Recycled Books
Proceeds from sale to benefit library affected by hurricane

The Stillwater Public Library recently had a display of items crafted from old books out of service. Stacy Delano, Resource Librarian, created this fabulous “room” (shown below) out of books. A couch, coffee table, lamp, pillow, and bookcase were a few of the items featured in the room. Employees of the library participated by creating accent items for the room. A birdhouse, candle holders, shelves, storage boxes, and journal were just a few of the items accenting the room.

Many items were sold by silent auction, which netted $232. The library originally planned to use the proceeds to purchase new books, but with the recent hurricanes, it was decided instead to donate the money to a library in need.

Lynda Reynolds
Director,
Stillwater Public Library

Inside this issue:
Jeanie’s Jots 42
MPLA Update 43
Oklahoma Webpages 46-47
Grant News 48
Zarrow Award 49
Choosing Blog Software 50-51

Are We There Yet?
Removing Detours from Big and Small Tech Services Workflows

The Technical Services Roundtable is sponsoring a workshop on Technical Services workflow. The workshop will cover issues specific to cataloging, acquisitions, and processing and will also discuss and illustrate specific workflow analysis techniques. We will also discuss communication between staff, Technical Services management, and library administration and talk about ways to build buy-in and get everyone on the same page regarding workflow analysis and change.

The workshop will take place at the Stillwater Public Library on October 28th from 9:00-3:30. Lunch will be provided - lasagna (meat or vegetarian), salad, and dessert! Watch your mail for our flyer or see it online at http://www.oklibs.org/TSRT/. Go to the “Events” section and click on the workshop link.
Jeanie’s Jots

Library life in Oklahoma is never boring, is it? One can never “settle in.” Last month as many OLA members enjoyed learning about privacy policies and issues, the issue of freedom of information was being battled in downtown Oklahoma City. What an interesting dichotomy. Censorship was identified as the main issue facing the library community this year and should be carefully monitored as we near legislative season.

There are so many positives occurring in libraries around Oklahoma. I dropped by the Midwest City Public Library to find new carpeting and some new furniture arranged in a very welcoming setting. The library teemed with people—some parents and children gathered around a computer, many others also using computers, many enjoying comfortable seating while reading, and several searching for books and magazines among the stacks. I was very proud to be a librarian—one who is delighted with the notion of free public libraries. There are many other libraries brimming with children, families, working men and women and others in search of information, reading for pleasure, using Internet resources and enjoying the programming provided by the staff and special guests. As James Madison said, “Learned Institutions ought to be favorite objects with every free people. They throw that light over the public mind which is the best security against crafty & dangerous encroachments on the public liberty.” We must continue to be champions of liberty through advocacy for our library users.

Doug Johnson, a consultant for library and technology issues, says that we should NEVER advocate for libraries! Rather, we advocate for students, for our users. When we advocate or speak for libraries it appears that we are “feathering our own nests” rather than seeking the good of others. We may have to refit our messages to ensure that what we are communicating is clear—Oklahomans benefit greatly from the services of every type of library.

Jeanie Johnson, OLA President
Hanway to head up Mountain Plains Library Association

A mid-year change is coming for the OLA Executive Board. OLA’s representative on the board of the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA), Wayne Hanway, will resign that position in October because he has been elected Vice President/President-elect of MPLA.

Hanway, Executive Director of the Southeastern Public Library System, headquartered in McAlester, has served on OLA’s Executive Board since 2000. The first three years were as Vice President, President, and Immediate Past President of OLA. Then in the spring of 2003, he was elected to a three-year term as the OLA state representative to MPLA. That term would have expired in 2006 and OLA members would vote early in 2006 for a new MPLA representative. The election will still happen. According to the OLA Bylaws, President Jeanie Johnson, with the board’s approval, will appoint a replacement to finish out Hanway’s term.

“Being president of OLA was a great preparation for serving on the MPLA board,” Hanway said. “I was familiar with many of the issues, because MPLA is much like OLA: it’s a community of librarians who have a lot in common but are spread out over a much larger area.”

Hanway’s term as vice president/president-elect will begin October 15th, at the end of MPLA’s 2005 joint conference with the Wyoming Library Association at Jackson Hole. Rather than running a year, it will last about seventeen months, because 2006 will be MPLA’s transition year between the cycle of fall joint conferences with member state associations and the spring cycle, which will begin in 2007 with MPLA’s first ever joint conference with the New Mexico Library Association, at Albuquerque. Then he will serve as president through the 2008 joint conference in Salt Lake City.

“It’s a particularly exciting opportunity for me,” Hanway said, “because not only will I be working with NMLA’s leadership on planning the 2007 conference, but MPLA is about to implement some major changes in its organization. When the MPLA board updated the long range plan in 2004, it was obvious that some changes were needed. So a task force was appointed on which I had the privilege of serving. The recommendations of the task force were approved by the MPLA board in July 2005. A major emphasis of the changes is using technology to make MPLA more of a virtual community, with virtual neighborhoods organized according to shared interests, rather than the old type of library structure. The MPLA board will be smaller, and will hold some of its meetings electronically, rather than in person. Another change, already put in place, is that this election was MPLA’s first one to be conducted electronically, rather than by mailing out ballots.”

Among other changes that Hanway and the MPLA board will be working on are hiring a replacement for MPLA’s executive secretary for the past thirty years, Joe Edelen, finding a new editor for the MPLA newsletter, and hiring a trainer to help committee chairs and interest group moderators learn what their jobs are and how to do them effectively.

“I will miss being on the OLA Executive Board,” Hanway said. “They are a great group and I have enjoyed a lot of good times with them. I will continue to be active in OLA, though. When you are an Oklahoma librarian, OLA is where its @.”
Harmon Returns to Shawnee Library

Julia Harmon, the former manager of the Information Services Department of the Shawnee Public Library, will return to the library as the new Branch Manager. Yvonne Hinchee, the former branch manager retired earlier this summer.

Harmon, who lives in Tecumseh, is a 20-year veteran of the Pioneer Library System. She has served Pottawatomie County as the Branch Manager of the Tecumseh Public Library in addition to working at the Shawnee library.

Most recently, Harmon has worked as the Coordinator of the Center for Reader’s Services at the Pioneer Library System headquarters in Norman.

Harmon has a Master of Library and Information Studies degree from the University of Oklahoma and is an active member in ALA, PLA, and OLA, in which she has held several leadership positions.

Her love of literature is reflected in her personal avocation, writing. Harmon is a member of the Shawnee News-Star Editorial Advisory Board, the Norman Galaxy of Writers, and the Oklahoma Federation of Writers. She also has a regular column in SHE’S OK Magazine.

A graduate of Leadership Shawnee, Harmon has served as the former president of both the Tecumseh BPW and the Pottawatomie County League of Women Voters. She has also served on the Steering Committee for both the 2003 and the upcoming 2005 Red Dirt Book Festivals.

Hinchee retires to begin new adventures

She says when she retires she intends to be a volunteer, and when she’s not busy she will find an easy chair in the library and read every magazine from cover to cover.

Her co-workers know Yvonne Hinchee as a woman of grace and intelligence. She served the public for well over 20 years since becoming an employee of Pioneer Library System in 1982. She retired this summer from her post as branch manager of Shawnee Public Library.

Hinchee began her career with the library system as a part-time employee at the Carnegie Library building in 1982 and has worked in almost every department of the library since. She was in the children’s department when the library moved to its downtown location in 1989. In 1990, Hinchee became branch manager of the Shawnee library. Prior to working for the library system, she volunteered on the Shawnee Library Board and the Pioneer Library System Board, where she served a three-year term as chair.

Hinchee is not a person to be idle. She was recently honored with the Distinguished International Academy of Noble Achievement (DIANA) award by the Zeta Gamma chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International for giving of her time to benefit the community. She is a sustaining member and volunteer for Mabee-Gerrer Museum.

Hinchee is a coalition member of Gateway to Prevention and Recovery, member and past president of the Community Services Council, vice chair of RSVP Advisory Board, and library ambassador to the Chamber of Commerce. She is a school volunteer and member of several professional associations.

In a 2004 interview for the Shawnee News-Star, Hinchee said, “I never know what my day will bring and that keeps it exciting.” There is no doubt in her staff’s minds that her retirement will be exciting for her, they say.
Janet Brennan Croft, Head of Access Services at the University of Oklahoma, is the winner of the 2005 Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies for her book *War and the Works of J.R.R. Tolkien* (Praeger, 2004). The Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies is given to books on Tolkien, Lewis, and/or Williams that make significant contributions to Inklings scholarship. For this award, books first published during the last three years are eligible, including finalists for previous years. The winners of this year’s awards were announced at the “Tolkien 2005” conference in Birmingham, England, on August 15, 2005. Founded in 1967, The Mythopoeic Society is a non-profit international literary and educational organization for the study, discussion, and enjoyment of fantastic and mythic literature, especially the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, and Charles Williams. Congratulations, Janet!
Oklahoma Webpages
The Special Collections at Southeastern Oklahoma State University Library, East Central University Library, and Lawton Public Library

Special collections in our Oklahoma libraries are resources that we all need to know about. So from time to time between now and Oklahoma’s Centennial in 2007 we will review some of these collections and show you why they are so special.

**Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Henry G. Bennett Memorial Library**  
[www.sosu.edu/lib/specialcollections.htm](http://www.sosu.edu/lib/specialcollections.htm)

Contains old and rare books, photographs, manuscripts, and letters. Some of what is in this collection includes—

- **The Dr. Robert Henderson Music Collection.** This acquisition is an eclectic assortment of music including jazz, blues, rock and roll, country and western, and classical.
- **The Dr. Lee Ball Music Collection.** This acquisition represents a life-long collection of classical music, many of which are 78’s.
- **The Todd Downing Collection.** Mr. Downing collected old and rare books, many being first editions.
- **The Dr. Eugene Slaughter Collection.** The Slaughter collection represents an eclectic assortment of books, many first editions. Additionally, Dr. Slaughter kept a diary of his service in the United State Navy during World War II. Pictures, maps, and primary documents which chronicle the early history of Bryan County are included.
- **The Dr. E.T. Dunlap Collection.** This collection contains the papers of Dr. Dunlap as he led Higher Education in the state of Oklahoma. The collection includes minutes of meeting, notes, diaries, letters, and documents relating to Higher Education in the state of Oklahoma.
- **The Southeastern Oklahoma State University Publications and Archives.** This collection contains materials which relate to the history of Southeastern from its first days until the present. The collection includes yearbooks from 1911 until the present, copies of *The Southeastern*, the student newspaper, from 1911 to the present, papers of two University presidents and documents which chronicle the University and its many changes.

Contact information:

Sharon Morrison, Library Director  
Henry G. Bennett Memorial Library  
Southeastern Oklahoma State University  
1405 N. 4th Avenue, PMB 4105  
Durant, OK 74701-0609  
(580) 745-3172  
smorrison@sosu.edu

**East Central University, Linscheid Library**  

Contains old and rare books, photographs, manuscripts, letters, and business records that focus on local and regional interests, but also contains interests of international scope. Some of what is in this collection includes—

- **The East Central Oklahoma Collection of books by local authors and materials from authors anywhere about local oil field history and culture, The Five Civilized Tribes, and Oklahoma politics.**
The Admire Collection of papers, maps, and letters of James L. Admire’s farm management service in Hugo, which is said to provide insight into agricultural practices in southeastern Oklahoma from the 1920s on.

The Crawford Collection that holds photos, court transcripts, and letters from John Tal Crawford, who was a member of the first U.S. Military Tribunal that conducted the Nuremberg Nazi War Crimes Trial. Included are original court transcripts of the trial proceedings as well as the published trial proceedings.

The Hauan Collection of political advertisements on audiotape, videotape, and film, printed speeches, political memorabilia, and books and other materials associated with the campaigns of Oklahoma politicians.

World War I and World War photos

Rare Books Collection, which includes a facsimile of the Gutenberg Bible, and books about Indian tribes and the southwest.

East Central University Collection which contains materials on the history of ECU, the official publications of ECU, and oral histories about the university.

Contact information:
Angie Brunk, Reference/Instruction and Special Collections Librarian
Linscheid Library
East Central State University
Ada, OK 74820-6899
(580) 310-5308
abrunk@mailclerk.ecok.edu

Lawton Public Library
www.cityof.lawton.ok.us/library/genealogy.htm

Contains the combined collections of the Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society (SWOGS), the Lawton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and materials owned by The Library.

Among its genealogical holdings are 15,000+ books and periodicals, 150,000+ microfiche, and 6,000+ rolls of microfilm. Some of what is in this collection includes—

The International Genealogical Index
The Indian-Pioneer History Collection
Native American Collection, focusing on materials for the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache tribes
Census schedules for Oklahoma (1900 through 1930), various other states from 1790 on, and the 1881 British Census and 1881 Canadian Census
Local newspapers from 1901 on
Family histories and vital records
Oklahoma Tract Books with a surname index
Heritage Quest and Ancestry online databases

Contact information:
Paul Follett, Genealogy Librarian
Lawton Public Library
110 S.W. 4th St.
Lawton, OK 73501-4034
(580) 581-3450, ext. 6
pfollett@cityof.lawton.ok.us
The Public Library of Enid and Garfield County received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the “We the People Bookshelf.” The Bookshelf contains a new set of classic books for young readers grades K-12 on the theme of freedom. The books shed light on our national heritage and bring classic stories of freedom to young people. The characters in the stories sought, were denied and lived in a time when freedom was precious.

Librarians Kathy Logan and Natalie Raney will hold book discussions and book chats on the themes in the books. Library card applications were taken to off-site locations to encourage people to apply and have the freedom to read.

The themes on the Bookshelf will be used throughout the year to target certain events such as Black History Month, Children’s Book Week, and Women’s History Month. Hopefully the themes on the Bookshelf will encourage young readers to seek out other books in the library on similar topics and by the same authors.

Rose State College Library Receives Two Grants

Rose State College Learning Resources Center has received a grant from the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities to host an Alexander Hamilton exhibit in November 2006.

Rose State College has also received a grant from the OG&E Foundation to support its new online tutoring services. Powered by tutor.com, which is also in use at the Pioneer Library System, the Online Tutoring Center provides students with a “live” tutor somewhere in the U.S. between 2-11 p.m. seven days per week in science, math and English. Spanish tutors are available Monday through Thursday from 2 to 9 p.m. for Science and Math. The first two weeks of class already had over 70 students using the service with such comments as, "This is awesome. Wow! Wish I had come here sooner." and "I would like for this to stay on. The people that have helped made a big impact on how I am understanding the problems better."
Avi Receives Tulsa Library’s
2005 Zarrow Award for Young Readers’ Literature

“I like to think of myself as a spinner of webs in which I attract and hold people who come by, but, instead of devouring those who come by, they fly off and make their own webs and by extension the web is connected to another web,” said the legendary children’s and young-adult author Avi when he received Tulsa City-County Library’s 2005 Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers’ Literature in September.

Nearly 500 fans turned out to honor Avi as the 14th recipient of the Zarrow award. Given by the Tulsa Library Trust, the award consists of a $7,500 cash prize and an engraved crystal book.

“Each year, we continue to bring you the best creative talent in children’s literature. Tonight’s award winner is one of those people so loved and so well-known that only one name is needed to describe him,” said Linda Saferite, CEO, Tulsa City-County Library, at the Zarrow award presentation. “We also love him for the fact that he was a librarian for 25 years.”

Avi received the award on a Friday night. The following Saturday, he presented awards to winners of Tulsa City-County Library’s 2005 Young People’s Creative Writing Contest, plus shared tips on how to write creatively, and give life to words and voices to characters.

Past recipients of the Zarrow award are Susan Cooper, Russell Freedman, Richard Peck, E.L. Konigsburg, Jerry Spinelli, Jane Yolen, Cynthia Voigt, Gary Paulsen, Walter Dean Myers, Lois Lowry, Katherine Paterson, Madeleine L’Engle and S.E. Hinton.

For more information about the Zarrow award, call Larry Bartley, trust manager, at (918) 596-7985 or click on www.tulsalibrarytrust.org.

Make plans now to attend the 7th annual First Amendment Congress on November 10, 2005. This year’s congress will be held at the University of Oklahoma.

The First Amendment is increasingly taking hits—whether it is from the culture war, the war on terror, or the battle to balance privacy, security and the public’s right to know.

The Seventh Annual First Amendment Congress asks: What do we need to do to protect our freedoms on this new battlefront?

For full conference schedule and registration form, visit http://www.odl.state.ok.us/fyi/foi/.
Choosing Blog Software: A Case Study

I am a reference librarian at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and my job entails a wide range of duties. I help patrons find answers to questions that help them personally and professionally in the state and nation. I see how the interest of the nation changes in the books that are requested from our collection, I expand our DVD collection by purchasing new and interesting titles, and I manage and maintain the public services web presence. My job also allows me to find and explore new and emerging technologies which expand and enhance services we provide. Inherent in my job is finding ways to make everyday tasks become easier, faster, reduce or eliminate paper, and require as little maintenance as possible.

In June, an idea occurred to me concerning web logs, or blogs. What if the reference librarians were to post the questions and answers received through QuestionPoint's Ask-A-Librarian service to a blog? The blog would provide an archive of answers which would allow the reference staff to find and use for those questions that re-occur. Also, the blog would increase sharing of questions and answers among the staff.

With permission to explore this avenue, the search began to find appropriate software that would fit our needs. Our needs were fourfold: my specifications, server-specific requirements, features, and cost. My specifications were for the software to allow more than one author per blog, to set up as many blogs as needed, and for the blog to be hosted on an ODL server. The server requirements specified that the software be written in the Perl scripting language and all entries and archives written to a flat-file instead of a database. The reason for these specifications was our server runs the proprietary Endeavor System software. Any interference of other programs with the software and any help needed would be given by the community, but customization on the backend is not included. Templates are provided for the front-end, spell-check feature for author entries, an RSS feed, and ready-made templates. As for cost: it had to be free. Free, for my purposes, meant that the software would not include categories as a feature. The community of users provided a programming hack to add this capability, but there is a built-in search feature which searches all entry fields. Configuration went quickly, requiring some permission setting for files. This was easily done by using telnet and UNIX commands to change the default permissions. The package included an online backend for authors requiring authorizations and passwords before allowing entries to be made. Administrators could scale access to divisions within the backend by either allowing or not allowing authors access to configurations, templates. Coranto did not come with a calendar or templates, but the community support system provided many add-ons for software enhancement. Again, customizing the front-end would take more time than was available.

Finally, Greymatter was considered. Greymatter was passed over in the initial search because it did not include categories as a feature. The community of users provided a programming hack to add this capability, but there is a built-in search feature which searches all entry fields. Configuration went quickly, requiring some permission setting for files. The documentation is simple to follow and understand. Author entry is an online backend feature, with scalable access to administration divisions. The software program is no longer being updated, but there is a community of users who are actively keeping interest and hacks going. The entire program is completely configurable.

The author, Noah Grey, provides comments in the Perl and CGI code files for easy additions, and changes that may be needed. Templates are provided by the community, but customization on the backend is easy to understand and re-work. A spell-check feature did not come with the program, but a hack included by
the community. An RSS feed was also not included in
the package, but again, the community had a hack
available. Greymatter comes with comments, karma
voting, both which can be turned on or off, IP banning,
logging and the ability to add programs that can be
rebuilt along with the program. IP banning stops those
users who try to abuse the program or hack into it for
malicious reasons. Administrators can ban by IP or
URL address. IP information is provided in the log file if
the feature is turned on. The program allows PHP
scripts to be included into the program. PHP hacking is
also tracked in the logs.

After installing, configuring and customizing
Greymatter for Ask-A-Librarian Answers, a preview
was shown to the reference librarians. The Oklahoma
Librarian asked about creating her own blog reviewing
Oklahoma-related materials. With permission, copy-
and-paste, and minor changes in the configuration
files, Reading Oklahoma was up.

The Reading Oklahoma review blog, http://
catalog.odl.state.ok.us/okrm/readingok.htm, has hit the
ground running. The blog is currently registered in Blog
Oklahoma’s web ring. Ask-A-Librarian Answers is be-
ing kept for internal use. Librarians are posting ques-
tions and answers to the blog, keeping an online ar-
chive. The innate nature of blog software to archive
was the reason it was chosen instead of static web
pages or a content management system. Blogs allow
administrators to set when entries are archived freeing
the web developer from constantly updating a static
web site. Maintaining the blog software is minimal after
configuration and customization is finished.

With the blogs done, I’m ready to move on to
the next new thing.

**Reviewed Blogs** (all are free unless otherwise noted ($)):

- Thingamablog (Windows OS)
- Blog (Windows OS)
- Greymatter (Perl, to a flat-file)
- Blosxom (Perl, to a flat-file)
- Antville (Oracle, MySQL)
- B2-Cafelog (PHP4/MySQL)
- WordPress (PHP/MySQL)
- Movable Type ($, free version has 1 author & 3 blog
  limit, remotely hosted)
- LiveJournal (PHP/MySQL, remotely hosted)
- Plog (PHP4/MySQL/Apache)
- BBlog (PHP)
- Pivot (PHP)
- Pico (Windows OS, PERL, new release in August)
- City Desk ($, Windows OS)
- Easy Blogs ($, FTP, Windows OS)
- In Terra (PHP/Apache/MySQL)
- Monaural Jerk (PHP/MySQL)
- My Smart Channels ($, Windows OS)
- Newsbruiser (Python)
- Easy MoBlog (PHP)
- Nucleus CMS (PHP, MySQL, Apache)
- Scoop (Apache, PERL)
- Open Journal (PERL)
- Planarchy (Windows OS)
- PWAIN (Windows OS)
- Roller (Java, Windows, MySQL)
- PerlBlog (Perl, author is looking into RSS feed feature)

**A Few Blog Software Directories:**

  BlogDirectory.html
  www.asymptomatic.net/blogbreakdown.htm
  www.microcontentnews.com/articles/blogware.htm
  sourceforge.net/>}

Free Software Foundation, http://directory.fsf.org/ (go
to "live communications" then "online journaling"; the
directory includes LiveJournal sourcecode (an online
blog host).
New OLA Merchandise is Here!

Now you don’t have to wait until conference to show your support for Oklahoma Libraries! Shown below are the items in the Just So You Know merchandise from the OLA Store. Contact Cathy Adams at cadams@pls.lib.ok.us for prices and purchasing.

Marketing Committee Needs Your Help!

The OLA Marketing and Communications Committee is planning to apply for a John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award for its “Just So You Know” campaign for Oklahoma Libraries. If you are using the JSYK marketing toolkit, please send samples of your promotional items to the following address:

Gary Kramer  
Pioneer Library System  
225 N. Webster  
Norman, OK 73069

Or send electronic samples and digital photos to: gkramer@pls.lib.ok.us.

The deadline for applying is early December, so please have your materials to Gary no later than November 15, 2005.