair D. Mitchell, T. Latour reported on MLA's participation in National Legislative Day. Ten MLA representatives went to Washington and met with several Mississippi legislators. The main topics discussed were LSTA renewal and copyright issues.
- D. **Membership Committee.** In the absence of the co-chairs, T. Latour reported that the committee is working on contacting individuals and encouraging them to renew, and on activities for the fall conference.

### V. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **MLC Board of Commissioners Nomina-**

**tions.** T. Latour summarized the progress that had been made in gathering the names of nominees to submit to the governor for the trustee's seat being vacated by Russell Burns. The MLA Board's charge is to submit no fewer than six names for consideration, but the number is not limited to six. P. Plauché noted that according to the handbook, nominees do not have to be MLA members; H. Ledet recommended that membership should be a criterion. There was discussion on which of the nominees were members and on the desirability of geographic diversity on the MLC Board; B. Beal pointed out that the southern part of the state is under-represented on the current board. D. Woodburn moved that the Board authorize T. Latour to write a letter to the governor presenting the nominees who are MLA members, and that the letter should recommend that geographic diversity be taken into account. B. Beal seconded; the motion was approved. Latour will make an appointment with the governor's appointments secretary to discuss the nominations. The nominees to be presented are:

Mary Edmond, nominated by Kaileen Theiling, Central Miss. Library System  
Stewart Gilchrist, nominated by Paulette Entekin, Laurel-Jones County  
Jolee Hussey, nominated by Catherine Nathan, First Regional Library System  
Joyce Lee, nominated by Prima Plauché, Hancock County  
Barbara Martin, nominated by Robert Willits, Jackson-George County  
Randy Sherard, nominated by Deb Mitchell, Vicksburg-Warren County  
Yvonne Stanford, nominated by Missie Craig, Clarksdale-Coahoma County

- B. **ALA Better Salaries/Advocacy Training Workshop.** T. Latour reported that he, along with B. Beal, will attend the workshop in Atlanta. P. Plauché added that there is a trustee relations workshop on Saturday at the ALA conference.
- C. **ALA Draft Policy on Privacy.** T. Latour noted that the ALA policy on privacy and interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights was revised this spring; B. Beal added that ALA is inviting comments on the revised policy on its Web site.
- D. **MLA E-mail List.** T. Latour reported that work on the list is continuing, with many invalid addresses being removed. P. Plauché added that some people think that list membership is automatic on joining MLA, and need to be reminded to sign up. The Publicity Committee is distributing information on joining the list.

### VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **CIPA Court Decision.** Reminding the Board that the association had received e-mail inquiries on MLA's position in response to the U.S. District Court's decision on the Children's Internet Protection Act, T. Latour distributed a draft statement that supports choice at the individual library level on questions of filtering and appropriate levels of access. B. Beal distributed e-mails summarizing relevant pending court cases. D. Woodburn moved to adopt the statement as distributed; Beal seconded. After some discussion, Beal called the question. The motion passed unanimously. The text of the statement follows.

"The Mississippi Library Association is a

diverse organization with members from school, public, academic and special libraries, as well as public library trustees and friends of libraries. Each member brings to the organization different experiences and beliefs. Each library has a different mission and operates under different governing authorities.

While we are united in our belief that children should not be exposed to pornographic materials at libraries, there are differences of opinion on how to accomplish this intent and still provide access to appropriate information sought by library users. We have faith in the judicial system of the United States and recognize the fact that the decision by the United States District Court in Philadelphia will not end the challenges to this law. Most Mississippi libraries and their governing boards have debated the issues and reviewed their options. Decisions on what course of action to take in order to address these problems, while continuing to provide quality library services, have already been made at the local level.

The Mississippi Library Association supports the efforts of Mississippi libraries to make the decisions that are most appropriate for the needs of their local communities."

- B. **New Parliamentarian.** As noted above, R. Sherard agreed to replace J. Parks as Parliamentarian.
- C. **MLA Committees.** T. Latour reported on comments he had received on the role and makeup of the Continuing Education, Long Range Planning, and Publicity committees. There were some comments to the effect that duplication of effort is involved in the functions of the Continuing Education and Publications committees, since continuing education and publication functions are carried out by a number of sections, committees and round tables. Therefore, the president has not appointed anyone to serve on these committees. The Long Range Planning Committee's existence is mandated by the Bylaws. T. Latour will look at long-range planning information from SELA and will also investigate how long-range planning is carried out in other state associations; he invited further comments on the matter. The Board will look at committee makeup again at the August meeting.

### VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. **Next Board Meeting.** The Board will meet on Friday, August 9, at the Mississippi Library Commission.
- B. **ALA Program on AIDS Information.** B. Beal announced that the ALA Black Caucus and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table will sponsor a program at the Atlanta conference on disseminating information about HIV/AIDS to library patrons; speakers will be from the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

The Board adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen L. Wells, Secretary*

*Get involved in MLA by joining a committee!*



# Mississippi Library Association

## 2003 Committee Preference Form

*Active participation by the membership is critical to the success of our Association.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Section: ☐ ACRL ☐ Public ☐ School ☐ Special ☐ Trustee ☐ Friend

### MLA COMMITTEES

Current membership in MLA is required for committee assignments. Please rank, in order of preference, the committee(s) on which you would like to serve. Indicate whether you have previous experience. Committees are defined in the MLA Handbook, Chapter Four, at [www.lib.usm.edu/~mla](http://www.lib.usm.edu/~mla)

|  | Committee                 | Experience/Expertise |  | Committee                                   | Experience/Expertise |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------|--|---|----------------------|
|  | Archives & History        |                      |  | Intellectual Freedom                        |                      |
|  | MLA Awards                |                      |  | Legislative                                 |                      |
|  | Mississippi Author Awards |                      |  | Constitution Bylaws & Organizational Review |                      |
|  | Membership                |                      |  | Handbook                                    |                      |
|  | Continuing Education      |                      |  | Long Range Planning                         |                      |
|  | Copyright Review          |                      |  | National Library Week                       |                      |
|  | Nominating                |                      |  | Conservation                                |                      |
|  | Election                  |                      |  | Publications                                |                      |
|  | Information Literacy      |                      |  | Publicity                                   |                      |
|  | Fiscal Management         |                      |  | Scholarship                                 |                      |
|  | Internal Audit            |                      |  | Web Page                                    |                      |
|  | Insurance                 |                      |  |   |                      |

### MLA Annual Conference Committees

The MLA annual conference will be held October, 2003 in Bay St. Louis. Juanita Flanders, 2003 Vice President/President Elect, will coordinate the conference. If you are interested in serving on a conference committee in addition to or instead of the above MLA Committees, please indicate.

|  | Committee          | Experience/Expertise |  | Committee         | Experience/Expertise |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------|----------------------|
|  | Local Arrangements |                      |  | Poster Sessions   |                      |
|  | Registration       |                      |  | Exhibits          |                      |
|  | Hospitality        |                      |  | General Volunteer |                      |

Return completed form to: Prima Plauché, Hancock County Library System, 312 Highway 90, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520, or fax to (228) 467-5503, or email to [pplauche@hancock.lib.ms.us](mailto:pplauche@hancock.lib.ms.us).



# Treasurer's Report

## MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION "Fund Balances as of May 31, 2002"

| Assets              |                                  |                   |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Account             | Description                      | Amount            |
| 1001                | AM SOUTH Checking                | 23641.03          |
| 1002                | AM SOUTH 5 yr CD                 | 15033.16          |
| 1003                | TNB-P May Brokerage Acc          | 16560.33          |
| 1004                | 2 YR CD 2/01                     | 5882.63           |
| 1005                | PMAY 2 YR CD                     | 5918.36           |
| 1007                | B. Stearns/P May mutual fund     | 4224.00           |
| 1008                | A/R NSF Checks                   | 162.25            |
| 2002's              | Fixed Assets (less depreciation) | 2671.00           |
| <b>Total Assets</b> |                                  | <b>\$74092.76</b> |

| Liabilities |               |        |
|-------------|---------------|--------|
| Account     | Description   | Amount |
| 2002's      | Taxes Payable | 557.77 |

| Equity                              |                               |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Account                             | Description                   | Amount            |
| 3010                                | General Fund                  | 35475.61          |
| 2120                                | Peggy May Fund                | 24399.72          |
| 2130                                | ANRT Fund                     | 2502.52           |
| 2140                                | 2YCRT Fund                    | 968.20            |
| 2150                                | GODORT Fund                   | 335.05            |
| 2160                                | LIRT Fund                     | 596.91            |
| 2170                                | YPSRT Fund                    | 2230.17           |
| 2180                                | ECTRT Fund                    | 400.67            |
| 2190                                | TSRT Fund                     | 880.14            |
| 2210                                | SCRT Fund                     | 307.08            |
| 2220                                | NMRT Fund                     | 212.30            |
| 2250                                | Black Caucus Fund             | 224.03            |
| 2260                                | Past President's Fund         | 146.16            |
| 2270                                | Property Furniture & Fixtures | 137.68            |
| 2280                                | Property Equip & Compute      | 1424.26           |
| 3900                                | Retained Earnings             | 2833.02           |
|                                     | Net Income                    | 6127.51           |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                 |                               | <b>\$73534.99</b> |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b> |                               | <b>\$74092.76</b> |

## MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION "Income as of May 31, 2002"

| Account                    | Description                           | 2002 Budget | YTD (may02) |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>General Income</b>      |                                       |             |             |
| 5200                       | Membership Dues                       | 17500.00    | 13820.00    |
| 5202                       | Interest - General Fund               | 500.00      | 374.92      |
| 5205                       | Other Income (MLA/LSTA Grant 7907.00) |             | 8076.18     |
| <b>MS Libraries Income</b> |                                       |             |             |
| 5221                       | ML Advertising                        | 2000.00     | 537.50      |
| 5222                       | ML Subscriptions                      | 500.00      | 320.00      |
| 5223                       | ML Other Income                       |             | 140.00      |
| <b>NLW Income</b>          |                                       |             |             |
| 5301                       | NLW Registration                      | 5500.00     | 4600.00     |
| 5302                       | NLW Promo Materials                   | 100.00      | 76.50       |
| <b>Peggy May Income</b>    |                                       |             |             |
| 5351                       | Interest Income - Peggy May           |             | 143.29      |
| 5352                       | Peggy May Donations                   |             | 293.00      |
| <b>Roundtable Income</b>   |                                       |             |             |
| 5610                       | ANRT Membership Income                |             | 78.00       |
| 5620                       | 2YCRT Membership Income               |             | 72.00       |
| 5630                       | GODORT Membership Income              |             | 21.00       |
| 5640                       | LIRT Membership Income                |             | 57.00       |
| 5650                       | ECTRT Membership Income               |             | 18.00       |
| 5660                       | NMRT Membership Income                |             | 45.00       |

## Roundtable Income (cont.)

|      |                                |       |
|------|--------------------------------|-------|
| 5670 | YPSRT Membership Income        | 69.00 |
| 5680 | TSRT Membership Income         | 84.00 |
| 5690 | SCRT Membership Income         | 18.00 |
| 5695 | Black Caucus Membership Income | 98.00 |

## Convention Income

|      |                            |          |          |
|------|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| 5550 | MS Author Awards           | 5000.00  | 115.00   |
| 5510 | Convention Registration    |          | 12000.00 |
| 5520 | Convention Exhibit Fees    | 22000.00 | 4550.00  |
| 5530 | Convention Donations       | 3000.00  | 1000.00  |
| 5440 | Convention General Session | 5000.00  | 898.81   |

## Total Income

**\$35505.20**

## MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION "Expenditures as of May 31, 2002"

| Account                              | Description                         | 2002 Budget | YTD (may02) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>            |                                     |             |             |
| 6001                                 | Executive Secretary Salary          | 11960.00    | 4278.00     |
| 6004                                 | Executive Secretary FICA            | 1079.37     | 371.13      |
| 6100                                 | Accounting Fees                     | 2505.00     | 918.75      |
| 6210                                 | Bank Charges                        | 500.00      | 49.90       |
| 6220                                 | Bank Credit Card Fees               |             | 118.13      |
| 6320                                 | Postage                             | 1750.00     | 426.80      |
| 6340                                 | Office Expenses                     | 1000.00     | 421.48      |
| 6350                                 | Telephone                           | 2000.00     | 885.98      |
| 6360                                 | Dues - ALA & SELA                   | 200.00      | 100.00      |
| 6410                                 | Travel - President                  | 2750.00     |             |
| 6420                                 | Travel - Vice President             | 2250.00     |             |
| 6430                                 | Travel - ALA Councilor              | 1250.00     |             |
| 6440                                 | Travel - SELA Representative        | 750.00      |             |
| <b>Section Expense</b>               |                                     |             |             |
| 6510                                 | ACRL                                | 500.00      |             |
| 6520                                 | Public                              | 500.00      |             |
| 6530                                 | School                              | 500.00      |             |
| 6540                                 | Special                             | 500.00      | 21.20       |
| 6550                                 | Trustee                             | 500.00      |             |
| <b>Committee Expense</b>             |                                     |             |             |
| 6610                                 | Awards                              | 150.00      |             |
| 6620                                 | Conservation                        |             |             |
| 6630                                 | Legislative                         | 1500.00     | 621.72      |
| 6650                                 | NLW                                 | 5000.00     | 12480.69    |
| 6640                                 | Membership                          | 200.00      |             |
| <b>Convention Expense</b>            |                                     |             |             |
| 6710                                 | Convention Exp - Exhibits           | 5000.00     |             |
| 6720                                 | Convention Exp - General Session    | 5000.00     | 1426.88     |
| 6750                                 | Convention Exp - Local Arrangements | 5000.00     |             |
| 6760                                 | Convention Exp - Registration       | 200.00      |             |
| 6730                                 | Convention Exp - Printing           | 200.00      |             |
| 6770                                 | MS Author's Award Expense           | 5000.00     |             |
| <b>Roundtable Expense</b>            |                                     |             |             |
| 6865                                 | TSRT                                |             |             |
| <b>Mississippi Libraries Expense</b> |                                     |             |             |
|                                      | ML - Total                          | 19000.00    | 7157.02     |
| 6910                                 | ML - Mailing                        |             | 189.55      |
| 6920                                 | ML - Miscellaneous Expense          |             | 7.48        |
| 6930                                 | ML - Printing                       |             | 6960.00     |

## Total Expenses

**\$29277.69**

# MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

*It is not too late to take advantage of conference  
discount rates through December 2002*

## MEMBERSHIP YEAR

☐ 2002 (January-December 2002)

☐ 2003 (January-December 2003)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Library \_\_\_\_\_  
Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Library \_\_\_\_\_

New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐

## 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 and up      | \$50 per year | \$ _____ |

|  |               |          |
|--|---------------|----------|
| Student (full-time)                                    | \$ 5 per year | \$ _____ |
| Trustee  | \$15 per year | \$ _____ |
| Friends and others not employed<br>by a library agency | \$15 per year | \$ _____ |
| Institutional Membership                               | \$45 per year | \$ _____ |

**A. MEMBERSHIP TYPES SUBTOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_



<http://www.lib.usm.edu/~mla/home.html>

## B. SECTIONS

All MLA memberships include membership in **one** section.

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Academic (ACRL)             | \$ _____ |
| Public                      | \$ _____ |
| School                      | \$ _____ |
| Special                     | \$ _____ |
| Trustee                     | \$ _____ |
| <b>B. SECTIONS SUBTOTAL</b> | \$ _____ |

## C. ROUNDTABLES

Join one or more roundtables for opportunities in professional  
growth **\$3.00 EACH**.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>ANRT</b><br>(Automation and Networking)          | \$ _____ |
| <b>BLACK CAUCUS</b>                                 | \$ _____ |
| <b>ECRT</b><br>(Educational Communication and Tech) | \$ _____ |
| <b>GODORT</b><br>(Government Documents)             | \$ _____ |
| <b>LIRT</b><br>(Library Instruction)                | \$ _____ |
| <b>NMRT</b><br>(New Members)                        | \$ _____ |
| <b>SCRT</b><br>(Special Collections)                | \$ _____ |
| <b>TSRT</b><br>(Technical Services)                 | \$ _____ |
| <b>2YCRT</b><br>(2 Year College)                    | \$ _____ |
| <b>YPSRT</b><br>(Young People's Services)           | \$ _____ |
| <b>C. ROUNDTABLES SUBTOTAL</b>                      | \$ _____ |

## D. SCHOLARSHIP

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Donation to Peggy May Scholarship | \$ _____ |
| <b>D. SCHOLARSHIP SUBTOTAL</b>    | \$ _____ |

## GRAND MLA TOTAL

**(DUES GRAND TOTAL (A + B + C) AND  
SCHOLARSHIP D)**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

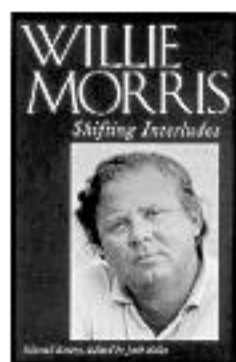
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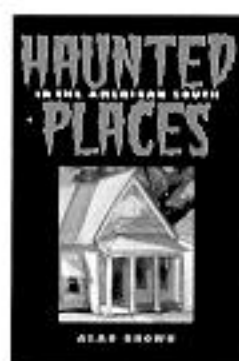
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