

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR

Tisha M. Zelner
Cook Library
The University of Southern Mississippi
118 College Dr. #5053
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
tisha.zelner@usm.edu
601-266-6170

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Lauren M. Young
Ernest J. Adcock Library
Holmes Community College
412 West Ridgeland Avenue
Ridgeland, MS 39157
601-605-3303

COPY EDITOR

Gabriel Morley
Pike-Amite-Walthall Library System
gmorley@pawls.lib.ms.us

ADVERTISING EDITOR

Missy Murphey
The University of Mississippi
ulrmm@olemiss.edu

REPORTER

Tina Harry
The University of Mississippi
tharry@olemiss.edu

BOOK REVIEW EDITOR

Christina Torbert
The University of Mississippi
ctorbert@olemiss.edu

MLA PUBLICITY
COMMITTEE CHAIR

David Brown
First Regional Library
dbrown@yahoo.com

INDEXER

Shirlene Stogner
The University of Southern Mississippi
shirlene.stogner@usm.edu

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On the cover: *Filet Pinwheel* by Claire Thompson. Claire Thompson has been a librarian in the Hattiesburg Public School District for twenty-one years, the past thirteen years at Hattiesburg High School. She received both her BA and MLS degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi. Thompson was taught crochet and tatting by her step-great-grandmother, "Miss Agnes." Regarding this piece, Thompson says, "Doilies are much like snowflakes, no two are exactly alike."

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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Mississippi Library Association

PO Box 13687
 Jackson, MS 39236-3687
 Office Hours: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. M, Tu, Th, F
 E-mail: info@misslib.org
 Executive Secretary: Mary Julia Anderson
 MLA Web site: <http://misslib.org>
 Webmaster: Molly Signs McManus, signsmj@millsaps.edu

MLA EXECUTIVE BOARD**Jeff Slagell****President**

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 Robers-LaForge Library, Delta State University
jslagell@deltastate.edu
 662-846-4441

Jan Willis**Vice President/President-elect**

Director
 Lee-Itawamba Library System
jwillis@li.lib.ms.us
 662-841-9029

Judy Card**Secretary**

Youth Services Coordinator
 First Regional Library
jcard@first.lib.ms.us
 662-429-4439 x120

Amanda Powers**Treasurer**

Reference Services Librarian
 Mitchell Memorial Library, Mississippi State University
apowers@library.msstate.edu
 662-325-7677

Catherine A. Nathan**Immediate Past President**

Director
 First Regional Library
cnathan@first.lib.ms.us
 662-429-4439

Sherry Laughlin**ALA Councilor**

Associate University Librarian
 University of Southern Mississippi Libraries
sherry.laughlin@usm.edu
 601-266-4270

Deborah Lee**SELA Representative**

Coordinator of Library Instruction
 Mississippi State University Libraries
dlee@library.msstate.edu
 662-325-0810

Mary Julia Anderson

MLA Executive Secretary
 PO Box 13687
 Jackson, MS 39236-3687
 Phone: 601-981-4586 Fax: 601-981-4501
 E-mail: info@misslib.org

Molly McManus

Parliamentarian
 Pub. Serv. Coord. & Systems Librarian
 Millsaps-Wilson College Library
signsmj@millsaps.edu
 601-974-1086

2008 SECTIONS**Marybeth Grimes****ACRL Section Chair**

grimesresearcher@gmail.com

Madonna Green May**Public Library Section Chair**

mngmay@neshoba.lib.ms.us

Diane Willard**School Library Section Chair**

dwillard@fcsd.k12.ms.us

Jane Phillips**Special Libraries Section Chair**

jphillips@mdah.state.ms.us

Randy Sherard**Trustees Section Chair**

sherardjamesr@bellsouth.net

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

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Our 2008 annual conference was a resounding success. I'd like to congratulate Vice President Jan Willis and all of the conference volunteers who worked diligently behind the scenes to ensure all the programs, events, and exhibits went smoothly. I'd also like to offer special thanks to Susan Cassagne and Nancy McLemore who co-chaired local arrangements. I know from firsthand experience how much work is required and everyone involved should be commended.

As I reflect on the past year, I'm reminded of all the opportunities I had to meet and interact with dedicated professionals across the state. Despite the uncertain economic environment and resulting budgetary challenges, Mississippi libraries continue to have a profound impact on their users and the communities they serve. Now more than ever, we need to highlight our accomplishments and stress the educational and economic development our services provide.

MLA allows our diverse profession to speak with a unified voice. Even though our membership numbers remain strong, I encourage you to introduce others to our dynamic organization. In addition,



Jeff Slagell

please lend your support to incoming President Jan Willis and Vice President/President-elect Ann Branton. I'm confident your involvement will provide both personal and professional rewards.

I'd like to express my thanks to the 2008 executive board members for their commitment and insight. The Mississippi Library Commission should also be praised for its continued support. Sharman Smith and her staff provided the means for crucial conference grant funding and countless numbers of volunteer hours. Finally, Mary Julia Anderson, MLA executive secretary, always was willing to offer her knowledge and guidance.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president. I can't overstate how much I've learned through my participation in the wide range of association activities. We have a great deal to be proud of in Mississippi and I'm honored to have had such a privileged perspective. Without question, I will cherish most the friendships I've made and know they will continue to yield immeasurable benefits. I look forward to working with you in the coming year as immediate past president. ■

Editor's Reflections

Tisha M. Zelner, Editor,
Mississippi Libraries

This issue of *Mississippi Libraries* has a dual theme. The topical theme is libraries and the law. There are several law libraries in Mississippi, representing academic libraries (e.g., University of Mississippi Law Library and Mississippi College School of Law Library), public libraries (e.g., Jackson County Law Library at Pascagoula Public Library), and special libraries (e.g., Mississippi State Law Library). This issue features the work of two law librarians writing on topics of interest to all librarians. The issue begins with Brian Barnes' article "Legal Research on the Internet." For librarians working with little or no access to legal resources, the Internet provides a means to assist patrons with legal research. Toward this end, Barnes highlights state and federal government sites, educational sites, and commercial sites that may prove valuable. Next is Scott DeLeve's "Copyright Basics for Librarians." DeLeve offers a brief introduction to the Copyright Act, with special attention to the exceptions for first sale and fair use. He concludes with a discussion of the differences between copyright law as applied to analog and digital resources. These two articles address only a fraction of the law-related issues affecting libraries and it is a topic we may return to in a future issue of *Mississippi Libraries*. The second focus of this issue is conferences, specifically the Southeastern Library Association (SELA) Biennial Conference and the Mis-

issippi Library Association (MLA) Annual Conference. MLA's SELA representative Deborah Lee offers a report on the SELA joint conference held in early October. This is followed by a report on the MLA conference held in late October. As usual, "News Briefs," "People in the News," and "About Books" round out the issue.

This issue marks the conclusion of my first year as editor of *Mississippi Libraries*. As the issue will be arriving in mailboxes near the start of the new year, it seems appropriate to reflect on the past year. One year ago, the ML editorial staff set some goals for improving our services to the MLA membership. One such goal was to make "News Briefs" and "People in the News" timely additions to the MLA Web site. Thanks primarily to the hard work of ML reporter and Web Committee member Tina Harry, we achieved that goal; news items about people and events are now published upon receipt to the MLA Web site, where they are available as an RSS feed. If you haven't already done so, check it out! (<http://www.misslib.org/index.php/news/>) Book review editor Christina Torbert worked to achieve two goals for volume 72. The summer 2008 issue brought the reintroduction of books for children and young adults to the book review section. As stated at that time, this is a practice we intend to continue as a service to the many libraries throughout the state that serve our youth. Book reviews have also been made available individually on the MLA Web site. If you've read one of the books reviewed in ML, please go online to add comments of your own to the published reviews (<http://www.misslib.org/index.php/publications/book-reviews/>). The cover art for all four issues of volume

72 featured artwork by MLA members. This practice generated a lot of positive feedback from ML readers. Throughout the year, we received many fine submissions from talented artists and I'd like to extend my appreciation to all who contributed. Since this was so successful, we will continue to feature the work of "our own" in the year to come. As before, I'll be making periodic calls for artwork and I anticipate being delighted by the artistic talents of librarians and library staff throughout Mississippi. As the editorial staff looks ahead to volume 73, we hope to build upon the accomplishments of the past and continue to introduce new improvements to *Mississippi Libraries*.

This issue marks the end of Lauren Young's service as assistant editor. Young served as ML's assistant editor beginning with the winter 2005 issue, working on nine issues under editor Elizabeth Stephan and four issues with me. She has a positive attitude and has been a valued member of the editorial staff these past three years. Her editorial skills consistently improved the final quality of ML. I offer here my public thanks for her hard work and dedicated service. Good luck, Lauren, as you exercise your editor's skills on the *Journal of the Medical Library Association* editorial board; you will be missed here.

Mississippi Libraries, is charged by MLA to "publish articles and information ...of general interest to the library profession and reflecting ideas of the MLA membership." As the editor, I strongly encourage comments and suggestions from members – tell me what you'd like to see in *your* publication! ■

Tisha Zelner is head of information services and assistant professor at the University of Southern Mississippi; e-mail: tisha.zelner@usm.edu.

MISSISSIPPI
LIBRARIES

Legal Research on the Internet

Brian C. Barnes

Introduction

As technology continues to advance some in the library community fear the changes technology, and more specifically the Internet, have brought to the library. However, the advent of the Internet has made legal research abundantly easier for reference librarians, especially those with limited resources. The purpose of this article is to discuss some of the best sites available for a reference librarian to use and how to best use these resources for your patrons.

Three main sources provide government information on the Web: governmental pages, educational pages, and private or corporate pages. This distinction can be important depending on the reference question and the patron. If a general overview is all that is needed, then private or corporate pages are often the quickest and best way to get the necessary information. If something more official in nature is needed, i.e., a tax form, then governmental pages should be the place to refer to for assistance. Educational pages often fall in the middle and bridge hard to find governmental information with an often more user-friendly (and user-targeted) method.

Governmental Web Sites

Government resources are often the best resource for legal research on the Internet, as they may be a primary source of statutory, judicial, or administrative law. In the past, governmental resources have been more difficult to use than other alternatives, but in Web form these resources are often simple enough for even young patrons to use effectively.

Brian C. Barnes is research, instructional services and circulation librarian at the Mississippi College School of Law Library; e-mail: barnes01@mc.edu.

State Government Sites

The first group of pages to be discussed is state government Web pages for Mississippi. The state of Mississippi over the last decade has moved a great deal of information online for its citizens, and the trick is to know where to look. The base Web site for the state can be found at www.mississippi.gov. This site is often a good place to begin, but depending on what the patron is looking for, there may be easier routes than going through the general page every time. For example, if a patron wants to know what "the current law" is on some issue, one can simply go to the Mississippi Secretary of State's Web site (www.sos.state.ms.us), hover over the Education & Publications icon, and select MS Code Look-up. This routes you to a Michie site that is the most official version of the Mississippi Code available online. The Secretary of State's Web site is also the place to search for many things that have to be filed with the state, such as business entity information or state campaign finance filings.

Many reference questions also surround current state legislation that has yet to become law. The Mississippi legislature's Web site (billstatus.ls.state.ms.us) is the main resource for this information. It provides legislator profiles, PDF documents of offered bills, and many amendments and other materials. This site also provides legislative information dating back to 1997 when the site first went live. One of the newest features enacted during this past session was providing for a live webcast of both the Mississippi House of Representatives and Senate when they are in session (billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/ls_webcast.htm).

This past year also introduced a new Web site for Mississippi's third branch of government, the judiciary (www.mssc.state.ms.us). On this site for the Mississippi Supreme Court and Court of Appeals

one can find PDF versions of opinions rendered by the court, directories including resources for contacting local courts (under Judicial Directory in the left side menu), and other information including some forms and an official list of members of the Mississippi Bar. The supreme court and court of appeals both broadcast their hearings live via webcast and these hearings are also archived for later viewing by Mississippi College School of Law, see *infra*.

One final state resource a reference librarian should consider is the Mississippi Merlin Web site (merlin.state.ms.us). MERLIN.net is the site for the Mississippi Management and Reporting System and is the go-to place for actual budgetary, revenue and property figures that are hard to find other places. An example of what can be found here is how much the governor's office was budgeted for personal services travel in 2008; the amount is \$347,391.00 for those who are interested. This site is not very well known, but most librarians will face questions such as, "How much does he make?" and this site is a great tool for finding that type of information.

Federal Government Sites

To many patrons, federal legal research is more important than state legal research. The federal government under the last two administrations has done a lot to provide information to the citizenry, but much more could be done. This discussion touches on several different pages including THOMAS, GPO Access, the Census Bureau page, and USA.gov.

THOMAS (thomas.loc.gov) is a Web site from the Library of Congress. It is an excellent resource for legal materials. The front page of the site allows for immediate searching of congressional bills by text, bill number, or author and provides links to other resources, such as the *Congression-*

al Record and roll call votes, and the ability to search previous Congresses' legislation going back to the early 1990s. THOMAS also provides such hard to find information as status updates on presidential nominees and information on and text of treaties. Reference should also be made to the Web sites of the U.S. House of Representatives (www.house.gov) and the U.S. Senate (www.senate.gov). These two sites provide some of the same information as THOMAS, but add historical information and biographical and disclosure sections for the members of each chamber.

The Government Printing Office (GPO) has a useful Web site found at www.gpo.access.gov. The GPO is the official publisher for many government publications but the online versions of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) and the *Federal Register* are what is most valuable on the GPO Access site. These sets are the daily (*Federal Register*) and compiled (CFR) records of the American government. If a regulation is to be passed by the IRS, EPA, or other agency, it must first be published and the *Federal Register* is where that is done. Additionally, after a regulation is passed (or at times still in the proposed stages) it will be codified into the CFR. This is often where a librarian should direct a patron to research questions such as, a speeding ticket on the Natchez Trace Parkway or "Can they really do that at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Plant?" The best part about this online version is that it is updated more quickly than the paper version. This is one reason many libraries no longer maintain a paper collection of these resources. Other items also found on GPO Access are the Federal Depository Library homepage, the Federal Government Bookstore, and Committee Prints from Congress.

The United States Census Bureau (www.census.gov) has a handy site for librarians. Instead of going to those giant tomes of information for census data as researchers did in the past, all of that information and more is now online. In addition

to the standards of who and how many divided by locale, the database nature of this site allows for comparisons and rankings available in Microsoft Excel and other electronic formats, creating the ability to build comparisons and charts. Another interesting feature is the vast number of maps available from census.gov. While government depositories store quite a few maps, the availability of maps on this site is incredible, ranging from detailed congressional district maps to the microdata maps that many are familiar with, and all at the touch of finger without having to visit a depository library.

The best source for finding actual judicial briefs from the federal court is using the PACER system (pacer.psc.uscourts.gov). PACER is the method the government relies on to provide public access to court records, but it has an eight-cent charge for viewing each page of a document. Because of this expense, PACER is an option of last resort for most libraries.

Wrapping up federal governmental pages cannot be done without mentioning USA.gov. USA.gov is the basic free-for-all of government Web sites, serving as a base directory for hundreds of federal entities. The site has topic-based sections and a helpful A-Z agency index in the right side bar as of September 1, 2008. Users of all levels can use this site.

Educational Web Sites

Educational institutions can be a useful place to find legal information on the Internet. While the government has done a good job going online, there are still gaps. Governmental sites can be technical and not very "user friendly," making finding resources difficult. An educational institution can help bridge this gap by serving as a compiler and simplifier of resources and, at times, educational institutions are the only repositories for certain governmental items. Only three sites will be mentioned here as examples of what is available, but many, many more exist. These sites are the Cornell Legal Information Institute,

University of Richmond Constitution Finder, and the Mississippi College School of Law Mississippi Resources page.

The Cornell Legal Information Institute (LII), found at www.law.cornell.edu, is one of the best overall information sites by an educational institution, with a range of topics and general referencing tools. LII provides links to codes, constitutions, and court opinions. It also has a system called WEX, a constantly growing site that is a combination legal dictionary and legal encyclopedia (topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/category). This site does provide a quality overview for many legal topics and terms, but is not overly user friendly.

A second education site to take note of is the University of Richmond Constitution Finder (confinder.richmond.edu). What separates Richmond's site from others that link constitutions is the effort expended on locating international constitutions, which are often hard to find despite their possible usefulness for school projects. This site not only seeks out current constitutions, but also former constitutions. The coverage ranges internationally from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. One issue a user might run into is lack of translation, as some of the linked sites are not in English. For example, the constitution for the Vatican State is available in Italian, German, or Portuguese while the site is in English. Often, however, English and native languages are both linked.

The final education page to be mentioned is the Mississippi College School of Law Library Mississippi Resources page (law.mc.edu/library/mississippi.html). This page is a combination of self-controlled items and external links to useful resources. Original to this site are archives for briefs filed with the Mississippi Supreme Court and Mississippi Court of Appeals and, perhaps even rarer, recorded oral arguments before the highest courts in Mississippi. This archival system allows for cost-free access to the public to venues and legal arguments that are otherwise difficult to obtain. In addition to these

archives, this site has links to all of the past Mississippi constitutions, courts with Mississippi jurisdiction, and ordinances for over fifteen Mississippi cities.

Corporate Web Sites

The government and educational institutions are not the only ones in the legal information market; corporations also provide resources. Some of these organizations are not-for-profit and simply trying to share information, while others are for-profit and provide limited information while trying to draw a user into the more in-depth fee-based services.

One such site is the Public Library of Law (www.plol.org). This is an excellent free resource for basic legal research involving case law. This site requires a free registration and also offers redirects to other resources such as statutes, regulations, and legal forms (for a fee). The case law research is comprehensive for the U.S. Supreme Court and offers many state cases since 1998 for no cost. Further case research is also available for a fee.

One of the best new corporate Web sites to provide legal information is Justia (www.justia.com). Justia looks similar to the old Findlaw site, *infra*, that many may be familiar with. But, Justia has some new features that are difficult to find elsewhere. The main feature Justia provides is a tool to search federal district court filings, such as briefs, answers, and motions (dockets.justia.com). This is notable because generally this has been only a for-fee service provided by Westlaw, Lexis, PACER, or the like. While not all filings are available, what is present is a great resource compared to the often expensive subscription services. Justia also offers easy to use search engines for the rest of Web in the top bar navigation, helping hone in on law blogs and a "legal Web" search provided by Google which can be useful to research legal issues.

Altlaw.org is a quality Web site that melds the educational and corporate legal resourcing industry. Created by programs

at multiple law schools, Altlaw's purpose is to simply provide the public access to legal documents. Altlaw has focused on federal case law, providing opinions for the U.S. Supreme Court back to 1781 and all of the circuit courts of appeal back to 1950. This site has a decent advanced search feature to allow restricting to date, circuit, and word specificity. While this information can be found other places on the Web, Altlaw is simple to use, uncluttered, and does not try and sell the user anything.

Findlaw.com can be a useful legal resource, as it is often a good compilation

of legal resources that are otherwise not found on the Web. A drawback of Findlaw is that it seems to be trying to sell something to the user. However, if one sticks to the section "Learn About the Law" on the top navigation bar, there is quality information regarding many popular topics ranging from criminal matters to wills.

Guidestar is a corporate site (www.guidestar.org) that, among other things, provides free PDF copies of past not-for-profit organizations' tax filings. This is a service useful as a reference to income, expenditures, and top earnings

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for many corporations. Using the service does require registration, but there is no cost for this hard to find resource. Guidestar also has many other features, most of which are fee-based, but this free resource can prove useful in some situations.

The last resource to be mentioned here is PublicResource.org (public.resource.org). This relatively new Web site strives to be a simple repository of public information ranging from court cases pulled from PACER, to codes, to patent, trademark and copyright issues. This not-for-profit-operation asks users to provide them with information, e.g., a complaint they had to download off of PACER, so that PublicResource can store and share the document with everyone else to offset costs for future users. This site also offers a service called FedFlix where they upload government videos for free use by the public.

Conclusion

The need for traditional legal resources and their associated expenses is dwindling in some respects, as evidenced by the many alternative sources mentioned here. This article has specifically not emphasized the traditional fee-based legal research tools on the Internet, e.g., Westlaw, LexisNexis, FastCase, and FormsPass, due to the fact many libraries do not have the financial resources to purchase these subscriptions. With the power of a Web 2.0 mindset and more government resources on the Internet than ever before, legal research is available to any librarian or library patron. If you would like to discuss this or have questions about any of the sites included here, feel free to contact the author of this article, Brian Barnes, a librarian at the Mississippi College School of Law Library, at barnes01@mc.edu. ■

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Copyright Basics for Librarians

Scott DeLeve

Abstract

We are on the crest of a tsunami of technological change. Even as we read this article, more and more audio resources are available in a digital Internet format rather than an analog physical format; visual resources are not far behind. A Reuters report from March 2008 asserts that more people rely on the Internet for their daily news than rely on television or newspapers, and within the next few years, e-books will likely also become prominent. The copyright issues involved with the materials we now work with are confusing; the rules governing the digital resources we'll work with tomorrow will be different. This article offers an introduction to both.

Introduction

Practically each minute of our working day, librarians deal with copyright issues. From lending a book, to contracting for library automation software, to offering Internet access to our patrons, we experience some aspect of U.S. copyright law.

As we move further into the Internet era the impact of copyright law on library operations will increase. Unfortunately, if current trends continue, the law will also become more confusing. At present, analog and digital resources are treated differently; a library owning a music CD has a different set of abilities with respect to that music than a second library providing online access to the same piece of music.

We are on the crest of a tsunami of technological change. Even as we read this article, more and more audio resources are

available in a digital Internet format rather than an analog physical format; visual resources are not far behind. A Reuters report from March 2008 asserts that more people rely on the Internet for their daily news than rely on television or newspapers¹, and within the next few years, e-books will likely also become prominent. This presents peculiar challenges for librarians as we scramble for familiarity with how best to provide information to our patrons in a way most useful to them.

This article discusses copyright issues facing twenty-first century libraries. I will first discuss the law as it applies to analog, i.e. non-Internet, resources, and compare that to variations in the law that have been caused by the arrival of the Internet. Please note this is not intended to be legal advice, and, should you find yourself in a situation where you need more detailed information, you should contact an attorney.

What is Copyright?

Copyright laws have their genesis in the U.S. Constitution. Article I, Section 8, clause 8 provides that "[t]o promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries."²

To "promote the progress of Science and the useful arts," copyright works in two ways: On the one hand, creators of content, whether printed, painted, played, or produced, are given a short-term monopoly over the use of their creations, but, on the other hand, there are limits to the monopoly. This policy is implemented with the Copyright Act, enacted in 1976 and amended several times since then.

The Copyright Act³ follows a scheme of first granting broad rights, and then creating exceptions to those rights. Thus, section 102 provides that there is copyright

protection for literary works, musical works, dramatic works, pantomimes and choreographic works, pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works, motion pictures and visual works, sound recordings, and architectural works. Part (b) of that section provides that the protection does *not* extend to actual ideas; in other words, copyright extends to the expression of an idea, but not the idea itself. The expression "[a] rose by any other name would smell as sweet"⁴ may be copyrighted; the fact that a rose has a singular scent may not.

The specific rights given to content creators are listed in section 106, which provides that copyright owners have the exclusive rights to copy, prepare derivative works (e.g., create a movie from a book), distribute, display or perform their creations. These rights are then narrowed by a series of exceptions.

Exceptions – First-Sale and Fair Use

The exemption perhaps most central to libraries' traditional operations is the so-called "first-sale" doctrine, embodied at 17 USC 109. This section basically provides that the owner of a legally-acquired copy of a copyrighted work may dispose of it in any way he or she wishes; this includes destroying the work, throwing it away, giving it away, re-selling it, or lending it. Thus, libraries are allowed to lend materials (such as the music CD I referred to earlier), as long as the library has legally obtained the copy being loaned. Note, these first-sale rights do not include the right to copy the work or to perform it publicly.

The second exemption to the ownership rights of creators is the "fair use" doctrine, set out at 17 USC 107. Devising a hard-and-fast definition of fair use is all but impossible; courts have heard thousands of cases about fair use, and each must be

Scott DeLeve is public services law librarian at the University of Mississippi Law Library; e-mail: sdeleve@olemiss.edu.

decided based on the facts of the particular case. The statute reads:

Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 106 and 106A, the fair use of a copyrighted work, including such use by reproduction in copies or phonorecords or by any other means specified by that section, for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. In determining whether the use made of a work in any particular case is a fair use the factors to be considered shall include –

- (1) the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- (2) the nature of the copyrighted work;
- (3) the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
- (4) the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

The fact that a work is unpublished shall not itself bar a finding of fair use if such finding is made upon consideration of all the above factors.⁵

Fair use applies in a situation where there is copying or some other infringement of the creator's copyright (such as public reading of an author's work in a reading club when all the members don't have their own copies of the work). The statute allows certain infringements so long as those uses are "fair."

As noted, this is a mushy area of the law. Of the statutory factors listed above, research has shown the most important to determining whether an infringement is

fair is the fourth factor – the effect of the use on the real or potential commercial market for the creative work.⁶ Thus, an oil company library that made copies of journal articles and distributed them to scientists and engineers at the company was found to have unfairly infringed the copyrights of the journals' publishers⁷, because the oil company was using the copies as replacements for buying extra subscriptions.

Exception – Library Copying

In the *Texaco* case, one of the reasons the copying was found to be unfair was because the copying was done at the instigation of the library, and the copies were then distributed to the scientists and engineers. Had the copies been made at the request of the scientists and engineers, the copying possibly would have fallen within the exception allowed for copying by libraries and archives, set out in section 108 of the Copyright Act. This exception allows libraries and archives to make copies for various purposes, among them interlibrary loans and copying from an obsolete format into a non-obsolete format. This is also the section that allows libraries to have photocopiers available for patron use, so long as notices are posted warning the patrons that their copying and use of the copies is subject to federal law.

The details of this provision could be the subject of a separate article, and probably don't impact the operations of most public libraries. In brief, however, section 108 allows copying of an unpublished work for preservation or research use by another library, so long as a digital copy isn't available for use outside of the recipient library; copying of published works that have been damaged or are in an obsolete format if a reasonably-priced replacement isn't available; or copying of an article (from a periodical) or a portion of a work if requested from another library or archives (interlibrary loan). Section 108 also allows libraries to have a copy machine for patron use, so long as signs posted on or near the copy machine inform the patron that his or her copying may be subject to federal copyright law. All copies made or distributed under section 108 must include a

notice stating the copy is made under the provisions of the section, and the work is or may be subject to copyright protection.

Copying of Digital Resources

There are two critical legal differences between analog and digital resources. The first is the prominence of licenses inherent in the first "purchase" of digital materials. The general legal rule is, so long as the license is correctly created, a person who acquires a licensed copy of copyrighted material has not bought it, and therefore has not acquired any first-sale rights of use; usage of the item is dictated by the licensor in the license.⁸ This situation arises, as noted, predominantly in regard to electronic resources. The reasoning behind this rule is self-evident; it is possible to make a photocopy of a book, or a taped recording of a piece of music or visual work, but the act of copying is somewhat time-consuming, and there is a deterioration of quality in the copy. This makes it less likely to be used to the commercial disadvantage of the original creator. On the other hand, the combination of digital technology and the Internet makes it possible to digitally create perfect copies of copyrighted works almost instantaneously, and distribute them to millions of people over the Internet. If this kind of copying and distribution were freely allowed, there would be no incentive for anyone to create anything new because they wouldn't be able to make any money from their creativity.

The second difference between analog and digital resources is the ability of the content creator to include software in the digital work that prevents or restricts the ways in which the content can be used. This software is called (among other things) digital rights management (DRM) and can regulate performance features such as how often the digital piece of music can be played, what machines it can be played on, how many users can simultaneously access it, etc. It is generally illegal to circumvent DRM by any means;⁹ libraries are given an exception only to determine whether they want to buy the protected content if it's not available otherwise. This ban on circumventing DRM applies regardless of whether the use

sought to be made is a fair use.¹⁰

These features of digital resources will affect a library's use of downloaded materials, whether audio or visual works (music, movies, or television programs), or computer software. The most significant factor will be the license, which may be either in the form of a "click-wrap" End User Licensing Agreement on a Web page, or a license that is negotiated between the library and the content provider.

Another way for a library to provide these resources to its patrons would be to stream them. If a library provides an "interactive" streaming service, which allows patrons to select individual resources from the library's "holdings" and utilize them in a stream over the Internet, the library must, again, negotiate a license with the content provider.

Finally, digital electronic books will soon become a standard part of library collections. At this time there are two predominant methods of transmitting an e-book to a patron. One is as a PDF file, such as the books presented in Google Book Search. This has the disadvantage to the patron that the patron may be restricted to reading the book from his or her computer, which many will find inconvenient. The second type of electronic book features an e-book reader, a specially-designed, portable piece of hardware designed to replicate the convenience of a physical book. The problem with these devices to this point is each device-maker has used different and incompatible software, so to obtain full coverage of the e-book universe a library would have to purchase several different types of readers. This may be changing, as many book publishers have started to favor the .epub format for portable devices.¹¹ Once publishers decide on a standard format, that format will be adapted by the device manufacturers.

Once e-book standardization occurs, libraries will be able to acquire large numbers of e-book files and "check them out" to their patrons. When that happens, the transfer most likely will be subject to a license, allowing the content provider to dictate the terms of use allowed by the library.

Conclusion

Today's landscape, dominated by analog materials, is a dramatic contrast to what awaits us just around the corner when there will be an equal or greater number of digital materials. Just as we need to prepare ourselves for a different physical space for tomorrow's library, we need to prepare ourselves for a different legal regime. As more and more materials become digital, more and more of the permissions we have to lend or display those materials will be specified by a license contract, rather than the Copyright Act. ■

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MLA 2008 Annual Conference Report

The 2008 Mississippi Library Association Annual Conference was a success with 425 people in attendance. It was held at the Natchez Convention Center in Natchez, Mississippi, October 21-24. A pre-conference sponsored by the Mississippi Library Commission started off conference activities Tuesday morning and featured Lynda Bowman of BENEVON. She provided the timely workshop "Creating Sustainable Funding for Your Library." Later that evening, people enjoyed the Presidential Bash/Scholarship Fundraiser honoring MLA President Jeff Slagell. It was held at the historic Monmouth Plantation and featured jazz and blues music by Osgood and Blaque. All ticket sales from the event supported the Peggy May and Virginia Brocks-Shedd scholarships.

Wednesday, October 22

Wednesday marked the official start of the conference. The morning began with committee meetings and the first general session. Jim Rettig, 2008 ALA President, was the keynote speaker and gave a talk titled "Creating Connections: Thoughts on Our Future." Bids for the annual silent scholarship auction also started and approximately \$1,500 was raised by the end of the week. The Black Caucus luncheon with Dr. Jayne Sargent provided an interesting perspective on our profession from a longtime educator and former Jackson, Mississippi Superintendent of Education.

Afternoon programs offered a wide range of topics, including a session by Pulitzer Prize nominee and author Rheta Grimsley Johnson. The annual "Afternoon Tea with Authors," sponsored by the Friends of Mississippi Libraries, featured Regina Trosclair Charboneau, Helen Puckett DeFrance, and Patty Roper. Other attendees participated in Patty Furr's, "No HTML? No Problem! Web Applications that Librarians Can Create with Little or No HTML Training." Seventeen poster pre-

sentations were also on display for the Eighteenth Annual Poster Sessions review and nearly forty exhibitors were present in the exhibit hall.

Thursday, October 23

Thursday began with two breakfast events, the Public Libraries breakfast with Walt Grayson and the Two Year College Round Table breakfast with Kathleen Hutchinson. Grayson entertained his audience with "Looking around Mississippi," while Hutchinson discussed 24/7 reference. The morning also provided a special dedication sponsored by the Friends of Mississippi Libraries. Richard Wright's centennial year was commemorated by designating a National Literary Landmark that will be located at the Natchez Association for the Preservation of African-American Culture Museum. A variety of luncheons followed, including ones sponsored by the University of Southern Mississippi School of Library and Information Science on accreditation issues, Young People's Services Roundtable featuring author/illustrator Mike Artell, and Association of College and Research Libraries with graphic novels librarian Karen Green.

The afternoon was filled with concurrent sessions. The Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the University of Southern Mississippi presented on the Mississippi Cultural Heritage Network. Sheryl Stump and Rick Torgerson from Delta State University presented on "Outsourcing and Systems Migration." Mandy Bayer Meloy from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine discussed "Off the Bookshelf: Health-y Online Resources for K-12 Students Continuing Education." Dr. Frances Lucas, president of Millsaps College, offered "Don't Mess with Mississippi Women." Steven Turner and Jennifer Brannock from the University of Southern Mississippi introduced attendees to "Lights! Camera! Action! Producing Video Podcasts for USM Libraries," sponsored by the Library Instruction Roundtable.

Thursday culminated with the Mississippi Authors Awards Dinner. Walt Grayson was honored as the non-fiction winner for *Looking around Mississippi (2007)*, Donning Company Publishers. Robert Dalby was honored as the fiction winner for *Kissing Babies at the Piggy Wiggly (2007)*, G.P. Putnam's Sons. Finally, photographer Sherry Pace was given a special award for *Historic Churches of Mississippi (2007)*, University Press of Mississippi.

Friday, October 24

Friday began with three breakfast events: Special Libraries, USM Alumni, and MLA Past Presidents. Greg Johnson, Blues curator at the University of Mississippi, was the speaker for the special libraries breakfast and his presentation focused on acquiring, preserving, and accessing Blues materials.

Frieda Quon and Emily Weaver from Delta State University discussed Chinese history in the Mississippi Delta with "Chopsticks in the Land of Cotton." Phil Hardwick of the John C. Stennis Institute of Government presented "The Value and

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Impact of Mississippi Libraries Dancing Rabbit Library Consortium." Author Patricia M. Terrell offered "Staging Book and Author Events @ Your Library" and Dr. Steven C. Yuen and Mrs. Patrivan K. Yuen discussed new learning opportunities in

"Using Web 2.0 in Your Library."

The MLA Awards Luncheon concluded the conference. President Jeff Slagell and Vice President/President-elect Jan Willis expressed their gratitude to all the volunteers for their hard work and dedication in

making the conference a success. After the 2008 MLA awards were presented, Willis was passed the gavel symbolizing the beginning of his presidency and the conference adjourned. We look forward to seeing you next year in Hattiesburg! ■

2008 MLA Award Winners

- **Carroon Apple Award:** Ruth Eakin, librarian, Pecan Park Elementary School, Ocean Springs
- **Mary Julia Anderson Award:** Linda McKay, assistant director of operations, Hancock County Library System
- **Outstanding Achievement Award:** Glenda B. Tilson, director of Library Services Division, Mississippi Library Commission



Helima Welch

- **Past President's Award:** Jamie Bounds Ellis, local history and genealogy librarian, Biloxi Public Library, Harrison County Library System
- **Peggy May Award:** Lynn F. Shurden, director, Bolivar County Library System
- **Peggy May Scholarship Recipient:** Helima Welch, graduate assistant, School of Library and Information Science, University of Southern Mississippi

- **Virgia Brocks-Shedd Scholarship Recipient:** Mara Villa, youth services supervisor, Pearl Public Library



Pictured left to right, Jeff Slagell, Linda McKay, and Mary Julia Anderson.



Mara Villa and scholarship committee chair Pat Rogers. Photo by Jean Greene.

Public Relations Awards

- **Best effort by an individual library to publicize library services around a single theme or event:** Coldwater High School Library, "The Many Faces of Our World"
- **Best coordinated effort of several libraries to publicize library services around a single theme or event:** Central Mississippi Regional Library System, Summer Reading Program
- **Best newsletter submitted by library group:** University of Southern Mississippi, *Library Focus*
- **Special Recognition:** J.D. Williams Library, University of Mississippi, 2008 Presidential Debate

Mississippi Authors Awards

- **Non-Fiction Category:** Walt Grayson, *Looking Around Mississippi Some More with Walt Grayson* (2007)
- **Fiction Category:** Robert Dalby, *Kissing Babies at the Piggly Wiggly* (2007)
- **Special Category:** Sherry Pace, *Historic Churches of Mississippi* (2007)

SELA 2008 Conference: Spectrum of the Future

Deborah Lee
MLA SELA representative

The 2008 Southeastern Library Association Conference was held October 1-4, 2008. As joint conferences are the norm for SELA biennial conferences, the 2008 conference was held in collaboration with the Kentucky Library Association. This year, the conference was also sponsored by the Association Research Libraries and the ALA's National Diversity in Libraries Conference. While this made the conference name long (KLA/KSMA/SELA/ARL!) it also provided an ample array of sessions to choose from.

The theme of this year's conference was "Spectrum of the Future" and the sessions illustrated the wide range of topics librarians are concerned with. Neal Petersen was the keynote speaker. Petersen is a motivational speaker and a South African-born adventurer and business executive. Petersen overcame physical disabilities, poverty, and apartheid to complete a round-the-world sailing race. Petersen stressed his philosophy, "in life there are no barriers, only solutions!" and challenged the librarians present to incorporate this motto into their libraries.

Deborah Lee is professor, coordinator of library instructional services, associate director of the center for teaching and learning, and coordinator of the corporate and statistical research center at Mississippi State University; e-mail: dlee@library.msstate.edu.

American Libraries associate editor Pamela Goodes discussed the editorial philosophy of the journal, changes anticipated for 2009 and strategies for getting published (in AL or other journals). She strongly encouraged members of the audience to subscribe to AL Direct, the electronic newsletter of the American Library Association (ALA), which is now available to members and nonmembers. Jim Rettig, current president of ALA spoke to a standing room only crowd about preparing for the future in libraries. Rettig discussed some of the initiatives ALA is undertaking to make the association more responsive to the membership. This includes activities to involve library science students in the association early in their careers, virtual poster sessions that will enhance the membership's ability to participate in conferences whether or not they can attend, and an online salon that will allow members to engage ALA leaders in online conversations.

One of the more engaging sessions I attended was by Eli Neiburger from the Ann Arbor District Library in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Neiburger discussed the role of gaming in libraries. While he spoke from the perspective of a public librarian, much of the information he shared applies to other types of libraries as well. Neiburger shared some of the common elements of current online games and discussed the impact the highly networked middle grade student (often referred to as those "born digital") will have on high schools, col-

leges, and society in the future. Neiburger also worked with SELA and KLA to coordinate the Gaming Event, held simultaneously with the SELA reception. This hands-on event gave librarians the opportunity to play on a Nintendo Wii, a Microsoft Xbox, and a Sony PlayStation. Popular games, such as Dance, Dance Revolution and one of the Pokemon titles were highlighted.

Other sessions included the role of popular literature in the library, the development and challenges of Library 2.0 applications, and an intriguing report by a representative from Elsevier on quantifying the return on investment of library expenditures on university research productivity. All in all, it was an excellent conference and the Kentucky Library Association was an excellent host.

Don't forget – the next SELA conference will be in 2010 and will be held in collaboration with the Arkansas Library Association. The conference is scheduled for October 24-26, 2010 in Rogers, Arkansas, so mark your calendars now. Additional information will be forthcoming about the 2009 workshop or seminar to be held by SELA in Atlanta, Georgia. Unlike past leadership conferences, which were targeted primarily at SELA committee members, the 2009 workshop will be open to all. Additional information will be posted to the MLA listserv as it becomes available. ■

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News Briefs

Tina Harry, Editor

E-Resource Symposium Held at Mississippi State University

For an eighth year, Mississippi State University Libraries hosted an e-resource symposium for information professionals working in libraries across the Southeast. Sponsors of the symposium included Mississippi State University Libraries, the North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG), EBSCO Information Services, and Serials Solutions.

Held at Mitchell Memorial Library on August 8, 2008, this year's symposium titled "Play Your Cards Right!" provided approximately one hundred attendees with insight and knowledge that will help enable them to overcome the many challenges of managing e-resources in libraries.

The symposium featured four presentations given by leading innovators in the field of e-resources and libraries. Jane Burke, vice president and general manager of Serials Solutions, delivered the symposium's keynote address, "The OPAC is Dead: Managing the Virtual Library." Burke presented some controversial ideas in her presentation, including putting an end to serial check-in and bibliographic instruction. She fired up the audience as she talked about trends in access and management of library e-resources. Subsequent presentations were given by Dan

Tonkery (EBSCO Information Services), Maria Collins (North Carolina State University), and Emily Alford (Michigan State University).

Article-length write-ups of each of the symposium's presentations are to be published in an upcoming issue of *The Serials Librarian*. Audio recordings of the presentations, along with the presenters' PowerPoint slides and handouts, are accessible at <http://library.msstate.edu/eresource/schedule.asp>.

– Submitted by Jean Sibley, serials librarian/assistant professor, Mississippi State University Libraries.

One Hundred Thousandth Item Checked Out at Lucedale-George County Public Library

Thelma Killian thought she'd see what was new at the Lucedale-George County Public Library on September 19, 2008, shortly after lunch. Little did she know that one of the thirteen items she would check out would set a new benchmark for annual circulation at the library. The Lucedale Library reached an unprecedented milestone, which will push the new annual circulation record well over 100,000 items for fiscal year 2008. Final figures were released in mid-October. The previous record was set at 95,341 items circulated in FY 2003.

"I've been a patron for years – since I was a teenager and the library was located in the court house," Killian said. "I come in here all the time. This was a great surprise."

The Friends of the Library provided Killian with a gift basket filled with goodies and served cake and punch in celebration of the historic milestone. Library staff also threw balloons and confetti and played music when she came to the front desk with the 100,000th item. Commenting on the new record, branch manager Becky Wheeler said, "The general public may not be aware of how much work goes on behind the scenes to circulate this many items. Patrons only see the items being



Lucedale Library branch manager Becky Wheeler (left), along with library assistant Evelyn Read (right), presents Thelma Killian (center) with a gift basket from the Friends of the Library for checking out the 100,000th item this year.

scanned and stamped at the circulation desk. Selecting items to add to the collection, ordering interlibrary loans, placing items on hold, preparing and submitting orders, scanning the materials in when they arrive, labeling, cleaning, and repairing items, and shelving are among the necessary tasks that happen daily. My staff and I have worked hard to reach this 100,000 item milestone; that averages out to over forty-two items circulated per hour during the year, plus all the background work."

For more information about the library or library services, visit at 507 Oak Street or www.jgrls.org.

– Submitted by Rex Bridges, public relations/marketing, Jackson-George Regional Library System

Bolivar County Library System Awarded Jenny's Heroes Grant

When Tamara Blackwell, adult services librarian at Bolivar County Library System, discovered Jenny Jones' Web site offering grants in the amount of \$25,000 to "heroes" that better the community, she immediately talked with the youth services librarian, Bobbie Matheney, about applying for the grant.

The Bolivar County Library System had recently received funding from the City of Cleveland for a renovation of the Robinson-Carpenter Library, but there were no funds for the other branches to



Dan Tonkery, Jane Burke, and Maria Collins pose for a photograph during lunch. Photo by Jim Tomlinson.

Tina Harry is assistant professor/catalog and assistant automation librarian at the University of Mississippi; e-mail: tharry@olemiss.edu.

renovate. Two early literacy computers had been purchased recently for the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library by the Friends of the Library and the Library Endowment Board. When these new tools for children proved very successful, the library staff looked for other ways to obtain additional computers for the branches. What better way to upgrade the children's areas in the branches!

On September 30, 2008, Matheney and Blackwell were surprised by a conference call from the celebrity herself announcing the award of \$25,000 to purchase items for their "dream" to better the entire county. Not only will new computers be purchased for each of the branches, but updated children's furnishings will also be purchased.

– Submitted by Lynn F. Shurden, director, Bolivar County Library System

Mississippi Library Commission Receives Prestigious Federal Grant

The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) a \$100,000 Laura Bush Twenty-first Century Librarian Grant to conduct an intensive, in-residence workshop for mid-level public library staff in Mississippi. Over the three-year grant period, ninety public library staff members will participate in MLC's Librarianship 201 Institute. Participants will be selected through a competitive application process.

The first institute will be held February 2-6, 2009, in Jackson and will be conducted in partnership with the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET). The institute will cover topics in public library advocacy, management, ethics, and technology. Nationally recognized scholars and practitioners of library science will share both theoretical and practical aspects of librarianship with participants. Participants will establish bonds that enhance librarianship in small and rural communities throughout the state.

According to Sharman Bridges Smith, executive director of the Mississippi Library Commission, "Librarianship 201 is the


next step in 'growing our own.' Mississippi has a rich heritage of public library service. Through Librarianship 201 and other continuing education programs for public library personnel provided by the agency for public library personnel, the future will be strong as well. We are pleased that IMLS recognized our efforts and plans for ensuring all Mississippians have access to quality public library services."

First Lady Laura Bush announced the President's multimillion dollar support of an initiative to help bolster the library profession in 2002. Since then, IMLS has helped fund the education of 3,220 mas-


ter's degree students, 186 doctoral students, 1,256 pre-professional students, and 26,186 continuing education students. In 2008, the program awarded \$20 million to thirty-one of ninety applications received. To learn more about the program or IMLS, visit www.imls.gov.

For more information on the Librarianship 201 Institute or other Mississippi Library Commission programs and services, visit www.mlc.lib.ms.us or phone 601-432-4111.

– Submitted by Jennifer Walker, library consultant, Mississippi Library Commission. ■



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People in the News

Tina Harry, Editor

Cynthia Beardsley has joined Delta State University as reference/instructional services librarian and assistant professor of library services. She has an undergraduate degree in history from Mississippi State University and a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Southern Mississippi. Before coming to Delta State, she worked as acquisitions technician at Smith-Rouse Library on the Hattiesburg campus of William Carey University.

— ◆ —

Tommy Covington retired in December 2008 after thirty-five years with the Ripley Public Library. During his years with the library, Covington became known locally as the unofficial historian and archivist for Ripley and Tippah County. He is Tippah County's most valuable resource person for all matters relating to the history and genealogy of the area. He conducted tours for the Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference attendees each year from its start in 1973 to 2005, taking them to Faulkner-related sites throughout Ripley County. The group tours homes, cemeteries, and the Ripley Library where an extensive collection of Faulkner resources is housed. Covington is a talented storyteller, attending festivals throughout the southeast, including the annual National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee. He has traveled extensively in the United States and in England. Friends, co-workers, library patrons, and the general public celebrated Covington's retirement at a reception in his honor at the Ripley Library on November 9, 2008.

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Tina Harry is assistant professor/catalog and assistant automation librarian at the University of Mississippi; e-mail: tharry@olemiss.edu.

Mantra Henderson, assistant director and head of public services at James H. White Library at Mississippi Valley State University, attended the Peabody Professional Institute for Academic Library Leadership July 6-10, 2008, at Vanderbilt University. The institute was conducted through lectures, panel presentations, and group work, with sessions about academic library management and discussions on related literature. Participation in Peabody Professional Institutes is competitive and is determined through a review process.

Henderson was also invited to make two professional presentations, the first at Johnson C. Smith University's Post-Information Literacy Leadership Institute October 10-12, 2008, in Charlotte, NC. The institute assists librarians at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) with the development/revision of their information literacy instructional programs. Participants had an opportunity to learn about various programs, and spent time designing a program for their own students. She originally attended the institute in November 2007 and was invited back to present her redesigned information literacy instructional program, but was unable to do the presentation due to illness. Her proposal was given instead by Dr. Teresa Neely, one of the presenters of the post institute. Also in attendance was **Jama Lumumba**, librarian in the division of library and information resources at H. T. Sampson Library at Jackson State University.

Henderson's second presentation will be at the HBCU Library Alliance's Third Annual Membership Meeting October 26-



Mantra Henderson

28, 2008, in Charlotte, NC. The HBCU Library Alliance is a consortium that supports the collaboration of information professionals dedicated to providing an array of resources designed to strengthen historically black colleges and universities and their constituents. They received funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to host an exchange program allowing five associate-level librarians from the HBCU Leadership Program to spend two weeks at an Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) library during the summer of 2008. The goals of the exchange were to provide the HBCU librarians with an opportunity to address a specific issue of strategic importance to their library with the assistance and expertise of ASERL library leaders and to foster additional collaboration between ASERL and HBCU libraries. As a participant in the exchange program Henderson will be presenting her proposal and accomplishments at the membership meeting. Her exchange ASERL Library was the D. H. Hill Library at North Carolina State University.

— ◆ —

Millsaps College Library is pleased to announce three recent personnel changes.

Ben Newell is the new periodicals assistant, replacing Rocky Madden who retired in June. Newell, previously employed by the Madison County Public Library, works in serials, cataloging, acquisitions and collection management.

Ryan Roy is the new public services librarian, replacing Larry Madison who retired in May. Roy, a Millsaps graduate, has worked in the Library since 1999 as a student and staff member. He earned his master's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and now is responsible for reference and library instruction.

Rob Stephens, who graduated from Millsaps in 2008, is the new circulation supervisor. Stephens worked in the Library for two years as the late night student supervisor and is now responsible for circulation, reserves, and audiovisual technology.

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Congratulating Moran are Sybil Canon, director of the Northwest Foundation (far left); Dr. Gary Lee Spears, president of Northwest Mississippi Community College; and Sandy Grisham, retired social science instructor, for whom the award is named (far right).

Maggie Moran, Northwest Mississippi Community College public service and reference librarian, was presented the Sandy Grisham Excellence in Teaching Award. The award was presented by Dr. Gary Lee Spears, president of Northwest Mississippi Community College, at the faculty and staff meeting on August 11, 2008. The award is given annually and is voted on by the academic dean and the division directors. Moran writes a column that appears in several newspapers and regularly reviews books for *Mississippi Libraries*. This summer, she presented a program on Web 2.0 at Mississippi Library 2.0 Summit hosted by Mississippi State University and gave brief “table-talks” for the Mississippi Library Commission Tech Fair in Jackson. She serves on a national committee for the American Library Association to select the best young adult books for *Booklist*.

— ◆ —

Alice Shands is the new director of the Columbus-Lowndes Public Library. Former director of the Sunflower County Library System and department manager for the Memphis Public Library & Information Center in Tennessee, Shands began work in Columbus on November 3, 2008. Shands looks forward to her new position saying, “The Columbus-Lowndes Public Library has a reputation in the state for excellent service, collections, and well-trained staff. We want to maintain that through the economic crisis in the country and continue to flourish.”

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Karolyn S. Thompson has been elected president of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA). Thompson is a professor at the University of Southern Mississippi and coordinator for document delivery at the Joseph Anderson Cook Library on the university’s Hattiesburg campus. Thompson set an agenda for the BCALA that will further enhance its scope and influence library services nation-wide.

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association is an advocacy organization for the development, promotion, and improvement of library services and resources to the nation’s African American community. BCALA also provides leadership for the recruitment and professional development of African American librarians.

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The University of Mississippi Libraries are pleased to announce the following appointments.

Jason C. Dewland is the new business reference librarian and assistant professor for the J.D. Williams Library at the University of Mississippi. He has a MLIS from Wayne State University, an MBA from the University of Maryland, and a BA in political science from Boston University. Previously he worked as a graduate stu-

dent assistant at Wayne State University and as a reference librarian at Jackson Community College in Jackson, Michigan.

Alex P. Watson joined the J.D. Williams Library at Ole Miss as a reference librarian and assistant professor. A native of Reed City, Michigan, Watson earned a master’s degree in English from Western Michigan University, where he also taught for two years. He recently graduated from the University of Michigan’s School of Information program with an MLS.

Pamela M. Williamson serves as assistant professor and curator of visual collections in the department of archives and special collections at the University of Mississippi’s J. D. Williams Library. She received both her BA in history and her MLIS at the University of Alabama. Williamson is a member of the Society of American Archivists and the American Library Association. She specializes in nineteenth century southern history and archives.

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Halima Welch, a native of Gulfport, Mississippi, is the recipient of the 2008 Peggy May Scholarship. She is currently a graduate assistant in the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM). Ms. Welch will finish her MLIS in December 2008 and plans to become a school library media specialist. Dr. Teresa Welch, assistant professor at USM-SLIS, describes Ms. Welch as a dedicated, capable, and wonderful student who has been a pleasure to work with because of her service-oriented attitude. Ms. Welch has the qualities that will make her an asset to our profession – intelligence, dedication, willingness to work, a sunny disposition, and a positive attitude. ■

About Books

Christina Torbert, Editor

FICTION

Karon, Jan. *Home to Holly Springs*. New York: Viking Penguin, 2007. 355 pp. \$26.95 (hardcover)

Home to Holly Springs returns Father Tim Kavanagh to his childhood home of Holly Springs, Mississippi. After more than thirty-eight years of absence, he seeks answers to unsolved mysteries, as well as the disappearances of those who most affected his childhood development.

Inspirational fiction readers will recognize Father Tim Kavanagh who is the main character in Jan Karon's Mitford Series. In the Mitford series he has solved many domestic mysteries in his parish of Mitford, but in *Home to Holly Springs* Father Tim faces his own mysterious past in a personal and painful journey as he untangles the memories he has held so closely. In this first of the Father Tim novels Karon takes him home.

While Karon introduces a real-life Southern town in present day Holly Springs, Mississippi, her treatment of a small Mississippi town of forty years prior portrays honesty with kindness. Her character development introduces three-dimensional, enjoyable, realistic souls as her storyline leads a heart-rending search for truths.

This book is highly recommended for all libraries, but especially for those with a patronage who enjoy good inspirational fiction.

Donna P. Fite
Purvis Branch Manager
Lamar County Library System

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North, Darden. *House Call*. Jackson, MS: Ponder House Press, 2007. 344 pp. \$9.99 (paperback)

Darden North, a medical doctor, has written an interesting first novel. It is a mys-

tery revolving around a private practice and a hospital in a northern Mississippi community. The evolving murder investigation progresses while Dr. North provides the reader insight into the business side of the medical profession.

The reader is introduced to the daily stress in a labor and delivery department that is short-staffed by hospital administrators attempting to cut costs, the machinations of hospital administrators courting a buyout from a healthcare corporation, and the financially driven business operations of a major private practice. The main focus of this novel appears to be more toward the operations and manipulations of the five physicians associated with the Montclair Center for Women's Medical and Surgical Services than toward the actual murder of labor and delivery department nurse Taylor Richards.

The emphasis of the novel revolves around Dr. Cullen Gwinn and his wife Madelyn. Dr. Gwinn, the original physician who established the center, is depicted as a workaholic while his wife's secret is her addiction to depression medication that causes weight loss. A second physician associated with the Montclair Center for Women's Medical and Surgical Services, Dr. Knox Chamblee, is the newest physician added to the center's roster. He experiences harassment from Dr. Elizabeth Aslyn Hawes, who believes a female physician should have been given that job. Dr. Hawes blocks patient scheduling to the new physician and constantly argues with the board to terminate him because his patient load does not generate enough dollars for the center.

The actual crime itself against Taylor Richards is finally resolved in the last chapter of the novel, almost as an afterthought. While this first novel for Dr. North is an interesting read, I would have liked more development of his characters. There is little depth to the people moving through this book. In addition, some of the chapters are not tightly integrated into the novel itself. Better transition from one chapter to the next would have enhanced the reading

experience. I would recommend this title to public libraries with audiences for medical fiction.

Elizabeth M. Doolittle
Public Services Librarian
University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Park

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NONFICTION

Fennelly, Beth Ann. *Unmentionables*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2008. 126 pp. \$23.95 (hardback)

Fennelly's work is a breath of fresh air. The author of *Tender Hooks* and *Great with Child: Letters to a Young Mother* has again made an impression with her descriptive book of free verse poems. Her individual insight into common occurrences and human nature unfold beautifully in her poetry written more like a diary, naturally expressing her innermost thoughts.

Fennelly consistently engages the reader throughout the work with her own simple yet complex descriptions of her surroundings. The section entitled "Kudzu Chronicles" combines an inside look at this ever-persistent plant with truths, stories, and native opinions. Fennelly herself is an outsider who has made her home in Oxford, Mississippi. Her poetry, like kudzu, wraps around "unmentionable" subjects as well as the more inviting ones. Her childhood reflections and family tributes are also easily relatable. Through effective breaks in her writing style mixed with everyday language – sometimes raw – Fennelly connects her world to our own. She also has the ability to read other greats of our time. "Bertha Morisot: A Retrospective" is dedicated to disclosing the "what might have been" thoughts of the famous painter.

Whether unveiling the fibers of other beings or her own, Fennelly uses her words to speak the truth that sometimes goes unheard. It is our Mississippi to which she speaks, and she is a superb sto-

Christina Torbert is assistant professor and head of serials at the University of Mississippi; e-mail: ctorbert@olemiss.edu.

ryteller. *Unmentionables* is 126 pages of mind-reading wonder. Highly recommended for public and academic libraries.

Melissa Dennis

Outreach/Reference Librarian
University of Mississippi Libraries



Frascogna, Xavier M., Jr., Xavier M. Frascogna, III, and Martin F. Frascogna. *Gridiron Gold: Inspiring Stories of Legendary Mississippi High School Coaches, Guardians of the Greatest Football Talent in America*. Jackson: Mississippi Sports Council, 2007. 294 pp. \$31.95 (hardcover)

Gridiron Gold is the first book by the authors, who each played high school and college football, and played for well-respected Mississippi coaches. The authors present a discussion of the coaches who have helped Mississippi's high school football teams. Coaches are an important part of the game and contribute to the morale and development of the team and the community. To this end, the experiences of working with Mississippi high school coaches to develop not only team spirit and skills, but also emotional bonds that last a lifetime are presented.

Numerous quotes from different coaches are presented, which help to paint the picture that is prominent in the communities they are a part of – that throughout Mississippi each community works hard to promote the development of their children, who are considered the most valuable resource of the state. These quotes, and other details, help the reader understand what it is like to be a high school football player in these communities. Indeed, the authors themselves are from this community and their experience has inspired them to tell this story.

Some of the quotes from the coaches point out this group helped keep young teenagers out of trouble both on and off the team. For example, Coach Larry Cole (p. 113) stated, "I've had players that I threw off the team....He might have been caught with alcohol or some other infraction." Coach Paul Pounds pointed out,

"During the '60s and '70s if something happened in a class, the teacher or principal would always come to a coach and ask, 'Coach, can you come over here and take care of the problem'" (p. 114).

Thus, the coaches were respected by the students, by the football team, by the teachers, and by school administrators. The coaches themselves expressed the joy they experienced in their work. For example, Coach Bobby Posey, who had the opportunity to see three boys from high school football teams he had coached make it on a Memphis State team, noted "it was just an indescribable moment...it's the legacy...of Mississippi high school football" (p. 166).

While the book presented the views of three ex-football players, which may have led to a discussion of their biased views, even this provides insight into the inspiration these authors felt from working with the coaches. This book is a valuable source for sports players, coaches, community leaders, and the public. While the book can be criticized for its possible bias, the book provides insight for all to understand the value of coaches in football. This book is recommended for academic and public libraries.

William L. Bahr

Assistant Director
Pike-Amite-Walthall Library System



Frascogna, Xavier M., Jr., Xavier M. Frascogna, III, and Martin F. Frascogna. *Y'all Vs Us, Thrilling Tales of Mississippi's Hottest High School Football Rivalries*. Jackson: Mississippi Sports Council, 2008. 391 pp. \$34.95 (hardcover)

In this second book about Mississippi football, the authors present the story of fifteen intense rivalries found in Mississippi and provide excellent representation of the impact these rivalries have on the people and the communities. Players and coaches also are noted, along with many other details that allow the reader to gain an increased insight and understanding into the particular role of rivalry in Mississippi football.

For example, the authors provide quotes from other participants, such as radio announcers, to help the reader understand what these football games mean to everyone. A quote from a principal notes the pride felt by the community: "Those are our kids...those kids on the field are a representation of the community and what it stands for" (14). Still another quote from a mayor and county resident states, "Nothing has galvanized this community like Wayne County football..."(42). Even families of the football players are united by the games, as is evidenced by a quote from one player: "I remember seeing my dad. He's not a very emotional guy...I will never forget the smile on his face after the game. He came up and gave me the biggest hug" (198).

The book presents views from the perspectives of football players, which are likely to be biased. However, it is important to understand what this game means to people from all perspectives, including the perspective of the players. One quote from a Biloxi football player helps the reader understand this game goes to the heart of everyone of all ages and genders: "My grandmother doesn't know anything about Biloxi football, but she knows when we are going to play Gulfport" (377).

This book is a valuable source for sports players, coaches, and the public. Community leaders would benefit from understanding the assistance a rivalry football game would provide in uniting the community, as it has done in Mississippi. Weaknesses of the book are few, but include the need for more information to set the scenes portrayed, as the continuity at times jumps from one paragraph to another. This book provides more than just a portrayal of the game of football. This book is recommended for academic and public libraries since it contributes to the body of literature related to an understanding of human nature.

William L. Bahr

Assistant Director
Pike-Amite-Walthall Library System



Giddings, Paula. *Ida: A Sword Among Lions: Ida B. Wells and the Campaign Against Lynching.* New York: Amistead, 2008. 800 pp. \$35.00 (hardcover)

Born in 1862 to slave parents in Holly Springs, Mississippi, Ida B. Wells-Barnett lived up to the subtitle of Paula Giddings' detailed biography, a paraphrase from Psalm 57 ("My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire ... and their tongue a sharp sword."). Giddings uses Wells-Barnett's diary, autobiography, and other publications, as well as extensive quotes from memoirs of her contemporaries and newspaper accounts, to trace her remarkable career as an activist, from her lawsuit against segregated railway cars in Memphis a suit she lost, but which set a precedent for many legal actions to follow – through her years of passionate protest against the atrocities of lynching, her involvement with the women's suffrage movement, and her unsuccessful campaign for a U.S. Senate seat from Illinois shortly before her death in 1931. Wells-Barnett was seldom idle, continuing her advocacy during her marriage to attorney and fellow activist Ferdinand Barnett and the rearing of their four children.

In her exhaustive mining of contemporary sources, Giddings also shows the devastating impact of Jim Crow laws on African American southerners – an impact all the more cruel following blacks' progress during Reconstruction – and the way in which, as blacks left the South for other parts of the country, incidents of prejudice and violence increased in those areas as well. Wells-Barnett found herself investigating riots and lynchings in the Midwest as well as in southern states, and carrying her quest for allies into northeastern cities and across the Atlantic to Britain.

Giddings reveals a recurring pattern in Wells-Barnett's career: pioneering efforts on her part were repeatedly followed by others' taking over her ideas and presenting them in formats thought to be more palatable to white social reformers. At the same time, Wells-Barnett was marginalized in organizations she had helped to create, such as African American women's associations and the NAACP. This pattern was partly a result of her confrontational nature

and strong demands for change at a time when women were expected to be demure and retiring, but even more significant was the divergence of Wells-Barnett's views on racial progress from those of powerful African American leaders such as Booker T. Washington. Washington advocated industrial education (as in the model of his Tuskegee Institute) and economic success as the best way for blacks to advance and felt demands for social and political equality would be too threatening to the white majority. Wells-Barnett believed that a liberal arts education was also important, that "separate but equal" was an oxymoron, and that black economic progress was also threatening and enraging to whites. She felt federal intervention was required to protect African Americans from violence and discrimination. Wells-Barnett also took on the explosive issue of interracial sexual relations and the myth that any black man who was lynched was a rapist. While her controversial stances resulted in a lack of credit for her work during her lifetime, she lived to see anti-lynching legislation passed in a number of states, and her courageous persistence laid the groundwork for many later advances in civil rights.

Giddings provides extensive annotated references and a bibliography. *Ida: A Sword Among Lions* is highly recommended for public and academic libraries. (Note: this review is based on an uncorrected proof; the published work contains illustrations not seen by the reviewer.)

Kathleen L. Wells
Senior Catalog Librarian
University of Southern Mississippi

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Urgo, Joseph R. and Ann J. Abadie (eds.). *Faulkner and Material Culture: Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha, 2004.* Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2007. 155 pp. \$50.00 (hardback)

Faulkner and Material Culture is a compilation of eight papers originally presented at the thirty-first Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference in 2004. The uniting theme is the intersection of the real world of Oxford in Lafayette County, Mis-

issippi, and Faulkner's imaginary world of Jefferson in Yoknapatawpha County. However, the reader will find a good bit of variety here.

Charles S. Aiken discusses the author's treatment of five types of New South buildings. Jay Watson focuses on *Light in August* and the parallels to be found there between the timber/furniture industry and social dynamics. Patricia Yeager examines the role of trash, bodily waste, and decay in early twentieth century aesthetics in general and Faulkner's work in particular. Kevin Railey points out that *Flags in the Dust* (criticized as disjointed) is more coherent when the material objects within it are viewed as symbolic of economic and social status. D. Matthew Ramsey discusses Faulkner's work on Hollywood movies and its effect on female characters in his later work. Miles Orvell focuses on local community and its place in the larger world, with particular attention to confederate soldier monuments as agents of memory in a time of great change. Katherine R. Heninger takes photographic metaphors as the subject of her paper, and T. J. Jackson Lears contrasts Faulkner's treatment of mass consumable goods with that of more carefully crafted objects.

This collection of articles emphasizes how the societal changes Faulkner experienced in the early twentieth century, and the dichotomy of holding onto the old while embracing (or at least accepting) the new, were preserved through the representation of material culture in his fiction. While some of the writers stray a little far a field in trying to prove their points, *Faulkner and Material Culture* is, on the whole, a fine compilation of scholarly works. The book is most relevant for Faulkner scholars, but it also has broader implications for the study of the interaction between societal conditions and artistic expression. It is recommended for all academic libraries.

Diane DeCesare Ross
Curator of Manuscripts, Archives, and
Digital Collections
University of Southern Mississippi ■

MLA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2008 • 10:30 a.m.
Mississippi Library Commission
Jackson, MS

Executive board members present:

President – Jeff Slagell
Vice President – Jan Willis
Immediate Past President – Catherine Nathan
Treasurer – Amanda Clay Powers
Secretary – Judy Card
Parliamentarian/Web Chair – Molly McManus
ALA Councilor – Sherry Laughlin
SELA Councilor – Deborah Lee
Ex-officio member – MLA Executive Secretary Mary Julia Anderson
Public Library Section Chair – Madonna May
Special Library Section Chair – Jane Phillips
Trustee Section Chair – Randy Sherard

Others present:

Jacqueline Quinn – Black Caucus
Jill Nicholson – Author Awards Committee
Marsha Case – Awards Committee
Ann Branton – Vice President-Elect 2009
Shirlene Stogner – Election Committee

Jeff Slagell called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

Jeff Slagell called the roll.

A quorum of the executive board was present.

Minutes from the February and May board meetings were reviewed. Randy Sherard moved and Catherine Nathan seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

The treasurer's report was distributed. Catherine Nathan moved and Randy Sherard seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

Vice President's Report: Conference 2008. Vice president Jan Willis confirmed that the keynote speaker will be 2008-2009 ALA President Jim Rettig. The primary conference hotel will be the Country Inn and Suites, and the Hampton Inn will be used for overflow if necessary. Other confirmed speakers include Rheta Grimsley Johnson, Dr. Jayne Sargent, Walt Grayson, and Dr. Frances Lucas.

ALA Councilor Report: Sherry Laughlin attended the ALA's annual conference in Anaheim, California in June. She reported on various meetings and noted an approximate attendance of 22,000. The ALA midwinter conference will be held in January 2009 in Denver, Colorado.

SELA Councilor Report: Deborah Lee will attend the SELA conference in October in Louisville, Kentucky. She sought recommendations for SELA awards by August 15 and stated they did not have to be SELA members to be eligible.

Section reports: None

Roundtable reports:

Black Caucus: Jacqueline Quinn reported that Dr. Jayne Sargent would be their luncheon speaker.

Old business:

Catherine Nathan moved that the 2009 election results be accepted (Ann Branton – Vice President, Marsha Case – Secretary) and Randy Sherard seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

Catherine Nathan moved that the previous affirmative e-mail vote be ratified authorizing the placement of the MLA archives at the University of Southern Mississippi. Randy Sherard seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

New business:

Jeff Slagell recommended that Hattiesburg be the 2009 conference location. Randy Sherard moved and Amanda Powers seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

Jeff Slagell recommended that Vicksburg be the 2010 conference location and stated he would be willing to negotiate a contract with the convention center. Randy Sherard moved and Catherine Nathan seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

Announcements:

The next board meeting will be held October 21, 2008 at the annual conference in Natchez.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Slagell on behalf of Judy Card ■

Treasurer's Report

MLA – Fund Balances as of September 30, 2008

ASSETS

Account	Description	Amount
1001	AmSouth Checking	68,999.03
100200	MLA Office Expenses	188.96
1002	AmSouth 5yr CD	17,445.97
1003	TNB P May Brokerage Account	14,808.45
1007	B Stearns/P May Mutual Fund	4,224.00
1008	A/R NSF Checks	279.25
1009	Peggy May CD	12,207.44
10010	CD 9/07	6,786.46
	Fixed Assets	2,390.32
TOTAL ASSETS		124,939.56

LIABILITIES

Account	Description	Amount
2264	Deferred Lifetime Membership	6,940.00
	Other Current Liabilities	-2035.10
Total Liabilities		4,904.90

EQUITY

Account	Description	Amount
2120	Peggy May Fund	24,399.72
2130	ANRT Fund	2,958.52
2140	2YCRT Fund	-1,148.32
2150	GODORT Fund	2,016.33
2160	LIRT Fund	1,153.91
2170	YPSRT Fund	-2,171.33
2180	ECTRT Fund	483.30
2190	TSRT Fund	1,117.61
2210	SCRT Fund	340.09
2220	NMRT Fund	495.84
2250	Black Caucus Fund	3,770.83
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	36,189.26
	Net Income	16,977.64
Total Equity		122,424.98

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

127,329.88

MLA – Income as of September 30, 2008

Account	Description	2008 Budget	Jan-Sept 2008
General Income			
5200	Memberships Dues	14,247.00	17,270.00
5201.5	Lifetime Memberships	1,800.00	600.00
5202	Interest – General Fund	524.00	197.24
Mississippi Libraries Income			
5221	ML Advertising	750.00	806.25
5222	ML Subscriptions	261.00	0.00
5223	ML Other Income		724.96
MLA Mid-Winter Income			
5301	Mid-Winter Registration	3,500.00	3,668.00
Peggy May Income			
5351	Interest Income – Peggy May	75.00	0.00
5352	Peggy May Donations	1,350.00	533.50
Section Income			
5403	School Section Income		30.00
5404	Special Section Income		84.00
5405	Trustee Section Income		48.00
5410	ACRL Section Income		294.00
5420	Public Library Income		564.00
5400 Section Income – Other			140.00
Convention Income			
5510	Convention Registration	10,000.00	2,802.00
5515	Convention Registration – 2007		45.00
5520	Convention Exhibit Fees	12,000.00	10,630.00
5530	Convention Donations	4,000.00	0.00
5540	Convention Gen. Sess. Income	3,500.00	2,183.19
5541	Convention Gen. Sess. Prior Yr.		750.00
5550	MS Author's Award Income	3,500.00	1,146.00
5560	Past President's Income		36.00
5570	Convention Grant Income	0.00	11,950.00

Convention Income (cont.)

5575	ALA Comm. On Accreditation	120.00
5576	USM Alumni	96.00
Roundtable Income		
5610	ANRT Membership Income	33.00
5620	2YCRT Membership Income	51.00
5622	2YCRT Other Income	48.00
5630	GODORT Membership Income	12.00
5640	LIRT Membership Income	48.00
5650	ECTRT Membership Income	15.00
5660	NMRT Membership Income	33.00
5670	YPSRT Membership Income	81.00
5672	YPSRT Other Income	580.00
5680	TSRT Membership Income	93.00
5681	TSRT Workshop Income	490.00
5690	SCRT Membership Income	27.00
5695	Black Caucus Membership Income	87.00
5697	Black Caucus Other Income	100.00
5698	Black Caucus Scholarship Income	30.00
TOTAL INCOME		55,507.00
		56,854.64

MLA – Expenditures as of Sept. 30, 2008

Account	Description	2008 Budget	Jan-Sept 2008
Operating Expenses			
6001	Executive Secretary Salary	11,700.00	9,930.00
6002	Bookkeeper Salary	2,700.00	2,700.00
6004	Payroll Tax Expense	1,101.74	0.00
6100	Accounting Fees	475.00	0.00
6210	Bank Charges	102.00	83.40
6220	Bank Credit Card Fees	450.00	373.76
6230	PayPal Fee	112.50	63.33
6310	Maintenance & Repairs	751.00	0.00
6320	Postage	938.00	314.00
6340	Office Expense	751.00	552.99
6350	Telephone	1,502.00	1,531.01
6360	Dues-ALA & SELA		110.00
6410	Travel-President	2,000.00	0.00
6420	Travel-Vice President	2,000.00	0.00
6430	Travel-ALA Councilor	1,850.00	2,279.48
6440	Travel-SELA Representative		0.00
6460	Travel-Executive Secretary	562.50	281.93
Section Expenses			
6510	ACRL		47.87
6520	Public		0.00
6530	School		0.00
6540	Special		0.00
6550	Trustee		0.00
Committee Expenses			
6610	Awards		0.00
6630	Legislative	500.00	240.00
6640	Membership	50.00	0.00
6650	NLW	6,000.00	6,190.56
6660	Scholarship		1,000.00
Convention Expenses			
6710	Convention Exp-Exhibits		0.00
6720	Convention Exp-Gen. Session		0.00
6730	Convention Exp-Printing		0.00
6740	Convention Exp-Hospitality		0.00
6750	Convention Exp-Local Arrange.		3,594.30
6760	Convention Exp-Registration		488.93
6770	MS Author's Award Expense		110.75
Roundtable Expenses			
6830	Roundtable Exp-GODORT		35.00
6865	Roundtable Exp-TSRT		304.02
6875	Roundtable Exp-NMRT		10.00
Mississippi Libraries Expenses			
6910	ML Mailing	1,125.00	1,153.54
6920	ML Miscellaneous Expense	75.00	0.00
6930	ML Printing	9,375.00	7,269.00
6940	ML Editor Stipend	500.00	375.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		44,845.74	39,877.00
NET INCOME			16,977.64

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Volume 72, 2008
Indexed by Shirlene Stogner

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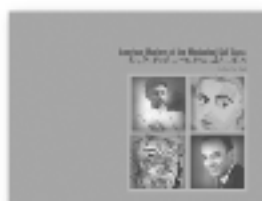
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