Information Matrix Camp 2011 - Another Great Success!!!

On July 17, a hot and dry Sunday afternoon, 27 kids and 6 adults came together in Midwest City for the 2011 Information Matrix Camp. Once again, Rose State College and the Oklahoma Library Association partnered in offering this exclusive 'library camp' designed to introduce middle school aged kids to the many, many kinds of librarianship. And, what an experience this 5th Matrix Camp was!

Monday, the first full day, found us at Metropolitan Library System’s Ronald Norick Downtown Library in the morning, followed by an impromptu (due to a broken water main near the Oklahoma History Center) tour that afternoon of OU’s Robert M. Bird Health Science’s Library, then on to Rose State’s Learning Resources Center for a tour of the library. Immediately following the tour, the kids headed to the computer lab where they spent time each afternoon learning how to use Edmodo, a secure teacher/student blogging site that they used to connect online with each other.

(photo: Matrix Camp kids ready to roll! - courtesy of OLA)

Tuesday was a whirlwind of activity that included a morning visit of Metropolitan Library System’s fantastic Service Center and an afternoon at the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped topped off by a visit to the Full Circle Book Store. The day was rounded out at Pioneer Library System’s Moore Branch where the kids had a great evening eating pizza and playing all kinds of Wii games.

-More Matrix Camp on page 17

Photos courtesy of OLA

Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins discusses the Metropolitan Library’s Service Center
The OLA year is in full gear. ICON was held at Rose State College on Aug. 4th and 5th. I had never attended this conference, and I was amazed at the number and quality of presentations. Both Bill Handy and Gary Shaffer gave us excellent information. Bill talked about the uses of social media and Gary told us about the new innovations at the Tulsa City County Library system. I think everyone went away with a new idea they could implement in their own library. The individual presentations were also very informative. Everything from Apple to Endnotes!!! This conference will take a break and be held in two years. Everyone should plan to attend, even if you are not a geek! I promise you will learn something.

Information Matrix camp was a resounding success according to all adults and teens present. I want thank the adult sponsors, some of whom used vacation time to participate. Sharon Saulmon, Melissa Huffman, Marty, Christine, and Catie Thompson, and Lesley Langley. Each one put their own spin on relating to the teens. OLA greatly appreciates your dedication to fostering these teen’s interests in libraries and reading. Read Leslie’s account of camp and be totally entertained!!!!

Hopefully by now anyone who volunteered for a DRoC has been contacted by their chair, and will be meeting soon with the group. Nothing would be accomplished without the DRoC participation. You are the backbone of OLA.

Leslie Langley coined the phrase “Each one, reach one” last year. At this time of year when you are renewing your membership, please think of someone who might benefit from belonging to OLA and pay their membership. You will be doing a great service for them and the organization. Pay forward all of the help you have received over the years as an OLA member.

The next time I write this column, the temperature will be cooler and fall will be here. (I AM an optimist !!!!!) Watch for all of the workshop announcements, and try to attend one that really interests you.

Please contact me with questions and comments.

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Upcoming GODORT Workshop: A Librarian’s First Aid Kit for Medical Reference

Did you know that:

- 99% of public libraries offer internet access.
- Of these, 64.5% offer the only source of free internet access in their communities!
- The Pew Research Center’s Internet & American Life Project reports that 83% of internet users look for medical or health information online.
- Additionally, the Pew Center data shows that online activity is directly related to income, education and age; meaning lower income, less educated and older Americans are less likely to regularly use or have access to the internet. There is great chance all of these things will collide at the reference desk and you could find yourself face to face with a patron looking for medical or health information with little knowledge or skills of how to locate this information!

Not to worry, OLA’s Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) has planned a workshop that will give you tools to assist your patron with health and medical information. Join us on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at Rose State College in Midwest City for A Librarian’s First Aid Kit for Medical Reference, a day of health statistics, consumer health information and tools for health related programming.

The day will consist of two main sessions. The morning will focus on health statistics, and will feature Karen Vargas, Consumer Health Coordinator with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, and Derek Pate, statistician with the Oklahoma Department of Health. Karen and Derek will offer a variety of resources for locating federal, state and local health statistics. The afternoon session will welcome back Karen Vargas who will provide information about the newly redesigned MedlinePlus and tips for accessing consumer health information. The day will end with Rebecca Howard, Readers’ Services Librarian at the Tulsa City-County Library, offering resources, tools, and tricks for planning and executing consumer health programming.

GODORT has planned a day that should prepare you for a vast array of health related questions. Please take the time to join us on November 15. The workshop runs from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. The cost is $60 for OLA members and $120 for non-members with lunch included in the cost of registration. If you have questions about the workshop, please email rsittel@tulsalibrary.org.

We look forward to seeing you on November 15!

Robbie Sittel
Government Documents Librarian
Tulsa City County Library

Shifting Into OverDrive—E-Books in OK

(Previously Published in the S.M.A.R.T. Tips Newsletter, Spring 2011.)

By now, many of you have heard of the explosive growth in the e-book market. Some of you probably already own a device, or know someone who does. So what’s the big deal for libraries, and how are we going to cope with yet another format?

In a nutshell, e-books are just another delivery method of getting what patrons want into their (virtual) hands. Over the next couple of years, we will see some clarity develop regarding e-books, whether they are licensed or owned, the parameters for providing them through libraries, and the logistics of making that happen. Right now it seems like a big mess, but libraries cannot afford to ignore e-books. The technology has reached a price point and a maturity where it is spreading rapidly, like DVD players and MP-3 players and cassette players before that.

The primary issue is of ownership and access. All libraries operate legally based on a very tiny part of copyright law called first sale doctrine. Once we buy something, we can keep it, lend it, make limited copies of it, or toss it out. But if you don’t own a computer file, if you just purchase access to it, then someone else can dictate the rules for keeping and lending, etc. Those on the cutting edge are plowing ahead even though these issues haven’t really been fully worked out yet. Others have been waiting to see how it plays out, but a critical mass has been reached and it’s hard to resist the demand.

OverDrive is a company that works primarily with public libraries and offers primarily popular works. It has multiple formats and works with multiple devices, and includes downloadable audio and video as well as “written” word e-books. All of the major urban areas in Oklahoma offer access to OverDrive, and smaller libraries are now joining in with their own consortium. Many libraries are unhappy because a major book publisher has recently put restrictions on the number of checkouts an e-book can get through OverDrive before the file is blocked and the library has to pay again for access.

But there are many other e-book vendors out there. EBSCO offers NetLibrary, there’s another company called ebrary, and major book jobbers are selling their own e-books now as well. One of the markets ripest for e-book implementation is school and college textbooks, which likely means that students will have devices and will want their academic libraries to offer more than just scholarly tomes and periodical articles for download.

We know that as library managers, we are pulled in so many directions at once. Some of us are still trying to get all of our resources listed in the online catalog, let alone start up a new service that promises to get messier before it settles down. But e-books could be the thing that makes us once again relevant and central in the lives of our patrons. The future is now, are you going to watch it fly by or jump in the hot rod and hit the gas?

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Oral History in Libraries

Documenting Events through Oral History

Your city may have a long running festival or yearly event. Your library may have a long running speaker series or serve as the hub of a special community activity. What about great hardships or tragedies, such as tornados? All of these events, and so much more, can be documented through oral history.

When it comes to developing an oral history project around an event, here are some tips to follow. First, research the event and formulate questions to ask your interviewees. There may be things you know as public knowledge or from other sources, but try to craft open ended questions that go deeper or beyond the surface. For example, not only ask why things happened, but who was involved along with the impact the event had on your community.

Next, try to locate willing interviewees. Turn to your local senior center, tap into the chamber of commerce, historical society, or library board. These groups can help provide names of key people who were involved. Remember, when developing your list of potential interviewees to have a mix of voices representative of your community.

Upon completion of your oral history interviews, you will probably learn new twists, insights and added history of your local area. These oral history interviews not only complement the history of the community, but can also provide added content for use in library displays, programs, or in patron research.

At the Oklahoma Oral History Research Program (OOHRP) at the OSU Library, you can find many examples of documenting events through oral history. The Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry Oral History Project examines the role of women in Dust Bowl while the Spotlighting Oklahoma: Life in the 1930s series highlights men and women who lived through the hard times of the Great Depression. You can find links to both collections through the OOHRP website online at www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory.

—Tanya Finchum & Juliana Nykolaiszyn
Oklahoma Oral History Research Program
Oklahoma State University Libraries
Two Heads are Better than One!

Collaboration is the key to academic success at all levels in education. But what does it take to get librarians and faculty working together, sharing instructional content, and designing effective programs for their students?

Join the Oklahoma Library Association’s University and College Division, the Oklahoma School Librarians, and the Public Library Division for the Two Heads ARE Better than One Collaboration Workshop which will be held at Southern Nazarene University's Royce Brown Business Building on Friday, October 14, from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

During this workshop you will learn methods for working with your faculty and teachers to create a more productive learning environment for your students. Hear presentations made by four successful librarian / teacher / faculty collaboration teams from Oklahoma universities and schools as they describe how they are collaborating in both the classroom and in virtual environments. Learn ways to collaborate with academic faculty members doing research, teachers developing and presenting courses, and teams working within Learning Communities to assist students in projects and assignments.

Librarians may register online at [http://ola.oklibs.org/organization/Divisions/ucd.htm](http://ola.oklibs.org/organization/Divisions/ucd.htm) and because it takes TWO to collaborate, for the cost of the individual conference registration, any librarian can bring along a teacher or faculty member for free! This will provide each of you with the benefits of learning the strategies and tips provided by these experienced collaborators and provide you and your partner the opportunity to discuss your ideas at the workshop. The librarian and teacher collaboration team may attend for the same $60 registration fee which includes a continental breakfast and afternoon snacks. Lunch will be dine-around at Bethany restaurants.

The morning program will showcase collaborative teams discussing how they began their collaborative experiences in Planning to Collaborate, and include examples of how teachers / faculty / and librarians can work together to teach instructional units to students in the classroom. In the afternoon session, the collaborative teams will share how they have integrated collaborative units in online programs and embedded instructional content to academic modules. Then discover how 21st century Learning Communities can be developed through collaborative teamwork between faculty and librarians working to meet the needs of all students. Finally, we’ll close the workshop by discussing how to make collaboration happen on ANY campus and provide you with some wonderful resources that you can use to develop these skills into successful collaboration projects that you’ll want to share with everyone!

Among our featured speakers for this workshop are:

**Melany Kyzer** who is the Dean of the College of Humanities and Professor of Speech Communication at Southern Nazarene University, has worked in higher education for 26 years with the last 11 years being in the classroom. Over the last few years she has been involved in the creation & implementation of an integrative, highly collaborative thematic Learning Community for freshman. SNU’s Learning Community is focused around the theme of Art & Culture and was developed through a funding partnership with the Kirkpatrick Foundation. Students who enjoy participating in creative arts, literature and the like are joined with faculty teaching foundational classes required in SNU’s general education program. Melany completed her J.D. from Oklahoma City University School of Law in 2008 and is a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association.
Two Heads are Better than One, con’t.

**Rosa Blocker** who is the school librarian for Cushing Public Schools has her Bachelor’s degree in English, education, and library science and her Master’s degree in Educational Leadership with an emphasis in Library Information Science and Educational Technology. Rosa has conducted various faculty in-service workshops and student workshops for training in educational technology applications and involves her students in active learning projects. She has worked collaboratively with many of her teachers and is eager to bring elementary students into the twenty-first century using a unique combination of education experience meshed with instructional experience which she has gained through her work in public, university, and journalism research libraries during her professional career.

**Dr. Rich Ronan** who is a theoretical inorganic chemist with a Ph.D. from the 1960’s in computer programming. That combination has led him from small college to large university teaching, about 30 years of commercial testing laboratory management and finally in 2000 back to Rogers State University as a developer of a bridge degree in technology and business. The evolution/revolution in information management in the sciences, applied technology, and finally business has driven his career. For the last 12 years he has led the integration of that technology in the application of undergraduate research in Leadership and the Bachelor of Technology in Applied Technology. Among the most important components is the explosion in access to the universe of research at the fingertips of every student from any location. The ability of both the researcher and the reader of that research to instantly read a reference cannot be understated.

**Sarah Clark** is Access Services and Distance Learning Librarian at Rogers State University. When she arrived at RSU, she saw an opportunity to create greater collaboration with faculty members, particularly those teaching online or multi-campus courses. Sarah has worked with Dr. Ronan to create custom tutorials and LibGuides, to serve as an “embedded librarian,” and to provide capstone students in the school of Business and Applied Technology with additional research support. In 2010, all business and applied technology capstone students were required to make a one-on-one research appointment with an RSU Librarian. Students have found this extra support very helpful, and faculty have stated that this support has made their students’ projects stronger. Sarah was the 2010-11 Chair of the OLA University and College Division.

**Katie King** is the Online Services and Circulation Librarian at Southern Nazarene University. Over the past couple of years, she has started collaborating with faculty to merge library resources with research needs, and now provides her information knowledge and library experience to SNU’s Learning Communities as well as to other faculty members within the College of Humanities. She will receive her Master of Library and Information Science degree in December of this year, and intends on entering a doctoral program in 2013.

For more information or to register now, go to: [http://ola.oklibs.org/organization/Divisions/ucd.htm](http://ola.oklibs.org/organization/Divisions/ucd.htm)

The deadline for registering is October 7, 2011.

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Oklahoma Webpages: The Osage Nation

On June 27 the U.S. Supreme Court decided that it would not hear an appeal from the Osage Nation for the court to review a 2010 U.S. Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals opinion that the Osage Reservation was “disestablished” by Congress and that there is no Osage Reservation. Here is that opinion -

Although the Osage Nation is disappointed by the Supreme Court’s inaction, the operations of the Osage Nation continue. One of those operations is their website, which is a very well-developed website that has many useful features:

TOP TABS – this is just a selection of what’s included in each tab

News – news articles about matters that affect the tribe

Government – web pages of the Osage Congress, with full-text copies of their Bills and Resolutions; their Executive Branch; and their Judicial Branch

Culture – “Cultural Center,” which includes their library and videos of fingerweaving; the Seal of the Osage Nation; their Language Department, which includes online language videos; the Osage Museum; & photos on such topics as Pawhuska Wedding Hats

Departments – directory of governmental departments with links for websites for each department and their phone numbers

Minerals – web page of the Osage Mineral Council, including Shareholder Quarterly Notices and other information about oil prices

Gaming – Osage Gaming Commission, Gaming Enterprise Board, and links to all seven of their Million Dollar Elm Casinos

Calendar – you have the option of viewing events as either a calendar or a list

Employment – online job search tool

Contact Us – includes map and aerial views
QUICK LINKS – This is a way to get to everything arranged by topics in the above tabs. A few highlights here: recordings of Osage music at the top of the “Quick Links” column; “Osage Data” which has information about an Osage enterprise; and the “Osage Nation Boys and Girls Club”.

MOST REQUESTED LINKS:

LATEST NEWS - This contains the same materials as “News” noted above.

UPCOMING EVENTS – These are all Osage events.
CURRENT EVENTS – These are events and news that apply to all Native Americans.

TRIBAL CALENDAR

TRIBAL DIRECTORY – Includes a search engine to look by Department, title, or name.

LIVE AUDIO – Videos of Osage governmental meetings.
AUDIO BROADCASTS – This is a calendar that notes when upcoming events are going to be broadcast.

JOB LISTINGS – Same as “Employment” as noted above.

MAPS AND DIRECTORIES – Same maps as in “Contact Us” noted above

Steve Beleu
Federal Documents Coordinator
Oklahoma Department of Libraries
Introducing the Central Oklahoma Archivists League

Introducing a new local organization for professionals interested in historical records and archives, and museum collections and curatorial work, The Central Oklahoma Archivists League (COAL). COAL was founded by Jennifer Day, CA, Manuscript Archivist for the Oklahoma Historical Society, Gerrianne Schaad, CA, Director of the Dickinson Research Center at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Jan Davis, CA, Administrative Archivist for the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, and Jeanne Prince, CA, Archivist for the Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society, as a way to get individuals in the archival profession in central Oklahoma together with other colleagues in the state to network and share ideas. This group is open to any individuals in the professions of libraries, archives and/or museums who work in or live in the central Oklahoma area.

Beginning with an e-mail invitation to local archivists and records professionals to tour the Dickinson Research Center on November 15, 2010, the group now holds quarterly training and field trip opportunities within different institutions around central Oklahoma. The group also has an e-mail list to communicate with each other about various topics and news, including job opportunities. The group fields questions about preservation, collections and records management, and provides for each other a network of people to turn to for support.

Among other opportunities provided by COAL to date have been tours of collections and exhibits at the Dickinson Research Center and at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame. COAL members have also gathered at Rose State College for a tour of their special collections and a presentation by a colleague about research materials at the OKC National Memorial & Museum archive room. Members have also toured The Oklahoma Historical Society Archives and the Dulaney-Browne Library Archives at Oklahoma City University.

For more information about getting involved please contact jday@okhistory.org and/or GSchaad@nationalcowboymuseum.org

Submitted by
Kate L. Blalack, MLIS, CA
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No Shelf Required: Oklahoma Virtual Library to Expand

A $100,000 federal grant has been awarded to the Oklahoma Virtual Library, a consortium of public libraries in the state that have banded together to offer their patrons access to online ebooks, audiobooks and music titles. The Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL) used federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to award the grant to the state consortium. Kitty Pittman of ODL said the Stillwater Public Library will administer the grant by purchasing new titles for the growing online collection.

Scott Freeman, adult services librarian at Stillwater, says the staff is excited about increasing available book titles and adding music. "We are expecting our titles to increase threefold here over the next couple of months," Freeman said. Freeman said library patrons can checkout the books and music to consume on personal e-readers and music players. The music would be protected just like the digital books, Freeman said. "You would check the item out for a period of time, and once the time is up, it would no longer be available to you."

By the end of August, the state consortium will include 18 public libraries. Libraries serving populations less than 100,000 are eligible to join. Stillwater Public Library Director Lynda Reynolds said she receives calls regularly from other libraries who want more information about the program. "Word is spreading across the state," she said.

Each library that joins is required to begin contributing additional titles to the virtual library. As the number of libraries participating grows, organizers expect residents will have virtual access to the variety of titles normally available at only larger metropolitan libraries. Reynolds indicated that some of the money would be used to provide ebook readers to other libraries in the consortium for demonstration purposes. Stillwater Public Library has a reader that staff use to show patrons the steps to access the online titles.

The consortium was launched in early 2011. To use the Oklahoma Virtual Library, you must download the free software for your device and be a cardholder at one of the member libraries. For more information and access to the Oklahoma Virtual Library, visit library.stillwater.org.

Contact:
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iCon 2011 Review!

We had another wonderful conference this year thanks to excellent speakers and presentations. Bill Handy kicked off our day and a half conference with an inspirational talk about how we use technology to build up our libraries and help people. Then we had a full day of fascinating programs on things ranging from QR Codes (where librarians got inked) to Skype and a mystery guest. Libraries went viral and we got out of our users’ way. We found tools for organizing our lives (especially our meeting room schedules) and the lives of our students (for keeping up with assignments), and we even found out about free web tools, forthcoming research in self-directed learning and practical video tutorial tips. We even learned about the best way to pick from all of these wonderful technologies to find what will work back at our home libraries. And that was just the first day!

Friday was kicked off by our second keynote speaker, Gary Shaffer. He offered suggestions for reaching out to library patrons and got attendees fired up about what can use from the conference when they get home. Learned to make movies and video games with teens, and we learned that video games are for academic libraries too. We got up close and personal with the iPad and LibGuides. We found more ways to help students get organized using citation managers, and we talked about the surge of electronic books and other resources. Over all it was a wonderful conference and we are already looking forward to 2013!

You can see links to presentations at the iCon website under session descriptions, http://icon.oklibs.org. Check out the ITRT Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/pages/OLA-Information-Technology-Round-Table/231713465474) for more photos and you can read some of what was tweeted at the conference under the hashtag #icon2011.

Nicole Sump-Crethar
Digital Services Librarian
Oklahoma State University Libraries

photo: Speaker Huifen Chang shares a moment with David Oberhelman at the conference (photo courtesy of Nicole Sump-Crethar)

Technical Services Round Table announces our fall workshop, entitled How Do You Dewey? Catalogers (and other interested parties) around the state are invited to join us on Friday, October 28, to learn how to understand the major changes in the new edition of the Dewey decimal system. We’ll be focusing on how to find and use both the print and the online editions of the system.

We’ll provide a basic introduction, cover the latest changes, and practice number building in Dewey. We’ll also address how to handle changes to Dewey in your own collection. Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins, Cataloging Manager at Metropolitan Library System and a recognized Dewey instructor, will be our main speaker.

Please join us and explore the wonders of Dewey for classifying and organizing your collection on October 28th.


Michele Seikel
Associate Professor and Catalog Librarian
Oklahoma State University Libraries
Young Adult Author Visits Ft. Reno & Mabel C. Fry Public Library

Noted young adult author Jennifer Brown presented two programs in Canadian County on Thursday, August 11. Brown was in Oklahoma visiting facilities where the local library received a Great Stories Club Grant from the American Library Association. Brown’s book *Hate List* was one of the three titles in the program. An extension grant was provided after the program was completed allowing an author of one of the books in the Great Stories Club to visit some of the facilities where the programs took place. In addition to the author visit, a copy of the book was provided for each participant by the extension grant so each youth would have a chance not only to read the book, but also keep the book when they left the facility. Carla Hickey, Young Adult Programmer at Mabel C. Fry Public Library received the grant this year and partnered with the Gary E. Miller Canadian County Children’s Justice Center Ft. Reno Adolescent Center.

Brown’s first program was at Ft. Reno Adolescent Center, where she spent over an hour reading excerpts from *Hate List*, talking about how she became a published novelist, answering questions from the audience, and autographing each youth’s copy of *Hate List*. When answering the question about where she gets her ideas for books, Brown conducted an exercise with the participants so each could find a story, or at least the very beginning of a story, by closing their eyes and answering a four word question, “Where are the diamonds?”

Dr. Bill Sharp, Director of Behavioral Health at the facility said, “I don’t know of any other facility like ours where an author has taken time to visit the youth.” Sharp continued, “Most of the kids have read the book and have been looking forward to Ms. Brown’s visit for several weeks.”

The second program with Brown was “Lunch with the author Jennifer Brown” at Mabel C. Fry Public Library. Adults and students had a chance to listen to Brown and question her in an informal setting. 9th grade student Ashlyn Spurgeon was excited about attending the program because she had chosen to read *Hate List* and report on it for her summer reading school project. “My report will be even better now that I’ve met the author,” Spurgeon said.

Brown is a two-time winner of the Erma Bombeck Global Humor Award (2005 & 2006). Her weekly humor column appeared in *The Kansas City Star* for over four years, until she gave it up to be a full-time young adult novelist. She has two novels for young adults, *Hate List* & *Bitter End*, and her next novel *Perfect Escape* will be published in the spring of 2012.
Legislative Workshop—Using Social Media to Advocate for your Library!

Ever think about how you could influence legislators and administrators with social media?  
The OLA Legislative Committee is hosting a workshop "Using Social Media to Advocate for Your Library" on Tuesday, October 18th at the Moore Public Library. The workshop will be from 9:30am until 3:00 pm. Registration will be $60.00 for OLA members and lunch is included in the fee.

Speakers will focus on defining the various social media outlets, tips for developing a social media campaign and participants will return home with a template on how to tell your library story in advocacy efforts. Speakers will include Jessica Young from Saxum Communications, Kam Stocks, Senior New Media Specialist at the University of Oklahoma, Nicole Sump-Creather, creator of the "Save Stillwater Public Library" social media campaign and several other local speakers and library staff.

Participants will learn from theory and from practice from successful campaigns how to use the 21st century mode of influence! Join us for tips on how to embark on this brave new world of library advocacy!

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Tribal Libraries Group to Meet at Muscogee Nation Tribal Library

The Mucogee Creek Nation has kindly invited the Tribal Libraries Committee to hold its October 4th meeting in Okmulgee. We will have a brief business meeting, and then visit the Muscogee Nation Tribal Library and Tribal College Library in Okmulgee on Tuesday, October 4th. We plan to visit the two libraries between about 10:30 and 2:00-2:30, with lunch will be on our own at Okmulgee restaurants.

The Nation's website is located at http://muscogeenation-nsn.gov/. One of the features of the site is a video tour of their Mound Building, which houses the tribal district court, which is convertible into a large classroom. The site also includes a sketch of Muscogee history, and extensive information about services for tribal members. The Muscogee Nation College website is located at http://www.mvsktc.org/

The College now offers associate's degrees in Gaming, Tribal Services, Police Science, and Native American Studies (See the video on the website for details about these programs). Karen Haught, the College librarian, is also a member of our Committee. Karen is also teaching English composition, and she attended the recent ISRT's iCON conference.

If you would like to attend this meeting with the Committee members, please contact Jan Bryant at ljanbryant@eok.lib.ok.us or Helen Clements at helen.clements@okstate.edu

Helen Clements
Assoc. Professor and Humanities/Social Sciences Reference Librarian
Oklahoma State University Libraries
Matrix Camp, Continued…

**Wednesday** brought us to OU’s Bizzell Library followed by visits to the OU Fine Arts Library and a special visit to the Law Library on campus. Then we went right around the corner to the National Weather Center for a grand tour capped off by a visit to the library there. Wait! There’s more….for we then traveled back to the OU Bird health Science Library for a fantastic evening of dinner then fun Wii games and competition all based on teen health awareness.

(Photo: OU SLIS Student Sara Pyle talks to students about Library School)

The most anticipated event of the week occurred Thursday when we spent the morning at a local daycare where the kids read to the children at the center. The afternoon was spent touring Devon Energy. We hurried back to Rose State and had a – you’ll never believe this one – videoconference with the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame! It was awesome and the kids really enjoyed the music and learned that there are archives and libraries everywhere. As soon as we finished up there we had a date at the Ralph Ellison Public Library and spent a fun evening playing a facilitated trivia game. (Photo: students learn about subject headings…)

Friday rolled around too quickly and we toured the National Cowboy and Western heritage Museum in the morning followed by an afternoon at Integris Health where we toured the library and then trekked across the way and had an amazing tour of the Integris Data Center. There was no topping the evening for Friday night was movie night! The kids had a choice between THE PAGEMASTER or HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS and all 27 had a great time.

Matrix Camp was an amazing week made possible by the endless dedication of Sharon Saulmon and her commitment to making sure kids know that librarianship is a career opportunity. It was also made possible by Marty Thompson, Caty and Christine Thompson (the whippersnappers) and Melissa Hoffman. Oh and let’s not forget the countless friends and colleagues at all of the libraries and special places we toured for those folks rearranged their busy schedules, arrived at work early or stayed late to accommodate us and to make sure the kids had a wonderful experience everywhere they went. The final formula for a great time was: One week + libraries, museums, bookstores, daycares + 27 kids all eager to learn = a fantastic and successful MC2011! (Photo: students at Canyon Garden at University of Oklahoma)

All photos courtesy of OLA)

Leslie Langley, Director
Wooster Public Library
Over the Rainbow at Stigler

On July 12th, something wonderful happened in Stigler, Oklahoma. As a crowd of people watched, a seven-year-old girl costumed as Glinda, the good witch from the Wizard of Oz, stood on a chair behind the Stigler Public Library’s customer service desk so that she could reach the microphone of a portable PA system, and sang “Over the Rainbow”, without accompaniment. The little girl did an excellent, though not flawless job, and the crowd, who had come for the grand opening of the library’s new building, responded with warm applause. It was a poignant moment that symbolized the fulfillment of a long-time dream and a big step forward in the library’s ability to meet the community’s needs.

For many years, the little building that the Stigler Public Library occupied had been an embarrassment. Far too small, an awful example of bad library design, poorly maintained, with a roof that leaked like a sieve, and (as a result of the leaks), with its north wall loaded with mold inside and out, it cried out for replacement. The need was obvious. The problem was what to do about it. Federal library construction grants were mistakenly eliminated back in the nineties, when urban libraries, chasing money for technology, short-sightedly forgot the critical long-term importance of adequate library facilities for delivering library services. Oklahoma’s tiny dribble of library construction funds was no longer going to construction projects.

Stigler’s city manager, Pete Bass, was aware of the need and took a bold step. He used city funds to purchase an empty downtown store, located right on Main Street. The Southeastern Public Library System’s executive director, Wayne Hanway, wrote a building program and served as building consultant. A steering committee was formed, fund raising began, and architects’ proposals for remodeling the old store were invited. Then, on October 1, 2008, Pete died from a heart attack.

An architect’s proposal was selected, with a browsing area centered on a fireplace as a key feature, but the interim city manager, Jim Smith, was among those who felt that the estimated cost of converting the old store was more than could be raised in a small rural community in a time of recession. Jim Smith’s answer, supported by the steering committee, was to let an interested merchant have the downtown building and instead convert the city’s community center building, less than a block from the current library and long underutilized, into a library. Although smaller than the downtown store, it still was more than twice the size of the old library, and in good condition, so that it could be remodeled for far less than the old store downtown.

The architect switched gears and produced an excellent plan for the building. A friends of the library group was formed and an energetic and highly successful fund raising campaign was launched. Interior demolition at the community center building was done by city employees and the roof was completely overhauled. With this already in progress, the city was perfectly positioned to apply for a $100,000 rural infrastructure stimulus grant from the USDA, and they got it.

For Lola Hill, who has been Head Librarian of the Stigler library for twenty-five years, the new building is certainly “Over the Rainbow” from the old, moldy, severely cramped building she endured. She now has a meeting room, a heritage room, a genealogy room, more public computers, a teen area, a good customer service desk (the McAlester Public Library’s old desk, completely refinished by a local firm), two small group study rooms, and a lot more shelving (most of it surplus from McAlester’s recent remodeling). And the library has an attractive adult reading area centered around a fireplace.
By using an existing building, already owned by the city, doing fund raising with energy, enthusiasm, and a can-do attitude, receiving the USDA grant, going with surplus furniture and equipment, getting the cabling and other technical work done by the Southeastern Public Library System’s Nick White, and using city workers as much as possible for demolition, painting, etc., the total cost of Stigler’s building project was an estimated half-million dollars less than the initial $900,000 cost projection for the old store downtown.

“We have had eight new buildings in the Southeastern Public Library System since 1995", said Wayne Hanway, “and no two of them happened in the same way.” Stigler’s success is an example of how a good 7,000 sq. ft. library can become a reality.

-Wayne Hanway, director
Southeastern Public Library System

Photos: looking back, and forward with librarian Lola Hill at the new Stigler Library on opening day. (courtesy Wayne Hanway)
A Move That Worked!

The librarians at Cameron University watched the Show Off! Merchandising Your Library's Browsing Collection session during the 2011 Amigos Member Conference which was held online. We took the ideas presented by Kerry Fiske (Scottsdale Public Library System of Scottsdale, Arizona) during the presentation and adapted them logistically to fit our needs.

The next day we began moving our new books from crowded shelving in our reading room to an expanded shelving area near the front doors of the library and the computer lab. We added comfortable chairs and décor.

The results are phenomenal.

For the month of June 2011, new book circulations increased 108% over the previous two months.

New book circulations in the month of June 2011, increased 113% over the same month in the previous year.

June 2011, had more new book circulations than any other month for at least the past three years. This is true despite the fact that the gate count in June was approximately only half the gate count of peak months in the fall and spring semesters.

The composition of the patrons who borrowed new books also changed. Undergraduate use more than doubled and jumped from approximately a quarter of all new book circulations to nearly half of all new book circulations.
Photos of new area at Cameron Library, courtesy of Wensheng Wang, Access Services Librarian at Cameron University Library.
About the Schusterman Library at OU-Tulsa

The OU-Tulsa Library closed its doors for good on May 16, and reopened on May 31st in a new campus location, and with a new name: The Schusterman Library at OU-Tulsa. The new library building was made possible by the generosity of the Schusterman family of Tulsa.

We documented our recent construction with photos that you can see on the library’s Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/pages/OU-Tulsa-Schusterman-Center-Library/21436115159). Our available floor space has doubled in the new library. For the first time we have moved books and journals from all our offsite locations to a space under one roof. The new library includes expanded individual and group study space for students, an information commons area, and an arts and information gallery designed to highlight the work that people on our community-focused campus are engaged in.

Photo: The front entrance of the Schusterman Library at OU-Tulsa (photos courtesy of Schusterman Library)

Photo: Another view of the front entrance of the Schusterman Library

Photo: The reception desk at the Schusterman Library.

By Toni Hoberecht, Reference and Educational Services Librarian, Schusterman Library
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