



MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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Mississippi Library Association

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The first anniversary of Hurricane Katrina may be of minor significance to some around our state, but to those who are still struggling to bring some semblance of normalcy to their lives, it is a day to stop and consider what still needs to be done as they redefine "normal" each and every day. Our communities are rebuilding as are our libraries. It does not surprise us to find that just as evacuees over-



Susan Cassagne

whelmed libraries to communicate with loved ones and to gather information immediately after the hurricane, they are still looking to their local libraries each and every day. While the circulation of books and materials may be down, circulation of information and communication, as well as stories shared, is up. The Internet has proven to be the medium of necessity for these needs. Some libraries have not reopened yet; some are serving their communities out of trailers or bookmobiles. And while librarians and staff themselves have been affected by this destructive storm, most have done what they always do – provide excellent library service to their communities as they all rebuild.

"Libraries Help Re-Build Communities" is the theme of our 2006 Annual Conference, which will be held in Tunica, October 24-27, 2006. Check the MLA Web site, <http://www.misslib.org/activities/conf/index.php>, or elsewhere in this issue for more information, and please make plans to attend. This year's conference has something for everyone. From adaptive technology to encouraging teen use of libraries, from lessons learned from Katrina to wireless connectivity, and from babies to book clubs, you will find programs to suit every interest. Of course, there will be CEU's available. Just be sure

to check the program and make certain you sign in when attending. In addition to the serious programs, you will also find programs loaded with fun.

The MLA Executive Board voted to provide **free advance registration for MLA members** from the three coastal counties. Meals and lodging are the responsibility of the registrant. Anyone failing to register in advance by the

deadline must pay the regular, on-site registration fee. The hotel and conference center are a short bus ride from the casino. We are looking forward to a bigger, better annual conference this year. Much appreciation goes to all who are duplicating programs they made last year or who are creating new programs for us this year. We look forward to meeting new friends, greeting old friends, learning, visiting, and enjoying our profession this October in Tunica.

It was my pleasure to attend the Opening General Session of the recent ALA Conference in New Orleans and to represent the state of Mississippi in accepting a check for \$50,000 from donations made through ALA and a check for \$7,500 from the Illinois Library Association (see News Briefs in this issue for pictures). As we did during National Library Week in April, we plan to present additional checks resulting from continued donations to the affected libraries during the upcoming MLA conference. The "Rebuild Mississippi Libraries" Fund is also still accepting donations. Please see the MLA Web site for more information.

As we work toward rebuilding our libraries and our communities, we will continue to work together; I hope to see you in Tunica! ■

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President's Page53

Recovering from Disaster55

Elizabeth Stephan, Editor, Mississippi Libraries

Depends on What You Mean by "Disaster"56

Peggy Price, Head, Special Collections, McCain Library & Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi

Consequences of Hurricane Katrina58

Iris Collins, School Media Specialist, Anniston Avenue Elementary School

Katrina Blew In and the House Did Not Fall60

Rahye Puckett, BPHLS Director; John L. Whitlock, Patron Services Director, Mississippi Library Commission, Blind and Physically Handicapped Library Services

Hurricane Katrina: One Year Later62

MLA Annual Conference Registration Form64

MLA Annual Conference Hotel Information65

MLA Annual Conference Program66

News Briefs74

About Books79

People in the News81

The cover of the fall *Mississippi Libraries* is *Large Daffodil* by Susan M. Lopez. Lopez, age 34, is earning her BFA from the University of Mississippi. Lopez has had work exhibited at several venues across the state of Mississippi including the Meridian Museum of Art; the Impressions Art Gallery in Hattiesburg; and Jackson State University. She has also exhibited work in Miami, Fla. and Jackson, Tenn. She currently has work displayed on the University of Mississippi campus in the George Street House, George Hall, and Bondurant Hall. She can be contacted at smlopez@olemiss.edu or (662) 715-9275.

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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

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

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

Recovering from Disaster

Elizabeth Stephan

Editor, Mississippi Libraries
Business Reference Librarian
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How do you define a disaster? An emergency? A catastrophe? There are as many different ways as there are different types of disasters and catastrophes. Last fall, August 29th, to be exact, the state of Mississippi was hit by Hurricane Katrina and it was a disaster, an emergency, and a catastrophe. How do you cope with a major disaster? How do you recover? When it's a personal or family emergency, friends and family rally around you to help – that is what I have learned this month. When it's a regional or statewide disaster, everyone from neighbors to strangers from around the nation pitches in to help – that is what we learned in the last year. In this issue of *Mississippi Libraries*, we look at the year after Katrina.

Peggy Price is Head of Special Collections and the chair of the Disaster Preparedness Committee at the University of Southern Mississippi. In her article, "Depends on What You Mean by Disaster?," Price looks at how the university weathered the storm. Like many, she thought she knew how to prepare for a hurricane, but Katrina was not a typical hurricane. She discusses the aftermath

and what was really lost during Katrina.

Iris Collins, School Media Specialist at Anniston Avenue Elementary School in Gulfport, recounts what it was like after Katrina in her article, "Consequences of Katrina." Anniston Avenue Elementary School opened for classes the beginning of October but there wasn't a library. And then they started to receive books, but they still didn't have a library. Collins describes how she and the students worked together to manage the book donations they received from all over the country, and how she was able to maintain a circulating collection without an OPAC.

One group that is often overlooked during a disaster is those with disabilities. In their article, "Katrina Blew in and the House did Not Fall," Rahye Puckett, Director, and John L. Whitlock, Patron Services Director at the Blind and Physically Handicapped Library in Jackson, discuss how BPHLS was able to reach their patrons affected by Hurricane Katrina.

In "Katrina: One Year Later," we look at where those libraries featured in "Hurricane Katrina Damage: A Summary" (*Mississippi Libraries*, Winter 2005) are today. Many have been able to recover fully while others are providing services from temporary buildings.

The fall issue is also the conference issue. In this issue you will find the con-

ference registration form, hotel information, as well as the conference program. The program and form can also be found on the MLA Web site at <http://www.misslib.org/activities/conf/index.php>. It will be nice to see everyone in Tunica, especially since we weren't able to convene in Vicksburg last year.

We have an extended News Briefs section this issue. A lot has been going on in the last few months, especially with ALA being in New Orleans. As Susan mentions in her column, the Mississippi Library Association has been the recipient of donations from several different associations. Pictures of Susan accepting the checks from ALA and the Illinois Library Association can be found in News Briefs.

The winter issue of *Mississippi Libraries* will focus on archives and special collections in Mississippi. If you have an idea or suggestion for an article, please contact me (estephan@olemiss.edu) or assistant editor Lauren Young (lmyoung@rowland.umsmed.edu).

On a personal note, I wasn't as involved with this issue as normal. Due to a family emergency I had to return to my home state of Iowa for a week. Thank you to everyone, especially assistant editor Lauren Young and copyeditor/business manager Tisha Zelter, for stepping in when I wasn't able to. ■

Join MLA!

Fill out and return the membership card located on the inside back cover of *Mississippi Libraries* and be a part of the ever continuing promotion of libraries throughout Mississippi.

Depends on What You Mean by “Disaster”

Peggy Price

Head, Special Collections

The McCain Library & Archives

The University of Southern Mississippi

Abstract

When Hurricane Katrina moved disaster from textbook to reality, Peggy Price, Special Collections Librarian at the University of Southern Mississippi, learned first hand what worked and what didn't. Price shares which preparations were realistic and worked, which ones needed work, and reflects on the perspective she gained in the aftermath of a disaster that was ultimately measured in lives lost, not materials lost.

Planning for Theoretical Disasters

As chair of my library's Disaster Preparedness Committee and Head of Special Collections, hurricanes make me understandably nervous. I worry more about our irreplaceable manuscripts of children's books like *A Wrinkle in Time* and *Curious George* than my own possessions. I imagine the roof peeling off of the building or windows blowing out one after another and rain destroying the entire documentary history of my University. Visions of water cascading into our first-floor storage and soaking an entire run of *St. Nicholas Magazine* keep me on edge when the weather alerts show up on the Internet, the familiar cone shape of the hurricane's estimated path stretching toward Mississippi, maybe Hattiesburg.

In August 2005, I thought I knew how to plan for a disaster. After six years at the McCain Library & Archives at the University of Southern Mississippi, I was sort of used to the routine. My library maintains a disaster plan, a good plan, updated regularly and kept in binders in every department, plus an electronic version on the library's internal Web page. The Disaster Preparedness Committee (DPC) reviews the plan. Committee members attend SOLINET workshops, check flashlight batteries and supplies, and develop edu-

cational and appropriate activities for the committee throughout the year. When hurricanes threaten the Mississippi Gulf Coast, the DPC transforms into the Disaster Response Action Team (DRAT) and we all spring into action like librarian super-heroes. Blinds are closed, materials moved away from windows. We cover special collections ranges in plastic and move exhibit cases to the center of the rooms and remove art from the walls. We keep emergency numbers in our pockets. We hope we won't need them.

When Ivan was on his way in 2004, DRAT and Special Collections took proper precautions, going through the drill described above. He swung to the right just before landfall and spared Mississippi altogether. Hurricane Dennis looked to be headed our way in July of 2005, but south Mississippi ended up with dry, gorgeous sunny skies instead. By the time Hurricane Katrina posed an imminent threat to Mississippi, with mandatory evacuations across the coastal counties, DRAT and Special Collections personnel were on top of our preparedness game.

August 28 was a Sunday. Hattiesburg, about sixty miles inland, was a convenient destination for those escaping the predicted Category 5 hurricane. Evacuees from further south continued to stream through the city while residents bought water and canned goods and filled bathtubs and covered windows. Library department heads, DRAT, and folks from Special Collections called one another on cell phones and rushed around the libraries performing the same activities we had done several times before, but this one, we decided as the weather began to change, looked serious. The projected path sent Katrina up the center of the state, right over our heads.

We did all we could do to prepare the library before tending to our personal lives, and fortunately, our collections were spared. In retrospect, I see that I was always preparing for some idea of a disaster. Although I was trained in preservation and participated in many hands-on recov-

ery workshops where we learned how to deal with wet and soiled books and photographs, I assumed too much. I assumed I would have water, access to a generator, access to fuel for the generator, access to communication devices, access to the library! I knew how to prepare, I knew how to recover, but I did not how to get across town after one hundred mile per hour winds knocked down every other tree in the area and blocked ninety percent of the city's streets.

Aftermath

The weather was extremely dry, but hot. There was no electricity, no water, and very few streets were passable in cars because of the thousands of fallen trees. Most people got out and walked. Some landlines were functioning, but in-state calls returned busy signals. Cell phone service was patchy; mine did not work at all. I made it to McCain Library and prowled around in the dark checking on the stacks. But for a couple of leaky windows, everything looked fine. Meanwhile, the situation in town grew desperate and confusing. Local radio stations were down. Without a battery-powered television, it was impossible to know what was happening, what had happened, what was going on. Businesses and homes were wrecked. Trees had smashed cars and roofs. The new precious commodities were gasoline, ice, and water. At some point I was able to drive to the newspaper facility and pick up a *Hattiesburg American*. It was announced that the University of Southern Mississippi would be closed until September 6 (later moved to the twelfth). Through the newspaper and the cable radio in my parent's SUV, I began to finally accept the enormity of the disaster. This was beyond disaster; this was catastrophe.

As it turned out, my collections made it through just fine, but there were certainly larger issues demanding attention, like the whereabouts and safety of my colleagues. The size and scope of this disaster were

difficult to absorb. Most of us had no CNN, no Internet, no images beyond those we were able to view ourselves around town until the newspaper began circulating again. While I was trained to focus on protecting and recovering my collections, if there had been damage, what priority should the materials take in the face of such a large-scale human crisis? A man in Hattiesburg shot and killed his own sister for a bag of ice. Would we really allocate precious fuel (if we could find it) for generators to power up the AC? Clean books with scarce water? Even devote time to address damaged materials when families were in desperate straits? I think not. No, I know not. Katrina taught us many lessons about actual vs. theoretical disasters, and in reality, people come first.

Lessons Learned

Our disaster plan is a fine plan, as long as we acknowledge that there are serious and important limitations. Katrina challenged the Disaster Preparedness Committee's concept of what "disaster" really means. In our first post-hurricane DPC meeting, we determined that our plan is perfect for a disaster that targets the library and only the library. A broken pipe, sure, we can handle that. Leaks and floods? We got those covered. When the entire infrastructure of the city and a large portion of the state cave in, we need to

keep the situation in perspective.

First of all, none of us may be able to get to the library for a variety of reasons. Even if we are able, access to campus could possibly be forbidden for longer than the crucial forty-eight hours, as it was at USM's Gulf Park site. Second, once we arrive, the magical generator power and water may not materialize. Third, local companies with extra freezer space might not have power either – if they are even still standing. And lastly, in the face of a major catastrophe, even recovery companies like Blackmon Mooring become overloaded and might not get to our library anytime soon.

Challenges inspired creative solutions and possibilities from the DPC. For example, communication was the central problem in the aftermath of Katrina. We discussed the idea of a "disaster buddy," that is, another library in a distant state that might operate as a message center. We are currently developing this concept. Another communication tool is a simple one: a message board at the back of the library for those of us who visit campus, if we are able, after a storm.

New Strategies

Perhaps the most promising outcome from Hurricane Katrina is the connection forming across Mississippi organizations and institutions that are entrusted with protecting the state's cultural resources.

Leadership from the Mississippi Humanities Council, Mississippi Library Commission, Mississippi Arts Commission, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History began the conversation and opened up meetings to representatives from across the cultural heritage landscape. Librarians, artists, archivists, curators, and others are hoping to combine fiscal and intellectual resources to address future disasters.

I am optimistic and excited about the potential for a Cultural Heritage Disaster Network in Mississippi. Such a group could lobby for collaborative, state-of-the-art storage facilities with conservation labs at key geographic locations. Proper climate control and storage space are luxuries many cultural heritage institutions did not enjoy enough of, if at all, even before Katrina. Together we might invest in freezer trucks, contracts with recovery companies, disaster training, and other mutually beneficial projects. Further, those generous and kind professionals from other areas who travel to Mississippi to assist with cultural heritage recovery would have a central point of contact for needs assessment information, support, and directions. Stay tuned for more activity on this front as we all get our operations back up and running, update our disaster plans, and prepare for the next season. ■

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Consequences of Hurricane Katrina

Iris Collins

School Media Specialist

Anniston Avenue Elementary School

Abstract

Hurricane Katrina destroyed Anniston Avenue Elementary School's library on August 29, 2005. This article is a brief overview of how Iris Collins, elementary school librarian at Anniston Avenue, and the students dealt with the consequences of Katrina. Following Katrina, classes resumed on October 3. With the help of generous donors, the destroyed collection was rebuilt and with the help of students, the collection was organized.

What is a librarian to do with children arriving only five weeks after Hurricane Katrina struck and no library or library collection? She is rescued by strangers. After Katrina's destruction was broadcast nationwide, readers across the country replaced the collection of Anniston Avenue Elementary School. As soon as phone service was restored, the phone began to ring as generous readers from across the United States called to alert us to the impending arrival of donated books. Readers of all walks of life: parents, retired teachers, Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, church groups, school librarians, teachers, businesses, and so many others, could not bear to think of a student body without books. Boxes and boxes of books were shipped via UPS and the U.S. Postal Service, delivered in person, "hitch-hiked" with the innumerable church volunteers, and transported by eighteen-wheelers.

We received hundreds of boxes of books but had nowhere to store them. The library had a new roof and the ruined contents were removed, but all that remained of the library interior were cinderblock walls and a concrete floor. Because so many houses were destroyed, our enrollment decreased; therefore, there were empty classrooms, and an empty kindergarten classroom became a temporary library. The school's dolly and

I became inseparable. In late October after opening the 500th box, I decided to stop counting. The boxes just kept coming... and coming... and coming.

What were we to do with all these books? The library had no furniture, no shelving, no computers, no automation system, and most importantly, no existing collection. But there were books in those boxes. The next question: What do you do with classes that come to the library every forty minutes? You have them help you sort and organize books. Students unpacked boxes. They separated fiction from non-fiction and sorted books



Students sort donated books. Photo by Elizabeth Bennington.

were given to the students for home libraries and to the teachers to restock their lost classroom libraries. A wonderful collection of literature sets was created with all the duplicate titles.

What about circulating the new collection? We didn't have a circulation system. We revived the old paper-and-pencil method. Students checked out their own books by writing the date, the title, and the author on paper. Students learned about pseudonyms, double names, multiple authors/illustrators, sub-titles, and so much more. They began to talk about books while they were waiting to check out and/or return their books.

Where do students sit in a temporary library without furniture? On the floor, surrounded by their custom-made shelves. To them, this was a great adventure – until November when those tiled floors became cold.

By the end of January the library was



Students at Anniston Avenue Elementary School sort donated books by genre. Photo by Elizabeth Bennington.

either alphabetically by author or numerically by Dewey. They covered boxes with bulletin board paper and decorated them according to topics, and those boxes became the new library shelves. The boxes were arranged on the floor according to Dewey classes or alphabetically for Fiction and E for "Everybody Books."

And then the frequency of the donations increased. The hard-back books that met the collection development policy of the library were re-boxed and pushed into a corner. When the corner was full, an empty textbook storage room was found. Books that did not meet the requirements of the collection development policy



Students covered boxes with paper to make temporary box "shelves." Photo by Elizabeth Bennington.



Anniston Avenue Elementary's temporary library. Photo by Elizabeth Bennington.

renovated. The mold was removed, new carpet was installed, new paint was on the walls, new light fixtures were in place, and new ceiling tiles were installed. Furniture and shelving had arrived and were installed. How did we move the donated collection to the library? With help from the students, of course. The students were thrilled to move the cardboard boxes of books to the library. The donated books were transferred to the shelves, and the students had a stomp-the-box party when everything was moved. "Stomp the box" was great therapy for them – they were able to take out their frustrations on those boxes.

There were other issues in addition to just shelving books. Teachers expected their electronic reading program to function. By January the server and computers were finally operational, but the col-

lection consisted of donated, uncataloged, non-electronic-reading-program-labeled paperback books. The most wonderful (and patient) volunteer took on the task of comparing each and every title to our electronic reading program listing. The volunteer noted (with a permanent marker) the reading

level on the cover of the paperbacks.

More than just books

What does a librarian do when the patrons (students, teachers, parents) do not understand that they cannot use the OPAC to locate a specific title or the availability of a book? "What do you mean I can't search the collection?" they asked. Students were confused that there were computers in the library, and yet they were still using paper and pencil to check out books. "What do you mean that the donated books are not barcoded?" they demanded. "What is cataloging?" they inquired. This offered the opportunity to explain what cataloging is, why the OPAC could not be accessed, and how it all fit together. Whether they wanted it or not, patrons received a lesson in how the library operates.

At the end of the school year, we were told that library would not be accessible during the summer. This is when we would normally unpack the new book orders, catalog the donated books, and complete numerous other tasks required to function normally the next school year. Why wouldn't the library be open? The library was

the only space with carpet and all the school's damaged tile floors were being replaced. The main office needed to store items in a secure location – the library. We calmly smiled because we were thankful for the new shelving, furniture, carpet, and paint; we were most thankful for the new books.

Summary

Anniston Avenue Elementary School will be forever grateful to generous booklovers from across country. Books of every genre, in all conditions – from the new purchase to the gently loved to the well-loved book – were given from the heart. The donors gave and gave, from the child who chose a favorite book from a personal collection, to the people in Phoenix, Arizona, who sent an eighteen-wheeler with thirteen pallets of books that had been collected, organized, and shipped by a Boy Scout working on his Eagle Badge project. Donors drove from Maine, Ohio, and South Carolina just to bring books for our children. School librarians donated their book fair profits, students collected money and bought books, and teachers forfeited their classroom wish list gifts. We were adopted by so many kind and generous readers – too many to name them all, but we have a wall of fame for them. Without all these lovers of books, our students would have been without books. ■



The Stomp the Box activity proved to be great therapy for students. Photo by Elizabeth Bennington.



A Wall of Fame was established in honor of everyone who donated books to Anniston Elementary. This picture shows the Wall of Fame in its early stages. Photo by Elizabeth Bennington.

Katrina Blew In and the House Did Not Fall

Rahye Puckett, BPHLS Director
John L. Whitlock
Patron Services Director
Mississippi Library Commission
Blind and Physically Handicapped
Library Services

Abstract

Hurricane Katrina was the costliest and one of the deadliest hurricanes in the history of the United States. It was the sixth-strongest Atlantic hurricane ever recorded and the third-strongest landfalling U.S. hurricane ever recorded. It formed on August 23, 2005, and by the time it hit the Mississippi Gulf Coast, local and national authorities were unprepared for the consequences. Regional libraries for the blind and physically handicapped (National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped [NLS], Library of Congress) in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi were also not prepared, but with what transpired among them with no formal guidelines available, life could, to some extent, resume.

Isolated incidents of flooding to a facility; water leaks from roofs down through ceilings into collections; sun damage through windows reflecting off of cassette collections; fires; and on at least one occasion, a car driven through the wall of a regional library: the types of disasters experienced by regional libraries for the blind prior to September 2005. The Library of Congress could report nothing of such a magnitude as what was to take place when hurricanes Katrina and Rita ravaged the Gulf Coast. If one was to check the *NLS Network Manual* for procedures to follow in case of an emergency of this nature, they would have been out

of luck. Except for an NLS Technical Circular on Braille Preservation that provides guidelines to help librarians plan and maintain programs for preserving collections in the event of water disasters and mold outbreaks, a disaster of this magnitude over a broad geographical area is nowhere addressed. Fortunately, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi all have contractual agreements with the Utah State Library to handle Braille circulation and did not house substantial collections of Braille.

Blind and physically handicapped individuals nationwide receive library service through a network of cooperating libraries. Formal in structure, this cooperative network is supported at local, state, and federal levels. Additionally, NLS reports that a small number of formal cooperative agreements exist between two states to aid one another during times of disaster. These sorts of agreements are unique within the network, although quite possible where libraries share the same circulation software system.

Anyone working within the network of regional libraries realizes immediately that it is made up of a close-knit group of individuals who, at one time or another, have met at conferences and meetings, talked on the phone about common problems or concerns, chatted on listservs and speak a special language. Once Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck, concern for our fellow librarians and their staffs quickly became the issue. Although sporadic, communication was established almost immediately among the parties involved and staffs were accounted for.

The focus then shifted to the concern for patrons we knew were in the direct path of the winds and water. Once the storm moved inland, the Blind and Physi-

cally Handicapped Library Services (BPHLS) suffered brownouts and leakage into the facility and could not receive incoming communications for approximately one week. The BPHLS director could communicate outside the state with the Alabama regional librarian through her personal cell phone. The Alabama regional librarian, less affected than her counterpart in Mississippi, quickly got in touch with the head of the Network Services Section of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) of the Library of Congress. NLS, working in conjunction with the Comprehensive Mailing List System (CMLS) in Florida, identified the counties and/or zip codes in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, and suspended all magazine subscription mailings to the affected areas. By this time, the U.S. Postal Service had implemented similar procedures. CMLS is an automated system used to produce labels for distribution of NLS direct-circulation magazines, publications, order forms, and surveys to patrons, network libraries, and interested parties, based on information submitted by network libraries. All mailings were halted until CMLS was notified on an individual basis that service could resume. Two multistate centers (MSCs), working for NLS on a contractual basis, provide NLS publications, equipment, supplies, and interlibrary loan service for all NLS books and magazines to network agencies in their geographic areas and to each other. MSCE (East) in Ohio, as directed by NLS, froze all interlibrary loans and supplies destined for the three states affected by the hurricanes.

The Utah State Library, contracted to circulate Braille titles to Mississippi and the other two regional libraries, froze all

requests for affected counties and zip codes. NLS responded further by calling regional libraries where possible and asking them to report all machines and books reported lost or damaged in the storm, so that they could be replaced. NLS advised that patrons discard any materials damaged or affected by water for safety reasons. This was reiterated in newsletters and in calls to all regional libraries for patrons who might have evacuated throughout the country.

Keystone Library Automation System (KLAS) headquarters in Raleigh, South Carolina, immediately changed the patron status codes in BPHLS circulation databases to "K" for all affected patrons in Alabama and Mississippi, thereby allowing patrons who needed to return books and materials to do so. Because the service is on a turnaround basis, the process of issuing a mail card to replace such materials was halted until the individual reported a change of address or status. Alabama and Mississippi worked closely, as phone and power service permitted, to make sure books and materials would not be mailed to patrons served jointly by both regional libraries. NLS also coordinated with their contractual new book producers to halt mailing of completed titles and copies to the affected states until they were notified to resume shipping.

Within days, the home page of NLS at the Library of Congress (<http://www.loc.gov/nls>) was updated for the benefit of patrons trying to locate their nearest regional library. A link was provided that asked "Has your service been disrupted by Hurricane Katrina or Rita?" As quoted from this link, "You have no financial responsibility for library materials that our network provides when they are lost in a disaster. Because this service is a national network of libraries, your service can be restored temporarily wherever you find yourself. Subscriptions to magazines may be suspended until you find more permanent living arrangements." Surely this was a great relief to many who had lost everything and were trying to return normalcy to their lives.

The circulation department in Mississippi completed an in-house inventory early in September and requested a Rec-

onciliation Report from Data Management Inc. in Florida to handle NLS machines lost or damaged due to Hurricane Katrina. Also during September, as patrons converged in Jackson with or without their machines and materials, many dropped in to update their records and resume their service, oftentimes with only an address change. We were encouraged by their calm and were happy to see them safe and unharmed.

Lighthouse for the Blind, one of the businesses immediately affected in New Orleans, was the source for the Louisiana regional library for Braille embossing of their newsletter. Louisiana asked whether we in Mississippi could Braille their newsletter if they provided the address labels for their patrons. We were able to

download the newsletter from the Internet, convert it to Braille and send 112 copies to those patrons who needed this special format.

As we approach the one-year anniversary, patrons are still calling our toll-free number or walking in to give us their status. In Mississippi, 39 machines, 341 books on cassette tape and 2 descriptive videos were lost due to Hurricane Katrina. All active patrons have been accounted for; one who had suspended his service in 2005 died as a result of trying to wait out the storm in his home. What is encouraging is that favorite patrons have returned to the coast, are rebuilding their homes and living out of FEMA trailers, and are listening to books once again. ■

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Rebuilding our communities one volume at a time

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Dunedin Public Library



Wagner Branch Library

**GN Associates, Inc. 1349 Lakeshore Drive
Metairie, LA 70005**

glenn@glennnorton.com

1-888-828-0850

Hurricane Katrina: One Year Later

Thanks to Robert Lipscomb, Patricia Furr, Tisha Zelner, Mary Perkins, Pamela Ladner, and Jeanie Ripoll.

For more information on news and events relating to Hurricane Katrina, see News Briefs in this issue of *Mississippi Libraries*.

Hancock County Library System

The Hancock County Library System has library and information services available in three locations. The **Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Headquarters Library** is providing services to the public, including computers and free wireless Internet access, circulation of library materials, and meeting room space for community organizations. No time frame has been established for completion of the repairs to the building.

The **Kiln Public Library** suffered roof and window damage. No time frame has been established for completion of the repairs. The library is providing library and information services to the public, including computers and free wireless Internet, circulation of library materials, and meeting room space for community organizations.

The **Waveland Public Library** was totally destroyed by the storm. Rebuilding plans are in the beginning phase and no time frame has been established for completion of the new building.

The **Pearlington Public Library**

was also totally destroyed. No decision has been made about the future of this building. In the meantime, the **Pearlington Mobile Library** has opened on the site of the former library, providing services to the public.

Harrison County Library System

Harrison County currently has various levels of service at six locations. They are providing service via a donated bookmobile in **D'Iberville** and expect that facility to be remodeled and reopened by fall 2006. The **Biloxi Library** has been cleaned out and gutted. It will be remodeled and reopened; however, no decision has been made about a time frame yet because of ongoing debates with the insurance companies.

No decision has been made about the future of the Headquarters Library in **Gulfport**. The headquarters is currently operating in Pass Christian out of a modular building donated for use by the Dupont Corporation.

Operations are normal at the **Margaret Sherry, West Biloxi, Saucier** and **Orange Grove** facilities.

William Carey College

The William Carey College on the Coast Library officially reopened for the summer session in two doublewide trailers on the soccer field behind the original campus buildings on Beach Boulevard. Classes are being taught in sixteen modular buildings on the temporary campus that the library now serves. The library itself has \$75,000 of new furniture and shelving to house the 6,500 books that were rescued from the old facility post-Katrina. Donations totaling \$35,000 have been



Doublewide trailers are being used for classrooms at William Carey College in Gulfport. The library is in two of the trailers at the end of the row. Photo by Jeanna Graves.

received to purchase books to replace those lost in the storm. Librarian Peggy Gossage is very happy to be back in a facility on the Gulf Coast after driving back and forth to the main campus in Hattiesburg for over eight months. The students seem very grateful to have access to the library and its \$10,000 worth of new computer equipment purchased with grant money from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine and the Mississippi Humanities Council. A replacement campus, complete with a new library building, is in the planning stages and will eventually be built at a location north of I-10.



The new, temporary library reference area at William Carey College in Gulfport. Most of the books pictured were salvaged from the old library. Photo by Jeanna Graves.



Another view of the current library at William Carey College. Photo by Jeanna Graves.

Jones County Junior College

Terrell Tisdale Library, on the campus of Jones County Junior College, sustained moderate damage from Hurricane Katrina. An oak tree near the building fell onto the roof, causing damage to the façade. A few feet away, further roof damage resulted in the loss of almost two hundred books in a special collection of works by Mississippi authors. The fiction and children's sections were decimated, and many of the books destroyed are no longer in print. College administrators were the first to view the damage, and their quick action in removing the wet books from the shelves made it possible to salvage many titles as well as the shelves themselves. A roofing project was in progress at the time of the storm, so repairs were made quickly. The library staff located replacements for most of the titles from out of print booksellers, and insurance funds were adequate to cover those purchases.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Jackson County

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Jackson County Campus Library received considerable water and wind damage during Hurricane Katrina resulting in the growth of mold to the col-

lection and structural damage to the building. Faced with major repairs, MGCCC – Jackson County chose to use the needed repairs as a catalyst to renovate the library. Repairs included the replacement of the east wall, new carpeting, drywall replacement, new windows, and fresh paint. All shelving on the first floor was replaced; the replacement and relocation of the bookshelves enabled the library to change its layout, affording a larger student study area upstairs. Public service areas were combined making it easier for students to use. The reference and circulation desks were combined to create a centrally located information desk, and two exhibit cases were purchased with money donated by the Friends of the Mississippi Library Association.

University of Southern Mississippi-Gulf Coast Campus

Six weeks after landfall of Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005, the University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast resumed classes in leased space at the HealthMark Center in Gulfport, Miss. A library facility was established as part of the temporary facility.

By leasing approximately half of the total square footage of the complex, the University of Southern Mississippi was

able to convert a part of the healthcare facility into instructional and office space as evaluations were made of the university's heavily-damaged Long Beach campus.

The first floor of the Gulf Coast library was badly damaged by Katrina. The Mississippi

State Institutions of Higher Learning is committed to the restoration of the Long Beach Campus. The library hopes to reopen on the Long Beach campus by the fall of 2007.

Long Beach Public Library

The Long Beach Public Library is still operating out of a FEMA trailer, but library director Jeannie Ripoll reports that a considerable amount of work has been done on the rebuilding of the library facility with completion expected within a matter of months. One major problem has been finding someone to do the air conditioner work; the library requires new ductwork as theirs was knocked to the floor and subsequently destroyed by the flooding. The city still has no funds to offer for the rebuild, which is being supported by monies from grants, donations, and the library's Friends group. ■



The replacement and relocation of the bookshelves enabled the library at MGCCC-Jackson County to change its layout, affording a larger student study area upstairs. Photo by Elizabeth Minter.



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our
Website:
www.misslib.org**



REGISTRATION / NAME TAG INFORMATION

Name _____
 Library/Business _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Telephone _____

Mississippi Library Association

2006 Annual Conference

October 25-27, 2006 - Grand Casino, Tunica

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MONDAY OCT. 9, 2006

☐ I require special assistance ☐ First time attendee ☐ E-mail ☐ ALA
☐ I require vegetarian meals ☐ I require early registration (Tuesday, 10/24/06) ☐ SELA

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

FULL CONFERENCE	ON-SITE	ADVANCE	AMOUNT
2006 MLA Paid Member	\$40.00	\$30.00	
Non-member	\$50.00	\$40.00	
MLS-MLIS Student	\$20.00	\$15.00	
Exhibits Badge Only	\$5.00	\$5.00	
Coastal Libraries (Jackson, Hancock, Harrison - advance registration fee for MLA members waived)		FREE	
			Total: _____
ONE DAY CONFERENCE	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2006 MLA Paid Member	\$30.00	\$20.00	
Non-member	\$37.00	\$27.00	
MLS-MLIS Student	\$13.00	\$8.00	
Friends of MS Libraries (FREE Badge on Friday Only)	Badge	Badge	
			Total: _____

PRE-REGISTRATION MEALS AND PROGRAMS

Tuesday, October 24, 2006	COST	AMOUNT
Adaptive Technology Workshop reservation required Funded by MLC	FREE	YES NO
First Regional Library Presidential Bash	FREE	YES NO
Wednesday, October 25, 2006	COST	AMOUNT
Pre-Order Box Lunch Please indicate if attending Accreditation program: YES NO	\$14.00	
Black Caucus Scholarship Luncheon Sponsor: Black Caucus Roundtable Funded by MLC	\$22.00	
Afternoon Tea with Authors Sponsored by Friends of Mississippi Libraries	Reservation required (FREE)	YES NO
Dinner with Charlene Harris Sponsored by Public Library & Trustee Sections and funded by The Mississippi Library Commission	\$32.00	
		Total: _____
Thursday, October 26, 2006	COST	AMOUNT
University Library Directors Breakfast limited to Library Directors only	\$15.00	
2YCRT Breakfast Jennifer Leimer, MGCCC Dir. of Distance Education Funded by MLC	\$15.00	
Storytelling "Dinner Theatre" Please Circle Time You Wish to Attend:	Reservation required (FREE)	YES NO
9:00 am 3:30 pm Sponsored by MLA School Libraries Section Funded by MLC		
Pre-Order Box Lunch	\$14.00	
Deborah Wiles YPSRT Luncheon Sponsored by YPSRT Funded by MLC	\$22.00	
ACRL Luncheon - Dr. Carol Tenopir Sponsored by ACRL Funded by MLC	\$22.00	
Mississippi Author Awards Dinner Sponsored by the MLA Author Awards Committee	\$34.00	
		Total: _____
Friday, October 27, 2006	COST	AMOUNT
Special Library Section Breakfast - Dr. David Alsobrook Sponsor: Special Library Section	\$15.00	
Past Presidents Breakfast - Limited to Past MLA Presidents	\$15.00	
MLA Awards Luncheon - Sponsored by the MLA Awards Committee	\$22.00	
		Total: _____
		Grand Total: _____

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ Bill my Organization listed above P.O. # _____

CARD # _____

EXP DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

NO REFUND

MLA CONFERENCE INFORMATION: 801-951-4568
<http://www.mla-lib.org> (801) 951-4501 Fax

MAIL REGISTRATION & PAYMENT TO:

Mississippi Library Association
 Conference Registration
 P. O. Box 13687 • Jackson, MS 39295-9687

**Mississippi Library Association's
Annual Conference - 2006
"Libraries Help Rebuild Community"
Hotel Information**

Place: Grand Casino - Tunica, Mississippi

Theme: Libraries Help Rebuild Communities

Dates: October 24-27, 2006

Conference Facilities: Adjacent to the conference hotel, separate from gaming area

Hotel Reservations:

For reservations, call: 1-800-39-GRAND (1-800-394-7263) Ask for the MLA Conference Rate of \$59 per room. Use the following booking code: S10MLAC - Mississippi Library Association. (That is \$ one zero MLAC)

Veranda Resort Hotel:

The Veranda Resort, situated in stunning surroundings overlooking the golf course and Grand Lake, has 568 tempting rooms and suites, a sparkling outdoor swimming pool and whirlpool.

Grand Casino Tunica offers first-class amenities and your choice of accommodations on nonsmoking floors. Grand Casino Tunica also offers accessible rooms for guests with special needs.

FEATURES:

- Your choice of beds
- Alarm clock radio
- 27" television
- Coffeemaker
- Hairdryer
- Iron & ironing board
- Pay-per-view movies & video games
- Dry cleaning service available
- Safety deposit boxes at the front desk
- Internet access*
- Additional needs (roll-away, cribs, etc.) available upon request

(*Long distance rates may apply. Wireless available in the hotel lobby.)



Conference facilities are adjacent to the conference hotel, separate from gaming area



Veranda King Room



Preliminary Schedule

Tuesday, October 24th

Noon-5:00 p.m.

Registration: Grand Casino Conference Center, Tunica

1:00-4:30 p.m.

Adaptive Technology

Barbara Mates, ALA/ASCLA Vice President/President-elect, Cleveland (Ohio) Public Library and Dorothy Young, Director, Project START, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Workshop designed to raise awareness of adaptive and assistive technologies available for people with varying degrees of disability. Hands-on with state-of-the-art technology. Limited to 40 attendees.

Funded by the Mississippi Library Commission

5:00-7:00 p.m.

**COME TO
THE CONVENTION
EARLY ...
AND STAY UNTIL
FRIDAY!**

Presidential Bash: First Regional Library "Welcome to MLA!"

President's Reception honoring Susan Cassagne

***Celebrating the Art & Music of the Hills & Delta Regions
of Mississippi***

First Regional Library Headquarters, Hernando— Hwy 304 (just west of Hwy 51), NW corner of the Historic Hernando Square. Bus transportation from Tunica casino hotel will be available, or come on your own. Enjoy area art, crafts, music, and history. Eat BBQ here or dine afterwards at the award-winning Timbeaux's on the Square—Shop and enjoy Hernando...or head up to take in some Memphis nightlife!

Wednesday, October 25th

7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Registration

8:00-9:00 a.m.

MLA Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 25th (continued)

9:00-10:00 a.m.

MLA Legislative Committee

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Hurricane Katrina: Six Lessons Learned

Allisa Beck, Elizabeth Doolittle, Edward G. McCormack; Southern Mississippi Gulf Library

In the weeks and months following Hurricane Katrina, Gulf Coast residents and libraries alike learned what was important and how to cope with life-altering situations. *Sponsored by the Public Library Section.*

10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Drop-in Reception at the Tunica Public Library

Come by anytime during the day for some cookies and lemonade. *Sponsored by the Trustees and Friends of the R.C. Irwin Public Library.* (1285 Kenny Hill Ave., just west of Hwy. 61)

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Anime, Manga, and Comic Books: How to Appeal to the Teens Among Us

Amy Poe, Head Librarian, M.R. Dye Public Library, Horn Lake, MS

An overview of the genres of anime, manga, and comic books and why they make a great addition to a library's collection.

Sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee.

10:00 a.m.-Noon

Using Social Software to Share Your Library with the World

Max Anderson, SOLINET

Blogs, RSS, wikis, and other social software can be used effectively to announce to the world that your library is still here and serving the public whether you are in a physical building or not. This presentation will explore how to make this happen. *Sponsored by SOLINET.*

10:00 a.m.-Noon

University of Southern Mississippi—School of Library and Information Science: Southern Mississippi Focus Group.

Dr. M. Joy Norton, Dean, School of Library and Information Science

We invite all practitioners and library friends to attend this focus group.

We will report on the status of the school and invite your reviews and opinions. *Sponsored by USM School of Library and Information Science.*

11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Exhibits Open***Peggy May Scholarship Silent Auction***

Come by and place your bids on irresistible items that will please your family and friends. Bidding closes Thursday at 3:00 p.m. Items must be picked up by the time the exhibits close on Thursday. All proceeds benefit the Peggy May Scholarship Fund.

11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

Ticket Required

Virgia Brock-Shedd Scholarship Luncheon

Motivational Speakers and Authors Willie and Terica McKennis

When Willie McKennis was a young man his life revolved around gangs, drugs, and violence. His recent book, *Valley Low Mountain High* tells the inspirational story of how, with the help of Terica, he turned his life around. Their story shows that the love of God leads to forgiveness and redemption. *Sponsored by the Black Caucus Roundtable/Funded by the Mississippi Library Commission.*

Wednesday, October 25th (continued)

Noon

Ticket Required

Box Lunches for Vendors and Attendees

Order your box lunch on your conference registration form, pick it up and enjoy your meal while learning about ALA's Office on Accreditation or relaxing in the Convention Center.

Noon-2:00 p.m.

Box Lunch available

American Library Association Office on Accreditation: Your Role

Karen O'Brien, Executive Director of the Office of Committee on Education
Director O'Brien will present a brief history of the ALA Accreditation Process. She will explain the role that the practitioner may have in shaping the education of future librarians through their participation in the accreditation process. Box lunch available. (Request on registration form.)
Sponsored by the USM School of Library and Information Science.

2:00-3:30 p.m.

First General Session.

Bob Lipscomb, Director, Harrison County Library System
Short business meeting followed by keynote address. Come find out the very latest in what is happening at our coastal libraries.

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Poster Sessions I

Exhibit Hall

3:30-5:30 p.m.

An Afternoon Tea with Authors

Hear from authors of recently published Mississippi-related books and enjoy a cup of tea. *Sponsored by Friends of Mississippi Libraries.*

3:30-5:30 p.m.

PALMS Business Meeting*Private Academic Libraries of Mississippi*

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Dinner

Ticket Required

Twenty-Five Year Overnight Success

Join Mississippi native Charlene Harris as she talks about her long writing career, with emphasis on her life after the creation of her series' star Sookie Stackhouse . . . And look for a surprise visit from Bubba. *Sponsored by Public Library & Trustee Sections and funded by The Mississippi Library Commission*

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Mississippi Community and Junior College Library Deans & Directors

Business Meeting

Thursday, October 26th

7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Registration

7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

Ticket Required

2YCRT Breakfast

Distance Education's Impact on Library Services
Jennifer Leimer, MGCCC Director of Distance Education, discusses the growth of distance education. *Sponsored by 2YCRT (Two-year College Round Table) and funded by The Mississippi Library Commission.*

Thursday, October 26 (continued)

7:30-9:00 a.m.
Ticket Required

Mississippi University Library Directors Breakfast
Limited to University Library Directors.

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Exhibits

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Peggy May Scholarship Silent Auction

Come by and place your bids on irresistible items that will please your family and friends. Bidding closes Thursday at 3:00 p.m. Items must be picked up by the time the exhibits close on Thursday.

8:00-10:00 a.m.
Ticket Required

Storytelling Dinner Theatre

Diane Williams, Storyteller

Bring a story idea to a metaphorical buffet and choose a "menu" that includes gestures, openings and story elements. Participants will be equipped with techniques for meeting standards for student learning. Workshop space is limited to 35; please register. (There will be another session at 3:30.) CEU credit available.

Sponsored by MLA School Libraries Section and funded by The Mississippi Library Commission.

8:00-10:00 a.m.

Mississippi Auto-Graphics Users Group Meeting

Glenda Tilson, Mississippi Library Commission

Update on the Statewide Virtual Union Catalog and ILL System; panel discussion on in-house ILL routines; update and discussion for ILS users. Everyone welcome.

Sponsored by Auto-Graphics.

8:30-11:30 a.m.

EBSCO Magnolia Training

Kristina Krusmark

Come learn about the new and expanded database offerings through EBSCOhost and the MAGNOLIA Project. CEU credit available.

Sponsored by The MAGNOLIA Project.

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Mississippi Sirsi Users Group Meeting

New by-laws will be discussed and a vote taken. SirsiDynix representatives may present latest products. *Sponsored by MSUG.*

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Teaching Outside the Box: When Instruction Leaves the Library

Amy York, Middle Tennessee State University; Elizabeth Stephan, University of Mississippi; Adrienne Lee, University of Southern Mississippi

Librarians venture outside of traditional BI and teach in non-traditional settings. Distance instruction, satellite reference, and teaching a credit freshman orientation course will be discussed.

Sponsored by LIRT.

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Building Collaborations for Early Childhood in Mississippi: Resource & Referral Centers/Unique Partnerships

Dr. Cathy Grace, Dr. Louise Davis, Defti Wilson

Mississippi State University's Early Childhood Institute and Extension Service recently launched an effort to create a statewide network of Child Care Resource & Referral Centers. The R&R center partnerships include a university, community colleges, and a public library. CEU credit available.

Thursday, October 26 (continued)

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Fundraising for School Librarians

Joi Jones Phillips, Delta State University

Explore the pros and cons of fundraising activities for school libraries.

CEU credit available.

Sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee.

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Law for Librarians: Preview

Dr. Teresa Welsh

Dr. Welsh will share her experiences from the ALA Law for Librarians training. An overview of legal fundamentals of the First Amendment, intellectual freedom, and privacy will be provided.

Sponsored by the Intellectual Freedom Committee.

9:00-11:30 a.m.

Poster Sessions: Session II

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Teens: The Lost Library Patron

Ann Ivy King, Kathy Sparkman & Carol Phares

Swap meet of ideas followed by a short business meeting. *CEU credit available.*

Sponsored by Young People's Services Round Table.

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Life without MissIN: Better or Worse?

Angie King, Technology Specialist, First Regional Library

First Regional Library struck out on its own for Internet service this year.

A case study of the process will be presented.

Sponsored by ANRT.

10:00-11:00 a.m.

I'm Not a Babysitter: How to Express Your Worth to Teachers and Administrators

Ellen Ruffin, University of Southern Mississippi and Claire Thompson, Hattiesburg High School Librarian

School librarians are often taken for granted. Come learn how to express your worth and share ideas in this collaborative style workshop. *CEU credit available.*

Sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee.

10:00-11:30 a.m.

Just When You Think the Worst is Over . . . Solving the Left-over Technical Services Problems that Disasters Create

Bob Wolverton, Mississippi State University

When waters recede, they often leave behind a cataloging nightmare. Katrina veterans share their wisdom on dealing with database problems after a major disaster.

Sponsored by the MLA Technical Services Roundtable.

10:30-11:30 a.m.

Libraries & Wireless

Presenter TBA

Librarians talk about wireless.

Sponsored by Educational Communications & Technology Roundtable.

Thursday, October 26 (continued)

10:30-11:30 a.m.

Mississippi Reads GO DOWN MOSES

Pamela Pridgen, Director of The Library, Hattiesburg; Jolse Hussey, MLC Board of Commissioners; Dorothy Fitts, Head Librarian, Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library

Panel discussion on Mississippi Reads One Book with information on resources and program suggestions. *Sponsored by Mississippi Library Commission.*

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Luncheon

Ticket Required

Lunch with Deborah Wiles

If you've never heard Deborah Wiles (or even if you have) you're in for a treat! The author of *Love Ruby Lavender* and 2005 National Book Award Finalist *Each Little Bird that Sings* is always entertaining and articulate. *CEU credit available. Sponsored by YPSRT and funded by The Mississippi Library Commission.*

Noon-1:30 p.m.

Luncheon

Ticket Required

The Future of Technology

Dr. Carol Tenopir, Professor, Center for Information Studies, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, author of "On-Line Databases," LJ column since 1983
Catch a glimpse into the future of technology through the eyes of Dr. Tenopir. Her areas of teaching and research include information access & retrieval, electronic publishing, and the impact of technology on reference, librarians, and scientists. She is the author of five books. *Sponsored by ACRL and funded by The Mississippi Library Commission.*

2:00-3:00 p.m.

"Stepchild" Publications: Working with State Documents

Kathleen Wells, Senior Catalog Librarian, University of Southern Mississippi
Discussion of issues related to cataloging, classifying, and housing state government publications. *Sponsored by MLA/GODORT.*

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Cultural Unity: Building a Disaster Network in Mississippi

Moderators Peggy Price & Diane Ross
Panelists will discuss how cultural heritage professionals might cross institutional lines to protect the state's unique resources, build support networks, and possibilities for statewide collaboration on disaster planning. *Sponsored by the Special Collections Roundtable.*

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Circulation Discussion Group

Kaylene Behm, University of Southern Mississippi
Let's talk: ask your colleagues anything! *Sponsored by MLA.*

2:00-3:00 p.m.

What's New in Young Adult Literature?

Dr. Rosemary Chance, Dept. of Library Science, Sam Houston State University
Sit back, relax, and enjoy booktalks advertising the hottest and best YA titles of 2006! Pick up handouts on booktalking and featured titles. *CEU credit available. Sponsored by School Section.*

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Raise a Bookworm: Promoting Early Literacy

Frieda Quon and Hongyan Sim, Delta State University
"Born to Read," a literacy program for babies and toddlers is offered at Delta State. Learn from our experiences and start your own literacy program. *CEU credit available. Sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee.*

Thursday, October 26 (continued)

2:00-3:30 p.m.

Grolier Online Training*Cynthia Brown, Scholastic Library*

Come learn about this wonderful database available to K-12 through MAGNOLIA. CEU credit available. Sponsored by The MAGNOLIA Project.

3:00-4:00 p.m.

Ice Cream Social with Our Exhibitors

Drop in for an afternoon break with our exhibitors.

Sponsored by Library Interiors, Metairie, LA.

3:30-5:30 p.m.

One Woman's Vision: Lena Y. de Grummond Children's Collection—40 Years Later*Ellen H. Ruffin, Curator, deGrummond Collection*

A presentation honoring the work of Dr. Lena Y. de Grummond. The de Grummond Collection at the University of Southern Mississippi features works by over 12,000 authors and illustrators. CEU credit available.

Sponsored by Beta Phi Mu.

3:30-5:30 p.m.

Ticket Required

"Storytelling Dinner Theatre"*Diane Williams, Storyteller*

Bring a story idea to this metaphorical buffet and choose a "menu" that includes gestures, openings and story elements. Participants will be equipped with techniques for meeting standards for student learning. Workshop space is limited to 35; please register. CEU credit available.

Sponsored by MLA School Section

3:30-4:30 p.m.

What SOLINET Can Do for Your Library*Ron Leonard, SOLINET*

For up-to-date information on SOLINET's programs and offerings and how they can aid your library, plan to attend this session. All librarians, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Getting Students Into the School Library*Jolce Hussey, Mississippi Library Commission Board of Commissioners*

Participants will learn innovative ways to get students into the school library and share their own successful experiences. CEU credit available.

Sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee.

3:30-5:00 p.m.

Open WorldCat: An OCLC Program That Makes Your Collections Available Anytime & Anywhere*Ron Leonard, SOLINET*

Open WorldCat makes library materials available to Web users around the world. This session will identify the requirements for participation in this program, additional features, and examples of searches.

3:30-6:00 p.m.

Librarianship 101 Alumni Meeting

Past participants in Librarianship 101 Institute will gather for additional training and for a networking reception.

Sponsored by the Mississippi Library Commission.

Thursday, October 26 (continued)

6:30-8:30 p.m.
Ticket Required

MLA Author Awards Dinner

What a night this will be! MLA Author Award winners for 2005 *and* 2006 will be on hand to accept their awards and sign books. Books will be available for purchase.

Sponsored by the MLA Author Awards Committee.

Friday, October 27th

7:30 a.m.-Noon

Registration

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

Past Presidents Breakfast

Honoring the Mississippi Library Association's past presidents.
Limited to MLA Past Presidents.

8:00-9:30 a.m.
Breakfast
Ticket Required

A Bridge to the 21st Century: The Establishment of the Clinton Presidential Library

Dr. David E. Alsobrook, Director, Clinton Presidential Library

This presentation focuses on the planning, construction, and opening of the Clinton Presidential Library.

Sponsored by the Special Library Section.

9:00-10:00 a.m.

OCLC's Library Perceptions Survey: A Call to Action

Kate Nevins, SOLINET

This reports details users' views of the web and libraries. The results are surprising. The discussion will be lively. What do information seekers want?

Sponsored by Solinet.

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Beyond E-mail

Amy Poe, Head Librarian, M.R. Dye Public Library, Horn Lake, MS

An overview of the Internet mediums of RSS, podcasting, blogs, and social networking sites such as myspace.com.

Sponsored by Continuing Education Committee.

10:00 a.m.-noon

Book Clubs @ the Mississippi Library Association Conference

Encourage the enjoyment of books by all Mississippians—through readers' advisory activities, book clubs and other book events.

Sponsored by Friends of Mississippi Libraries.

Noon-2:00 p.m.
Ticket Required

MLA Awards Luncheon

At the close of our annual conference each year, we pause to honor our colleagues for outstanding professional achievement.

Sponsored by the MLA Awards Committee.

News Briefs

E-Journal Continuing Education Workshop Held at Mississippi State University

For a sixth year, NASIG's Continuing Education Committee joined with Mississippi State University Libraries and EBSCO Subscription Services to cosponsor an e-journal workshop for information professionals in the Deep South region. Held at Mitchell Memorial Library on July 14, 2006, this year's workshop, titled "Head 'em Up, Move 'em Out! Corraling the E-Journal Stampede," explored issues related to the role and management of e-resources in libraries. In attendance were over ninety information professionals from states across the south-east.

Keynote speaker T. Scott Plutchak, Director of the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, got the workshop off to a thought-provoking start with a presentation exploring the trends that are currently reshaping the distribution of information and the role of libraries. Subsequent presentations exploring e-resources were given by Michael Stephens of Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Andrea Cer-



From left to right the photo is of: Michael Stephens, Instructor at Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science; Kristin Antelman, Associate Director for the Digital Library at North Carolina State University; Andrea Cernichiari, Manager of Journal Business Development at Cambridge University Press; T. Scott Plutchak, Director of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham; Jerry Gilbert, Associate Provost at Mississippi State University; Rebecca Day, Manager of E-Resource Services Development at EBSCO Subscription Services; and Eric Novotny, Humanities Librarian at Pennsylvania State University. Photo by Jim Tomlinson.

nichiari of Cambridge University Press, Rebecca Day of EBSCO, Kristin Antelman of North Carolina State University, and Eric Novotny of Pennsylvania State University.

Based on the positive evaluations submitted by the attendees, this year's e-journal workshop can be deemed a success.

Although only one attendee was lucky enough to bring home as a door prize an autographed copy of a bestseller by MSU alumni John Grisham, all of the attendees left the workshop with increased enthusiasm and valuable insights that may allow them to solve the many mysteries that continue to surround the role and management of e-resources in libraries.

Busy Summer at Sunflower County Libraries

Things have really been happening in the Delta this summer, especially at the Sunflower County Libraries, according to Alice Shands, Director. During June and July, two Robertson Scholars from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill designed, scheduled and presented arts, literature and computer skills sessions at each of the system's four branch libraries as part of the Summer Reading Program. Gabriella Miyares, a sophomore English major from Jacksonville, Fla., and David Sneed, a sophomore political science major from Alexandria, Va., also conducted several video history interviews for the library archives.

William Carey College Receives Gift

William Carey College on the Coast in Gulfport was the recipient of a gift of over \$8300 from the Friends of the Library of Messiah College in Grantham, Pennsylvania to help rebuild the library's ruined book collection. Messiah College, which is affiliated with the Brethren in Christ denomination, is a liberal arts college of over twenty-seven hundred students. The Friends of the Library decided to give half of its annual book sale proceeds to an academic institution of similar size that

had been damaged by Katrina. Messiah College Library Director Jonathan Lauer, who was attending ALA in New Orleans, drove over to the Coast on June 27, 2006 to tour the heavily damaged old library and the new facility, which is currently housed in two double-wide trailers on the back of the Coast campus.

Lauer presented the check to Director of Libraries, Patricia Furr, who thanked Lauer and his staff for raising the money. "This wonderful gift, along with \$21,000 previously given to the library by other donors, will help us replace many of the books that were washed off the shelves by Katrina. We appreciate our colleagues in Pennsylvania who have worked hard to give us these funds." William Carey College, which became William Carey University on August 14, 2006, has plans to relocate to a new location north of I-10 in the immediate future. A new library building will be included in the planned Gulfport campus.



The new library reading room at the newly opened temporary campus of William Carey College on the Coast in Gulfport, Mississippi. Photo by: Jeanna Graves, Public Relations, WCC.



William Carey College Director of Libraries Patricia Furr accepts a check for \$8300 from Jonathan Lauer, Library Director of Messiah College, for Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Photo by: Jeanna Graves, Public Relations, WCC.



Library Director Jonathan Lauer (left) tours the temporary campus of William Carey College on the Coast in Gulfport along with Director of Libraries Patricia Furr (middle) and WCC Dean Jerry Bracey (right). Photo by: Jeanna Graves, Public Relations, WCC.

Hancock Library Receives Mobile Library for Pearlington

Anne Arundel County Public Library (AACPL) and other libraries in Maryland are stepping in to help the Hancock County Library System. The Maryland Library Association (MLA) Board has recently voted to adopt a "sister" library in the community of Pearlington. Marion Francis, AACPL Administrator and a Mississippi native, is chairing the committee in charge of this effort. The group includes representatives from public, academic and special libraries and media specialists from public school systems. "It has been a heartwarming labor of love for all of us in the Maryland library community to make this donation to the Pearlington library and the Hancock Library System," said Francis. "We greatly appreciate all the patrons, libraries and corporations such as SirsiDynix who have contributed to this effort."

The Pearlington Public Library, a branch of the Hancock County Library System, served both an elementary school and the general public. The facility, which opened in 1999, received extensive wind and water damage in Katrina. The contents of the building were destroyed.

As part of the MLA effort, the Allegany County Public Library is donating a bookmobile to the Pearlington Public Library. Cash and donations from library systems, corporations and the general public were sought to refurbish the vehicle and outfit it with computers, books and other materials that can be enjoyed by the residents of Pearl-

ington and the surrounding communities.

"The offers of assistance from libraries and individuals from all over the world has been incredible," said Prima Plauche, director of the Hancock County Library System. "The mobile unit from the Allegany County Library System, and the work of the Anne Arundel County Public Library System and the Maryland Library Association, along with scores of individuals, corporations and libraries is a bright spot in an otherwise overwhelming, heart-breaking and long-term recovery."

SirsiDynix, one of the leading companies in providing information technology for libraries, installed the computer, barcode reader and printer for the mobile unit. Future plans call for obtaining satellite Internet service and providing more computers for the public.

"Libraries are vital to the communities they serve," said Patrick Sommers, SirsiDynix chief executive officer. "The Hancock County Library System is proof of this. In a time of widespread devastation and uncertainty, Hancock County citizens looked to the library for information and assistance. At SirsiDynix, we understand that the sooner the library returns to normalcy then the sooner Hancock County returns to normalcy. This, coupled with our longtime relationship with Hancock County, is why it is important to us to help outfit this bookmobile for the community of Pearlington and the surrounding areas." More information on the mobile unit or the Hancock County Library System is available by calling 228-467-5282 or by accessing the library system's Web page at www.hancocklibraries.info.

Library Interiors, Inc. Assists in Gulf Coast Library Recovery

When Hurricane Katrina rolled through Mississippi, it took away the Waveland Public Library. This fall, Library Interiors, Inc. of Metairie, Louisiana, will team with the Hancock County Library director and staff to help bring it back. To help restore this branch, Library Interiors, who provided the origi-

nal interior furnishings of the Waveland Library has offered to provide interior design services free of charge. While Library Interiors has been involved with restoring a New Orleans library, they also wanted to offer assistance to storm-damaged areas not as publicized as New Orleans, and the Waveland Branch was most in need.

Howard Ekblad, President of Library Interiors says, "One look at the devastation of the once proud Waveland Public Library was all it took. We knew that we had to help and this was one way we could do it."

Told about the plans, Hancock County Public Library Director Prima Plauché responds, "This is the type of help that is needed to rebuild our community, and we look forward to working with Library Interiors to develop our plans as we work to bring back the library."

Library Interiors, Inc., located in Metairie, Louisiana, is a strong supporter of Mississippi Libraries, a lifetime member of the Mississippi Library Association, and sponsor of special events at the Mississippi Library Association Conferences. For more information visit www.libraryinteriors.com.

Commission's New Facility Nets Top Architectural Awards

The Mississippi Library Commission's new building netted top honors for the architectural firms of Duvall Decker and Burris/Wagnon. The Mississippi Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) awarded the firms the 2006 AIA's Mississippi Design Honor Award, the profession's highest recognition of work that exemplifies excellence in architecture. A jury of three out-of-state architects selected the project from twenty-seven submissions.

The five-story building is located on a one and one-half acre lot, nestled on a secluded, well-landscaped, tree-shaded area in the Mississippi Education & Research Center Complex. The state-of-the-art facility boasts a number of unique features:

Reading Porch – A screened porch where library users can read a magazine or book; access wireless Internet connectivity; and enjoy the environment.

Meeting Room – This room, equipped for distance learning and teleconferencing, hosts agency workshops and meetings and, with advanced reservations, is available for use by other state agencies.

Computer Training Lab – The lab enables the Library Commission to provide training for agency staff and library personnel from across the state. With advanced reservations, the lab is also available for use by other state agencies.

Information Kiosk – Using the touch screen or keyboard visitors can readily locate various library collections using building diagrams; access Web sites and other state government information; explore databases; and find information on upcoming meetings and events.

Internet Access – The building is equipped for wired and wireless Internet connectivity. Public use computers are available to access numerous information resources including the online library catalogs, Internet resources, and MAGNOLIA information databases.

In addition to receiving the Honor Award, the project was also honored by being voted the recipient of the Sambo Mockbee Membership Award, an award determined by the AIA state-chapter membership.

Enthused about the news of the awards, MLC's Executive Director Sherman B. Smith made the following statement, "The building is not only beautiful, but functional. It is high-tech, but comfortable. It is strong, yet warm and welcoming."

Laura Bush Foundation Grant Winners

The following Mississippi school libraries have received a Laura Bush

Foundation Grant for the 2006 season: Aberdeen Middle School, Aberdeen Belle Elementary School, Aberdeen Como Elementary School, Como Gentry High School, Indianola Hopewell Elementary School, Collins Kennedy Elementary, McComb Magee High School, Magee Pecan Park Elementary, Jackson Union Academy Elementary, Columbus West Bolivar High School, Rosedale West Clay Elementary School, Cedarbluff

New Major Investments Jumpstart Rebuilding Efforts and Re-establishment of Public Library Services in Louisiana and Mississippi

Recognizing the critical support public libraries provided communities during and after the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services announced major grants to support the re-establishment of lost public library services and rebuilding of public libraries along the Gulf Coast in Louisiana and Mississippi.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's \$12.2 million grant will help libraries establish up to twenty-two temporary facilities in Mississippi and Louisiana. The grant will allow community members to access books, computers and Internet services, provide support for the planning of destroyed or damaged libraries, and will eventually pay for new computers in rebuilt public libraries. The Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund will make \$5 million available to support new reconstruction and recovery of Gulf Coast public libraries. The Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal grant-making agency that provides leadership and support to the nation's museums and libraries, will contribute \$500,000 to the foundation's effort to help staff the temporary facilities.

"Our public libraries have a rich history of opening the door to equity, information and hope. After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, people flocked to the library for

Internet access. Library staff helped them connect to loved ones, contact FEMA and insurance companies, find new housing, and rebuild their lives when other social and civil services were unable to support them," said Allan Golston, president of U.S. Programs for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

"We hope our investment is a catalyst for comprehensive support from other sources needed to meet the true community demand for library services."

The Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund's \$5 million grant will focus on the physical repair and reconstruction of up to eight public libraries across the Gulf Coast of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama affected by Katrina. The Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund has engaged the Americans for Libraries Council, a national non-profit advocacy organization for libraries, to manage this grant. The grant will target the repairs of facilities ready for immediate attention, the rebuilding of facilities with substantial damage, and the replacement of damaged or lost collections.

"An investment in a library represents a commitment to the future of the community," said former President George H.W. Bush. "Libraries are part of a community's pulse. It's that simple. That's why the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund is excited to partner with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the communities of the Gulf Coast on this very important project. The sooner libraries can start reopening their doors, the sooner Gulf Coast residents will feel they are getting back their lives."

Former President William J. Clinton reflects, "The Gates foundation has been an example to all NGOs. Their leadership has brought AIDS and malaria treatment to countless in need around the world, and this new grant will bring much-needed technological needs back to the victims who lost so much in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Libraries are more than brick and mortar; they are the catalyst for education and research. By investing in libraries we are empowering Americans with the ability to obtain resources

for their future and I am proud that the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund and the Gates foundation are contributing to this effort.”

The Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), a regional library network that serves the southeastern United States and the Caribbean, will administer the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation grant and work in partnership with the state library agencies of Louisiana and Mississippi to assist libraries damaged by the hurricanes. Libraries face a significant recovery process. In Louisiana, 107 public libraries were initially reported destroyed or damaged with 40 still closed; in Mississippi, 34 public libraries were indefinitely or temporarily closed following the hurricanes with 8 remaining closed. SOLINET and state library agencies estimate that approximately 500 public computers were lost in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Staffing of temporary facilities while heavily damaged or destroyed libraries are rebuilt is a significant challenge. The Institute for Museum and Library Services grant will help support initial staffing needs until additional resources are secured.

“Together, public and private funders recognize the power of public libraries and their staff to strengthen communities and support growth and learning,” said Anne-Imelda Radice, director of the Institute for Museum and Library Services. “There is no more important time to harness this capacity than now, in the Gulf Coast to help rebuild lives and communities.”

The grant announcement marked the beginning of a major New Orleans conference – the largest since the 2005 hurricane season – held by the American Library Association (ALA).

During the five-day convening, library advocates from across the country met to discuss the role of American libraries in the United States and signal the start of library rebuilding. Several local library reconstruction projects were completed by volunteers from across the country throughout the week.

“Despite crippling damage, public

libraries in Mississippi and Louisiana and their staff provided a lifeline to people displaced by the hurricanes, but still, there are no established sources of state or local public funding to support public library services or rebuilding,” said Kate Nevins, executive director of SOLINET. “Libraries have proved that they can carry communities through a disaster and then help make them vital again; they deserve our support.”

For more information about the Bill and Melinda Gates Fund, visit www.gatesfoundation.org; for more information on the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund, visit www.bushclintonkatrinafund.org; for more information on the Institute of Museum and Library Services, visit www.ims.gov; for more information on SOLINET, visit www.SOLINET.net; for more information on Americans for Libraries, visit www.americansforlibraries.org.

ALA and Scholastic Library Publishing Announce 2007 National Library Week Grant; “Come Together @ Your Library” Named Official Theme

Libraries across the United States are invited to apply for the \$5,000 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant, which will be awarded to a single library for the best public awareness campaign incorporating the 2007 National Library Week theme, “Change Your World @ your library.”

The grant, in support of libraries, is sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing, a division of Scholastic, the global children’s publishing, education and media company, and is administered by the Public Awareness Committee of the American Library Association (ALA). This year’s application deadline is October 16, 2006. National Library Week is April 15-21, 2007.

All proposals must use the “Come together @ your library” theme, which incorporates The Campaign for America’s Libraries’ “@ your library” brand, on any and all promotional and publicity material

supporting National Library Week activities. Guidelines for using the brand are available on the campaign Web site at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary under the “download logos” section.

A grant application form and guidelines are available on the Campaign for America’s Libraries Web site at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant. Information also is available from the ALA Public Information Office. Telephone: 800-545-2433, ext. 4020. E-mail: mhumphrey@ala.org.

The winner will be notified and announced at the 2007 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. Information on last year’s winner, the Maricopa County Library District in Phoenix, Ariz., and the winning application can be viewed at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant.

Members of the National Library Week subcommittee include Dee Yost, chair, Hastings College Perkins Library (Neb.); Elliot L. Appelbaum, Lexington (Ky.) Public Library; Dr. Gordon Newton Baker, Clayton State University (Ga.); Darlene Basone, school library consultant, Ohio; and Lisa Rice, Bowling Green (Ky.) Public Library. For more information about the Campaign for America’s Libraries, visit the campaign’s Web site at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary.

Scholastic Library Publishing, a division of Scholastic, creates a multitude of products, both in print and online, for the school and public library market under the imprints of Grolier(R), Children’s Press(R), Franklin Watts(R), and Grolier Online(R). Scholastic Corporation (NASDAQ: SCHL) is the world’s largest publisher and distributor of children’s books and a leader in educational technology. Scholastic creates quality educational and entertaining materials and products for use in school and at home, including children’s books, magazines, technology-based products, teacher materials, television programming, film, videos and toys. The company distributes its products and services through a variety of channels, including proprietary school-based book clubs, school-based book fairs, and

school-based and direct-to-home continuity programs; retail stores, schools, libraries and television networks; and the company's Internet site, www.scholastic.com.

Librarian Recruitment and Education Grants

At ALA's 2006 Annual Conference in New Orleans, First Lady Laura Bush announced more than \$20 million in librarian recruitment and education grants from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

The announcement came during the First Lady's keynote address at a national
(continued on page 82)



During the Opening General Session of the 2006 ALA Conference in New Orleans MLA President Susan Casagne accepted a check for \$50,000 from donations made through ALA. Photo by Curtis Compton, ALA Cognates.

Winterthur Museum Offers Preservation Classes in Mississippi

Immediately following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, staff from the Winterthur Museum and Country Estate in Winterthur, Delaware, shared their expertise in conservation with Mississippi institutions that house historical documents, paintings, photographs, and other objects. Today, along with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, they are continuing to work with Mississippians and others from along the Gulf Coast by offering educational workshops throughout the state.

After seeing the widespread damage to the state's libraries, museums, and archival institutions, staff from the Winterthur Museum initially responded by salvaging water-damaged books, pho-

tographs, paintings and objects of many kinds. They also made long-term plans to help the state recover from the devastation of the hurricanes by offering a series of half-day workshops open to the general public and one-day workshops for museum, archival and library professionals and volunteers.

Response to the professional workshops has been overwhelming, drawing participants from across Mississippi and also from the Gulf coastal areas of Florida, Alabama, and Louisiana. The classes represent a cross-section of archivists, museum professionals and city, county, and academic librarians.

The remaining schedule for the fall professional workshops is as follows: September 21, paintings and painted

surfaces; October 12, objects (glass, metal, ceramic, leather, archaeological artifacts, etc.); and November 16, furniture and wooden objects. These workshops will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Gulfport. Participants in the professional workshops are asked to pre-register by calling 601-576-6850 or e-mailing Eleana Pope at epope@mdah.state.ms.us. Those interested in the public workshops should also call or e-mail the above for the schedule. For additional information visit: <http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~cochine/gulfcoast/recovery/home.html>. ■



Lois Olcott Price, Senior Conservator Library Collections, Winterthur Museum discusses paper conservation with Jane Phillips, Head of Published Information, Miss. Dept. of Archives and History.



Lois Price shows Elizabeth Joyner of the Vicksburg National Military Park the best way to save a water damaged book.



Karen Pavelka, Senior Lecturer in Preservation, University of Texas, assists Ashley McLendon, Mississippi Armed Forces Museum, and David Rushing, Sunflower County Library with the hands-on activity during a collection recovery workshop.

About Books

Pritchard, John. *Junior Ray*. Montgomery, AL: NewSouth Books, 2005. 158pp. \$23.95 (hardback).

Junior Ray bursts into Mississippi literature with a vivid sense of place, but not with an admirable protagonist. Southern author Curtis Wilkie writes that Junior Ray Youngblood "makes Flem Snopes sound cultured." Junior Ray, former deputy sheriff in the Delta during the late 1950s, is a vulgar, spiteful, bloodthirsty narrator. He relates his history and philosophy to an academic researcher, who interviews Junior Ray because the former deputy possesses the journals of Delta poet Leland Shaw.

Thus, thirty years after the events, Junior Ray tells the story that revolves around his obsession with killing aristocrat Leland Shaw, a shell-shocked World War II soldier. Leland returns from the war looking for his home; he thinks he is still in Germany and the Nazis are after him. After he escapes from his "Rest Wing" apartment, "which had a big pitcher-window lookin' east out across Highway 61...", Leland hides in his Aunt Helena Ferry's silo.

Meanwhile, Junior Ray and his dim-witted sidekick Voyd Mudd search for Leland. During their search they get lost in the woods, find a German submarine, and encounter the "Boy Sprouts." Reading about these adventures and about Junior Ray's diatribes against women, blacks, planters, and bankers is side-slappin', rib-ticklin', and belly-laughing fun. And because the readers laugh at Junior Ray, they become more tolerant of this ignorant buffoon.

Despite the fun in reading this book, modest people may be shocked by the excessive profanity and reviled by the cruelties that compose the short chapters. However, distinctive in these negatives,

are the realities of the Delta social strata and the effects of changes during this time. In addition, John Pritchard, in his fictional debut, proves that he does know the Delta. His words drench readers with a sense of place.

Locales like Rosedale, Tutwiler, Shelby, Clarksdale, Parchman, and Mhoon Landing scatter across the landscape. Junior's drawling pronunciations include "chirren" (children), "sammidges" (sandwiches), and "Meffis" (Memphis). Images of barbecue, chittlins, mosquitoes, turn rows and the levee saturate the novella. Even some characters' names, Sunflower Leflore and Leland Shaw, are Delta-born.

And it is Leland Shaw who brings sensitivity to Junior's narratives. His mystical, confused poetry counters Junior Ray's ranting. When the two culturally opposite characters try to understand the changes occurring in this tormented region, the heart warms. Leland's poem says,

"I can see where it used to be,
though now, when I look
it appears much like the exoskeleton
of a dead cicada."

Junior says, "Mississippi used to be able to do whatever it wanted to do, until the United States found out about it..."

If readers want to discover what some Mississippi Deltans did and thought during the late 1950s, this bold book may be a good choice. I recommend *Junior Ray* for Mississippi Special Collections in large public libraries and academic institutions that need a diverse cultural representation.

Diane Moore Elliott

Librarian

Cleveland High School

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von Herrmann, Denise, editor. *Resorting to Casinos: The Mississippi Gambling Industry*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2006. 182 pp. \$45.00 (hardcover).

This book contains nine studies that examine the Mississippi gaming industry before the onslaught of Hurricane Katrina. Topics include: an overview of Mississippi's history of gambling; the impact of gaming on Mississippi politics, racial politics, state economic growth, municipal finances, and education policy; a survey of casino shift workers; the relationship between casinos and crime; and the future of the casino resort industry in Mississippi. In addition to contributing an article, the editor authored an introductory summary, and successfully connected the articles to the post-Katrina present in a concluding afterword.

However, more editing is needed. For example, page 54 cites author Blevin, but on page 65 the name is Blevins. Page 76 refers twice to boldface data in accompanying tables, but the tables do not give any data in boldface. Page 73 refers to an appendix, but no appendix appears. Page 78 gives a reference to "Meier 1998," but no related citation appears in the "sources consulted" section of the article.

More explanation of the relationship of the data to the text might have aided general understanding and appeal for this work. For example, page 57 mentions Table 4.1 showing changes in personal per capita incomes in various counties, but this is difficult to see when Table 4.1 shows public assistance amounts. Similarly, page 58 discusses unemployment rates in Table 4.2, but Table 4.2 shows poverty rates. Page 151 refers to Figure 9.4 showing population estimates, but Figure 9.4 apparently shows the number of incidents of various crime types for par-

ticular years. Any reference to population levels is difficult to discern. Page 122 refers to "snowball sampling techniques," but a more direct explanation (perhaps in an endnote) of snowball sampling might have been preferable to the easy-to-miss implied definition in the text.

Some discrepancies in facts are evident. Page 23 cites Biloxi's Isle of Capri as opening on August 1, 1992, while page 156 implies that Biloxi's Isle of Capri began in March 1992. Page 107 misquotes the 1999-2000 casino revenue, and a note suggests the revenue decline in school year 1999-2000 was due largely to decrease in travel as a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. However, the 9/11 terrorist attacks occurred on September 11, 2001, more than a year after the school year 1999-2000.

The above problems aside, this work provides a much-needed late-20th/early-21st century view of Mississippi's reliance on the gaming industry for its socio-economic welfare prior to Katrina. Although Hurricane Katrina caused major damage to the gaming industry, books like this ensure that this part of Mississippi's history of gambling will not be wiped out. The source lists at the end of each of the articles provide an excellent starting point for future researchers into this somewhat controversial subject. The work contains an index of names and topics, and is recommended for academic and larger public libraries.

Rick Torgerson

Cataloger
Delta State University



Pace, Sherry photographer and author. Essay and captions by Richard J. Cawthon. *Victorian Houses of Mississippi*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2005. 183 pp., index. \$40.00 (hardback).

Photographer Sherry Pace's talent for outdoor photography is highlighted nicely in her first book, *Victorian Houses of Mississippi*. Her natural talent lay dormant for years until her husband happened to mention the exceptional quality of the family's vacation photos. For the past ten years, with her husband's constant encouragement, photography has become Pace's major passion. With a digital camera she began the painstaking process of learning photography a new way – self-taught editing requiring a high powered PC.

After two years of exhibits and awards, Pace met with Richard J. Cawthon, chief architectural historian for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. She brought him a variety of Mississippi architectural examples, from log cabins to bungalows. He suggested she concentrate on the under-appreciated Late Victorian structures found throughout the region.

Pace beautifully chronicles 143 significant buildings from Cawthon's 1970s list of Mississippi historical homes found in the files of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Imagine a thirty-year-old list documenting one hundred-year-old buildings, mostly made of wood, and no one knows their condition. Pace, and her devoted husband, sometimes drove hours to a site only to find an overgrown lot, the structure having succumbed to fire. On the other hand, they might find bed and breakfast establishments or different stages of renovation.

The 187 color photographs show a range of home conditions. Dilapidated homes are excluded, but you will find faded examples. Pace made a conscious effort to photograph the homes during spring and fall seasons, taking great pains to provide color details of the infamous wooden spindles and gingerbread trim associated with this era. Still, some homes appear in the middle of winter. Although not as aesthetically pleasing, these homes display pristine trim without tree limb intrusions.

As Pace toured the state, Cawthon began to compile his article, "Late Victorian Residential Architecture in Mississippi." In six brief pages, Cawthon clears up the difference between styles like Italianate, Gothic Revival, Second Empire, Shingle Style and Queen Anne. He enhances the reader's understanding with detail descriptions and visual examples located within the book.

Although Pace's goal is "a photographic sampling" and not "an architectural digest," readers will gain a practical understanding of these elaborate styles and their importance in history. Fragile state treasures caught by Pace's professional eye prior to Hurricane Katrina's force document three missing Biloxi homes and one irreplaceable Bay St. Louis residence. Homeowners in the area may find this a valuable tool for reconstruction.

All homes appear alphabetically by location in the state, but addresses and owner's names are omitted for privacy. A reader could basically tour the region by flipping through this coffee-table-size reference, discovering homes as distinctive to the state as our sweet Southern drawl.

This book is recommended for all public and academic libraries. This book has appeal to history buffs, genealogy researchers, artists, restoration enthusiasts and/or any serious Mississippiana collector.

Maggie Moran

Public Services & Reference Librarian
Northwest MS Community College ■

Book Review Editor's note:

The recently reviewed title RED-GUNK TALES by Bill Eakin has become difficult to acquire. By suggestion of the author, those interested in purchasing this title should visit the following Web site: <http://www.yarddogpress.com/redgunk.htm>.

People in the News

Sherry Laughlin, Head of Information Services, and **Ann Branton**, Head of Bibliographic Services at the University of Southern Mississippi, were promoted to the rank of professor.

— ♦ —

Joi Jones Phillips is the new Assistant Director of Library Services at Delta State University. She had been a Reference/Instructional Services Librarian at DSU for nearly six years before accepting this new position. She is currently the chair of the Mississippi Library Association's Continuing Education Committee. Her MLIS degree is from the University of Southern Mississippi and she holds a BS in elementary education from Mississippi Valley State University.



**Joi Jones
Phillips**

— ♦ —

Melissa R. Dennis is the new Reference/Instructional Services Librarian and Assistant Professor of Library Services at Delta State University. Prior to accepting this position, she worked full time as Circulation Manager at Belhaven College while attaining her MLIS from the University of Southern Mississippi. She also holds a BA in English from the University of Mississippi.



**Melissa R.
Dennis**

— ♦ —

Sunflower County Libraries has added two new full-time staffers this summer. **David Rushing** of Indianola has been named Adult Reference Specialist and Public Information Officer for the system. Rushing, a veteran journalist, also is in charge of upgrading and maintaining the libraries' local history collection. **Vickie Lewis**, also of Indianola, who has served as a part-time Public Service Assistant for more than seven years, now is a full-time staffer in that same position with additional duties in circulation.

Two staff members, **Evelyn Necaie** and **Gwen Taggart**, were honored with a reception on the occasion of their retirement from the Hancock County Library System, effective June 30, 2006. Necaie had seventeen years of service with the library system and served as a customer service assistant, the Waveland Branch Manager and a Technical Services Assistant. Taggart, who served ten years, was the Administrative Assistant.

— ♦ —

Brooke Roberts is the recipient of the 2006 Peggy May Scholarship awarded annually by the Mississippi Library Association. Roberts is pursuing a dual

master's degree program in the School of Library and Information Science and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Southern Mississippi. Roberts writes, "I chose to pursue a degree in library and information sciences because, coupled with my background in cultural anthropology, I felt I could contribute meaningfully to diverse populations and communities in search of access to information."



**Brooke
Roberts**

She is cited by supporters as possessing maturity and poise, organizational and writing skills, accuracy and perseverance, intelligence and good judgment, creativity and a cooperative spirit, and a good sense of humor. Roberts is sure to be a credit to the profession of librarianship and to the memory of Peggy May, for whom the scholarship is named.

The Scholarship endowment was established after May's death to honor her dedication to librarianship and support her commitment to recruit talented individuals to the profession. The MLA Scholarship Committee 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 MLA Scholarship Committee, PO Box 13687, Jackson, MS 39236-3687. ■



**Evelyn
Necaie**



**Gwen
Taggart**

News Briefs

(continued from page 78)

town hall meeting addressing the critical role school libraries play in restoring learning and reuniting communities in times of crisis. The town hall – School Libraries Work: Rebuilding for Learning – was hosted by ALA, AASL, and Scholastic.

Mrs. Bush announced \$20,869,145 in grants from the IMLS. The grants are designed to help offset a current shortage of school library media specialists, library school faculty, and librarians working in underserved communities, as well as a looming shortage of library directors and other senior librarians, many of whom are expected to retire in the next twenty years.

“Restoring libraries on the Gulf Coast will be a long-term endeavor, requiring



During the Opening General Session of the 2006 ALA Conference in New Orleans MLA President Susan Casagne accepted a check for \$7,500 from the Illinois Library Association. Photo by Curtis Compton, ALA Cognates.

well-trained librarians for years to come,” said Mrs. Bush. “And the work of recruiting and educating the next generation of librarians here on the Gulf Coast and throughout our country must start now.”

The First Lady’s full remarks can be found at <http://www.imls.gov/news/speeches/062606.shtm>. Please visit

http://www.imls.gov/news/2006/062806_list.shtm to view a list of grant recipients organized by state. To apply for a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant, please visit <http://www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/21centuryLibrarian.shtm>. ■

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MLA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2006

Board members attending:

Susan Cassagne, *President*
Catherine Nathan, *Vice President/President-elect*
Carol Green, *Treasurer*
Jennifer Smith, *Public Libraries Chair*
Bettie Cox, *School Section Chair*
Mary Beth Applin, *SELA Representative*
John Whitlock, *Special Libraries Chair*
Randy Sherard, *Trustee Chair*

Others in attendance:

Mary Julia Anderson, *MLA Executive Secretary*
Jeff Slagell, *2007 Vice President/President-elect*
Margaret Bell and Jacqueline Quinn, *Black Caucus Roundtable*
Molly McManus, *Web Committee*

President Cassagne called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The MLA Board members met in the Mississippi Library Commission's meeting room. The agenda was presented and a quorum was declared.

OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS

President, Susan Cassagne asked voting members of the board if they had received the January 9, 2006 minutes. Everyone agreed that they had received the minutes. Randy Sherard made a motion to approve the minutes as written, and Catherine Nathan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

■ President Report

President Susan Cassagne reported that the American Library Association (ALA) will be presenting MLA with a \$50,000 check for the *Rebuild Mississippi's Libraries* fund at the opening ceremonies of the 2006 ALA Conference in New Orleans. The ALA will also be giving \$100,000 to the Louisiana Library Association, and whatever funds the ALA raises during the conference will also be given to the *Rebuild Mississippi's Libraries* fund. Mrs. Cassagne stated that she will receive the funds on behalf of MLA at the opening ceremony.

■ Vice President Report

Catherine Nathan then gave a report on the 2006 MLA Conference. Catherine asked Board members to send the names of any exhibitors that might be interested in exhibiting at the 2006 conference to the 2006 MLA Convention Exhibits Co-Chairs, Glenda Segars and Jan Willis. Ms. Nathan stated that the association needs at least forty exhibitors to make a profit for the association.

Catherine Nathan then stated that Jeff Slagall is in charge of the poster sessions for the 2006 conference and is currently recruiting presenters from Mississippi's academic libraries.

Other conference committee chairs were reported, as follows: Lynn Shurden- Hospitality; Victoria Penny-Registration; David Brown-Registration; and Judy Carr-Local Arrangements.

Ms. Nathan then stated that all of Thursday's conference activities will be oriented toward school librarians, who will have the opportunity to earn CEU's. Catherine stated that Sharman Smith, Executive Director of the Mississippi Library Commission, has asked MLA to submit a CEU form to her, as soon as possible. The featured speaker for the first day of the conference is Bob Lipscomb, and author Charlaire Harris is the speaker for the Public Libraries Section dinner on Wednesday night. Rosemary Chance has also been scheduled to host a program on book talking, at the conference. Vice President Nathan then stated that she is currently working with Christy Williams at the Mississippi Library Commission on receiving a speaker's grant for MLA to fund distinguished speakers at the 2006 conference.

■ Treasurer Report

Treasurer Carol Green gave the financial report. A copy of the financial report was distributed to the board. Carol stated that the association has collected \$12,236.37 in yearly and lifetime membership dues so far this year. She stated that the association spent \$14.00 over the budget for the mid-winter meeting. Carol then reported that the association has currently collected \$6,000 in exhibit fees for the 2006 conference, which means that eight to ten exhibitors have already agreed to attend the conference even though the majority sign up and pay their fees in August and September. Carol stated that overall the association is doing well on expenses so far this year and that the association no longer has to pay SELA dues or DixieNet for an Internet connection. Catherine Nathan moved and Susan Cassagne seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as written. The motion passed unanimously.

■ ALA Councilor Report

No report given.

■ SELA Report

SELA Representative Mary Beth Applin reported that the SELA Conference was held in Memphis, TN in April, and the next meeting is in

Kentucky in two years. Mary Beth enjoyed the conference but was disappointed that two or three of the workshops she had planned to attend were cancelled, or the speaker did not show up for the workshop. Ms. Applin also reported that SELA no longer requires the payment of a membership fee for state organizations.

■ Executive Secretary Report

No report given.

■ ML Report

No report given.

SECTION REPORTS

■ Public Libraries Report

Jennifer Smith, Chair, reported that author Charlaire Harris will be the speaker for the Public Library Section dinner on Wednesday night at the MLA convention in Tunica. Ms. Smith also asked MLA members attending the meeting to spread the word about any issues that should be discussed at the Public Libraries Section business meeting.

■ School Libraries Report

Bettie Cox, Chair, reported that at the ALA Mid-winter meeting, a resolution was passed detailing the "Instructional Classification of School Librarians" (see attached paper). The ALA has asked all state library chapters, including MLA, to show their support for this resolution. After discussion, board members agreed that MLA supports this resolution, otherwise known as the "65% solution." Bettie Cox made and Catherine Nathan seconded a motion for MLA to support the "65% solution" resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cox then reported that on the Monday of the ALA Conference, AASL is presenting a program on rebuilding school libraries, and she invited everyone to attend the program.

■ Special Libraries Report

John Whitlock, Chair, reported that Dr. Also Brook will be the guest speaker at the Special Libraries Section Breakfast on Friday of the 2006 MLA Conference. Dr. Brook's program will be *A Bridge to the 21st Century: The Establishment of the Clinton Presidential Library*.

■ Trustees Report

Randy Sherard, Chair, reported that he is currently working on encouraging trustees to attend the 2006 conference. He is planning a "blitz"

mailing similar to last year's mailing, which he hopes will increase trustee conference attendance.

ROUNDTABLE REPORTS

■ Technical Services (TSRT)

President Cassagne gave a written report from Bob Wolverton, Chair. The spring symposium at the Ridgeland Library on Friday, April 28, was a huge success. Thirty-seven attended the event.

■ Black Caucus

Margaret Bell and Jacqueline Quinn reported that Black Caucus members are actively seeking funds for the Virgie Brock Shedd Scholarship. The membership is having pledge cards printed up, in the hope that donations to the scholarship will increase. The speaker for the Black Caucus Luncheon at the 2006 Conference will be a motivational speaking husband and wife team, Willie and Terrica McKinnis.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

■ Constitution and Bylaws

Kay Wall, Chair, reported that her committee is currently revising the MLA bylaws and would appreciate any suggestions for changes. All changes will be presented at a program during the 2006 MLA Conference.

■ Mississippi Author Awards

Carol Phares, Chair, submitted a written report. Ms. Phares was unclear as to whether an author was still able to receive an award even if he/she could not make it to the awards ceremony. After discussion, board members agreed that an author's receipt of an award was not contingent upon his/her attendance at the awards ceremony. Ms. Phares also stated that both the 2005 and 2006 winners will be honored at the 2006 Conference, since the 2005 Conference in Vicksburg was canceled.

■ Scholarship

June Schmidt, Chair, submitted a written report. Ms. Schmidt stated that Natalie Brook Roberts has been chosen to be the 2006 Scholarship winner, and asked board members if they would approve the purchase of a Peggy May Scholarship plaque which will be hung in office of the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. The cost of the 10" X 14" plaque with the current Peggy May Scholarship recipients will be \$107.00 with each additional engraving costing \$2.25 each. Jennifer Smith moved and Carol Green seconded a motion to purchase the plaque and display it in the SLIS office. The motion passed unanimously.

■ Web Committee

Molly McManus, Co-chair, reported that the Web Committee wants to move the current MLA Web site to a content management system (CMS) to make it easier to update and enable MLA to focus on the content of the page, not the technical issues. The CMS is free and runs on languages that already exist on the current MLA Web site. The languages, PHP and MySQL, are approved by accessibility software and standards and several different permission levels will be able to be assigned to the page. Mrs. McManus stated that other proposed changes to the MLA site are: 1) deleting the links and embedding them in other content pages, 2) changing the links tab to "Awards and Scholarship," and 3) adding a job listing site to the page. Mrs. McManus stated that the new site will be launched at the 2006 Conference and at a poster session at the hospitality booth.

OTHER REPORTS

■ Sharman Smith, Executive Director, Mississippi Library Commission

Ms. Smith reported that MLC's meeting rooms are receiving heavy use, and she recommended that MLA plan ahead and schedule meetings far in advance so that a room will be available. Ms. Smith then reported that the Public Libraries Accreditation Committee is halfway through the process of creating standards for Mississippi's Public Libraries, and that committee has just finished hosting a set of well-attended town meetings. The committee presented a list of their recommendations to the Board of Commissioners in November. Ms. Smith reported that she is currently working on MLC's 2008 budget and is devising it so that no library will lose its personnel grant funds and will be able to plan for improvements if a library wishes to move from an AA to a AAA library. Sharman Smith stated that although there are not a lot of local library issues right now, nationally the "Internet Neutrality Bill" is gaining a following. This bill would enable persons who pay more money for the Internet to receive a faster and better connection, at the expense of "poorer" subscribers. MLC also has a capital bond grant out now, that's due on June 26, for million dollars for capital improvements to public libraries, and is hosting the *Librarianship 101 Institute* again this year during the week of August 20.

■ Dr. Jay Norton, Director, USM SLIS

No report given, as Dr. Norton was unable to attend the meeting. Dr. Norton will post her report to the MLA listserv tomorrow.

OLD BUSINESS

Bettie Cox asked board members about continuing

MLA's association with the AASL. President Cassagne stated that the School Section's affiliation with the AASL should be listed in the section's by-laws, and the section should discuss it at their business meeting at the 2006 conference.

President Cassagne then discussed the site visit for the 2007 MLA Conference in Vicksburg. Board members agreed to hold the meeting on July 18, beginning at the Vicksburg Convention Center at 10:30 a.m. and then traveling to area hotels in the afternoon.

President Cassagne then discussed the *Rebuild Mississippi's Libraries Fund*. Mrs. Cassagne stated that MLA is still receiving funds and that every school and academic library that was damaged by Hurricane Katrina received \$1,000 from the fund. Public libraries received money from the fund, based on a formula involving their population per capita. Bookmarks are still available for libraries to use to publicize the fund.

NEW BUSINESS

President Cassagne then discussed MLA giving a commendation to Kelsie Buckley, who rode her horse from Morton, MS to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and raised \$90,000 for Mississippi libraries hurt by Hurricane Katrina. President Cassagne proposed that MLA send Ms. Buckley a plaque honoring her commitment. Sharman Smith suggested that MLA wait until Ms. Buckley gives the money she raised to Mississippi's libraries. After discussion, the issue was tabled until the August Executive Board meeting.

President Cassagne then discussed the ALA Conference which will be held June 22-28 in New Orleans. The conference will be the first big conference held in New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina, and Mrs. Cassagne encouraged all ALA members attend and support New Orleans' recovery.

Board members then discussed the August Board meeting. President Cassagne stated that the next MLA Executive Board meeting will be held in Natchez on August 18 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will also include an optional \$25.00 catered lunch and dessert.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business by the board, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to adjourn. The board adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer A. Smith, Acting Secretary ■

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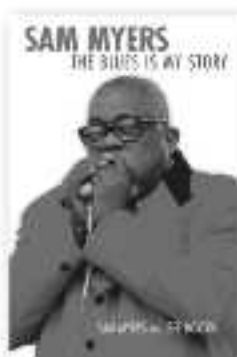
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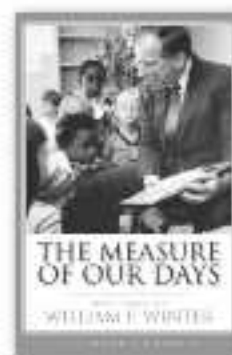
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