OLA GOLD LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

We’re really excited!  
We’ve got the space!  
We’ve got the dates!

It’s the OLA GOLD Library Leadership Institute!

Why: To inspire and develop talented leaders for the library community.
Where: The Noble Foundation Conference Center in Ardmore.
When: November 7-9, 2007
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 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.

One 2004 GOLD graduate says, “The leadership skills that I have acquired and developed from my experience at the 2004 OLA GOLD Leadership Institute has proven invaluable, allowing me to grow and improve professionally. Thanks OLA!”

Twenty-five participants and five mentors will be selected. Applications are available on the OLA website, www.oklibs.org. Mentor applications are due by June 15, 2007 and GOLD participant applications are due by July 15, 2007. Don’t miss an opportunity to be a part of this unique and exciting experience!

--OLA Leadership Institute Committee
What a great conference – I’m still getting notes and emails filled with compliments, which by rights should be going to all of you! As you all know, some of the special attributes of this conference were due, in part, to several years of hard work by the Centennial ad hoc Committee. Honoring of Library Legends, library collage projects, and oral histories came from that committee’s work. I owe a special thank you to Jennifer Paustenbaugh, Jan Keene, and Bill Young for their work on the Legends project. Presenting the medallions to each legend was one of the happiest moments of my life. It was a privilege and a very great pleasure to say thank you in recognition of the life works of so many talented, dedicated librarians and library supporters.

There are a countless number of people to thank this year. In particular, Sarah Robbins, Chair of the Program Committee, and Ila Grice Coffman and Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins, Local Arrangements Co-chairs, created a spectacular event. All the members of the Program Committee and Local Arrangements delivered a conference worthy of our 100th anniversary! Kay Boies, of course, rocks.

Angie Brunk, Charles Brooks, and Michael Kim helped chronicle our 100th. It seems like they were omnipresent taking photographs and helping us preserve special memories. Omnipresence was a talent also demonstrated by Joy Summers-Able, Patrick Baumann, and Daniel Spencer who were everywhere making sure computers and projectors worked reliably. The OLA store, bookstore, endowment table and information booth were staffed all day every day by more people than I can list here. You saw them and must know that they gave up the chance to attend programs to be there and make sure those projects were attended to. Registration handled more registrants than any other conference – ever! Speakers were scheduled, picked up, given hospitality gifts, and delivered back to airports. Tables were decorated, entertainment rehearsed, performers scheduled, mementoes printed and laid out, volunteers scheduled, vans driven, packets stuffed, menus selected, presentations planned, 400+ children corralled, boxes carted in and out of facilities, flowers delivered – all the things that have to be done were done with quiet competence. What a wonderful group of people who all gave of their time, of themselves, to make this event stand out. Please thank them.

I’m a big believer that a picture is worth a thousand words – so be sure to look at the photos in this issue as well as check the website in the next month for additional treasures. We have lots of video footage and a video short of the event is being edited. It should be available sometime in late May.

As of this writing, we are still working on the State Aid to Libraries campaign. Advertising will appear in local newspapers throughout the State before April 20th. Information Matrix camp is being organized, votes are being tallied for Sequoyah winners, upcoming appointments are being made to committees and Jan Bryant, your incoming President, is organizing the leadership conference to begin a new year of OLA projects. Legislative workshop will be held in a few days. If you want to be a part of these activities next year, send Jan Bryant an email at jjanbryant@eok.lib.ok.us. She’ll see to it that you are appointed to a committee. DO IT NOW! Don’t miss out and find yourself next year wishing you had been part of the fun. And, trust me, it will be fun.

As your president, I have been scared, anxious, surprised, thrilled, grateful, happy, challenged, grateful, proud, tearful, grateful, thoughtful, pleased, grateful, dizzy, ditzy, grateful – you get the point. It’s an experience that can’t be bought at Disneyworld or duplicated by most life challenges because it is populated by real people, librarians, who exceed your every expectation and who make you glad you are there. It’s a wonderful life. Thank you, it was a privilege indeed.

—Pat Weaver-Meyers
ENCYCLO-MEDIA 27
Celebrating Oklahoma’s Legacy

Plans are being made for Encyclo-Media 27 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City on Wednesday, August 29, and Thursday, August 30, 2007. Mark your calendars now and watch for upcoming information on the Encyclo-Media Web page at http://sde.state.ok.us. From the left sidebar, select “Site Index,” then scroll down to Encyclo-Media. Forms and details will be posted on the Web page as the information becomes available. For your convenience, please keep a file of your registration, program proposal, host/hostess form, hotel reservations, and any other submissions. This will help prevent sending duplicate forms.

Encyclo-Media is Oklahoma’s premier educational conference, and is regarded as one of the best educational conferences in the region. The Oklahoma State Department of Education sponsors this exciting two-day conference. Encyclo-Media focuses on the fields of library media, reading, counseling, gifted and talented, and technology. Encyclo-media features nationally known speakers and authors, over 250 exhibitors, four luncheons, over 3000 Oklahoma educators, two days of autograph sessions with authors, and over 100 exciting breakout sessions.

The Oklahoma Association of School Library Media Specialists (OASLMS) will host bestselling author Wendelin Van Draanen as their luncheon speaker. Wendelin is known for her award-winning Sammy Keyes mysteries and Shredderman books, as well as her compelling stand-alone titles Flipped, Swear to Howdy, and Runaway. Several of her titles have been listed on Sequoyah masterlists. Be sure to visit her Web page at http://wendelinvandraanen.com.

Please register for the conference as soon as possible. Once again, there is no registration fee. However, in order to prepare conference materials for participants, it is important that you pre-register. You may submit an online registration, or you may fax or mail a registration form. Pre-registration closes on Monday, August 20, 2007. If you miss the pre-registration date, you may still register onsite when you arrive for the conference. For conference information contact: Barb Pfrehm, Director, (405) 521-2956, barb_pfrehm@sde.state.ok.us.
The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Libraries celebrated 100 years of participation in the Federal Depository Library Program on February 15, 2007. Several guests presented remarks in observance of the occasion. Arden Chaffee, Mayor of the City of Alva, spoke on the size and importance of the government documents department. Earlier on February 9, Mayor Chaffee had signed a Proclamation designating February 15th as “Government Documents Day in Alva”.

Verna Graybill, current Government Documents Librarian, then presented a brief history concerning the collection as well as some memories from former Librarian, Diane Calvin. Steve Beleu, Regional Librarian for the depository program in Oklahoma and Director of the U.S. Government Information Division of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, presented a Proclamation from Governor Brad Henry designating February 15th as “Northwestern Oklahoma State University Federal Government Documents Depository Day” to Director of Libraries, Susan Jeffries. John B. Phillips, also a Regional Librarian and Head of the Documents Department at OSU, was introduced. Phillips related additional information concerning the history of the documents collection at Northwestern as well as the Federal Depository Library Program.

Phillips also introduced special guest, Superintendent of Documents, Judith C. Russell from the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C. Russell provided an overview of the importance of the Federal Depository system and its long-standing partnership with libraries across the country. She then presented Director Jeffries with a plaque from GPO recognizing the centennial of the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Federal Depository. The plaque may be viewed on the first floor of the library, in an area near Jeffries’s office.

Approximately 50 people were in attendance at the event. Refreshments followed the remarks and the plaque presentation. An exhibit on the second floor of the library displayed representative publications from the three branches of the federal government and from several departments and agencies. Bulletin boards highlighted both the history of the Federal Depository Library Program and former staff members of the Alva campus library’s Government Documents Department.

The Northwestern State Normal School Library was designated by Elmer L. Fulton, a member of the House of Representatives, as a federal depository library on December 30, 1907. Throughout its 100 years of participation, the Northwestern library has maintained a special interest in acquiring publications of the federal government, particularly those dealing with agriculture, education, and health and human services. In Oklahoma, only the depositories at the University of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, and Oklahoma State University predate that at Northwestern.

“It was an honor to have Superintendent of Documents Russell in the Alva campus library. We would also like to express our appreciation to John Phillips of OSU for his assistance with the arrangements for Ms. Russell’s visit to Oklahoma and to both the university community and the general public for their attendance and support of this event.”

—Verna Graybill
Some Online Resources from the Library of Congress about Oklahoma

From time to time various divisions of the Library of Congress create web pages that feature or include information about Oklahoma. Here’s a selection of them.

From “American Memory” comes the Woody Guthrie and the Archive of American Folk Song collection, which is a group of letters from and to Woody Guthrie. Some of these include personal essays with titles such as “Vote for Bloat” and “The Railroad Cricket”: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/wwghtml/wwghome.html

Here is a short biography of Woody titled “Rambling Round: The Life and Times of Woody Guthrie”: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/wwghtml/wwgessay.html

Here is a chronology of Woody’s life: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/wwghtml/wwgtimeline.html

From the American Folklife Center - Local Legacies: Celebrating Community Roots was created in the spring of 2000 as a “snapshot” of culture in our nation and state. Here are the entries for Oklahoma. They include snippets of information about The Holy City of the Wichitas, Yukon’s Czech Festival, the Route 66 Museum in Clinton, Bartlesville’s International Mozart Festival, and more: http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cocoon/legacies/OK/index.html

From the American Folklife Center’s “Veteran’s History Project” here are interviews with veterans from Oklahoma from World War 1 through the current wars in Afghanistan and Iraq: http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cocoon/vhp/search?query=ok&field=residenceState

Every web cast that the Library of Congress creates is saved and served via this web casts webpage. There are currently ten items that will appear if you do a search for “Oklahoma” in the search engine that you’ll find in the upper right hand corner of this page. You can then view these via your computer: http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/

Here are maps of Oklahoma Territory in 1892 and Indian Territory in 1889: http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/timeline/riseind/west/oklahoma.html

—Steve Beleu
OLA 2007 Conference
Here’s a selection of pictures from this year’s conference.

Expect more next month!

Above: Anne Masters receives Outstanding OUSLIS Alumnus Award from June Lester.

Above: Tom Terry gets Citizen’s Recognition Award from Marty Thompson at the Membership Meeting.

Above: Library Legend Bob Motter with Pat Weaver-Meyers.

Right: The Connecticut John Does Ungagged panel.
A True Library Champion!

Senator Mike Morgan received the Library Champion Award from the Oklahoma Library Association on Tuesday, April 24th at the state capitol. Senator Morgan received this award for his support and service to Oklahoma libraries while serving in the state legislature. With Senator Morgan in the photo are, from left, Pat Weaver-Meyers, President of the Oklahoma Library Association, Jayme Seat, Chair of the Oklahoma Library Association Legislative Committee, and Lynda Reynolds, Director of Stillwater Public Library.

—Lynda Reynolds
$2.50 per person per year

What would you buy with $2.50?

A café latte at the local coffee shop... OR... Better library service for all of Oklahoma

It's Time to Increase State Aid for Public Libraries. State Aid to public libraries has averaged $2.50 per person for two decades, while the cost of materials and services has skyrocketed. Oklahoma citizens deserve better state funding for libraries.

State Aid is Flexible. It can be used to meet the particular needs of your library and community. Some libraries will use the funds to purchase materials, while others will upgrade computers, buy wireless services, or provide more educational programs for children.

Every Oklahoman Benefits. State Aid payments go to libraries in all 77 counties. Few families could afford the materials and services they receive from their library if they had to pay for the individual books, magazines, Internet access, and programs.

Libraries provide exceptional service at an exceptional value to taxpayers.

No new taxes are required to increase State Aid to $2.50 per capita. Funding can come from existing state revenues that have increased this year.

WE NEED YOUR HELP • CALL YOUR LEGISLATOR

If you use your local library, PLEASE take five minutes and call or email your legislator. Ask them to fully allocate funding for the Oklahoma Department of Libraries - State Aid to Libraries at $2.50 per capita.

Oklahoma Legislature - 405-521-2711 or 1-800-522-4506

www.ofb.state.ok.us

This flyer provided by Oklahoma Library Association.

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