



# Oklahoma LIBRARIAN

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## Tahoe, REFORMA, MPLA and Wayne

The annual conference of the Mountain Plains Library Association was November 5 - 8. This year it was a tri-conference with MPLA, the Nevada Library Association, and REFORMA (the national association to promote library and information services to Latinos and the Spanish speaking). The conference was at Incline Village, at the north end of Lake Tahoe.

The conference was highly successful, with 525 paid registrations and librarians from 28 states. Oklahoma was well represented, with 21 attending. As usual, the programs were timely and stimulating, with well-qualified presenters (including several Oklahomans). Several highlights of the conference were: a sunny afternoon cruise on Lake Tahoe; the presentation of MPLA's Distinguished Service Award to Marilyn Hinshaw, Executive Director of the Eastern Oklahoma District Library System; and an author festival at which 27 authors were present to visit and autograph their books.

At the MPLA board meetings, Oklahoma's David Oberhelman (Oklahoma State University) completed his term as the MPLA Recording Secretary and Basha Hartley (Pioneer Library System, Norman) began her term, succeeding him.

The MPLA board is currently doing a trial of Memberclicks, an online membership organization and management system.

Mark your calendars, because planning is actively underway for MPLA's 2004 conference, which will be with the Colorado Association of Libraries October 20 - 23, 2004, at the Denver Marriott Technical Center. The theme, suggesting a lot of fun, is "Libraries and All That Jazz." The room rate will be \$86 per night.

MPLA's second Leadership Institute, at Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, was November 9 - 14. Oklahomans attending were Peggy Kaney, Marla Roberson,



*Marilyn Hinshaw receiving the MPLA  
Distinguished Service Award*

and Cylinda Richardson-Martin. They say they had a great time and learned a lot. People interested in attending the 2004 institute will need to be on the lookout for the application announcement in the spring. The institute was only funded by Ebsco for three years, so a careful study of what the future may hold after 2004 is being made.

At the November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the OLA Executive Board, it was voted to extend an invitation for MPLA to come to Oklahoma for a joint conference with OLA in 2010.

Wayne Hanway, MPLA Rep.

## **BJ's MPLA**

### **HAVE YOU META DATA LATELY? OR What is Metadata and why should I care?**

The term Metadata has been thrown around a lot in the last several years, but how many people actually understand the term? Chris Erickson does, and he imparted his wisdom to us on 7 Nov., 2003.

There are many definitions of Metadata, but Chris believes the following one is the best: Structured information about resources to facilitate access and management. It is a structured database or catalog, resources in print or objects or digital or audio-visual, access at the local and global level, and management by acquiring and/or storing and/or distributing.

Why Metadata? To improve document retrieval, support control of resources, support management of collections, and support user decision process on which materials or formats he needs/wants to retrieve.

The characteristics of Metadata are that it helps create order out of chaos, facilitates resource discovery, and used for: rights management,

security and authentication of resources, archival status and control, resource administration and preservation (MARC).

He went on to discuss the Internet, the past and present of Metadata, some of the standards used, and elements in Metadata fields. He also talked about some workshops such as one in April 1996 in Warwick, UK, and at OLC/LJNCSA in March 1995 where the Dublin Core was established. He also presents examples of Metadata examples in MARC format, XML format, HTML, DC-Dot, and OAI Model.

He ended with recommendations.

1. Learn more about Metadata, stay informed of the changes,
2. Investigate and define the minimal-level metadata required to manage digital information for the long term,

(Continued on page 55)



# President's Page

"On the road again, I can't wait to get on the road again . . . ."

*That pretty well sums up the last couple of months. Kay tells me that she logged her highest mileage ever for the month of October, and I traveled a lot of those miles too. One of my fondest memories of my year as President will undoubtedly be the opportunities that I've had to visit libraries all around the state and to see the marvelous things that happening in our libraries. Although I've had opportunities in the past to meet many of you at conferences, meetings, and workshops, it's even more interesting and informative to visit you in your libraries.*

On October 3 I had the opportunity to attend the FOLIO Literary Landmark Dedication at the Claremore Public Library. FOLIO designated the Territorial Community as an Oklahoma Literary Landmark in honor of Ollie Lynn Riggs. Lynn Riggs wrote **Green Grow the Lilacs**, the story that became **Oklahoma!** and made Claremore a model of the pioneer experience. Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA), sponsors the Literary Landmarks Register. This event embodied the "Telling Library Stories" theme in two ways: FOLIO continues to do an outstanding job of telling stories of Oklahoma authors and the impact they have had on the literary world

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through the Literary Landmark program. Secondly, this year's honoree, Lynn Riggs, truly brought the Oklahoma story to the world.

The Career Recruitment and Retention Committee continues to host Regional Meetings around the state. The meetings provide networking opportunities for attendees and representatives from the OLA leadership provide information on how to get involved in the Association. Meetings were held in October and November in Vinita, Bartlesville, and Woodward. An additional three meetings are scheduled for February and March in Moore, Midwest City, and Lawton. Check the CRRC website for further information <<http://www.rose.edu/lrc/careers/activity.htm>>. Sharon Saulmon and the CRRC continue to demonstrate exemplary leadership and commitment to OLA through their activities.

I hope you've had an opportunity to attend a workshop this year. Thanks to the inspiration and dedication of our Divisions, Roundtables, and Committees, OLA may set a record this year for the number of workshop offerings. Even more exciting is the outstanding quality of these workshops. I know that you've all seen the flyers as each workshop has been announced, but the collective list is very impressive:

August	1,2,3 Energy! (OASLMS) Support Staff Conference
October Roundtable)	MARC Exposed (Tech Services
November	Patriot Act (Legislative and Intellectual Freedom Committees and a host of other sponsors) Storytelling @ Your Library (CATS)
December	Copyright (UCD – repeated three consecutive days)
January 30	Database Do-Si-Do (LED & RRT)
Feb. 19, 26	Conflict in the Stacks? (Admin Roundtable)
March 18	Be Your Own Legal Beagle (GODORT and RRT)
April	Graphic Novels (PLD)

Every Division, Roundtable, and Committee that presents a workshop takes on a great deal. The ongoing commitment to present quality continuing education opportunities is one of the great strengths of OLA.

If you've not done so already, mark your calendars to attend Legislative Day on March 8, 2004. We are fortunate this year to have the use of the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Rotunda, which will allow us more space for tables. The Legislative Committee is hard at work on ensuring that our Legislative Day

continues to positively impact the future of libraries in Oklahoma. Legislative Day is our opportunity to "Tell Library Stories" to members of the Legislature and your voice is important. The elected representatives from YOUR area listen to YOU – their constituent. Watch for further details shortly.

If you missed it, be sure to check out the November 15, 2003 issue of American Libraries. In a story entitled "11 Keys to Your Statehouse", author Rebecca Miller highlights the activities of several state associations, including OLA. You can read the article online at

<<http://libraryjournal.reviewsnews.com/index.asp?layout=article&articleid=CA332550>>

And speaking of marking your calendars, I hope all of you have April 14-16 blocked out and that you're planning to attend our Annual Conference at the Adam's Mark in Tulsa. Wednesday, April 14 will include pre-conferences, the Sequoyah presentations, the Ruth Brown Golf Tournament, and the Poetry Reading. Last year the "Dine Around" was added on Wednesday evening, and based on its success it will be repeated this year. This is a great opportunity to join your colleagues at one of several featured restaurants. Transportation is provided, so those less familiar with Tulsa don't have to worry about getting lost!

We're delighted to announce that ALA President-Elect Carol Brey will be our Keynote Speaker for the Opening General Session. All of the Divisions, Roundtables, and Committees have been hard at work planning a very full menu of interesting and exciting programs. By the time you read this it's likely that will already have the Conference Preview in hand. I encourage all of you to attend the Conference and benefit from the wonderful networking and learning opportunities the Conference affords.

All of the many activities I've described are possible because of YOU – the members of the OLA. On behalf of the Association, my heartfelt thanks go out to each and every one of you that work in a Division, Committee, or Roundtable. If you have not been actively involved in one of these working groups I urge to consider doing so. Help us to continue "Telling Library Stories" and improving libraries and librarianship in Oklahoma.

Anne Prestamo

3. Develop or find tools to automatically generate and/or extract as much of the required metadata as possible, and
4. Create an action plan for your information needs.

"Adopt, Adapt, Adept"  
Check LC's website for EAD to MARC.

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## LIBRARY BUILDINGS – WHAT WORKS? THE PEOPLE... THE PROCESS...

Architect Thomas L. Findley of Design/Library Specialist in Omaha Nebraska discussed some of the needs of libraries today.

Library space needs continue to grow in spite of digitizing more information. As a result, overcrowding of patron space is becoming more prevalent.

The "library of the future" must be more collaborative, friendly and interactive in nature...this takes floor space...

The "Library as Place"... wants visual identity, breathing room, and an inspired architectural experience.

Environmentally friendly/sustainable architecture is becoming more of a construction mandate... We need to build more for less...

Librarians are becoming more proactive in facilitating the research and use of information and in many formats.

Users should be offered all kinds of study options.

Libraries should offer a friendly and collaborative architecture of interaction...including a coffee shop, an information commons, technology, and variety of seating styles to accommodate various ideas of comfort.

He also discussed the process of planning and constructing a new library building. Communication between architects, librarians, patrons, administration and builders is of the highest concern.

He and Nancy Cummings of Washoe County Libraries (Nev.) discussed how the above items resulted in her new library.

Wendy Starkwether presented a PowerPoint of the Lied Library at the

University of Nevada, Las Vegas which opened January 2001 at a cost of \$55.3 million.

It has an avant garde appearance, but was designed to make as much use as possible of natural elements to heat and cool the building. It uses both solar and thermal energy. It is the pride of the college president in that the building is larger than the sports complex

They have 18 laptops and a portable projector available for checkout within the building. All usage statistics have increased dramatically over those from the old library building.

Other pluses of the building are:

Users feel drawn-in welcomed

Easy navigation

Diversity of user spaces

Information commons – a high-profile space

Flexibility

Building site is the literal & figurative center of campus

Relatively safe and secure environment

Hi-tech

Snack food & drink allowed

Limited cell phone use

A few of the lessons learned were:

Focus on user space

Build in flexibility

High use leads to wear & tear – fix it fast

Expect long-term construction follow up.

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## SERVING HISPANIC STUDENTS IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY

Our presenter, John L. Ayala from Fullerton College, Calif. is a co-founder of REFORMA and 2001 Librarian of the Year.

Sixty percent of Hispanics enter the academic arena through community colleges. There will be 36 million Hispanics in the United States by 2005.

In order to professionally serve this growing population he recommends, sending all staff to culture-sensitivity training, hire a diverse staff, have paraprofessionals put up displays for different ethnics including women, get involved with the student clubs. Friends of the Library can invite Hispanic (etc.) authors to speak. Different departments can help with the promotion with such things as genealogy displays.

There are some government agencies such as the Department of Defense (DoD) which provide grants for Hispanic-serving institutions. With one such grant Fullerton College received computers, multi-cultural materials,

teacher training (for students to go into teaching), database funding, and work centers for the specific databases. They also established an "early-warning system" which requires students at risk to come to the library to be trained in doing research.

The topics he discussed apply to all minority students. He ended by recommending two books.

Library Services to Latinos: An Anthology. Gherena, Salvador; Jefferson: McFarland & Company, Incorporated Publishers, June 2000. 261 p., \$45.00, and

Serving Latino Communities: A How-to-Do-It Manual for Librarians. Alire, Camila; Archibecque, Orlando; New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, Incorporated, March 1998. 255 p., Trade Paper, \$45.00.

And, to check out REFORMA on the net.

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## WEB JUNCTION

The Gates Foundation has funded a portal supported by OCLC to support technology in libraries. Nancy Bolt, Colorado State Librarian, and Marilyn Mason of the Bill & Melinda Gate Foundation presented this session on the vast resources shared by this online community of libraries and other agencies.

They began with a video explaining what WEB Junction is designed to do. It helps to train staff to train patrons on computer use. It is a web-based public-access computing portal. It has online education and training. It is a forum for collaborative knowledge and experience sharing.

"Imagine going to a single web site to plan for the emerging technology needs of your library. You read reviews of hardware and software and shop

for discounted technology. You learn how to write a grant proposal to fund new technology and how to troubleshoot computer glitches. You download materials that help teach patrons how to search the Internet." (Marilyn Mason)

Under Policies and Practices there is guidance on planning, marketing strategies, etc. There are tips, tools and information, information on interoperability in the Technology Resources part.

There is a Learning Center which provides online courses with downloadable lessons for which you can do parts of, or entire, courses. There is a Community Center for discussion, message boards, email, and awards program.

Some, or all, of these applications are useful to all types of libraries.

BJ Vinson

# Oklahoma Literary Landmarks

Official Centennial Project

2003

On October 3, 2003 Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma, FOLIO, designated the Territorial Community of Claremore as an Oklahoma Literary Landmark in honor of Ollie Lynn Riggs. Lynn Riggs wrote *Green Grow the Lilacs* a story that became *Oklahoma!* and made Claremore a model of the pioneer experience. The Literary Landmarks Register is sponsored by the national library Friends association, FOLUSA, Friends of Libraries USA. Other Literary Landmarks in the United States are the Thomas Jefferson Building at the Library of Congress, the Plaza Hotel of Eloise fame, and the William Faulkner home in Oxford, Mississippi. Oklahoma Literary Landmarks will be placed on that register. In Oklahoma the Centennial Commission has named the Oklahoma Literary Landmarks an official Centennial project. Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma will name a landmark each year through 2007 in honor of Oklahoma's authors, Oklahoma's libraries, and one hundred years of Oklahoma History. The first landmark was the city of Okemah in honor of Woody Guthrie, an author and songwriter whose reputation continues to grow. The second landmark was named as part of a yearlong celebration, fifty years after the publication of Ellison's *Invisible Man*.

The University of Oklahoma Press recently issued *Cherokee Night*, a collection of Riggs' plays. Riggs' royalties from *Oklahoma!* continue to support the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation today. Riggs' play as a gift to his hometown and his state cannot be overestimated. To live in the place where Laurey, Curly, and Aunt Eller lived is fine indeed.

Dedication Day began with a meeting of Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma, FOLIO, the major sponsor. \_\_\_\_\_, a dedicated Library Friend was there. Library Friends and Librarians from all over Oklahoma ate Cotton-eyed Joe's barbecue and renewed friendships. Many Friends met again that night at Philbrook to honor Ollie Lynn Riggs at the Oklahoma Center for Poets & Writers Hall of Fame Dinner. The plaque was unveiled in a light filled corner of the Will Rogers Library in Claremore. Speakers were Michael Wallis, author of Route 66, Julia Ratliff, FOLIO, Julie McPheeters, Will Rogers



Librarian, John Cary, Past President of the Rogers County Historical Society, and Carol McReynolds, FOLIO. Guy Logsdon, Smithsonian Scholar, sang the beloved folk songs from *Green Grow the Lilacs*. The plaque reads:

FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES U.S.A.  
LITERARY LANDMARKS REGISTER  
THE INDIAN TERRITORY COMMUNITY OF CLAREMORE  
WAS THE BIRTHPLACE ON AUGUST 31, 1899 OF  
LYNN RIGGS, PLAYWRIGHT AND POET.  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA, THE SETTING OF RIGGS'  
*GREEN GROW THE LILACS*,  
A PLAY THAT BECAME THE BROADWAY MUSICAL *OKLAHOMA!*  
AND BROUGHT THE WORLD LAUREY, CURLY, AND AUNT ELLER,  
IS DESIGNATED A LITERARY LANDMARK BY  
FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES, U.S.A.  
FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES IN OKLAHOMA, FOLIO, OCTOBER 3,  
2003



## Sequoyah Children's Book Award 2005 Masterlist

1. Byars, Betsy Cromer. *Keeper of the Doves*. Viking, 2002.
2. Clements, Andrew. *The Jacket*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2002.
3. Conniff, Richard. *Rats! : the good, the bad, and the ugly*. Crown Publishers, 2002.
4. Creech, Sharon. *Ruby Holler*. Joanna Cotler Books/Harper Collins Publishers, 2002.
5. Danziger, Paula. *United States of America : a novel with scrapbook art*. Scholastic Press, 2002.
6. Darling, Kathy. *The Elephant Hospital*. Millbrook Press, 2002.
7. Frederick, Heather Vogel. *The Voyage of Patience Goodspeed*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, c2002.
8. Gaiman, Neil. *Coraline*. HarperCollins Publishers, 2002.
9. Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Pictures of Hollis Woods*. Wendy Lamb Books, 2002.
10. Gray, Margaret. *The Ugly Princess and the Wise Fool*. Henry Holt, 2002.
11. Hurst, Carol Otis. *In Plain Sight*. Houghton Mifflin, 2002.
12. Kehret, Peg. *The Stranger Next Door*. Dutton Children's Books, 2002.
13. Lowry, Lois. *Gooney Bird Greene*. Houghton Mifflin, 2002.
14. Mundis, Hester. *My Chimp Friday : the Nana Banana Chronicles*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2002.
15. Nickerson, Sara. *How to Disappear Completely and Never be Found*. HarperCollins, 2002.
16. Siebold, Jan. *Doing Time Online*. A. Whitman, 2002.
17. Spinelli, Jerry. *Loser*. Joanna Cotler Books, 2002.
18. Wells, Rosemary. *Wingwalker*. Hyperion Books For Children, c2002.

## Sequoyah Young Adult Book Award 2005 Masterlist

1. Alvarez, Julia. *Before We Were Free*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2002.
2. Auch, Mary Jane. *Ashes of Roses*. Holt, 2002.
3. Bauer, Joan. *Stand Tall*. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2002.
4. Cooney, Caroline B. *Goddess of Yesterday*. Delacorte Press, 2002.
5. Farmer, Nancy. *The House of the Scorpion*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2002.
6. Grimes, Nikki. *Bronx Masquerade*. Dial Books, 2002.
7. Hiaasen, Carl. *Hoot*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2002.
8. Klass, David. *Home of the Braves*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002.
9. Lubar, David. *Dunk*. Clarion Books, 2002.
10. Murphy, Claire Rudolf. *Free Radical*. Clarion Books, 2002.
11. Park, Linda Sue. *When My Name Was Keoko*. Clarion Books, 2002.
12. Philbrick, Nat. *Revenge of the Whale : the True Story of the Whaleship Essex*. Putnam's, 2002.
13. Rinaldi, Ann. *Numbering All the Bones*. Jump at the Sun/Hyperion Books for Children, 2002.
14. Rottman, S. L. Stetson. *Viking*, 2002.
15. Vande Velde, Vivian. *Heir Apparent*. Harcourt, 2002.

## Getting Students Involved

At Encyclo-Media in September the OLA Career Recruitment and Retention Committee sponsored a program on getting students involved in the library, featuring Audrey Gramling and Marilyn Hudson of Norman Public Schools. Many media centers experienced loss of paraprofessional assistants this school year and many were looking for ways to have students assist them.

Gramling has developed a Junior Friends of the Library group with 17 fourth graders, 17 fifth graders and 40 third graders. She had three training sessions and taught them the jobs that need to be done. The work is organized so that it can be done without direction (push in chairs, straighten magazines and sections, checkin books, carpet sweep, sharpen pencils, retrieve books from classrooms, deliver books, sort materials). She has found that the student involvement builds self-esteem and gives the students more ownership of the media center. Marilyn Hudson had fifth graders apply to join her LIFE (Learning Is Fundamentally Exciting) group of volunteers.

Most of those attending had become librarians after they were teachers, as a second career. Two of those attending had been part of a student library association (one in Arkansas and one in Oklahoma.) The Oklahoma Student Library Association existed from 1956 to 1988.

Audience participants told of their activities. Janet Brant of Enid has the students "Adopt-a-Shelf," becoming responsible for straightening and shelving on that shelf. One school media specialist reported that she had "Library Buddies." Students have an application and need two teacher recommendations. A high school media specialist has students read books and do booktalks.

Participants were encouraged to organize the student volunteers into a Library Club, Teen or Junior Friends group, or a youth advisory group. Students should be exposed to different types of library careers. For more information on organizing a Teen Friends or Junior Friends group, see [www.folusa.org](http://www.folusa.org). Student volunteers may become a Youth Advisory Council or focus group on what improvements are needed in your school or public library or what suggestions would make the library more welcoming for them.

School counselors are a prime group with whom to discuss librarianship. Let them know about the shortage of librarians and the exciting career

opportunities in all kinds of libraries. Ask counselors and teachers to identify those expressing an interest in libraries or working with computers. You can become their mentor and encourage them to explore library careers.

Information about library careers, scholarships, and other links are available at <http://www.oklibs.org/careers/>. This briefly highlights the shortage of librarians and has links to other sites like [www.becomealibrarian.org](http://www.becomealibrarian.org). "The ABC's of Library Careers" web page ([www.rose.edu/lrc/careers/types.htm](http://www.rose.edu/lrc/careers/types.htm)) has many library job titles to introduce the large variety of jobs available to professional librarians.

Displays are available. A hat display, designed for elementary-age children, allows children to try on hats and imagine that they could become a librarian. Contact Sharon Saulmon, [ssaulmon@rose.edu](mailto:ssaulmon@rose.edu), to schedule. A Power Point presentation is available to make easy displays. You may print out the slides in color for an instant bulletin board. If a career day is planned, volunteer to show off library careers. An easy-to-set-up exhibit is available by contacting the committee, and hand-outs are available from the American Library Association.

"Me, a Librarian?" is a short video geared toward teens. This is a humorous look at library careers, designed for middle school and high school. This is available for loan from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries

Media specialists may even think about incorporating library careers into information literacy sessions. When discussing careers, mention the shortage of librarians. When showing research strategies, demonstrate library-related searches, i.e., medical librarian and vocational guidance.

No matter what type of library you serve, you can encourage those with whom you come in contact to consider careers in libraries. Identify students who show potential for a library career and nurture them. Provide a skills ladder for student assistants. Offer to write references and to review résumés. Let them know of the full range of possibilities in libraries. We can all convey the excitement we have for our profession and encourage others to consider library career options. Even if they do not become librarians, we have encouraged library advocacy and broadened their horizons.

Sharon Saulmon

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## Festival Exceeds Expectations

The Red Dirt Book Festival lived up to the prediction that its debut would be a major literary event. Reading enthusiasts from 13 states and the United Kingdom gathered in Shawnee, Oklahoma, in mid-October for two days of reading, writing, and talking about books.

More than one thousand participants shuttled between the campuses of Oklahoma Baptist University and St. Gregory's University to enjoy 90 presentations and workshops offered by Oklahoma authors, illustrators, publishers, storytellers, and scholars. They were welcomed to the event by Oklahoma's First Lady, Kim Henry, and Oklahoma's favorite son, Will Rogers (AKA Chautauqua artist Doug Watson), during an opening ceremony held in OBU's Raley Chapel.

"We were so pleased with the festival. Everything from the numbers to participants, to the amount of community support, to the level of discussion, everything was wonderful," says event organizer Jan Anthony, branch manager of the Tecumseh Public Library.

Contributing to the wonderfulness of the event were the efforts of more than 50 volunteers. Volunteers, coordinated by OBU librarian Cathy Adams, took responsibility for many jobs such as setting up tables, serving snacks, moderating panel discussions, and even driving the shuttle vans.

"We had a terrific group of volunteers that included members of local Friends of the Library groups, high school and college students, and employees of the Pioneer Library System. We couldn't have managed without their help," Adams says.

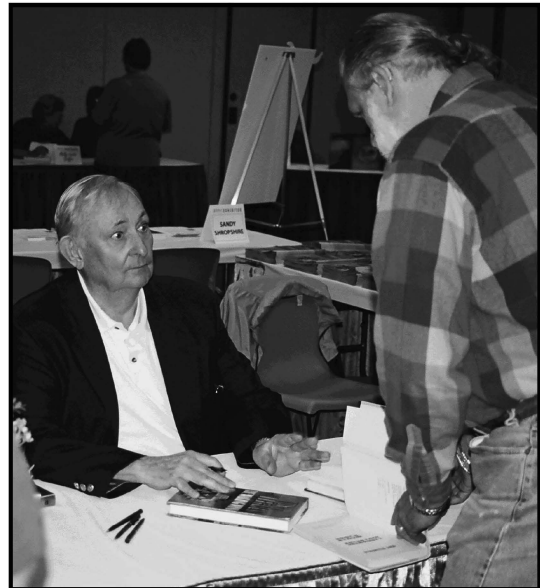
In addition to the workshops, the festival also offered one-on-one writing critique sessions with the authors. Many festival participants used this opportunity to have their manuscripts reviewed before submission to the Red Dirt Anthology. The anthology, to be published in the Spring of 2004, will include short stories, poems, essays, and illustrations selected from more than eighty submissions at the festival.

Other festival highlights included on-stage presentations by the members of the Territory Tellers, music from the Farm Couple, authors reading from their latest works, and an open mic night at a local bistro. Best-selling novelist Tony Hillerman was the featured speaker at a banquet in his honor. Luncheon

speakers introduced the novelists included in a new book discussion series, "Oklahoma, Re-Visions," and presented recent winners and finalists of the Oklahoma Book Award.

The Red Dirt Book Festival was a project of the Pioneer Library System with major funding from the Oklahoma Humanities Council. For pictures of the inaugural event, updates on the Red Dirt Anthology, and plans for Red Dirt 2, scheduled for October, 2005, log on to [www.reddirtbookfestival.org](http://www.reddirtbookfestival.org).

Gary Kramer, PLS



*Tony Hillerman signing at Pioneer's Red Dirt Festival*

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## "It's an information jungle, Jane"

Oklahoma librarians looking for an affordable out-of-state conference within driving distance often opt for the Texas Library Association annual extravaganza, especially for its huge almost-as-big-as ALA conference vendor displays. This year I opted for Arkansas, though, when I saw that Arkansas Library Association conference was in Ft. Smith on Oklahoma's border.

The conference was September 28-30, a Sunday noon to Tuesday lunch schedule that undoubtedly saves money in conference room fees. The number of breakout sessions and lack of general sessions also indicates a more economical approach than we traditionally have in Oklahoma. There was no lack of interesting, quality programming and quite a bit of fun to boot.

Featured speakers included Doug Kelley, author of The captain's wife which was a "one book" reading project in Arkansas. For me, sessions presented by Amigos trainers on filtering and pest and mold management were useful and well done. I was surprised to hear from ALA incoming president Carol Brey-Casiano that she was the manager of the Muskogee Public Library branch of EODLS back in the 1980's. Carol had enough mid-American sensibility to be a breath of fresh air compared to the average ALA president. The conference theme, "It's an information jungle, Jane" was charmingly used in many of the gift baskets in the silent auction. Libraries donate the baskets and the bidding was intense.

I ran into several Oklahoma librarians including Sue Ann Ghormley from Westville and Pat Gordon from Stilwell, both nearby, but also Trudie O'Connor and Barbara Ladson from Perry Carnegie Library who like me were concerned about mold. Oklahoma presenters included Kathy Latrobe on Reader's

Theatre as well as a session on new children's books presented with Linda Gann.

The highlight of the Arkansas conference was the late evening presentation of "The reel librarian: library employees in the movies" by Sherryl Robinson and Karen Myers from University of Arkansas. I have seen compilations of librarian stereotypes in movies before—Adrienne Butler did one for OLA several years ago. This one was lengthy if not exhaustive as they left out my favorite librarian from Major league. They did include Major league in their Filmography and we also had a selected bibliography and short training session on Fair Use in the copyright laws, perhaps to support the inclusion of the entire Marian the Librarian number from The Music man. I could have done without that one but the clips in general were a hoot and were balanced by positive images. I had not seen Henry Fonda in Gideon's trumpet (the law librarian was played by Sam Jaffe I believe). To top it off, free refreshments for us cinephiles.

Ft. Smith was a great place to have a conference. Historic city with a lot of community pride, good restaurants. There was an elegant reception at the gorgeous main public library building, completed in 2001 and featured on the cover of Library journal. Well worth a stop if you're ever in the vicinity.

I heard that Arkansas Library Association conference is usually held in the Little Rock area, for understandable geographic reasons. It was a treat to go to their conference and not be working as an OLA volunteer or ODL staff member!

Gary Phillips

## SIGALO at UCO

The SIGALO (Serials Interests Group of Academic Libraries in Oklahoma) 2003 Fall meeting was held at the University of Central Oklahoma Library (UCO) on Friday, Nov 7. The UCO Library generously hosted the meeting and Bonnie McNeely, the director of the UCO Library, gave a warm welcome to every attendee.

At an early morning session, Scott Moseley, an account services manager from EBSCO gave a presentation on "EDI Invoicing & Claiming? Automation of Serials Operations." During his presentation, he discussed what the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) is and how to set up the EDI invoicing and claiming with EBSCO. By implementing the EDI Invoicing, it is possible to increase productivity. For instance, it reduces the amount of manual input needed to process invoices. Scott also mentioned that there were several academic institutions, which had been implementing EDI invoicing.

Marla Roberson of UCO, and a member of the SIGALO planning committee, gave us a presentation on "Adding Value for Users ? More Effective User Access to Serials." She discussed how to add more values for library's serials services. In this case, the 'adding value' means how to make an article more usable. She informed the attendees of possible methods, which included: table of contents service, notes in the cataloging record with a full text link to the article, routing of journals to patrons, and figuring out an expected arrival date for certain titles. Some considerations she pointed out were the size and workload of staff along with the size of library collection.

During the afternoon session, Sheila Stout presented. She has worked with adult students in a degree completion program at Southern Nazarene University.

During her presentation, "Sharing Information and Interdepartmental Communication," she discussed how to increase effective communication with other departments and fellow workers. She explained that the importance of educating people to see how their job fits into the whole organization. Everything is interrelated in an organization and it is very crucial to see how what you do impacts everything else in the organization.

After a short break, Beverly Dowdy of UCO, and a member of the planning committee, presented SIGALO's mentoring initiatives. SIGALO sent its representatives to OU SLIS student meetings either in Norman or in Tulsa for communicating and mentoring future librarians about serials and career opportunities in serials librarianship.

After Beverly's report, Michael Kim led a SIGALO business meeting. The host of the next spring meeting will be one of either at the OU SLIS or at Oklahoma Christian University (OCU). We have many wonderful ideas about the future meeting programs. SIGALO will explore an idea of co-hosting an LC Workshop on Basic Serials Cataloging in conjunction with the other group. An ad-hoc committee was formed to assist the planning committee currently. Four members of the planning committee are rotating off: Beverly Dowdy, Marla Roberson, Nancy Journey, and Michael Kim. Volunteers for the next two years beginning in June, 2004 are Adriana Edwards-Johnson, Doug Amos, and Elaine Bradshaw.

The meeting was followed by a tour of UCO special collection. Special thanks to Bonnie McNeely, Beverly Dowdy, Marla Roberson for all your hard work and generously hosting the meeting!

Michael Kim, OSU

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**We're really excited!**  
**We've got the space!**  
**We've got the dates!**  
**We're working on the details!**

**It's the OLA Gold: Library Leadership Institute.**  
It's coming together.

Why: To inspire and develop talented leaders for the library community.

Where: The Noble Foundation Conference Center in Ardmore.

When: November 3-6, 2004

Who: People with leadership abilities or promise from all levels and parts of the Oklahoma library community.

The institute will provide opportunities to:

- Reach your potential by developing and enhancing your leadership skills in a relaxed retreat atmosphere.
- Participate in a library support and mentoring network.
- Learn from the knowledge and vision of other library leaders.
- Learn more about OLA and how you can make a difference.

We don't have all the answers and details yet, but we are identifying and defining and pulling things together. OLA Gold won't be a workshop or regular program. It will be a new and fabulous experience for us all. We're excited! As it comes together, we'll tell you more...

--OLA Ad Hoc Leadership Committee