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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Rebuilding Our Communities through Our Libraries

As we approach a new hurricane season, we are each mindful of the effects of the last one that so many of us are still dealing with on a day-to-day basis. We have all discussed the differences between disaster preparedness and disaster recovery. For many of our libraries, recovery is an ongoing process. We are all going about our daily lives, serving our library users. Some of us are serving the increased populations Katrina sent our way. Some of us are serving much smaller populations as people slowly return to the Coast. And some of us really may have not noticed a significant difference. However, we have all been affected and will continue to be for some time.

Assistance is slowly but surely coming. The American Library Association has donated \$100,000 to the Rebuild Mississippi Libraries Fund. This donation was added to the funds we have already received. In Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson counties, forty-four school libraries, two community college libraries, two college/university libraries, and eleven public libraries sustained major damage or total destruction. In some cases, entire collections were lost. Each of the school and college libraries has received a check from the fund, as has each public library system, and the independent public library, Long Beach.

The Rebuild Mississippi Libraries Fund and ALA are continuing to accept donations. The American Library Association Annual Conference will be held in New Orleans this summer. A major focus of the conference will be the rebuilding efforts and the continuing needs of the



Susan Cassagne

affected libraries. An eleven-year old from Morton raised \$70,000! Her fundraising efforts gained momentum when the story was picked up on the CBS Evening News and donations began coming in from across the country and as far away as Japan. First Lady Laura Bush, through the Laura Bush Foundation, provided \$80,000 to school libraries recently. Many publishers

have concentrated efforts to assist with replacing damaged and lost collections. Federal and state recovery funding includes schools, as well. Many of our libraries have been adopted by other libraries from across the nation. Fundraising efforts, as well as collection development efforts, have been successfully pursued. These partnerships have been most beneficial to all concerned. Maintaining public awareness of the needs of our libraries and communities is essential for all of us.

Libraries Help Rebuild Communities is the theme of our 2006 Annual Conference, which will be held in Tunica, October 24-27, 2006. Please check the MLA Web site at <http://www.misslib.org/activities/conf/index.php> for more information and make plans to attend. We are looking forward to a bigger, better 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. We hope to be able to present additional checks resulting from continued donations to the affected libraries during the conference. ■

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The cover of the summer *Mississippi Libraries* is *Pinwheels* an 18" x 24" oil on canvas by Amber Phillips. Phillips is from Lucedale, Mississippi, and is currently working on her BFA at the University of Mississippi. Phillips can be contacted at carly.amber@yahoo.com or 601-947-3065.

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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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*.

What Actually Happens in Technical Services?

Elizabeth Stephan
Editor, Mississippi Libraries
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I'm a reference librarian. I work with the public. I took cataloging in library school (although I think I forgot most of it as soon as possible). I have a general idea about what happens in technical services; still, like many people, my view of technical services is pretty limited. Several times I have told my colleagues in technical services, "I don't know what y'all do; as far as I am concerned, it's *all* magic." Of course, I know it's complicated, in-depth, and a necessity to every library. Some people refer to reference librarians as public service, but when it comes down to it, everyone in a library is part of public service. Acquisitions, cataloging, processing, serials, and preservation are vital parts of the library. Without them no one would have access to anything in a library's collection.

The summer issue of *Mississippi Libraries* is devoted to technical services, and I will admit that when I read some of this issue's stories I got lost. I had to ask colleagues what various terms, phrases, and acronyms meant. I would read an article one day and not really understand what it was about, and then the next day it became completely clear. When I told a colleague in serials this, she said, "Note to reference librarians: you may need to read this three times before it makes sense."

To clear up some of the mystery of technical services, Ann Branton, Carol Green, and Malachi Martin from the University of Southern Mississippi wrote "Technical Services: General Overview of Its Organization and Functions." Branton,

Green, and Martin are the head of bibliographic services, serials librarian, and preservation assistant, respectively, at USM. They cover four different areas of technical services: cataloging, serials management, and processing and preservation. They give a description of what each area does and how they all work together to order, organize, and maintain a library collection.

In her article, "Electronic Acquisitions: How E-commerce May Change the Way That Your Library Buys Books," Patricia Furr, director of the William Carey College Library, gives a brief overview of how acquisitions has changed in recent years and how BISAC, EDIX12, EDI-FACT, and XML have and will continue to change acquisitions.

The role that technical services plays varies from library to library, and when going through a library shift or move, its role changes. In her article, "The Role of the Technical Services Department in Mississippi Library Commission's Move," Indra Bhowall, the Technical Services Director at MLC, outlines the role technical services took in moving an entire collection from one building to another. Moving to another location required them to make both physical and electronic changes to the collection in order for it to be accessible to the public.

Next we look at two different aspects of technical services at Delta State University. In their article, "Keeping Your Plates Spinning: Technical Services Tasks from Delta State's Perspective," cataloging librarians Sheryl Stump and Rick Torgenson discuss the different types and benefits of outsourcing both within and outside of the library. In their article "Making Materials for the Blind and Visually-Impaired Visible in the Library's Catalog and Web Site," Stump and Joi Jones

Phillips, reference/instructional librarian, discuss the role cataloging can take to make resources for the visually-impaired easier to locate.

In addition to our normal content, you will also find a summary of changes to MAGNOLIA. Thanks to the MAGNOLIA Steering Committee, we will have access to a suite of EBSCO databases. In order to fund these, some items have been dropped. See Deborah Lee's summary of what is new and what will be going (and when) in "Forthcoming Attractions at MAGNOLIA."

MLA's Annual Conference may not be until October but now is the time to reserve your hotel room. Included in this issue is a summary of information about the conference hotel in Tunica.

It is also time to make nominations for the 2006 Peggy May Award and the Outstanding Achievement Award. Forms and deadlines are included in this issue.

The fall issue of *Mississippi Libraries* will focus on preservation and disaster planning. What has your library done to prepare for a disaster? How have they recovered? Do you have a policy? What did it take to write/plan the policy?

We want to mark the one year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina with the fall issue. There will be a section on libraries affected by Katrina and how far they have come in the last year. If you are in a library that was damaged during Katrina, e-mail me (estephan@olemiss.edu) your story. What are you doing now? How have you recovered? What have you had to do to make your collection accessible?

The deadline for submissions is July 31. Contact me or assistant editor Lauren Young (lmyoung@rowland.umsmed.edu) if you have a submission. ■

Technical Services: General Overview of Its Organization and Functions

Ann Branton

Head of Bibliographic Services

Carol Green, Serials Librarian

Malachi Martin, Preservation Assistant

The University of Southern Mississippi

Abstract

The core of every library is the collection and that collection is processed and made available by and through technical services. The primary functions of technical services in all types of libraries include managing the purchase and receipt, description and analysis, and physical processing and preservation of materials in all formats for which a library provides access. This article explores four aspects of technical services: acquisitions, cataloging, serials management, and processing and preservation to provide a fundamental understanding of technical services.

Traditionally, the primary functions of technical services in all types of libraries include managing the purchase and receipt, description and analysis, and physical processing and preservation of materials in all formats for which a library provides access to its community of users, on-site or in a virtual environment. Beyond this typical framework of technical services operations, some libraries may also include the evaluation and development of the collections as well as the technical support of the library's online public catalog and the electronic system needs of the library. For the purposes of this article, we will focus on the four primary functions of acquisitions, cataloging, serials management, and preservation to provide a fundamental understanding of technical services.

Acquisitions

The purchase of library materials is driven by the expressed needs of users and the perceived need for a well-balanced collection by professional librarians

responsible for its development. Once this aspect of selection has been determined within the confines of an annual budget allocated to support the collection, the acquisitions personnel begin the purchasing process. The commercial source for library materials ranges from the small local bookstore (particularly for works by local authors) to large national vendors who wholesale published works from hundreds of national and international publishers. Some purchases are made directly from the publisher, but this is not always the most cost effective method of utilizing the materials budget. Vendors provide discounts and special services such as physical processing, book binding, and free shipping that small publishers cannot afford to provide. Libraries large and small benefit from working with two or three vendors to maximize their purchasing power, drawing on the company strengths in different areas. In almost all libraries, books, media, music scores and records, curriculum materials, and serials are all purchased primarily through a vendor. Acquisitions personnel are also most familiar with the publishing world and trends in publications. They often work closely with vendor sales representatives and negotiate the discounts and services that the library wants.

Automation has greatly simplified the purchasing process in acquisitions. Our library automated systems are set up to track expenditures and provide reports on the status of the allocation as a whole or an individual order at any given time. Accounting and audit documentation assists administrators in determining how the allocation has been spent and budget accountability can be well supported.

When any item is ordered, acquisitions personnel are able to provide information to public services librarians on when the title was ordered, its expected delivery date and status in shipment, and where it is after receipt in the library. The acquisitions unit is a good place to start when a

library user makes an inquiry of public services staff about the status of a new title. The unit can inform staff if the item on order has been delayed for any reason, if it has been received by the unit, or if it has already been sent to be cataloged. Other services performed by the acquisitions unit may include special orders for rare or out of print works, or rush orders for those items needed very quickly because of a library program or special request from a valued library user.

The acquisitions unit is often responsible for other duties auxiliary to their main function. Often new gifts are received and documented by acquisitions staff and forwarded to collection development librarians to be selected for the library collections or sold for a nominal sum at annual library book sales. Some units will provide cataloging support for new purchases, usually for books that have a catalog record available. Sometimes the cataloging record can be purchased from the vendor along with each title as it is ordered and added to the database or online public catalog at point of order. Likely the item will not be sent to cataloging but directly to end processing where it is given property stamps, a security strip and a label before being sent to the circulation department to be shelved. This particular method streamlines the routine ordering process.

Cataloging

Everything you find or retrieve in the online public catalog about an item in the library is present because of cataloging activities. Cataloging units are responsible for the electronic data entry of bibliographic information that creates the surrogate record that describes, analyzes, and locates a title in the library. Without cataloging to organize books and other library materials, the library would be a random collection of a great pile of books, journals, videos, sound recordings and any other format the library holds for public

use, scattered with no thought of providing precise and accurate access to just the right book at the right time. Carefully documented works insure that library users are served promptly and well.



A catalog librarian workstation. Photo by Gidget L. Coffman.

When materials are sent to be cataloged, trained technicians and librarians first determine if the work is already held by the library, and if the catalog or bibliographic record, known as a MARC (machine readable cataloging) record, is available in one of the international bibliographic utilities, most often OCLC, from which it can be retrieved and downloaded electronically into the local public catalog or OPAC for a relatively small service fee. Ninety-five percent of all cataloging is done by paraprofessionals, but original cataloging is more often performed by professional librarians when no bibliographic record can be found to exist. Original cataloging, both descriptive and subject analysis, must follow international rules and standards primarily determined by the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules*, 2nd edition (AACR2) and its updates. These standards have also become basic guidelines in the design of online public catalogs and provide a predictable method of access and retrieval of information encoded in the surrogate record that is created and is sometimes called MARC cataloging. The MARC coding in electronic catalog records enables a computer to 'read' the data and make it available for public displays of bibliographic information about all library materials which have been cataloged.



A catalog paraprofessional workstation. Photo by Gidget L. Coffman.

Auxiliary functions in cataloging units include database maintenance and repair of bibliographic records and/or the item or control records for each title and each piece linked to the bibliographic or MARC record. Errors in or changes to the status of these records must be altered to repair the information provided. The integrity or reliability of the information in the public catalog reflects on the due diligence and attention to detail by the persons who input the data. More often than not, all errors in the public catalog are the full responsibility of the cataloging unit who edit or create the records added. The knowledge of how the public catalog functions and its strengths and weaknesses are best understood by the cataloging unit personnel. Errors need to be reported to the unit as well as any anomalies that do not serve the library user or staff in public services that are on the front lines, so to speak, and need reliable information. It is very helpful to have unit liaisons to discuss and explain these issues periodically. Due to the design of integrated library systems that support the online public catalog, some problems are not within the purview of the cataloging unit to correct, but they do understand the system well enough to assist public services with workable solutions.

Authority control is yet another aspect of cataloging that benefits the library user in unseen but significant ways. Standardized name and subject headings group similar works together and improve the depth of retrieval for materials by or about

the same person or subject. Healthy online public catalogs have invested in systematic oversight of their authority records, which support the bibliographic records in specific areas such as names, both personal and corporate, and subjects, topical, geographic and form.

Serials Management

The glossary of terms in 2002 revision of the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules* 2nd edition (AACR2R) defines a serial as "a continuing resource issued in a succession of discrete parts, usually bearing numbering, that has no predetermined conclusion." Serials may include journals, magazines, newspapers, microforms, media, electronic journals and databases, annuals, transactions and proceedings, loose-leaf materials, reference materials such as indexes and abstracts, government documents, and monographic series.



Serials processing of journals and newspapers is a daily job. Photo by Gidget L. Coffman.

By nature, serials are complex and require an organizational structure that can accommodate their complexity. Local practice among libraries may differ, but basically serials management consists of collection management, acquisitions, cataloging, and records management.

Collection management may include choosing between multiple formats, retention and binding decisions, processing procedures, alphabetical arrangement or classification, assigning a location, handling of supplementary materials, gifts and free subscriptions, treatment of monographic series, and claiming/replac-

ing missing materials. In some libraries serials management may also include collection development responsibilities involving allocations, collection evaluation, and decisions regarding ownership vs. access of materials, and selection or de-selection of titles.

Serials acquisitions and cataloging are handled much the same as other materials with some distinctions. Serials may be purchased directly from publishers but often are purchased through subscription vendors that specialize in ordering serial publications. These vendors deal with the publishers on the customer's behalf and offer a variety of services that can make life easier for libraries. Regarding cataloging, usually an appropriate MARC record can be found in one of the bibliographic utilities and downloaded to the library catalog. Because they frequently change, cataloging of serials tends to be very complicated. Each time a serial undergoes a significant title change, a record must be added for the new title and the former record closed out accordingly. Separate records exist for print, microform, and electronic formats, and each format requires a new record to reflect title changes. This is another area where local practice can differ. Some libraries choose to use a single record approach where all formats of a serial are reflected on one record rather than multiple records.

Integrated library systems allow libraries to manage serials through the creation and maintenance of serial control records that incorporate library holdings, bibliographic information, publication patterns, expected and received issues, claims, vendor files, orders, and expenditures. Records management is complicated by the changing nature of serials. Any change in title, frequency, price, publisher, or vendor requires revision of the serial control records.

Finally, serials management can be centralized or decentralized depending upon the individual library. Centralized management involves the creation of a

separate serials department to handle most or all serials management functions. With decentralized management each function is handled by a different department.

Processing and Preservation

The journey of library items and materials through technical services, in principle, ends with physical processing. With few exceptions, every item in a library collection will be physically altered so that it can be tracked electronically in the catalog by location and status from the shelf to check-out and from its return to the shelf again. Once an item has been acquired, cataloged and its control records linked or added to the OPAC, and the item is shelved into the collection, it comes under the authority of the collection-management staff.



Book processing adds property stamps and spine labels on books. Photo by Gidget L. Coffman.

Processing of library materials is a multi-step procedure involving appropriate stamping indicating the library (and possibly collection) to which it belongs, a date due slip if it is a circulating item, a spine label signifying its assigned classification number, and an item identification tag such as a barcode label that may be covered with a clear protective label. Processing is not necessarily the exclusive purview of technical services. One exception may be when the circulation staff in a library performs the task of placing a date due slip in a book, for example, at the time it is checked out.

Depending upon the library and the standards adopted by its technical services manager, there will be established guidelines on the placement of labels and stamps. Collections may change locations over time as older materials are replaced. When reference materials are superseded by newer editions, older ones are often moved to the circulating stacks. Use of public space may require movement of whole collections. The movement of collections often requires physical modification of spine labels or database repairs to information. The status of each library item must be reflected in the OPAC: its location, its collection, its format, and its availability. Changes to the collections are also due to new or different bibliographic standards being implemented. These library materials will find their way back to technical services to have appropriate changes made to existing bibliographic descriptions in the MARC records. Library collections are always changing, and the processing of materials must be kept in line with those changes to support the integrity of the OPAC.

Physical conservation and preservation of library materials is an ongoing task, involving the treatment of individual library materials and maintenance of collections in part or in whole. Every individual in a library who physically handles library materials plays a part in preservation. Anything that improves or benefits the shelf life of a library item is part and parcel of the preservation process. Preservation tasks range from the proper handling of an item when processing, shelving, shifting, and handling or checking out library materials, to the actual physical repair of any part of an item. The latter task is delegated to preservation staff, but most libraries do not have staff on hand solely for the job. Allocation of resources to maintain collections via direct in-house repair of individual items is expensive. For those libraries that do have the staff and resources, it is the exception rather than the norm to have a preservation unit housed specifically in the technical ser-



*Preservation extends the life of library materials.
Photo by Gidget L. Coffman.*

vices unit.

Most repairs can be handled with minimal training and equipment for tasks like tipping-in loose or removed pages. Preservation of information in the text block is the primary concern, followed by its overall appearance and aesthetic quality. If necessary, compromises must be made in favor of retaining information, whether in the form of words or imagery. Items in libraries, with or without a preservation staff, that have significant damage to the book covers, may also be sent to a bindery. In any case, the repair of a

library book returned to the collection from preservation or binding specialists will significantly extend its shelf life for many more circulations.

While technical services staff play a very important role in the long term use of any item through the initial handling, care and processing of materials, it should be stressed that, above all, preserving materials in a collection is the responsibility of all library staff. For additional information about preservation, see Hans Rasmussen's article, "The Web in Review: Web Sites for Preservation," in *Mississippi Libraries*, 68 (3), pp. 82-85.

Conclusion

The evolving nature of the work in technical services is dynamic and ever-changing. What is constant is the job of acquiring, cataloging, and preserving library collections. Every step in building a collection begins in technical services, and the indisputable core of any library, large or small, public, special or academic, is fundamentally the collections in all the various formats that are made accessible to the library users. ■



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Electronic Acquisitions: How E-commerce May Change the Way That Your Library Buys Books

Patricia Furr
Director

William Carey College Library

Abstract

Technological developments have increased efficiency and accuracy in library acquisitions. Online ordering via systems and programs like BISAC, EDIX12, EDIFACT, and XML can reduce manual steps taken by librarians and library support staff. This article provides an overview of these capabilities and their realized and potential contributions to library acquisitions.

Back in the days when the library catalog lived in a wooden box and librarians wore sensible shoes, the chatter of a manual typewriter was the sound of librarians ordering books. If you were a patron who was serious about requesting the purchase of a book, you probably would find yourself filling out a serious little white form in triplicate and waiting "a good long time" to see the book on the shelf. From the typing of the order form found in a paper catalog to the making of multiple copies of catalog cards, the library

acquisitions and cataloging process was a labor-intensive, paper-bound task with many steps and a fair chance for error.

This time-consuming process for ordering books continued unchanged until 1984 when OCLC, which is now known as the Online Computer Library Center, introduced DX, a system that allowed member libraries to place orders for books online. Large academic libraries were the first to experience the revolutionary benefits of online ordering. The DX system also offered offline monthly fund accounting and fund commitment functions that helped acquisition librarians track order amounts and encumbered funds.

The DX system was so successful that other vendors soon began to see the advantage of developing an online system for book ordering in the early 1990s. One of the first automated formats to be introduced was BISAC (Basic Information Systems Acquisitions Course). It is still in use in many libraries today. Typically libraries that use BISAC access their automation system in an offline mode to type in ISBN numbers and order quantities. When the order is completed, this information is sent to book jobbers by FTP (File Transfer Protocol). A confirmation report is prepared by the vendor that the library downloads via FTP at a later time. While this system is an improvement over paper ordering from catalogs, the hand-keying of ISBN numbers and quantities still allows the possibil-

ity of error. Ordering via BISAC can also be time-consuming. It is undoubtedly tedious to type in hundreds of ISBN numbers if a large number of books need to be ordered.

In an attempt to eliminate the need for data entry by hand, some book vendors adopted a new system for ordering books and claiming unresolved items. EDI, or Electronic Data Interchange, was developed in order to allow computers at two different businesses to exchange information without human input. One particular form of EDI, called X12, soon gained acceptance as a standard for e-commerce among booksellers and automation vendors. With X12, all of the information needed to place an electronic order was presented in a format that both the vendor's computer system and the library's automation systems understood. X12 has also been used by serials vendors and libraries to enable electronic claiming of missing issues. EDI X12 is still in use in many libraries today.

In the late 1990s many industries, including health care and the larger automotive companies, began to see the need to develop an overall standard for all companies to use in e-commerce. To better enable global trading, the United Nations stepped forward as the agency that could best define and guide the process of developing these new international standards. The United Nations Economic Community for Europe introduced EDIFACT, the Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transportation as the one standard for all global e-commerce. When a business is EDIFACT-compliant, other businesses can be assured that their computer systems will successfully interface with it without complicated programming and setup. Unlike X12, even complicated data and complex orders can be exchanged between businesses easily using EDIFACT. European



Using paper catalogs to select and order books may become a thing of the past if libraries adopt the same technology as e-commerce. Photo by Patricia Furr.

countries were the first to adopt and exploit the EDIFACT system for e-commerce. The European Booksellers Federation soon adopted the system in order to cut the cost of mistakes made by libraries and bookstores in hand-keying ISBNs. European academic libraries became leaders in the library e-commerce field, adopting EDIFACT as a way to complete complex orders with encoded data such as branch codes and item types within the book order itself. Those automation vendors who partnered with European libraries, such as Horizon, Innovative and Endeavor, soon added EDIFACT capabilities to their systems. Booksellers such as Baker and Taylor, Ingram, YBP, BIWI and Harrassowitz also soon became EDIFACT compliant.

Some smaller book jobbers and serials subscription services reasoned that it might be prudent to wait and see if EDIFACT indeed became the gold standard for trading books. These companies generally have remained with the EDI X12 system. Unfortunately an EDI X12 system cannot interface with a company using EDIFACT. Some automation products will allow libraries a choice in adopting either the EDI X12 system or EDIFACT. Libraries generally choose the standard that works best with their bookseller's capabilities.

Other interests have continued to explore alternate ways to transmit complex data between computers. Another Web-based protocol, XML, promises to have many of the same advantages as EDIFACT, while allowing even greater functionality using the Internet. One vendor, Dynix Horizon, reportedly is planning to introduce a XML-based multi-user interface called VIP, or Vendor Integration Protocol, to allow libraries to interface with three or four vendors at once to enhance online ordering capabilities. It remains to be seen whether EDIFACT or XML will become the dominant format for library e-commerce. At the present time, most of the mainline automation vendors and booksellers do support EDIFACT.

If your library is seriously interested in adopting the EDIFACT technology for online ordering and claiming, your library technologist will need to spend time talk-

ing with both your automation vendor and book jobber to learn how their systems can successfully interface. It can typically take several weeks to iron out all of the wrinkles involved in setting up the two systems to talk to each other, but once the system is in place, it can significantly decrease the amount of time spent on acquisitions.

Although many industries outside the library world are using EDIFACT technology for generating and paying bills, most libraries use it only to purchase and claim items. No major automation vendor has a workable interface that will allow the payment of funds to vendors online. These functions may eventually be added to library automation products if demand is sufficient to warrant investment by ven-

dors in the software programming. It remains to be seen if any of the business offices that pay a library's bills would be comfortable with automatic systems for the payment of invoices and the electronic transfer of funds to book vendors.

For the moment, if your library acquisitions department is tired of typing endless streams of numbers and your library could benefit from a more efficient way of ordering books, you may want to take advantage of your automation system's EDI X12 or EDIFACT capabilities. The business world has already found it to be a worthwhile investment in its continual quest for mistake-free ordering and the efficient transfer of complex data between business computer systems. ■

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The Role of the Technical Services Department in Mississippi Library Commission's Move

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Abstract

In January 2006 the Mississippi Library Commission moved to its new location. Moving a collection from a one-story building to a multi-level facility meant the collection would be stored – and possibly used – differently. The move allowed for the change in various policies and procedures. This article looks at the role of the Technical Services Department in the planning and preparations for the move to the new location.

In January 2006, the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) moved to its new location at Eastwood Drive in the Education and Research Center complex located near the intersection of Lakeland Drive and Ridgewood Road in Jackson, Mississippi. This is the first permanent location of this library in its eighty years of existence. The library services collections support Mississippi libraries and the information needs of Mississippi state government, and as well as provide patent and trademark information to intellectual property researchers.

As planning and construction of this multistory, state-owned facility occurred over several years, staff took advantage of the timeframe to review the library services collection and procedures to better focus services on the targeted clientele. Plans to expand services, including circulation directly to the public, were also made.

This article focuses on the role provided by the Technical Services (TS) Department in planning and preparing the collections to meet an expanded service role at the new location. The TS Department

consists of three employees: the technical services director, an acquisition librarian, and a cataloging librarian. Responsibilities of the director include acquisition oversight, cataloging, and a role in Sirsi Unicorn system administration. The director's position had been vacant for some time, and after becoming head of the TS Department in 2003, my first priority was to review the department's procedures and assess changes necessary for the upcoming relocation.

As chair of a committee appointed to recommend access policies for the general public, I met regularly with several librarians. Our primary responsibility was to consider aspects of these new access policies and provide a list of projects that would result from our recommendations. As a result, we revisited library policies from library card to special archived materials.

The first area of concern was the State Depository Library Program. This collection is the archival collection of publications produced for public distribution by Mississippi state agencies. The current state documents access policy was reviewed resulting in our recommendations to:

- Continue to maintain one copy for archival purposes and another for circulation
- Make circulating and non-circulating copies easily identifiable to patrons browsing the shelves and searching in the Sirsi Unicorn system

Due to the size of the project, it involved all Library Services Division staff. The TS Department provided the necessary training to complete this project within the scheduled timeline.

Another responsibility was to recommend the circulation policies for library service's other special collections, including Mississippi, Federal Documents, and

Patent and Trademark. This resulted in reviewing policies related to interlibrary loans, loan periods, renewals, checkout limits, and the overdue and lost materials policy for the general public. Considerations included: the physical appearance of an item, i.e., would call numbers create confusion for the general public; the availability of collections through the online catalog; security issues regarding the collections; availability of sufficient space in the new facility; how to provide an exact location for a collection in a multistory and multi-wing facility; and how to construct call numbers that signify the correct location of any given item. The outcome of all these issues resulted in the following:

- Creation of a new user profile
- Reconstruction of call numbers for some materials
- Cataloging of all federal documents in online database
- Re-describing the location of the collection
- Deletion of periodical titles weeded from collection
- Design of an in-house database
- Security tagging the collection

Creation of a new user profile.

As the general public would now be served directly from MLC, a new user profile was created in the SIRSI Unicorn system. In order to incorporate the new user profile, we revisited all other existing user profiles within the system. We determined the number of items that could be circulated at any one given time and length of time materials could be borrowed by the general public.

Reconstruction of call numbers for some materials.

In the past, MLC had a sizeable audio-visual collection that was maintained in accession number order. With the passage of time, the need for maintaining such a big collection

became less relevant as local libraries began placing an emphasis on the development of such collections. As a result, the collection was weeded extensively, creating large gaps between accession numbers. There was a scenario in which a video with accession number 650 was standing beside a video with accession number 40. There was concern that library users might think there were materials in between accession numbers 40 and 650, when in reality, we had weeded those videos. Accordingly, the entire collection of videos, audios, and CD-ROM/DVD-ROMs was re-accessioned, re-classed and re-processed to reflect not only the actual holdings of the collection to general public but also the correct location of the collection in this multistory facility.



Mississippi Library Commission's Reference Collection. Photo by Mississippi Library Commission.

A part of the Mississippi collection that was formerly classed in the general Mississippi collection was re-classed in Mississippi reference. The justification behind this was that some of these materials would be difficult or impossible to replace, some of them are historic documents on Mississippi, and some of them are used almost daily for reference requests. This change will be beneficial not only to the reference librarians, but also to the general public.

A significant number of titles that were located in Blind and Physically Handicapped Library Services area were re-classed with a new call number that signifies the location of the item in that area.

Cataloging of all federal documents in online database. As a selec-

tive federal depository library, MLC selects items that relate to censuses, education, labor, and other topics. In the past, some federal documents were cataloged in our online catalog. Most, however, were enlisted in the DECKLIST offline database. Prior to the relocation, a recommendation was made and approval obtained to give access to this collection through our online catalog. As a result, we cataloged each and every item of our federal depository library collection in our online catalog.



Mississippi Library Commission's Resource, State & Federal Documents Collection. Photo by Mississippi Library Commission.

Re-describing the location of the collection. In the past MLC was located in a single story building on Ellis Avenue in Jackson, so the description of the home location for a particular item was mainly the name of the collection (e.g., Mississippi, Reference). Upon our move to a multistory facility, material locations had to be changed in Sirsi Unicorn location configuration to include floor and



Another view of Mississippi Library Commission's Reference Collection. Photo by Mississippi Library Commission.

wing information in order to provide better access to the collection. Now it is clear to online catalog users on which floor and in which wing a particular collection is located.

Deletion of periodical titles weeded from collection. Periodical microfilm holdings were reviewed and evaluated for retention based on the needs of target clientele, usage, and availability in online resources such as MAGNOLIA. As a result, holdings were deleted for a large number of periodical titles not only from our local database but also from the OCLC catalog database.

Design of an in-house database. Since the inception of MLC, the staff prepared cards on Mississippi authors that were filed by last name in a card catalog cabinet. Before the relocation, it was decided that this card file would not be moved, so, a Microsoft Access database was designed and all card information was entered. This database is now accessible and searchable to all Library Services Division staff from their desktops through the local area network. The database is updated as new Mississippi authors are identified.

Security Tagging the Collection. Plans for the new facility required preparation for a material security system that required tagging the materials. Division staff was organized into teams and all items in the various collections were systematically tagged.

Conclusion

The collections that served the general public through the network of public libraries for the past eighty years were in need of many minute changes in both physical appearance and in the library computer system. We are now operational and look forward to providing continued support to the entire library community and the general public through the network of public libraries in the state. We also welcome the challenge of serving the general public directly through our state-of-the-art new facility. ■

Keeping Your Plates Spinning: Technical Services Tasks from Delta State's Perspective

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Abstract

A technical services department in an academic library performs many functions. Discussed are types and benefits of outsourcing within and outside of the library; handling ongoing conversion projects in a way that serves both technical services workflow and patrons; workflow assessment and adjustment in consideration of fluctuating budget, new technology, and other uncontrollable circumstances; and how to advocate and practice quality cataloging in a department that bears so many other responsibilities.

The Roberts-LaForge Library contains more than 357,000 volumes, 1,280 current hardcopy journals, is a selective U.S. Government Documents Depository, and provides access to ninety-eight databases. The library serves a student population of around 4,000, and supports undergraduate degrees in forty-five majors, master's degrees in nineteen fields, and one doctoral degree.

Technical Services in the Roberts-LaForge Library is a four-person department that is responsible for ordering materials, receiving, processing, cataloging and classifying materials, and paying for the materials. Technical services also maintains databases and is responsible for withdrawing materials, tracking materials, authority control, and various other projects as assigned. In this academic library setting, librarians have other duties as well, e.g., committee meetings, reports, writing articles, giving presentations, professional development, formulating policy, and so on. Because of these various tasks, in recent years catalogers at the Roberts-LaForge Library have felt much like the juggler whose act is to spin plates; we

rush from one plate to another and try to keep them all spinning at the same time. How do we get it all done? We don't always get it done, at least not in the time-frame in which we hope to get it done. This article attempts to enumerate various methods we have tried to keep all those 'plates' spinning.



Delta State University's Technical Services, left to right: Loretta Holmes, Sheryl Stump, Rick Torgerson, Emily Bell-Delta. Photo by Dianne Schattner.

Outsourcing

Outsourcing, which raises job-security concerns for some in technical services, has actually helped a lot in the last few years. While videos, DVDs, software, juvenile books, sound recordings, and kits are still done in-house, we order the majority of our books through a vendor who sends us order records which are downloaded into our system. In our OPAC these very short individual order records indicate that a book is "on order," and after the item is received, the record indicates that it is "in processing." Around the time that the book arrives in the library, we receive a file of full bibliographic records that are downloaded into the system, replacing the order records. We check the book against the bibliographic record to make sure the bibliographic record actually describes the book in hand, and that the barcode and the call number in the bibliographic record match those on the book. These books come in fully processed with our ownership stamp, barcode, book pocket, spine, and pocket label. After they have been checked, they can go straight to the shelves.

Outsourcing has extended into our col-

lection of federal government documents in that we receive cataloging records (at first, brief records, which are replaced by full cataloging when it becomes available), labels, and smart barcodes. Another outsourcing project concerns authority control. For years, we had not been able to keep up with authorities changes and were years behind in the work. We sent our database out for authority control two years ago and scrapped all the authority records we previously had. We currently send out files of new bibliographic records for authority control periodically. While we still have a very long list of unauthorized headings that we are making our way through, and still have subject headings that need changing, a good portion of the headings in our database are now authorized, and the task of keeping up with authority work is not as insurmountable as it once was.

A variant in the outsourcing solution is finding someone in the library from outside Technical Services to do some of the work. For example, the government documents are handled by a reference librarian, the assistant systems person, and work study students. They occasionally ask technical services personnel for advice or for technical information, but on the whole they handle all the federal documents themselves. When the state mandated that all state documents must be cataloged, the reference librarian in charge of government documents volunteered to do the cataloging. He was given some training and has done a great job with very little intervention from Technical Services. Another project that non-technical services library personnel have taken on was a large weeding project. Technical Services wrote detailed instructions on how to mark the item records for discard in the local system, and then how to delete our holdings from OCLC. When we converted the card catalog to an online catalog years

ago, we were allowed to hire temporary workers to help library personnel in the immense chore of placing barcodes on each item in the entire collection. Much later, we allowed a worker in our Instructional Resources Center to create short bibliographic records for older textbook items that were not part of the conversion project. The success of having a non-cataloger do the cataloging is, of course, dependent on the capability of the person available to do the job.

Has this outsourcing deprived anyone of their existing job? No. In view of other items we have waiting to be cataloged, we really need another cataloger, but in these times of tight budgets, the administration is unable to create a new position, so our current situation has to suffice. Even though catalogers have fewer books to catalog as a result of outsourcing, there is still work involved in the setup of outsourcing and the continued supervision of the process. With outsourcing, the items that are easier to catalog end up being outsourced; the materials that are more difficult to catalog are the ones left for the catalogers to address.

Conversion on the Fly

Although we have had an online catalog since 1989, there still remain some materials in our Instructional Resources Center that were never converted. One of the ways we allow these materials to circulate is to have the circulation person create a short record at checkout that contains title, call number, barcode number and location. Once these materials are returned, they are sent to cataloging to be classified and fully cataloged. In this way, materials can be made available for circulation, even though they may not be fully cataloged or fully accessible through the OPAC. This technique helps catalogers continue to whittle down the number of materials that still need converting.

Considerations in Looking at Workflow

Sometimes we need to take a hard look at what we're doing, who is doing it, and why. This activity is not easy; it's hard to get out of our comfortable niches and do and teach others to do things they have never done before. Within Technical Ser-

vices there may be people that have skills and time to do tasks or projects that they don't usually do. For example, in these days at state institutions when the materials budget for a year is approved close to the end of that fiscal year, it is possible for us to be so backed up in receiving materials that an invoice to pay for an order is available before the items have been received. Typically we have had one person receive and process items, and another person pay for the materials received. This fiscal year, we are giving thought to having the person who pays for the materials receive them as well, and have the other person work entirely on processing.

Many libraries have local practices that are not standardized cataloging practices. Little things such as stamping or embossing particular pages, placing various types of labels on the materials, writing the call number on the materials, and other such practices can consume a lot of time with very little gain. Non-standardized cataloging practices can take even more time, since they have to be documented for the sake of consistency, and they may make editing a bibliographic record a necessity. Some of these practices do help our patrons and are useful. But all such practices should be examined with the thought of: Do we have time for this? Is this the best use of our time? Could we be doing something more important?

Advocates for Quality Cataloging

In Technical Services there is always the problem of quantity versus quality: we want to make materials available to our patrons quickly, yet we also want to provide quality access to these materials. These two goals are held in constant tension. We may have pressure from the administrators of our libraries to go for quantity over quality; it is difficult to stand up to that kind of pressure, and sometimes our ideals of quality must be sacrificed.

We feel that part of our role in Technical Services is to keep our administrators aware of the consequences of a short-sighted belief in quantity over quality. We may not always get the message across, but we need to keep bringing it up each time someone wants to implement a change that will adversely affect the quality

of the catalog. For example, keyword searching seems to have become the only thing necessary in the minds of the public and even some administrators. An examination of the number of hits retrieved with a keyword search (even a carefully crafted search) can boggle the mind. As catalogers, we feel sure that people don't want to have to search through thousands of items to find what they're looking for. We strongly believe that controlled vocabulary is a necessity in this day of information proliferation. In issues like this, we feel it is up to catalogers to be the voice of reason.

Changes in Technology

The changes that technology has brought can help us do things in a better and more efficient way. A major change was from the card catalog to the OPAC. We no longer file cards or change stacks of cards. If a subject heading changes, we change it in the OPAC, and we're done. The same is true with the location of the materials: if we want to move a book to reference, we change the location in the OPAC and redo the label. We don't have to change a stack of cards to accomplish it. Being able to cut and paste information from one place to another is an improvement for our work. Macros and function keys can help us by taking repetitive steps and doing them in a click of a button. Batch deletions in our local computer systems and batch deletion of holdings in OCLC make weeding projects quicker and easier.

Dealing with the Uncontrollable

There are always going to be circumstances we can't control. The materials budget has been a major uncontrollable force in the last few years. As mentioned above, the fact that we don't usually have an approved materials budget until spring has been a major cause for frustration and stress. On the other hand, in years when the budget is big, more materials will be waiting to be cataloged, and this can be a source of stress as well.

Another uncontrollable factor is gift materials. One never knows how many gifts are going to be donated at any given time. In most years we receive all the textbooks that are being reviewed for adoption. For some years, that is a lot of books,

software, and other materials. We also receive gifts from retiring faculty, administrative personnel, alumni, and various other people. Gifts need not only processing and cataloging, but also reviewing to see if they should be added to the collection. Accepting gifts for which the library has no use is expensive in terms of staff time, library space, and library materials.

Although changes in technology can increase efficiency, they can also be an uncontrollable source of problems. In the past few years changes in computers have, on occasion, caused the slowing or stopping of the workflow in Technical Services. A migration from one system to another, while usually necessary, may reap some advantages, but the attendant duties of creating an RFP, consulting with the systems people, filling out paperwork, making decisions on the setup, reviewing data, finding and reporting data problems, e-mails, meetings, as well as the database cleanup, can all be time consuming, and will certainly have an adverse effect upon workflow.

OCLC, our bibliographic utility, has been changing its software over the last few years. For a period of time, our connection to OCLC was painfully slow. Part of the problem seemed to be with OCLC, but our campus system was also having problems at the time that compounded the problem. We went for months waiting for minutes between commands. Recently, though, this sort of problem hasn't been the norm.

One more computer issue that can't be controlled is the hardware sitting on our desks and the software inside them. We have learned that we are going to have problems with the machines on our desks at some point. We have no control over when this will happen, and little control over how quickly these problems will be resolved. Also, the time will come when one is given a new computer. This is a wonderful thing, but it, too, is time consuming. One's files need to be backed up, and then transferred to the new machine. Occasionally, some data will be lost and will have to be replaced.

The Backlog

We've tried various ways to keep all materials moving through Technical Services and onto the shelves. In the past,

gifts had been low priority, and were therefore the most neglected materials. A number of years ago we incorporated them into the workflow with new materials. This worked pretty well for awhile, but now our online catalog system seems to favor us separating materials by whether they have an order record or not. As a result, gift materials, which do not have order records, may start to stockpile again. The way the online catalog system handles materials can cause us to think differently about certain types of materials and, thus, can influence our treatment of these materials. On the other hand, some materials can and should be treated differently if the backlog is getting out of hand.

Conclusion

For us at Delta State University's Roberts-LaForge Library, it seems as

though in the last decade things have been changing daily: technology, our workloads, and the software we use. The changes in technology, while in some respects welcome, have also brought some difficulties. Technological changes have increased the varieties of materials we now catalog. We have more software, DVDs, e-journals, and Web sites than ever before. All these materials take more time than books. As things continue to change, we have started to realize the need to look at what we do and how we do it, and make changes that can help us be more efficient, yet still give the best service to our patrons. At the same time, we are drawn to raise the awareness among the public and other colleagues of the need for quality cataloging. For the present time, therefore, we will continue to keep all our plates spinning. ■

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Making Materials for the Blind and Visually Impaired Visible in the Library's Catalog and Web Site

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Abstract

An informal study of library systems in Mississippi found that the majority of systems did not make patrons aware of materials for the blind and visually impaired. In order to ensure all patrons have access to library materials, libraries should catalog materials for the blind and visually impaired. In their article, Phillips and Stump state that correctly cataloging materials for the blind or visually impaired helps the library meet the standards of Web accessibility and cataloging increases the visibility of materials in the catalog for the blind or visually impaired. Making users aware of these services is imperative: all materials or services should be reported on the library's Web site. This article describes how to catalog materials for the blind and visually impaired, OPAC configuration, and the importance of highlighting services and materials on the library's Web site.

Introduction

In this age of computers and the Internet, it is very likely that people will visit a library's Web site to determine the types of resources and services available before actually visiting the library in person or before asking a question. As librarians, we need to be aware of the population

that is visiting the library's Web site and realize that some may have special needs. Therefore, it is important that all of the library's holdings and services are visible from the Web site or OPAC – especially those that provide information to people with disabilities. According to the American Foundation for the Blind, there are approximately ten million blind and visually-impaired people in the United States. By visibly displaying services and materials that will benefit people with disabilities on the library's Web site and through the catalog, your library will show a willingness to serve the entire community.

Diaz (1998) states that an effective library Web site will inform patrons of everything the library has to offer in a way that is presentable, clear, and easy to understand. Most of the research and literature about making materials accessible for the blind and visually impaired deal with issues such as Web browsers and Web sites being sight-friendly or compatible with assistive types of technology. While it is important that Web sites meet appropriate standards and legal requirements, it is also important that the basic content such as your services or materials is present on the site so that patrons will know what is available. For example, if the library's Web site meets all accessibility requirements, how could someone find out if the library has books on tape? Are there specific limiters in the catalog to search for books on tape? Are there quick links to books on tape? Is there a state-

ment on the library's Web site that says the library has books on tape? Another example: what if someone wants to know if the library offers homebound services? Would they know by visiting the library's Web site? These are questions to consider from the point of view of a patron that wants to know the answers, but may not want to ask the questions, or may not know what questions to ask.

Web and OPAC Study

From January to April 2006, the authors studied the Web sites and OPACs of public library systems in Mississippi. Mississippi has forty-eight public library systems. Only the main libraries or headquarters were studied. Branch libraries and library systems without a Web presence were not studied. Therefore, thirty-nine Web sites were studied. This informal study found that eighteen of thirty-nine library systems with a Web presence reported having books on tape or CD, audiobooks, talking books, large print books, or services for the handicapped, blind, or disabled on their Web site. Of the thirty-nine Web sites examined, thirty-one OPACs could be searched from the library's Web site. The OPAC study revealed that twenty-one of thirty-one online catalogs had specific limiters for formats such as audiobooks, books on tape, large print, etc., and four online catalogs contained links to the list of records for new alternative formats. The Web sites and OPACs were not measured by acces-

sibility standards for people with disabilities. However, library systems may check their Web pages to see if they meet accessibility requirements by using Bobby, a free, online service available at <http://webxact.watchfire.com/>. The purpose of this casual study was to see how many libraries were advertising their services and resources for people with disabilities. The twenty-one library systems that did not report such services on their Web site were contacted by telephone and all of them indicated that they had some type of service or resource that would benefit a person with a disability. Therefore, the point of this research is to encourage libraries to meet the standards of accessibility, report all services on the library's Web site, and catalog materials or configure the OPAC to increase the visibility of materials for the blind or visually impaired.

Cataloging for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Creating access to materials for the blind and visually impaired in the OPAC can be accomplished in a number of ways, depending on the type of material. For example, the leader and 008 field have codes that differentiate between types of materials. General material designation can also be used to differentiate between materials, as can genre headings.

Large print and Braille books should have a special code in the 008 field, byte 23, (Form of Item). Large-print books should be coded "d" and Braille books should be coded "f" according to MARC21 (1999). Braille books also will have a general material designation (GMD) of "Braille" in the title field (245),

delimiter "h." Under AACR2, large-print books do not have a GMD, but many libraries supply this in one form or another as a form of access to large print books. Local policies such as these are frequently the results of how the OPAC is set up and what the software can do. OPAC configuration will be discussed later in the article.



MARC record for large-print book (coded "d")

Talking books and audio books are considered to be sound recordings by catalogers. In the MARC record the type of material is coded in the leader, in byte 06. All sound recordings that are not musical sound recordings should be coded "i." This is the major differentiation between musical sound recordings and other types of materials. Talking books and audio books will have a general material designation of "sound recording." Some catalogers feel that this is less than helpful since it does not differentiate between forms of sound recordings such as audio CD, audiocassette, or long playing discs. It must be remembered that this is a general material designation, and a specific material designation is used in delimiter "a" of field 300 to specify the

type of sound recording. Two of the most common specific material designations used for sound recordings are sound disc and sound cassette. For sound discs, even this designation leaves doubt as to what type of recording it is. Whether it is digital or analog is information found in delimiter "b" of field 300 and the size of the disc is recorded in delimiter "c" of the same field. This information should make it clear what type of sound recording is being cataloged.

Genre headings are another form of access to Braille books, large-print books, and sound recordings for the blind or visually impaired. Field 655 contains any genre headings considered applicable for the material being cataloged. Genre headings indicate what the material is, not what it is about. The second indicator of field 655 indicates the source of the term. Library of Congress subject headings that could be used as genre headings include "Braille books," "Talking books," "Audiobooks," and "Large type books," and would have a second indicator of zero. "Audiobooks" are any form of a book on a sound recording. "Talking books" are audiobooks that are specifically for the blind or visually impaired. If the library wished to use its own terms, such as "Large print books" instead of "Large type books," this would have a second indicator of seven and would have a delimiter two with the word "local" to indicate that this is a local genre heading. The needs of your patrons should be taken into account when deciding what terms to use, and consistency in using the agreed upon terms is key to access.

Another way to create access to materials for the blind and visually impaired is



MARC record for large-type book (field 655)

through special coding in the item record. This could be accomplished by creating a special location for those materials, thus allowing the patron to search by location in the OPAC. In some library software an item type or types could be created and used as searching parameters in the OPAC. This will allow the library to create special limiters so that these materials can be easily accessed.

OPAC Configuration

Library software is different from company to company, and set up is different from library to library. Your software may not be able to make use of the data in 008 field, byte 23 which designates large print or Braille. That is why many libraries use other means to identify this material (such as the GMD in the 245 field or genre headings). Some of these means may be correct according to cataloging rules and some of them may not be correct, but each library must find ways to access these materials, either by using their existing software or by working around their software. If your library is part of a consortium, there will have to be an agreement between all parties as to what means will be used to create access to these special materials.

Another problem could be that the library's software is not set up for genre headings. Some libraries have used local subject headings instead of genre headings, such as field 690. Some libraries use the 650 field for these headings if their software is not set up for genre headings. Whichever way your library decides to create access for the blind and

visually impaired, consistency in applying the headings or codes is the key to providing access to these materials.

Other Ways to Make Materials Visible

If your library does not have an OPAC, but has materials and services for the blind and visually impaired, you could make one Web page that lists the materials and how to locate them and another one that describes the services.

These Web pages should meet all accessibility requirements so that patrons may use their adaptive technology to read aloud the content or magnify the text. If any graphics are used, include an <alt> tag that will describe the graphic (Loomis and Flatley, 2003).

Developing Web-based search aids or instructional guides is another way to help your patrons find materials in different formats. For example, if your OPAC has special limiters for large-print books, books on tape, or audiobooks, you could create a guide that explains how to use those limiters. In addition, if your library uses special abbreviations such as "LP" to represent large print, you could create a guide that defines the abbreviations. Keep in mind that any guide you create should be compatible with assistive technology. A guide that cannot be read, magnified, or is hard to use is not helpful. The key to helping patrons that are blind or visually impaired in the online environment is to offer Web-based information that is easy to navigate and can be easily recognized by assistive software.

Conclusion

There are many ways to make materials for the blind and visually impaired accessible through an OPAC, and it is imperative that libraries advertise the ways these materials can be accessed. If your library has specific limiters for alternative formats or links to a list of alternative formats or new arrivals (e.g., new large print titles), your library should make this known. If your library uses genre head-

ings or subject headings for materials for the blind and visually impaired, your patrons need to know how to search for those materials. It is not enough to be in compliance with federal regulations, or to provide access to the materials through whatever means; the library must make this known to its patrons so that they can take full advantage of all the hard work that goes into making these materials accessible. Since many people are visiting libraries through the Web, it is important that the services for the blind and visually impaired are advertised on the Web site. ■

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Forthcoming Attractions at MAGNOLIA

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Users of the MAGNOLIA (Mississippi Alliance for Gaining New Opportunities Through Library Information Access) databases have probably found a new set of databases is now available. In April, the MAGNOLIA Steering Committee announced the addition of a number of new databases to the MAGNOLIA lineup. In the new suite of EBSCO databases, you'll find something for everyone: schools, public libraries, universities – even the local gardening club!

Table 1 provides a breakdown of the newly added databases. Note that some are upgrades to existing titles (moving from Business Source Elite to Business Source Complete). Others provide timely indexing and abstracting of core literature but are not full-text databases (such as AGRICOLA). Purchase of premium databases such as Academic Search Premier and Business Source Complete adds literally thousands of full-text titles to every library and provides rich full-text content that other EBSCO databases may link to. For example, premium customers (MAGNOLIA!) have access to 386 full-text titles through the indexing

in AGRICOLA and the full-text content found in other EBSCO databases.

To fund the acquisition of this suite of databases, several other titles have been discontinued. These include SIRS Discoverer and Researcher, the Gale databases (Business & Company Resource Center with PROMPT, Business Index, Contemporary Literary Criticism-Select, Contemporary Authors, Discovering Collection, Dictionary of Literary Biography and General Business File ASAP), and Wilson Biographies. Access to the discontinued titles will cease sometime late in the summer of 2006.

The Mississippi Legislature also allocated an additional \$100,000 to fund the purchase of the Academic Search Premier upgrade. In previous years, libraries throughout the state had contributed funds for the purchase of the upgrade through MAGNOLIA; libraries will not have to contribute to this purchase in the 2006/2007 fiscal year.

Be sure to check out the newly acquired databases, which bring a rich collection of indexes, full-text journals, online reference tools, and other useful resources to the citizens of Mississippi. Training sessions will be made available throughout the state. To see the latest information on the MAGNOLIA databases, check out the MAGNOLIA Web site at <http://www.lib.usm.edu/~magnolia/index.htm>.

Table 1
New MAGNOLIA Databases

Database (* Includes Full-text Content)	Description
AGRICOLA	Contains indexing and bibliographic citations for over 2.5 million records from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Library. Coverage dates back to 1970.
Alt HealthWatch*	Focuses on perspectives of complementary, holistic and integrated approaches to health care and wellness. Includes full-text coverage of more than 180 journals, reports, proceedings, and consumer newsletters. Full-text titles include <i>American Journal of Chinese Medicine</i> , <i>American Journal of Homeopathic Medicine</i> , and the <i>Journal of Alternative & Complementary Medicine</i> .
Bibliography of Native North Americans (BNNA)	BNNA is a bibliographic database covering all aspects of native North American culture, history, and life. Topics include archaeology, multicultural relations, gaming, governance and literacy. Indexing covers books, essays, journal articles and government documents for both the United States and Canada.

Database (*Includes Full-text Content)	Description
Book Collection: Nonfiction*	Designed for school libraries, this database contains abstracts and searchable full-text for 3,370 popular nonfiction books.
Business Source Complete*	An upgrade from Business Source Premier, this database covers all areas of business and economics. Over 11,000 journals and magazines are indexed (with over 1,900 peer-reviewed titles), and 10,380 are available with full-text access (1,299 peer-reviewed). Also includes author profiles and company reports.
Computer Science Index	Offers abstracting and indexing of academic journals, professional publications, and other reference sources. Covers more than 6,500 periodicals and books, with coverage going back to the mid 1960's. Formerly known as Computer Literature Index.
Computer Source*	Includes nearly 300 full-text journals and magazines covering topics such as computer science, programming, artificial intelligence, cybernetics and information systems.
Consumer Health Complete*	Provides full-text access to 176 health reference books and encyclopedias, more than 4000 full-text evidence-based health reports, over 5000 reports from <i>Clinical Pharmacology</i> , hundreds of medical images and diagrams and more than 1,200 physician-generated videos.
Economía y Negocios	This bibliographic data index covers more than 200 Spanish and Portuguese-language business and economics periodicals published in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Spain and the United States.
Environmental Issues and Policy Index with Full Text*	Provides coverage of over 1000 (253 full-text) journals in the areas of agriculture, ecosystem ecology, energy, geography, environmental technology, environmental law and much more.
Garden, Landscape and Horticulture Index	Indexes and abstracts over 300 core titles in the area of horticulture, botany, garden and landscape design/history, ecology, plant and garden conservation, garden management, and horticultural therapy.
General Science Collection*	Designed for school libraries, this collection of full-text publications includes information on all aspects of the scientific world. In addition to full-text access to over 60 popular science publications, this database provides access to <i>Great Scientific Achievements of the Twentieth Century</i> .
History Reference Center*	The database contains more than 1,500 full-text reference books, encyclopedias and non-fiction books from leading scholarly publishers. Over 100 leading historical periodicals are also indexed and available full-text. Additional content includes 58,000 historical documents, 43,000 biographies of historical figures, more than 12,000 historical photographs and maps, and more than 80 hours of historical video.
Hospitality and Tourism Complete*	With coverage dating back to 1965, this database includes more than 200 full-text periodicals, company and country reports, and books. Topics covered include the culinary arts, food and beverage management, hospitality law, hotel management, and leisure/business travel.
Humanities International Complete*	Provide full-text access to journals, books, and other published sources in all areas of the humanities. Overall, the database has over 1.6 million records, with selected content available online.
Information Science & Technology Abstracts	Indexes more than 450 journals in the area of classification, cataloging, bibliometrics, information management, and scholarly communication. Also includes books, research reports, and conference proceedings.

Database (*Includes Full-text Content)	Description
Insurance Periodicals Index	Indexes and abstracts over 200 insurance industry journals and magazines, with coverage dating back to 1965.
International Bibliography of Theatre and Dance With Full Text*	Indexes theatre and dance literature, with over 100 full-text journals and over 50 full-text books. Full-text reference sources include <i>The World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre</i> , and <i>Who's Who in Contemporary World Theatre</i> .
Internet & Personal Computing Abstracts	Formerly known as Microcomputer Abstracts, this database indexes and abstracts the literature related to personal computing products and related business developments. Over 400 trade publications, mainstream computer magazines, and professional journals are covered. Special emphasis is given to hardware and software reviews.
Legal Collection*	Provides full-text access to approximately 250 scholarly law journals. Topics covered include criminal justice, international law, labor & human law, and legal ethics.
Literary Reference Center*	A comprehensive literary database, LRC includes over 10,000 plot summaries, 75,000 articles of literary criticism, over 130,000 author biographies, 500,00 book reviews, 25,000 online poems, 11,000 online short stories, and over 300 full-text literary journals. Also includes several hundred full-text reference works.
MAS Ultra: School Edition*	An expanded edition of the MAS database includes more than 700 full-text magazine, 518 pamphlets, over 350 full-text reference books, and over 83,000 primary resources. Designed for school libraries.
Natural & Alternative Treatments*	Covers complementary and alternative medicine, with over 200 articles on medical conditions, evidenced-based information on herbs and supplements and offers comprehensive information on drug/herb/supplement interactions.
Professional Development Collection*	This database covers areas within education and librarianship, with over 700 titles indexed and 548 full-text journals. In addition more than 200 education journals are included.
Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection*	Includes over 570 full-text journals in the area of psychology, mental processes, anthropology, psychiatry, and other behavioral areas.
Religion & Philosophy Collection*	This database covers topics such as world religions, biblical studies, religious history, philosophy of language, moral philosophy, and the history of philosophy. Includes more than 300 full-text journals.
TOPICsearch*	Designed for school libraries, this current events database explores social, political and economic issues, including controversial opinions and viewpoints. Includes full-text access to over 102,800 articles from 2,500 periodicals, polls, book reviews, and newspapers.
Vocation & Career Collection*	Provides full-text coverage for approximately 350 trade and industry-related periodicals. Includes such titles as <i>Modern Machine Shop</i> , <i>Video Business</i> , <i>Hotel and Motel Management</i> , and <i>Advertising Age</i> . ■

News Briefs



Left to right: Camila Alire, President of ACRL; Frances Coleman, Dean of the Libraries; MSU Provost Peter Rabideau; and Harry Lull, Associate Dean for Public Services. Photo by Alston Avritt.

Academic Library Advocacy Symposium

Mississippi State University Libraries recently sponsored "Academic Library Advocacy: Advocacy from the Front Line," a symposium held at Mitchell Memorial Library on February 16, 2006. Camila Alire, President of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), served as keynote speaker for the event, which drew librarians from across the state and region. Alire discussed the critical issues involved in academic library advocacy and highlighted the shift in responsibility for academic library advocacy from deans and directors to academic librarians. Following her presentation, the symposium's attendees had the opportunity to engage in small group discussions concerning library advocacy. MSU Library administrators would like to see the symposium become an annual event.

Relief Fund Opens New Chapter for Public School Libraries Affected by Disasters

Beginning in spring 2006, \$800,000 in grants will be available to rebuild and expand public school library media programs affected by disasters – including those that have opened their doors to significant numbers of new students displaced by last year's hurricanes.

Discount retailer Dollar General will fund the grant program, and the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), a division of the American

Library Association (ALA), will administer it. The National Education Association (NEA) will work with AASL on the grant review committee and provide support materials to libraries.

"Beyond Words: The Dollar General School Library Relief Program" is the largest relief effort in the history of the ALA and NEA targeted specifically to public school libraries in the Gulf Coast region and around the country. The funding for the initial grants is \$800,000, with individual library awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000. The funds will be used to purchase books, media, and/or library equipment that support learning in a school library environment.

"For many children, the school library is their first experience with a library and the help that a librarian can give them," said ALA President Michael Gorman. "This is the place where children connect with a world of ideas, information and resources and embark on life long learning. School library media programs are critical to the learning experience."

First priority for the grants will be given to school libraries impacted by hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma – either through direct loss or through an increase in enrollment due to displaced/evacuee students. A certified school librarian at the campus, district or regional level will be involved in the selection of materials/equipment to be purchased.

"Supporting school libraries is crucial in order to restore the educational process in schools that have suffered a disaster," said AASL President J. Linda Williams. "School library media centers are places of opportunity where students can strive for and achieve success, develop a love of reading and explore the world around them through print, electronic and other media."

"Bringing books back to these schools and students who have lost so much due to natural disasters has been a top priority for the National Education Association,"

said NEA President Reg Weaver. "Millions of children will rediscover the joy of reading when the shelves of their public school libraries are restocked through this program's generous grants."

"Beyond Words: The Dollar General School Library Relief Program is a natural extension of Dollar General's daily efforts to promote literacy and education," said David Perdue, Dollar General's chairman and CEO. "Following recent disasters in our country, we recognized the need for support of school libraries impacted by these tragedies. Through this program, we want to ensure that children whose schools have been impacted by a disaster have the opportunity to learn and grow through reading. This is particularly important when many children only have access to books at their school library."

To be eligible, the school library must:

1. Be located in a public school: PreK-12
2. Be located within twenty miles of a Dollar General store, distribution center or corporate office
3. Recently (within previous eighteen months) have lost its building or incurred substantial damage or hardship due to a natural disaster (tornado, earthquake, hurricane, flood, avalanche, mudslide), fire or an act recognized by the federal government as terrorism, or
4. Have absorbed a significant number (more than 10 percent enrollment) of displaced/evacuee students.

A second phase of the disaster relief effort is to increase the capability of school library media specialists to prepare for a disaster. As a result, school library media specialists will be better able to raise awareness among teachers and parents about disaster preparedness.

To learn more about this program, please visit the AASL Web site at <http://www.ala.org/aasl/disasterrelief>. The program partners intend to begin awarding grants by June 2006.

ALA Presents \$100,000 to Rebuild Mississippi Libraries During National Library Week



The American Library Association (ALA) was here this week to present a check to the Rebuild Mississippi Libraries Fund as part of its National Library Week activities. The Rebuild Mississippi Libraries Fund is a joint effort set up by the Mississippi Library Association (MLA), the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) and Friends of Mississippi Libraries. Pictured above are, from left, Sharman Smith, MLC Executive Director; Keith Michael Fiels, ALA Executive Director; Leslie Burger, ALA President-Elect; Michael Gorman, ALA President; Susan Cassagne, MLA President; Mary Edmonds, Friends of Mississippi Libraries President; Prima Plauche, Hancock County Library System Executive Director; and Tommy Longo, City of Waveland Mayor. Photo by Mary Perkins.

The American Library Association (ALA) nearly tripled the amount of the "Rebuild Mississippi Libraries Fund" when it contributed \$100,000 during National Library Week (April 2-8). ALA President Michael Gorman presented the check to Mississippi Library Association President Susan Cassagne and Mississippi Library Commission Executive Director Sharman Smith on Tuesday, April 4, at the Waveland Public

Library. The "Rebuild Mississippi Libraries Fund" is a joint relief fund set up by MLA, the Mississippi Library Commission and the Friends of Mississippi Libraries.

Hurricane Katrina damaged or destroyed hundreds of public, school and academic libraries in Mississippi and surrounding states. It is estimated that it will take \$40 million to rebuild the public libraries in Mississippi, and another \$40 million to replace school library collections in the state. The library of the University of Southern Mississippi-Gulf Coast, built in 2002, may have to be totally rebuilt.

"Healthy libraries are an essential part of rebuilding our Gulf Coast communities," Gorman said. "Activities from children's story time to applying for FEMA relief online to helping students to continue their studies in schools and universities can only go on if we re-open libraries with the library staff and collections needed to help people restart their lives. As we have seen in recent months, people turn to libraries more than ever in a time of crisis."

About 2,000 ALA members, corporations, institutions, foundations, friends groups, and individuals have contributed to the relief fund, which has raised more than \$300,000 since September. The donation to Mississippi will be used to rebuild affected public, school and academic libraries.

"News reports of the devastation along the Mississippi Gulf Coast do not prepare you for the reality of the destruction to these communities. We are grateful to ALA and its members, certainly for their fundraising efforts, but also for helping raise awareness of the continuing needs of the rebuilding efforts," said MLA's Cassagne.

"It is imperative that library services of all types (public, school, college/university) be restored as quickly as possible to bring a sense of normalcy back to our communities. Restoring our libraries will take years and millions of dollars. It is up to all of us to continue our efforts in assisting our colleagues and friends and ensuring that library services are, and will remain, a major part of the overall rebuilding of our communities," she added.

The ALA also has helped to match over 300 libraries nationwide with libraries in the Gulf region through its "Adopt a Library" program that has brought direct funding and technical assistance to affected Gulf Coast libraries. Adopted libraries in Mississippi include the Harrison County Library, the Gulfview Elementary School in Bay St. Louis, St. Martin's Upper Elementary in Ocean Springs and the Hancock County Library System.

For more information on the ALA relief efforts and to donate, please visit www.ala.org/katrina.



The new Charles H. Templeton "Business of Music" Museum in MSU's Mitchell Memorial Library. Shown are a collection of Victrolas as well as RCA's trademark, Nipper. Photo by Jim Tomlinson.

Art and Musical Instruments Show Cultural History in MSU Museum

Providing a journey through more than one hundred years, a recently opened museum at Mississippi State University traces musical eras from ragtime through the show tunes of Irving Berlin.

The Charles H. Templeton Sr. Music Museum on the fourth floor of Mitchell Memorial Library explores the culture, history and business of music during its transition to a popular commercial medium. The recent renovation of a state-of-the-art display area in the library was

made possible by a gift from Templeton's widow, Mary Ann Templeton of Starkville.

"This collection has proven to be of interest to scholars around the world," said Dean of Libraries Frances N. Coleman. "With the opening of the museum in the library, the Templeton 'Business of Music' collection will provide a unique opportunity to introduce this remarkable cultural history to even more music patrons."

Charles Templeton amassed his collection from the 1950s until his death in

2000. It includes more than 22,000 pieces of sheet music, 15,000 recordings and nearly 200 instruments ranging from Thomas Edison's early model phonographs to a vintage Link player piano. As a whole, the collection illustrates what Templeton described as "the business of music" – the popularization and mass production of music for commercial distribution.

The library also is continuing an ongoing project to digitize the entire sheet music collection. Currently, more than 2,000 pieces are available on the Internet at <http://library.msstate.edu/ragtime> to scholars worldwide.

"This amazing collection gives 'voice' to a rare collector and provides a rare glimpse into America's past," Coleman said.

The Templeton Museum is open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. More information about the collection and museum can be found online at <http://library.msstate.edu/templeton>.



Pictured, left to right: Victoria Penny, Early Childhood Services Coordinator, and Eleanor Morris, Early Childhood Resource Center Technician

First Regional Library Establishes Early Childhood Resource & Referral Center

There are some changes taking place in the Children's Services Department at

First Regional Library (FRL). An Early Childhood Resource & Referral Center has been established at FRL Headquarters in Hernando. The center has been funded with grants from the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi and the Day Foundation of Memphis, in partnership with Mississippi State University Early Childhood Institute and the Mississippi State Extension Service. First Regional Library has also recently received a generous grant from the Assisi Foundation of Memphis to help offset the expenses of starting the center. The Early Childhood Center is the first partnership of its kind with a public library in Mississippi.

Some of the services that will be provided through the new center include:

- scheduling more training for area child care teachers and directors, including workshops and hands-on technical assistance
- providing more resources for caregivers and parents on educating very young children (from birth to kindergarten)
- continuing successful programs FRL has already established, including Born to Read with Reggie, which gives library information and a free book to parents of newborns in all our counties; Words on Wheels, which brings storytimes and library materials to family day cares and small child care centers in rural Panola and Tunica counties; and Motherread/Fatheread, a collaborative family literacy program in Tunica
- adding other quality early literacy programs based on early childhood research at libraries and outreach sites around the region
- acting as a resource and referral site, connecting child care providers with parents in the area

For more information, contact Victoria Penny, Early Childhood Services Coordinator, at vpenny@first.lib.ms.us. ■

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ALA Annual Conference

New Orleans, LA

June 22-28, 2006

<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2006a/2006an.htm>

MLA Annual Conference

Tunica, MS

October 24-27, 2006

<http://www.misslib.org/activities/conf/index.php> ■

About Books

Peacock, Evan. *Mississippi Archeology: Q & A.* Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 2005. 149 pp. \$18.00 (paperback).

Dr. Peacock, Associate Professor of Anthropology at the Cobb Institute of Archeology at Mississippi State University, has written an easy-to-read, engaging, accessible book for readers from most age groups, including good readers of upper-elementary/middle school grades. For those who, like this reviewer, have always been drawn to the romance of archeology and the information the field provides, but who shirk somewhat at the hot, sweaty, dusty aspects of actually unearthing all that data, this book is a real find. Get past thinking of ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia – think ancient Mississippi! There is a rich history in the earth all around us, and Dr. Peacock brings it to life, from arrowheads to pot shards to mounds to burial grounds, with some finds going back thousands of years.

The author tells how professional archeology is practiced, how non-professionals can make finds of their own, and, perhaps more importantly, why they should not do so. (Historical items, it seems, provide more information about the individuals and cultures which used them if they are carefully examined in situ by experienced eyes.) The careful, even tedious, details of identifying and then studying ancient sites are explained for the non-professional reader. Dr. Peacock humanizes the detailed searches and the finds they produce:

The past is a great unknown, one that we are only just beginning to explore....the vast majority of human existence took place before written languages existed. Almost all of what it means to be human lies beneath our feet, in the bits and pieces of things made and left behind over the ages...You don't have to travel to another planet to discover the unknown. It is right

here, all around us, everywhere we turn. And it is us.

There are chapters concerning the legalities affecting landowners and developers who find ancient artifacts on their properties. There are clear warnings about collecting and distributing, even possessing, illegally obtained historical artifacts. And there is a general outline of the educational path an interested student can expect to take to enter the field as a professional.

This small volume is very well indexed, and contains an excellent glossary. There are suggestions for more extended study if one's appetite is whetted. The one criticism of the book that can be made is that it contains only black-and-white photos and those photographs do have the air of a scholarly text. But, on the whole, the book is heartily recommended for public and upper-grade school libraries.

Diane Schule

Director,
Marshall County Library System

— ♦ —

Tyler, Anne, compiler. *Best of the South: From the Second Decade of New Stories from the South.* Chapel Hill, N.C.: Algonquin Books, 2005. 342 pp. \$15.95 (paperback).

New Stories from the South is an annual anthology of stories chosen by editor Shannon Ravenel of the best southern stories for the year that started in 1986. The first compilation of the yearly anthology was *Best of the South: From Ten Years of New Stories from the South* (1996). Anne Tyler has chosen twenty stories from the last ten years of *New from the South* for this compilation. All the stories are set in the South and many are by southern authors. In her introduction, Anne Tyler explores the issue of "southern-ness." Part of her definition: if you moved the setting of these

stories to Boston would they still sound and be southern? Tyler goes on to say that the narrative style and strong sense of place are two of her criteria for feeling that a story is southern. She feels that the majority of these stories are truly southern.

This collection of stories was written by well-known authors such as Lee Smith, as well as first-time authors such as Thomas H. McNeedy. The authors come from varied backgrounds and bring various experiences to these stories.

The themes of many of the stories deal with growing old and with death, yet the reader's empathy for the characters and the vividness of the characters keeps the stories from being depressing. The characters are always interesting even though their experiences may be outside the reader's experiences. The characters are varied, from the serial killer, to the old man with Alzheimer's, to the young boy who locks his mother on the roof. These stories depict our society with all its dysfunctions and eccentricities, but with kindness and understanding.

This volume is ideal for a public library that has not already bought the last ten years of *New Stories from the South*. It would also be good for an academic library's literature collection.

Sheryl Stump

Cataloger
Delta State University

— ♦ —

Yoknapatawpha Arts Council. *Square Table: A Collection of Recipes from Oxford, Mississippi.* Memphis, TN: Wimmer Cookbooks, 2005. 240 pp. \$32.00 (hardcover).

Square Table is a beautiful and literary cookbook. One almost spends more time reading and browsing in this cookbook than cooking from it because it entertains the taste, the eye, and the mind.

The recipes represent the contributions and testing of many Oxford residents, and

they cover the span of expected categories: appetizers, soups, salads, vegetables, meats, fish, breads, and desserts. Some unique features are the suggested menus for particularly Oxford events, such as Tailgating in the Grove, Supper at Rowan Oak, or a Picnic at College Hill Presbyterian Church. The book also includes recipes designed for (and tested by) children, organized around holiday events. Because all of these recipes were thoroughly tested by Oxford residents, even the fanciest recipes are ones you will want to try. An excellent index of recipes is provided.

In addition to the tasty recipes, the book is full of essays, food related quotes, food trivia, and art. Essays were contributed by well-known Oxford writers such as John Grisham, Curtis Wilkie, and Jim Dees, and most of the short quotes are drawn from Oxford's most famous author, William Faulkner. Each story increases the reader's appreciation for the central place of food in life. A bibliography of the works quoted is included for further reading.

The many pieces of artwork reproduce paintings by several Oxford-connected artists, and these paintings are beautifully complemented by photographs of the food. The photos present wonderful examples of gracious southern entertaining, and really make one want to create beautiful meals.

Square Table will be a fine addition to any collection of cookbooks on the strength of its quality recipes and is recommended to any library, public or academic, that collects Mississippiana due to the many cultural contributions included in it.

Christina Torbert

Serials Librarian
University of Mississippi



Blackwell, Lawana. *A Table by the Window.* Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 2005. 413 pp. \$12.99 (paperback).

Carley Reed leaves the comforts of San Francisco to claim an inheritance

from a grandmother she never knew. Her grandmother lived in Tallulah, Mississippi, a typical southern small town where everyone knows everyone and everything (both good and bad), and left her granddaughter a home and a small fortune. Prepared to stay only long enough to receive her claims and return to the big city life she knew and enjoyed, Carley discovers an extended family waiting to embrace her into its folds and a town whose charms appeal to her deep-seated desire to belong. Upon her return to San Francisco she soon changes her mind about returning to her former home and decides to open a unique café in Tallulah. Adjustment to small town living and family get-togethers becomes complicated when Carley takes her teenage employee, Brooke Kimball, into her home and finds herself being courted by two gentlemen, Sheriff Dale Parker and University of Southern Mississippi Professor Steve Underwood.

In *A Table by the Window*, Lawana Blackwell tells a touching story about cultural adjustments for a woman until it evolves into a story about deadly secrets. Blackwell brings alive small town Mississippi using memories from her childhood and visits in her adulthood. She lived two years in Natchez as a child and continued to visit during the summers with grandparents in both Sumrall and Picayune. Using her parents' home of Sumrall and many of its surrounding borders, including the Bouie River, Seminary, Columbia, and Hattiesburg, her love for the area is evident through her vivid descriptions.

This book is recommended for all Mississippi libraries whose readers enjoy inspirational fiction.

Donna Phelps Fite

Purvis Branch Manager
Lamar County Library System



Welty, Eudora. *Early Escapades.* Edited by Patti Carr Black. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2005. [150 pp., illustrated, notes] \$30.00 (hardback).

Eudora Welty's *Early Escapades* is a charming and valuable book for anyone

who is interested in a serious author's juvenilia and literary progress. The comic nature of the book and its Jackson, Mississippi setting make it all the sweeter.

The volume contains a lengthy essay by editor Patti Carr Black that places the various items into historical and biographical perspective. Welty's early comic pieces – poems, drawings, plays, essays, and newspaper articles – are arranged chronologically, which allows the reader to observe Welty's literary development from youth through young adulthood.

One gets the impression of peeking into Welty's scrapbook, especially with the earliest items. We see a book, "The Glorious Apology," handmade by Welty for her brother at the age of twelve with pictures and passages cut out of magazines, featuring characters named Fitzhugh Green and Delegate McGooflenish. This handmade book, incidentally, shows off Welty's impressive vocabulary; I surely could not spell "noisome" or "reminiscently" correctly at the age of twelve, much less use them correctly in a sentence. Welty is also extremely clever without overdoing it, as seen in this sentence: "Delegate McGooflenish laughed up his sleeve and unfortunately was suffocated; he had to be immediately attended to." This sort of comic subtlety is fairly hard to come by with mature writers, much less those in the seventh grade.

There are many plays, poems, and illustrations from her high school and college days, but my favorite items are articles written for the *Jackson Daily News* in 1930. In one, called "Flowers Talk in Languages of All Races," Welty's serious tone lulls the reader into trusting her implicitly so that she then is able to get away with saying all sorts of silly things. The article's supposed subject is the popularity of flowers and their various meanings, yet contains passages such as the following: "Instead of listening to long accounts of operations we are now able, through the language of flowers, to send the question 'How is your appendix?' and be glad there is, as yet, no floral reply possible."

Also included are lively articles Welty wrote as the editor of the *Lamar Life*
(continued on page 44)

People in the News

Jeff Slagell has been appointed Director of Library Services at Delta State University. He previously served as Interim Director and has also held the positions of Assistant Director and Serials/ILL Librarian.



Jeff Slagell

Library Services includes Roberts-LaForge Library, Instructional Resources Center, and Capps Archives and Museum. He will also serve as Vice-President/President-Elect of the Mississippi Library Association in 2007. He received his M.A. in Information Resources and Library Science from the University of Arizona and holds a B.A. from the University of Iowa.



The Department of Special Collections at the University of Mississippi hired **Shugana Campbell** as their new Curator of Visual Collections in November 2005. Campbell will be responsible for preserving and making accessible visual materials and film related to the university, the state of Mississippi and the American South. Previously, she was Reference Archivist at the Amistad Research Center at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. She has also served as the Center's processing archivist and as a graduate assistant for the IMLS-funded Mississippi Digital Library Program at McCain Library and Archives (University of Southern Mississippi). She received her MLIS in 2003 from the University of Southern Mississippi and her BA in history from Tougaloo College in 2001.



Debra Riley-Huff will be joining the Reference Department of the J.D. Williams Library at the University of Mississippi on July 1 as a Web Services/Reference Librarian. She is coming from the University of Kansas where she was Technology Coordinator for the University of Kansas Libraries. Debra has a B.F.A. from Kansas State University and a

M.L.S. from Emporia State University. At UM she will take charge of the library's Web presence, in addition to being an active member of the reference department.



Martha Cullison, Crystal Draper, Lavorace Frierson, and Christina Torbert, members of the Serials Section of J.D. Williams Library at the University of Mississippi, traveled to Bossier City, Louisiana, in late February to visit Everett's Bindery. University of Mississippi, Oxford, recently moved their binding business to Everett's Bindery, and the members of the serials team wanted to learn more about the binding process. They were treated to a complete tour of the facilities and enjoyed getting to know the people who do so much work for them.



Left to right: Patsy C. Brewer, Lynn Shurden, and Jenniffer Stephenson

Public Library Directors **Patsy C. Brewer**, Waynesboro-Wayne County Library System, and **Jenniffer Stephenson**, Carroll County Library System, along with **Lynn Shurden**, Senior Consultant from the Mississippi Library Commission, were selected by the Library Commission to attend a special workshop about advocacy for rural librarians, "Promoting Public Libraries: Using Data to Effectively Build Support and Funding." Only two library directors were selected from each of the fifty states, along with a state agency consultant, to attend the Rural Library Advocacy Workshop, sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The workshop was held on March 21, 2006, in Boston, Massachusetts, in conjunction

with the Public Library Association (PLA) annual conference. The foundation covered travel and lodging costs associated with the workshop, as well as registration for the PLA conference.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation understands the importance of effective advocacy for libraries' long-term ability to support public access computing and recognizes the challenges rural librarians face in building advocacy efforts. The workshop featured seasoned library advocates, state and local leaders, and others who shared innovative strategies and practical tools to help rural library staff more effectively communicate and advocate for their libraries. ■

ABOUT BOOKS

(continued from page 43)

Radio News, which are full of tasty bits like this, which describes the aftermath of the radio studio flooding: "The rugs are being dried and the three inches of water from under them were cordially cussed and sent to basement in dirty buckets. We hope that's a lesson." Welty uses great restraint in her society news articles for the *Commercial Appeal*; she only manages to let the disdain ooze out a bit while describing fluffy chiffon and quaint crepe frocks worn by debutantes.

The illustrations are to be noted as well, from the careful pen and ink drawings Welty created for her high school and college yearbooks, to the offhand, quick sketches of famous people. I am almost embarrassed to admit that my favorite is of Hitler: Welty gives him a great rectangle for a head with no eyes, nose, or mouth. The only thing included is the moustache.

Early Escapades is highly recommended for all libraries in Mississippi.

Tracy Carr

Specialized Reference Manager
Mississippi Library Commission ■

MLA Peggy May Award 2006

The Peggy May Award was created to memorialize Peggy's professional accomplishments and to recognize individuals who exemplify her outstanding achievements in library development and/or recruitment of personnel to the library field.

I hereby nominate the following individual:

Nominee: _____

Library: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Nominee's Position: _____

Relevant awards, accomplishments, and contributions. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Remarks: _____

Nomination submitted by: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Deadline: September 1, 2006
Please mail completed nomination to
Lynn Shurden, MLA Awards Committee
Robert C. Irwin Library
1201 Kenny Hill Dr. • Tunica, MS 38676-9501
Telephone: 662-363-2162 • Fax: 662-357-5929
See the MLA Web site for additional information:
<http://www.misslib.org/org/awards/main.php>

MLA Outstanding Achievement Award 2006

The Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes:

- A librarian for contributions in one or more of the following areas: library promotion resulting in permanent library service improvement, contributions to professional literature, or outstanding service in one individual library unit;
- A library trustee who has planned and executed a program of library promotion that resulted in permanent library improvement in the development of public libraries;
- Any citizen who has been instrumental in bettering public knowledge and understanding of library and professional resources, needs, and uses.

I hereby nominate the following individual:

Nominee: _____

Library: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Nominee's Position: _____

Relevant awards, accomplishments, and contributions. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Remarks: _____

Nomination submitted by: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Deadline: September 1, 2006
Please mail completed nomination to
Lynn Shurden, MLA Awards Committee
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Telephone: 662-363-2162 • Fax: 662-357-5929
See the MLA Web site for additional information:
<http://www.misslib.org/org/awards/main.php>



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

Place: Grand Casino - Tunica, Mississippi

Theme: Libraries Help Re-Build 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 S 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

Mississippi Library Association's
Annual Conference - 2006
"Libraries Help Re-Build Community"

.....

October 24-27, 2006

Grand Casino, Tunica

Don't miss a minute of this informative and fun Annual Conference!

Some of the scheduled events:

The Twenty-Five Year Overnight Success
Charlaine Harris, Mississippi author

Storytelling Dinner Theatre
Diane Williams, Storyteller

Future of Library Technology
Carol Tenopir, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
School of Information Sciences

Lunch with Deborah Wiles
Author of *Love, Ruby Lavender*

Mississippi Reads Go Down Moses
Pamela Pridgen, Director of The Library, Hattiesburg; JoLee Hussey, Mississippi
Library Commission Board of Directors; Dorothy Fitts, Head Librarian, Lafayette County &
Oxford Public Library

Book Talking
Rosemary Chance, Retired Professor
of Children's Literature, University of Southern Mississippi

The Annual Peggy May Scholarship Silent Auction

...and many more programs, speakers, exhibits, and much more...

Plan to come early and stay late!

Treasurer's Report

MLA – Fund Balances as of April 30, 2006

ASSETS

Account	Description	Amount
1001	AmSouth Checking	35,330.32
100200	MLA Office Expenses	553.23
1002	AmSouth 5yr CD	16,861.79
1003	TNB P May Brokerage Account	20,318.33
1004	Peggy May CD 5/24/05	6,357.44
1005	CD 5/24/05	6,441.83
1007	B Stearns/ P May Mutual Fund	4,224.00
1008	A/R NSF Checks	157.25
	Fixed Assets (less depreciation)	2,390.32
Total Assets		\$92,634.51

LIABILITIES

Account	Description	Amount
2264	Deferred Lifetime Membership	650.00
	Other Current Liabilities	848.62
Total Current Liabilities		\$1,498.62

EQUITY

Account	Description	Amount
2120	Peggy May Fund	24,399.72
2130	ANRT Fund	2,853.52
2140	2YCRT Fund	178.62
2150	GODORT Fund	2,218.33
2160	LIRT Fund	985.91
2170	YPSRT Fund	5.47
2180	ECTRT Fund	420.30
2190	TSRT Fund	1,211.41
2210	SCRT Fund	359.09
2220	NMRT Fund	396.84
2250	Black Caucus Fund	2,538.82
2260	Past President's Fund	149.16
2270	Property, Furniture & Fixtures	137.68
2280	Property, Equipment & Computers	72.66
3010	General Fund	35,482.08
3900	Retained Earnings	26,086.85
	Net Income	-6,360.57
Total Equity		\$91,135.89
Total Liabilities and Equity		\$92,634.51

MLA – Income as of April 30, 2006

Account	Description	2006 Budget	YTD (Apr 06)
General Income			
5200	Membership Dues	18,000.00	8,023.00
5201.5	Lifetime Memberships	2,400.00	1,850.00
5202	Interest-General Fund	230.00	244.49

Mississippi Libraries Income

5221	ML Advertising	1,500.00	231.25
5222	ML Subscriptions	400.00	000.00

MLA Mid-Winter Income

5301	NLW Registration	6,000.00	4,037.50
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Peggy May Income

5351	Interest Income – Peggy May	100.00	92.86
5352	Peggy May Donations	1,500.00	145.00

Section Income

5403	School Section Income	30.00
5404	Special Section Income	12.00
5406	ACRL Section Income	60.00
5407	Public Library Income	24.00

Roundtable Income

5610	ANRT Membership Income	42.00
5620	2YCRT Membership Income	33.00
5630	GODORT Membership Income	24.00

Roundtable Income (cont.)

5640	LIRT Membership Income	48.00
5650	ECTRT Membership Income	30.00
5660	NMRT Membership Income	30.00
5670	YPSRT Membership Income	54.00
5680	TSRT Membership Income	33.00
5690	SCRT Membership Income	30.00
5695	Black Caucus Membership Income	77.00
5698	Black Caucus Scholarship Income	307.00

Convention Income

5510	Convention Registration	12,000.00	0.00
5520	Convention Exhibit Fees	18,000.00	0.00
5530	Convention Donations	10,000.00	0.00
5540	Convention Gen. Sess. Income	5,000.00	0.00
5541	Convention Gen. Sess Prior Yr		0.00
5550	MS Author's Award Income	5,000.00	0.00
Total Income			\$15,458.10

MLA – Expenditures as of April 30, 2006

Account	Description	2006 Budget	YTD (Apr 06)
Operating Expenses			
6001	Executive Secretary Salary	14,290.00	3,854.25
6002	Bookkeeper Salary	2,700.00	0.00
6004	Payroll Tax Expense	1,300.00	363.65
6100	Accounting Fees	300.00	900.00
6210	Bank Charges	100.00	34.80
6220	Bank Credit Card Fees	450.00	72.84
6230	PayPal Fee	150.00	62.59
6320	Postage	1,250.00	437.00
6330	Miscellaneous Expense	1,680.00	0.00
6340	Office Expense	1,250.00	205.37
6350	Telephone	2,500.00	783.54
6360	Dues-ALA & SELA	240.00	155.00
6410	Travel-President	2,750.00	853.58
6420	Travel-Vice President	2,250.00	0.00
6430	Travel-ALA Councilor	2,000.00	1,739.66
6440	Travel-SELA Representative	750.00	0.00
6460	Travel-Executive Secretary	500.00	80.00

Section Expense

6510	ACRL	750.00	0.00
6520	Public	750.00	0.00
6530	School	750.00	0.00
6540	Special	750.00	0.00
6550	Trustee	750.00	0.00

Committee Expense

6610	Awards	200.00	0.00
6630	Legislative	500.00	454.67
6640	Membership	100.00	0.00
6650	NLW	6,000.00	5,341.35
6660	Scholarship	1,000.00	1,000.00

Convention Expense

6710	Convention Exp-Exhibits	5,000.00	0.00
6720	Convention Exp-Gen. Session	5,000.00	0.00
6730	Convention Exp-Printing	250.00	0.00
6740	Convention Exp-Hospitality	300.00	0.00
6750	Convention Exp-Local Arrange.	2,750.00	0.00
6760	Convention Exp-Registration	100.00	0.00
6770	MS Author's Award Expense	5,000.00	0.00

Mississippi Libraries Expense

6910	ML-Mailing	1,500.00	56.22
6920	ML-Miscellaneous Expense	100.00	0.00
6930	ML-Printing	14,500.00	5,174.15
6940	ML Editor Stipend	500.00	250.00

Total Expenses

\$ 21,818.67

Net Income

\$ -6,360.57

MLA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

JANUARY 9, 2006

Board members attending:

Susan Cassagne, *President*
Catherine Nathan, *Vice President/President-elect*
Carol Green, *Treasurer*
Linda Milner, *Secretary*
Jennifer Smith, *Public Libraries Chair*
Randy Sherrard, *Trustee Chair*
Robert Lipscomb, *ALA Councilor*

Others in attendance:

Mary Julia Anderson, *MLA Executive Secretary*
Jeff Slagell, *2007 Vice President/President-elect*

President Cassagne called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The MLA Board members met in the ETV Board 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 October 26, 2005 minutes. Everyone agreed that they had received the minutes. Catherine Nathan made a motion to approve the minutes. Randy Sherrard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

■ President Report

President Susan Cassagne reported that she will be attending the Mid-winter ALA Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Randy Sherrard asked President Cassagne if she had received any information from the MLA membership relating to the present MLA officers serving another year. He stated it was the sensible thing to do. Catherine Nathan reported that many thanks from the MLA membership had been received concerning the present officers serving another year.

President Cassagne stated that she is still working on the 2006 MLA committee list. She has reassigned people that have requested to be moved to another committee and deleted those that wish to be removed from a committee.

President Cassagne reported that she attended the MLC Executive Board Meeting to express MLA support that the coastal libraries receive priority concerning the capital bond money.

■ Vice President Report

Catherine Nathan reported the 2006 MLA Convention Exhibits Co-Chairs will be Glenda Segars and Jan Willis. Pat Matthes will assist.

■ Treasurer Report

Treasurer Carol Green gave the financial report. A copy of the financial report was distributed to the board. Carol stated that five exhibitors did not want reimbursement for exhibit fees due to the cancellation of the MLA Convention in October. Catherine Nathan made a motion to accept the Treasurer Report. Jennifer Smith seconded the motion. The financial report was accepted by the board.

■ ALA Councilor Report

Robert Lipscomb reported that he will be going to the ALA Mid-winter Meeting to participate in a program on disaster relief. ALA has established a fund to help rebuild coastal libraries.

■ SELA Councilor Report

No report given.

■ Executive Secretary Report

Mary Julia Anderson reported that she is now in her new office in the new MLC building. She stated that the registration forms for Legislative Day, January 31, have been mailed. MLA committees will meet before the reception, which will be held in the new MLC building.

■ ML Editor Report

President Cassagne reported that she had received a recommendation from Elizabeth Stephan to appoint Lauren Young as *Mississippi Libraries* Assistant Editor and Missy Murphy as the new Advertising Editor. Jennifer Smith made the motion to accept these appointments. Robert Lipscomb seconded the motion.

SECTION REPORTS

■ Public Libraries Report

Jennifer Smith, chair, reported that plans for the MLA convention in Tunica are in the process of being made.

■ School Libraries Report

President Cassagne gave a report from Bettie Cox, chair.

ROUNDTABLE REPORTS

■ Technical Services (TSRT)

President Cassagne gave a written report from Bob Wolverton, chair.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

■ Awards

Jennifer Smith reported for Marsha Case, Chair. The 2005 MLA Public Relations Awards were announced and will be displayed at the dedication of the new MLC building. The winners are:

Best Coordinated Effort of Several Libraries to Publicize Library Services Around a Single Theme or Event – First Regional Library; Best Year-round Effort By an Individual Library to Publicize Library Services in General – Lee County Library; and Best Newsletter Submitted by Library Group – Laurel-Jones County Library.

■ Fiscal Management Report

Jennifer Smith, chair, presented a written report.

■ Handbook

The MLA Handbook appears on the MLA Web site.

■ National Library Week

Publicity posters and bookmarks will be provided through MLA to the public libraries.

OLD BUSINESS

The old MLA office furniture is to be included with MLC's old furniture give-a-way.

NEW BUSINESS

President Cassagne distributes the MLA 2006 Officers, Sections, Roundtables and Committees List and the 2006 Calendar.

The Louisiana Library Association extended an invitation to MLA members to attend their March 2006 conference. An invitation for MLA members has been received from the Alabama Library Association to attend their April 2006 conference.

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 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Milner, *Secretary* ■

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

2006 Advertising Information

Ad Sizes:

Full Page.....	7 1/2"W x 10"H
1/2 Page Horizontal.....	7 1/2"W x 5"H
2/3 Page Vertical.....	4 3/4"W x 10"H
1/3 Page Horizontal.....	7 1/2"W x 3 1/3"H
1/3 Page Block.....	5"W x 5 3/4"H
1/3 Page Vertical.....	2 3/8"W x 10"H
1/6 Page Horizontal.....	5"W x 2 3/4"H
1/6 Page Vertical.....	2 3/8"W x 5"H

Advertising Rates:

	SINGLE ISSUE RATES:	CONTRACT RATES: (All 4 Issues)
Full Page.....	\$175.00	\$650.00
1/3 Page.....	140.00	525.00
1/2 Page.....	100.00	375.00
1/3 Page.....	75.00	275.00
1/6 Page.....	40.00	150.00

For more information about advertising in *Mississippi Libraries*, contact:

Missy Murphey
Mississippi Libraries, Advertising Editor
 J.D. Williams Library
 The University of Mississippi
 University, Mississippi 38677
 662-915-6627
 ulrmm@olemiss.edu

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Year **January-December 2006**

New Membership **Renewal**

Name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Position _____

Library _____

Home Phone _____

Business Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

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

Sign me up! I decline

A. MEMBERSHIP TYPES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Student (2 Year Limit)

Full or Part-time \$10 per year \$ _____

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Friend of Library \$15 per year \$ _____

Institutional Membership \$45 per year \$ _____

Vendor \$40 per year \$ _____

Lifetime membership

One-time Payment \$1000 \$ _____

Installment Plan

(Payable in increments of a minimum of \$200 each year until paid in full) \$ _____

A. MEMBERSHIP TYPES SUBTOTAL \$ _____



<http://www.misslib.org/>

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B. SECTIONS

Enter "FREE" for one section membership

(Enter **\$6.00** for Additional Sections)

Academic (ACRL) \$ _____

Public \$ _____

School \$ _____

Special \$ _____

Trustee \$ _____

B. SECTIONS SUBTOTAL \$ _____

C. ROUNDTABLES

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

ANRT \$ _____

(Automation and Networking)

BLACK CAUCUS \$ _____

ECTRT \$ _____

(Educational Communication and Tech)

GODORT \$ _____

(Government Documents)

LIRT \$ _____

(Library Instruction)

NMRT \$ _____

(New Members)

SCRT \$ _____

(Special Collections)

TSRT \$ _____

(Technical Services)

2YCRT \$ _____

(2 Year College)

YPSRT \$ _____

(Young People's Services)

C. ROUNDTABLES SUBTOTAL \$ _____

D. SCHOLARSHIPS

Donation to Peggy May Scholarship \$ _____

Donation to Virgia Brock-Shedd Scholarship \$ _____

D. SCHOLARSHIP SUBTOTAL \$ _____

GRAND MLA TOTAL

(DUES GRAND TOTAL (A + B + C) AND SCHOLARSHIP D) \$ _____

____ Check enclosed (Make payable to Mississippi Library Association and mail to MLA, P.O. Box 13687, Jackson MS 39236-3687). All dues include subscription to **Mississippi Libraries**.

____ Please charge my MLA dues to my:

VISA **MasterCard**

Account Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Dues must be paid by **March 1** in order to receive the Spring issue of **Mississippi Libraries** and for annual election of officers. MLA may at times supply its membership list to professional organizations or library vendors.

Check the box if you do not want your name included.

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 fax to 601-432-6217, or visit our website at
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Vicksburg

Sentinels of Stone

By Timothy T. Isbell

"Tim Isbell has captured the artful essence and humanity of the monuments.... The long, complex Vicksburg campaign has been relatively overlooked by historians and the American people, and Isbell's work will surely help to rectify that unjust neglect."

—Michael B. Ballard, Civil War historian and author of *Vicksburg: The Campaign That Opened the Mississippi*

\$48 hardback

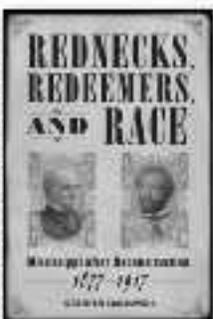
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A history of the paradoxical time when the state's technology advanced and race relations deteriorated

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Foreword by Will D. Campbell

An intimate portrait of a fiery African American circuit preacher and his congregations in Mississippi and Tennessee

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A fascinating collection of southern travel writings created during the Gilded Age by the first full-time news-woman for the New Orleans

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\$50 unjacketed hardback,

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An intriguing sample of Walter Anderson's artistic visions inspired by literature's great stories

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