Disaster Reflections

Since the last issue of TLAN was published, several dilemmas have occurred — terrorist bombings in London (exactly one week after I was there on my dream trip with Russ and other friends and Tennesseans), and more recently, here on our own home front, the catastrophe caused by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast states, where many of us have friends and relatives, colleagues and associates. When terrible things happen, I never cease to be amazed at how helpful and giving we, as human beings, tend to become. Despite our differences on ballgame weekends, despite our regionalism and jokes about people in neighboring states, we immediately unite because, despite our differences — political, racial, professional, etc. — we are ultimately all in this thing called “Life” together. If anything on this scale ever happened in our home state, we know that those same neighbors would be here to deliver humanitarian aid and assistance in any way possible to us and ours.

What troubles me about times like these is that we can’t all get along better when times are good and there is no imminent threat of peril or loss of life. Why is that, I wonder? I believe, inherently, that is just as much a part of our human nature as is the motivation to help when bad times come.

What impresses me is the range of legitimate opportunities I have observed in our profession — from local efforts to statewide efforts to businesses like OCLC and even on the part of ALA. All of us in the library and information science arena want to step up and do the right things and to do them effectively. That makes me incredibly proud to be a librarian — prouder than usual.

The Louisiana Library Association has set up “The LLA Disaster Relief Fund” and is now accepting monetary donations to assist school, public, and academic library restoration efforts in Southeastern Louisiana. Anyone wishing to contribute on this front can make checks payable to: LLA-Disaster Relief and mail them to: LLA/ 421 South 4th St./ Eunice, LA 70535.

Whatever you have done, however and wherever you have done it, I want to thank you and I want to hear about it for our next issue.

— Chrissie Anderson Peters,
The President’s Point of View

I hope you are all having an excellent summer and the academic and school librarians have enjoyed your break. I know public librarians are ready for the rest of you to come back and take these children off our hands! But seriously, I hope your summer programs went well and your enrollment numbers exceeded your expectations.

I had an opportunity to talk to a colleague from Chattanooga on the phone recently. An Imagination Library child had moved from Chattanooga to Sparta and wanted to enroll in our program and be taken off the Hamilton County program. Without having a clue about the Hamilton County Imagination Library program, I knew instantly who to call. Sure enough, one well-placed phone call to Eva in the Children’s Department of the Bicentennial Library and I knew who was in charge, how to reach them by phone and email, information about Chattanooga’s very successful summer reading program and a couple of details about Eva’s husband that made me very jealous. (He cooks dinner every night!)

Isn’t it amazing how that works? We, as library workers, have a fool-proof method of discovery for any piece of information we need to know. On the surface, it is as simple as calling the library. Like any responsible citizen, we know the library is our best source of accurate information.

But below the surface, it goes much deeper than that. Long before the term networking was applied to people, libraries developed a network of human interaction. Much like a formal treaty, this unspoken code dictates that we always lend a hand to a library in need. All it takes is a phone call and we spring into action, ready to assist our profession, but more importantly, our friends.

Over the years, this network has introduced me to some of the best people I know. I am now to the point that a town or school name does not mean that place itself, but rather it means their library and the people that work there. On that train of thought, the next logical step when I needed assistance in Chattanooga was to call Eva. Thus, Chattanooga equals Eva.

I thought this logic had affected only me until a couple of weeks ago, when fires in Sparta burned two churches and five homes. Many of my colleagues from across the state called or emailed to ask if the fires were close to the library. Others asked if there was anything we needed or how they could help. This proved in my mind that some of you equate Sparta with Cathy.

Think for a minute about your many colleagues across our great state. Undoubtedly, you know many of their names, not to mention their spouse, children and parents. You know the heartaches and the triumphs they have endured. They have also shared many of your experiences.

Aren’t we fortunate to work in a profession that is both professional and personal? How many of our business school friends could say the same thing about their chosen career path?

So the next time you are down on your job situation, just reach out your hand and dial. I promise I will be here, as will your library network of professional friends.

— Cathy M. Farley, TLA President, 2005-2006
White County Public Library
144 South Main Street
Sparta, Tennessee 38583
931.836.3613 - Phone
931.836.2570 - Fax
cathymt@charter.net
www.wtclibrary.org

From the Executive Director’s Desk

My mother is one of 9 siblings, 8 living with ages ranging from 70 to 84. Just this past weekend the youngest and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. That now brings to 5 the number of living siblings who are still celebrating 50+ years of marriage! As I was driving west on I-40 yesterday, thinking about the celebration I had just attended, it gave me pause to think about the years of service represented by the members of TLA. If we added all our years together, I’m certain we would reflect a century of providing for the information needs of our library users. TLA, itself, has, for over a century, provided a locus for all types of library workers, friends, and trustees to enhance the services provided in libraries of all types across the State of Tennessee. As we approach the beginning of a new membership year, plan now to not only renew your membership, but to renew your participation in the activities of TLA, to insure that it will remain a vital force for libraries in Tennessee when it reaches 200 years of age!

— Annelle Huggins, TLA Executive Director

Jacksboro Public Library Wins “Smartest Card” Award

Barb Macikas, Associate Director of the Public Library Association, a sub-division of the American Library Association, announced in June that the Jacksboro Public Library, Campbell County, TN (Clinch-Powell region) was one of seven libraries to win in the nationwide “Smartest Card” competition.

The competition began in 2004 as part of ALA’s “Campaign For America’s Libraries” and involved submitting library success stories in the promotion and use of the “Smartest Card” to advertise library services to the community.

The library received $100 and their submission was featured in a huge color flyer passed out to the 27,800 attendees at the ALA Convention held in Chicago during the last week of June. Congratulations go to Peggy Southerland, library director, and Greg Smith, library assistant, for their efforts. For more information about the library’s use of the “Smartest Card” campaign, contact the Jacksboro Public Library at 423-562-3675.

— Judy Greeson, Clinch-Powell Library Director
Calendar of Events — September

- Sept. 9 — TENN-SHARE Summer Workshops; for more info, contact Sharon Parente at sparente@mtsu.edu.
- Sept. 9 — TENN-SHARE Summer Workshops; for more info, contact Sharon Parente at sparente@mtsu.edu.
- Sept. 19 — Maya Angelou at the Tennessee Theatre, Knoxville, 7:00 p.m.; for ticket information, contact Natasha Williams at bcpc@utk.edu.
- Sept. 20 — Boone Tree Fall Meeting, Basler Library, Northeast State, 7:00 p.m. Keith Young, storyteller, will be the evening’s speaker.
- Sept. 22 — TENN-SHARE Fall Conference (see page 4 for more).
- Sept. 22 — “Tennessee Reads” Fall Book Club Event at UT’s University Club at the corner of Kingston Pike and Neyland Drive in Knoxville, at 7:00 p.m.; book to be discussed is *Southern Seen* by Larry McGehee. For more info call Laura Purcell at 865.974.4725.
- Sept. 27 — ETLA Meeting, B&N, Suburban Plaza, Meet & Greet @ 6:30 p.m.; Program @ 7:00 p.m. See http://www.lib.utk.edu/etla.
- Sept. 29-30 — Literary Festival focusing on Sharyn McCrumb, Emory & Henry College. For more information, contact Dr. John Lang at 276.944.4121 or by email at jdlang@ehc.edu.
- Sept. 30 — Last day to register for ALA Midwinter at Early Bird price.

Calendar of Events — October

- OCTOBER — Local Library Legislative Month; details, pages 14-16.
- Oct. 7-9 — Southern Festival of Books, Nashville Public Library and War Memorial Plaza in downtown Nashville.
- Oct. 13 — Author/Illustrator Jan Brett — B&N, Mallory Ln., Brentwood, 10 a.m.-noon; B-A-M, Hwy 153, Hixson, 5-7 p.m.
- Oct. 14 — CULS Conference “Marketing the Academic Library,” MTSU. Keynote speaker Pamela Snelson, VP/Pres.-Elec of ACRL, will speak on ACRL initiatives. Details soon!
- Oct. 20 — TLA Conference Program Proposal Forms due (page 13).
- Oct. 27-29 — Southeast Chapter of the Music Library Association (SEMLA) Conference in Memphis; see details at http://exlibris.memphis.edu/music/semla.
- Oct. 28 — TLA GODORT Fall Meeting, University of the South, Sewanee, more details on page 7.
- Nov. 4-6 — TASL Conference, Knoxville. For more info, go to TASL’s website at http://www.discoveret.org/tasl.

Newcomers and Names to Know

Jason Griffey has joined the Reference and Instruction team of UT Chattanooga’s Lupton Library as an Assistant. Griffey received an MLS from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2004 and holds a BA in Philosophy from Morehead State University. Jason’s interests range from intellectual property and the process of scholarly research to the impact of technology on higher education. He is an administrator for the official LITA blog (http://www.fitablog.org), as well as his personal blog, Pattern Recognition (http://www.jasongriffey.net/wp) ... Christian Brothers University announces that Julie Gilmore, a CBU alum, has joined the staff of the Plough Library. Julie heads the Technical Services department, taking over from Liz Jackson who has returned to the Memphis City Schools. Julie has an MLS from UTK and much good experience from the Memphis Public Library’s LINC department... Troy Davis has accepted a position at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA, leaving UTK’s Hodges Library. Troy, we wish you the best... Sharon Weiner, Director of Peabody Library at Vanderbilt University, has been appointed Co-Chair of the National Forum on Information Literacy (http://www.infolit.org)... Congratulations to two members who have been elected ALA Round Table Heads! Judy Card will serve with Continuing Library Education Network and Exchange (CLENE), and Sue Knoche will serve with Library Support Staff Interest (LSSIRT)... Sue Knoche and Martha Whaley have been awarded a special project from ALA-APA. Their guide for the video “For Love or Money?” will be published by Midwinter ‘06 — see the ALA Councilor’s Report on pages 9-10 for more details... Congratulations to Cathy Taylor on her recent marriage to Tim Farley! She is now Cathy Farley... Dr. William C. Robinson has been appointed as Assistant Director of the SIS at UTK. Dr. Robinson came to Knoxville in 1972 as an Assistant Professor and was involved in the School’s initial accreditation by the ALA. He served briefly as an Interim Director in 1978. As Assistant Director, Dr. Robinson will assist the Director in curriculum matters and assume responsibility for special projects. In the absence of the Director (another newcomer and name-to-know, Dr. Ed Cortez), Dr. Robinson will have full authority over the School... Diane Chen won a laptop at ALA in June and was pictured in the mailed issue of *Cognates*, page 5... Julie Duke is the new Children’s Services Consultant at the State Library. She served previously as the Head of the Children’s Department in Asheville, NC. Meredith Haddock is the new Assistant State Librarian and Archivist for Administration. Haddock comes from the Library of Congress (LC) where he began his service in 1978. For more about Duke and Haddock, see State Library and Archives News on page 6... Linda Behrend, from UTK’s Hodges Library, attended the Oxford 2005 C.S. Lewis Summer Institute in Oxford and Cambridge, England, July 24-August 6. She participated in a seminar on "The History of the Book and the Libraries at Oxford," serving as TA to seminar leader Dr. Donald Davis. The seminar included visits to the libraries at Merton College, University College, and the Bodleian Library... The Johnson City Public Library Board proudly announces the appointment of new Director, Nelson Worley, formerly the Director of Library Development & Networking Division at the Library of VA. A graduate of King College in Bristol, TN, and alumni of Vanderbilt’s Peabody College for Teachers (MLS), Mr. Worley brings 30 years of experience to JCPL... With sadness we announce that Kathy Sleighter passed away on July 21, 2005. Kathy was the Director of South Cheatham Public Library in Kingston Springs, served on many library-related committees, graduated from the Public Library Management Institute, and was very active in her community.
TENN-SHARE DataFest
Thursday, September 22, Downtown Nashville Public Library

I hope you have been checking the TENN-SHARE website (www.tenn-share.org) often enough to see that we have been adding vendors weekly to our DataFest line-up. There are now five (5) vendors of federated search engines participating in the morning session (now from 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.). Here’s the morning schedule:

9:30 – 10:00 CSA: MultiSearch – Jessica Troeschel and Gretchen Hanson
10:00 – 10:30 Serials Solutions: Central Search – JR Jenkins
10:30 – 10:45 Break (Continental Breakfast – Provence!)
10:45 – 11:15 Ex-Libris: MetaLib/FSX – Dave Stout
11:15 – 11:45 WebFeat – Mary Marshall

This is your chance to learn more about this exciting new technology from the horses’ mouths (the vendor reps), in a comfortable atmosphere – the lovely Auditorium at Nashville PL – with refreshments provided by the vendors.

The afternoon runs from 1:00 to 6:10 with sessions in all of the conference rooms of the Library. Subject sessions include Biography, Business, Current Events, eBooks, Encyclopedias, History, Literature, Medical, Multi-Media, Newspapers, Reference, Political and Social Science, Science. Vendors for this part of DataFest include AccuNet/AP Multimedia Archive (AP Photo Archive), Books 24x7 (eBooks); Britannica (Britannica Online School Edition and Annals of American History Online); Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (SAGE full-text collections, Criminal Justice Abstracts, PAIS, and more); CQ Press (CQ Researcher, Voting & Elections Collection, Congress Collection); ebrary (ebrary); Elsevier (Scopus); Facts.com (Facts for Learning, Facts.com Reference Suite); HW Wilson (Biography Reference Bank, Science Full Text Select, Retrospective Indexes); OCLC (netLibrary); OVID (eBooks@Ovid); Plunkett Research (Plunkett Research Online); ProQuest (ABI Inform, SIRS, Heritage Quest, LION, Safari eBooks); Rittenhouse (R2 Library); STAT!Ref (eBook collections); Thomson Gale (Biography Resource Center, Business & Company Resource Center, Testing & Education Reference Center, History Resource Center, Literature Resource Center, and LitFinder, Chilton’s, Virtual Reference Library, Xref Plus, Science Resource Center, Web of Science, Web Feet); Tutor.com; and World Book (World Book Encyclopedia). OCLC’s Doug Potts will have a solo session on Open WorldCat, FirstSearch, and netLibrary.

Even if your budget doesn’t have money now for subscriptions, take it upon yourself to learn about all these wonderful databases that could be in your library’s future. There will be refreshments in the afternoon as well! Registration is free, but required, so PLEASE register this week, at http://www.tenn-share.org/?p=59. Enlightenment is just a click away...


— Penny Frere, Executive Director, TENN-SHARE

New Look: TENN-SHARE Web Site

Check out the newly re-designed TENN-SHARE website (www.TENN-SHARE.org) to find the latest on three important and exciting events planned for you this September at the beautiful Downtown Nashville Public Library.

1. TENN-SHARE’s 2nd annual DataFest, Thurs., Sept. 22;
2. Our Annual Fall Conference on Fri., Sept. 23;
3. Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools Library Collection Development Fair Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, September 21, 22, and 23. All at Nashville PL, planned with our members in mind.

**Our thanks to Laura Blalock, TENN-SHARE’s new webmistress for giving our new site a fresh new look. It’s still a work in progress, but you will find just about anything you want to know about us there, including 2005-2006 Membership application/invoice; Updated Summer Workshops information; 2005-2006 TENN-SHARE Board minutes; minutes of all TENN-SHARE Board meetings; annual reports back to 1999. And, there will be more to come…

— Penny Frere, Executive Director
TENN-SHARE

Thank-Yous and Acknowledgements

Wonderful job!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! — Rick Wallace, President, Boone Tree Library Association

Thanks again for a great newsletter - our head cataloger *loved* the story about one girl's indignation over the spelling of Shaka Zulu and the Tennessee librarians that vindicated her :) — James Staub, TSLA

In preparing the [current TENN-SHARE article], I realized I hadn’t read the last TLA Newsletter, very unusual for me. But that’s what a move will do to you — as you’re probably well aware. Anyway, it was great, as always. And I appreciate your dedicating almost an entire page to TENN-SHARE news. Thanks so much for the great news.

— Penny Frere, Executive Director, TENN-SHARE
A Library’s Journey onto E-Bay

It all began about a year and a half ago. As with most of my ideas, it took a while to decide if it was good or not, and then find a way to implement it. I was sitting in the Seattle airport, thinking about Sandra Nelson and all I had just learned at a workshop for rural libraries, sponsored by the Bill and Melissa Gates Foundation. And I was crocheting. I started musing about computer-related programs I would love to be able to implement if only we had the money and then I looked down at the yarn I was using and it popped into my head what a good buy it had been. Hand-dyed wool, purchased on eBay. That’s when it hit me — we could sell our books on eBay and raise extra funds that way! Was this a good idea? While the jury may still be out on that question, I can say for sure that the last few hours before bidding ends is still very exciting!

Time passed and this idea got added to the file folder in my brain marked, “Think About Someday.” Someday came a few months ago while I was finishing up my last year of PLMI. Once again inspired to do something new, I perused that mental file and decided to give eBay a try. (I have to add here that having the opportunity to attend professional library events has made all the difference in my ability to continue to do my job with enthusiasm. I find that learning from professionals and networking with peers, while in an environment that allows me to step back and gain perspective, is very invigorating.)

Luckily for me, we have a staff member, Jo Stakely, who has been selling on eBay for years and was eager to help us get started. We sat down one afternoon and opened accounts with eBay and PayPal, (this is not at all difficult, but you need a bank account number to give PayPal; we use our FOL account). Then Jo took a few pics and we were off and running. That first week she put 5 lots of books on. They all sold and we literally joined hands and cheered! Each week, Jo has added 5 more lots (sometimes 2 books, sometimes 5 or 8). She chooses books that go together and, as it turns out, our largest profit has been made on Harlequin large print romances! Not everything gets a bid, but most do. Buyers pay actual shipping and we mail in used book boxes, so we have no added expenses. Our website features a link directly to our “store.” People are using it — several “watchers” are interested in our offerings.

Since June 30, we have sold 10 lots of books. After paying fees of $8.24 to PayPal and $14.03 to eBay for a total of $22.27, we cleared $182.67. That was 49 books averaging $3.73 each. While this may not seem like a lot of money to a larger library, this is important to us. A thousand dollars a year will purchase a lot of software and perhaps even pay for a teen to give individual computer lessons on Saturdays.

I believe that this is working so far for a couple of reasons. First, due to our building being so badly infested with mold that it had to be torn down last year (hence being moved into a strip mall), we have absolutely no storage, so we cannot save materials up for a traditional book sale. We keep a book truck with used materials near the circ desk and that has been successful for us. Through eBay, though, we are earning more money per book. Second, we have a staff member who has the time to deal with this. While it is not as time-consuming as it sounds, she does have to choose the lots, take pics, put the info on the internet, keep up with PayPal, and then mail the packages out. An active FOL could do this if you are lucky enough to have one.

I would encourage other libraries to look into this. People have been making money for years selling goods on eBay; it is time we join in. All the information you need can be found on the eBay website. I am anxious to see if our sales continue to grow. If this avenue of fundraising turns out to really be worth it. My next goal is to explore the “Giving Works” option offered by eBay to non-profits. Their website states that over $40 million has been raised for non-profits through the sale of items on eBay. Surely there is a way for TN libraries to benefit as well!

— Kim Hicks, Director
Madisonville Public Library

TLA Honors and Awards 2006

The brightest and best in Tennessee libraries can be found by simply looking over your shoulder, glancing down the hall, or across the meeting table. They are the librarians and friends whose dedication and expertise keep our libraries flourishing, and they deserve to be recognized by all of us.

TLA Honors and Awards 2006 provide a way to give that recognition to all these deserving members of our library community. Please consider nominating one of your exceptional colleagues for an award. All awards with their descriptions can be found at: www.lib.utk.edu/%7Etla/awards.html. Please look at the award criteria and nominee someone. We would like to present awards in all categories again next year.

Deadline for award nominations is Friday, January 27, 2006. Consider all the talented people in your library community and remember to honor the brightest and best with a nomination for one of the TLA Awards.

— Sue Alexander and Linda Hyatt, Co-Chairs
Honors and Awards Committee

Awards/Criteria

TLA Honor Award: Recognizes any person or group who has made a significant contribution to the furtherance of librarianship on a state or national level. Nominee must be TLA member.

Cheney Award: Recognizes a significant contribution to the world of books and librarianship through the encouragement of the love of books and reading. Nominee must be TLA member.

Louise Meredith School Media Library Award: Recognizes school library media specialist who has made unique and worthy contributions to the total school instructional program through effective unified school library media services.

Tennessee History Book Award: Sponsored Recognizes excellence in TN historical writing.

Trustee Award: Recognizes a trustee who has made a significant contribution to library and information services in the State of Tennessee. Nominee must be a TLA member.

James Ward Library Instruction Award: Honors a TLA member who participates in planning, execution, or evaluation of a continuing program or special project of library instruction for an academic, public, school, or special library.

Tennessee Resource Sharing Award: Recognizes any person, institution, or organization who has done outstanding work in promoting resource sharing within/among Tennessee libraries.

TLA/SIRS Freedom of Information Award: Recognizes the contribution of an individual or group who has actively promoted intellectual freedom in Tennessee.

Library Support Staff Award: Recognizes an outstanding performance by a library support staff member.

Daniel E. Taylor Memorial Award: Recognizes a significant contribution to Children’s/Young Adult Services through creative approaches to enhance library services to children and youth.

TLA Honorary Membership: Recognizes an individual who has made significant, sustained contributions to librarianship in TN.

Occasional awards include the President’s Award and Special Award.
Jeannie Sugg — A TLA Newsletter Interview

I recently had a chance to catch up with our new State Librarian and Archivist, Jeannie Sugg, to conduct an email interview for this issue of TLAN. I think that you will find her responses enlightening, engaging, and even entertaining. We hope that you enjoy this opportunity to get to know Jeannie better. And again, Jeannie, we’re all very excited to have you in this position and look forward to some great things during your tenure at the State Library and Archives! (My questions appear in regular type set and Ms. Suggs’ responses appear in italics below.)

Q: How long have you been working in libraries and what types of libraries have you worked in?

A: How long? Seems like such a short span of years, but I have been working in libraries since 1964 and have had the opportunity to serve in academic libraries, public school libraries, public libraries, corporate libraries and for the last 16 years, the State Library and Archives.

Q: Did you always want to be a librarian? If not, what did you want to be when you "grew up?"

A: My appreciation for the library profession was acquired from using school and public libraries to their fullest extent as I was growing up. My aunt was an academic librarian for 40 years and was a big influence on my decision to attend Peabody Library School.

Q: Are you a TLA member? If so, how long have you been a member?

A: Yes, I am a TLA member and have served in several capacities - most of them during former years. Time for that to change, isn’t it?

Q: What do you like MOST — thus far — about being the State Librarian and Archivist?

A: It is the most wonderful job I could ever hope to have. Working with our administration and staff to provide enhanced services to the citizens of Tennessee is a sobering challenge!

Q: Thus far, what do you like LEAST about your job? (Aside from having to work with James Staub, of course!) (Staufb is my buddy.)

A: There’s James and then there are the onerous number of papers I need to sign — whew!

Q: When did you decide that you might like to someday become a State Librarian and Archivist? Was it a conscious decision or something that just happened?

A: It was never a dream, but Dr. Gleaves encouraged me to seriously consider the opportunity. I was and still am honored that he saw that possibility in me and has brought us to this time. He has given his life to expansion of library services and the education of librarians throughout Tennessee.

Q: What would you most like to see the State Library and Archives achieve under your leadership?

A: We are leading the way in a number of initiatives. Because TEL has become one of the primary investments for TSLA, we are seeking to expand it significantly over the next few years through collaboration with other institutions and organizations. As an arm of TSLA, the Local Archives Development unit is working closely with county and municipal governments to further assure the safety and preservation of local records by working with records commissions and local archives. There are many other plans afoot in the areas of technology and digitization. Many exciting days are ahead.

Q: What would you most like to see TLA accomplish in conjunction with TSLA during your tenure as State Librarian and Archivist?

A: TLA has, over the last few years, played an active role in supporting the statewide programs of TSLA. We are hopeful to continue those ties and strengthen our cooperation for the future of libraries across the state.

Q: What do you foresee as the most challenging feat before Tennessee libraries in the next five years? And how can TLA and the Tennessee library community work together to achieve success in facing/overcoming this feat successfully?

A: Libraries continue to face the daily challenge of providing adequate services with the budgets they are provided. It is incumbent upon each one of us to become a strong, outspoken advocate for libraries in our Communities — to speak to those with influence and to seek out those who have remained silent. Let’s train ourselves to be the best servants possible for working within our communities to unite support in every way possible. Libraries are a bargain — spread the good news!

Q: Which of Tennessee’s state songs is your favorite and why?

A: There is no right answer to this question.

— Chrissie Anderson Peters, TLAN Editor
Bits and Pieces from Across the State

Maryville, TN — Blount County announces the launch of its digital photograph collection. To access the full news article in the Blount County Voice, see http://www.blountcountyvoice.com/page.asp?item=91144. To link to the Blount County Public Library digital collection, go to http://www.korrnet.org/bcpl and click the “Photo Collection” link. The UT Hodges Library digital collection is located at http://lib.utk.edu/eresources/digitalcollections.html.

— Pat Thompson, Head of Reference, Blount County Public Library

Memphis, TN — The Burch Library now offers Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Service. ILL borrows books and obtains photocopies of articles from other libraries for eligible patrons. The Burch Library has added over 20 new databases onto our library catalog site.

The Burch Library is starting a Teen Advisory Board, which will be comprised of Young Adults in grades 6-12 willing to become involved in the functioning of the library and to make the library more appealing for their peers. To learn more about the board or to pick up an application, visit the Information Desk at the Library. Completed applications must be received by September 6, 2005. The next Friends of the Collierville Burch Library Book Sale will be held on October 14 and 15 from 10:00 to 5:00.

— Liz Rozanski, Library Associate, Burch Library

Scholarship Donors

We wish to acknowledge donors to the TLA Scholarship Fund since its inception two years ago. Donations make it possible for the Scholarship Committee to offer the Conference Internship Program and will enable the Committee to award its inaugural Edwin S. Gleaves Scholarship in 2006. Donations may be made in honor/memory of individuals, as well as anonymously.

Donors designating their gifts in honor of Dr. Edwin S. Gleaves include: Fred & Susan Bess; Thomas & Jeanne R. Bigger; Joann M. Blair; Charles, Judy, & Rita Brown; Henry & Martha Callaway; Phil & Linda Carman; Eva C. Crothers; Brooks E. Crowell; Friends of TN Libraries; Shelly Fugit; Gale Group; Robert & Catherine Gleich; Sylvia R. Graham; Jane R. Gunter; Sue D. Gunther; Irma R. Harlan; Mary Glenn Hearne; Ruth Hemphill; Douglas Henry; Ann G. Johnson; Carolyn Knight; Mr. & Mrs. WH Lassiter; Ronald A. Lee; KS McHugh; Glenda & Jim Milliken; Jeanene Cullom Moore; Wayne C. Moore; Janie Murphree; John E. Nye; ML Peterseim; Jane Pinkston; Jane Pinkston & PLMI Class of 2005; Dorothy M. Reeves; Jeanie Sugg; Charles C. Sullivan II; Linda P. Tarkington; Robert & Frances Thomson; Barbara D. Toms; Mr. & Mrs. John H. Tweatt; Celia Walker; White County Public Library; and Virginia Whitworth.

Gifts in memory of Hazel Hunter Gleiches include: Janey T. Gleiches; Jane R. Gunter; Marguerite V. Pruett; and Dorothy M. Reeves.

Other donors include: Elaine Berg; Margaret Brown; Gail Campbell, in Honor of Mark Thomas; Kate Corby; Joanne Deeken; Kay Mills Due; Walter T. Durham; Annis Evans; Cathy Evans, in Honor of Mary Helen & Sam Tibbs; Inga Filippio; Edwin S. Gleiches; Judy Greeson, in Honor of Mark & Barbara Tucker; Ernest Heard; Gene Hollar; Betty Jo Jarvis; Kay Libby; Sam G. McFarland, in Memory of Gwendolyn McFarland; Debbie O'Brien; Suress Ponnappa; Wilma Rhea, in Honor of Judy Drescher; Mary Seratt; Mina & Ollie Smith, in Memory of Edith Carleen Ralph; Priscilla Stephenson, in Honor of Sharon Michael; Cathy M. Taylor, in Honor of Kay Due, Frances Adams-O'Brien, Annette Huggins, and Kathy Pages; TLA Executive Committee; and Sharon Weiner.

Knoxville Public Library News

KCPL has had a banner year with a steady offering of programs and innovations, resulting in an overall increase in usage and popularity. The ability to offer bigger, more diverse programs comes through partnerships and support from area businesses and service providers. In the last year, an estimated $500,000 of in-kind donations and financial support have helped raise the Library's profile and offerings in the community.

Of note, the Library launched an impressive television ad campaign through the generosity of Phil Hardison Films. Hardison is a film-maker who got his start in the AV Department of Lawson McGhee Library; 15 years later, he's responsible for some of the highest quality advertisements in the region, including Goodies Family Clothing and Baptist Hospital. He called on many of his friends in the industry to help produce a powerful, enduring campaign featuring Children's Services, Homebound Services, Business Reference Services, and Sights & Sounds Programming. The media then aired the ads as public service announcements. The campaign has been met with great enthusiasm.

Final numbers are being tallied for this year's Summer Library Club, but early indications point to a significant increase in the number of finishers that could top 40%! The popularity of this summer's program is attributed to several factors. Kicking off the summer, the Library hosted the first-ever Children's Festival of Reading on the World's Fair Park. Sponsored by Books-a-Million, the Festival drew over 5,000 kids and their families on June 4 for storytelling, magic shows, arts & crafts, and much more. Additionally, the incentives for completing this year's program were much more compelling with passes to the Tennessee Valley Fair, an ice cream cone from Marble Slab Creamery and a full day of swimming at the YMCA. Publicity for programs has increased with much more media coverage of programs like Summer Library Club.

Starting Sept. 9, the Library's "Movies on Market Square" will be back for its second year. Last year's free outdoor movie series drew over 1,000 people per night to downtown Knoxville for an evening under the stars/in front of the silver screen. Families brought lawn chairs and picnic baskets for a fun-filled Friday night. Presented by the Library to highlight its excellent collections of film and music in Lawson McGhee Library's Sights & Sounds Department, the series is possible with the support of Pilot Corporation, Amsouth Bank, River Media, and others.

Partnering with the Healthy and Smart Start Task Force, KCPL offered a series of workshops called "Building Better Brains!" Aimed at parents of children age 6 weeks-3 months, the program teaches parents how to use educational tools and books to help stimulate brain growth. Facilitated by early childhood development specialists, The workshops are being held in KCPL facilities. Funding was provided by the United Way.

The KCPL system is thriving under the leadership of Director Larry Frank who encourages creative thinking at every turn. We look forward to the next year of thought-provoking programs!

— Mary Pom Claiborne, Communications Administrator
Knox County Public Library

TLA GODORT Fall Meeting Set

The TLA Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) will hold its annual Fall Meeting on Fri., Oct. 28, on the campus of the University of the South, in Sewanee, TN. The GODORT Fall Meeting is always a day filled with great programs and discussions, and this year will be no exception. Please join us if you are interested in learning how to effectively function in the evolving world of digital federal and state government information. In addition, take part in our discussion and planning of how to ensure free, public access to Tennessee's electronic government information both now and well into the future.

There will be a small fee for lunch; otherwise the meeting is free and open to anyone interested in attending. Contact Kevin Reynolds (kreynold@sewanee.edu or 931-598-1366) for more details.

TLA NEWSLETTER  PAGE 7  VOL. 12, ISSUE 2
Memphis Public Library Happenings and News

It's Time to Boogie Again!
The Foundation for the Memphis Public Library & Information Center presents “Boogie in the Books 2005” on Sat., Nov. 5 at the Central Library. Called "the perfect rule-breaking party" by the Commercial Appeal, the night is a fundraiser helping the Library to enhance its collections. Tickets are $50 per person; the event features food from some of Memphis' finest restaurants, two bands, and games with lots of prizes. Celebrating 100 Years of Children's Library Services this year, MPL's party will have a "Find-Your-Inner-Child" theme.

There is a silent auction to benefit the Library's Memphis Music Collection, with local business gift certificates, and items related to sports, literature, movies, music and much more. More than 500 people attended “Boogie” in 2004. Library staff volunteers worked cash bars, ticket booths, games, food stations, and helped keep things lively. Here's what RSVP magazine had to say last year: "It’s not often that citizens get a chance to cut loose in the library, but judging from the party’s vocal and laughing crowd, it’s an opportunity they appreciated. All for a wonderful cause. Next year, you definitely want to check this one out."

“Experience Series” A Summer Success
This summer, the MPL experienced success with its “Experience Series.” The Library’s Humanities Department introduced the adult programming, which featured free seminars at the Central Library that were widely-attended. The seminars covered a range of adult topics, such as Digital Photography, Memphis Barbecue, and Financial Freedom, and Film.

One memorable Experience program featured Pulitzer Prize-winning author Rick Bragg as part of the Experience Southern Writing program. Bragg’s best-seller, All Over But the Shoutin’, detailed his ascent from poverty to the Los Angeles Times and the New York Times.

“The... series provided a unique opportunity for Memphians to enjoy evenings learning about a myriad of topics from professionals in their respective fields and, overall, the series was a tremendous success as far as satisfying our adult customers need to know,” said Wayne Dowdy, senior librarian and program co-chair.

Summer Reading Club Wraps Up With Party
Summer Reading Club, presented by the Memphis Grizzlies 2005, was a huge success and culminated with “The Final Bounce,” a wrap-up party. The finale featured music and entertainment, as kids and parents celebrated the end of “the club.”

The entertainment-filled afternoon featured live performances by musician Brian Kinder, Theatre Memphis’ Showdown, and magician Johnny Williams. Balloon artists, face painting, games, crafts and special guests rounded out the celebration.

“The Final Bounce was a lot of fun,” said Linda Gibson, Youth Services Coordinator. “We had a lot of activities, prizes and goodies for everyone in attendance and it was a great end to a great summer.”

During the event, the Library recognized the many sponsors who supported the Summer Reading Club. Libertyland was a new sponsor this year and by reading 20 books, club members received free admission to the park. “The Libertyland tickets were a huge motivator” said Gibson.

In addition to the Memphis Grizzlies, another major supporter included International Paper, who gave a grant for special summer programs at all library locations.

Fees Increase for Non-Residents
The Memphis City Council voted to increase non-resident fees for library cards from $20 to $50. Residents and property owners of the city of Memphis, Bartlett, and unincorporated Shelby County are still eligible for library cards at no cost. The first time non-residents try to use a card from the Millington/Arlington Library that doesn’t expire until October, 2005, they may use it as a courtesy, but the next time they check out materials, they will need to purchase a non-resident card because Arlington/Millington is outside the MPL service area.

Customers purchasing non-resident cards before July 1, 2005 (for $20) will have a valid card for one year from the date of purchase. Arlington and Millington residents are able to purchase a non-resident card, as are teachers and home-schoolers who do not reside in the city of Memphis, Bartlett, or unincorporated Shelby County. All library card holders who qualify for Homebound or Special Services accounts will be eligible to receive those benefits. Upon purchasing the non-resident library card, customers qualifying for Homebound status will be able to utilize library materials at the regular fee rates, but will not be responsible for overdue fines. Customers qualifying for Special Services status who purchase the cards will be able to use all library materials without paying checkout fees, but will be responsible for overdue fines.

Hollywood Branch Set To Reopen
After undergoing extensive interior and exterior renovations, the Hollywood Branch Library is set to reopen in mid-September, with 20 Internet accessible computers, twice as many as before, and will feature a job and career section and one of the largest African-American literature collections in the MPL system.

Local artists Terance Brown and Jill Turman contributed to the collection of public art that will be showcased at the branch. Committed to community involvement, both Brown and Turman solicited artwork from neighborhood children at a November Art Day. The gathered art work was then used for inspiration for the public art to be featured at the library. Brown’s work will be included in mosaic tiles displayed on the outside of the building, while Turman’s work will be steel sculptures placed throughout the interior of the building.

The Hollywood Branch will feature wireless access for laptops, new furniture, and new signage. The building will also be home to a Memphis Police Department Mini-Precinct.

Kids Pay-Off Library Fines By Reading
“It makes me feel like I am needed and I enjoy it,” says E. Mae White. “I have done public service all of my life and I am not about to stop now.” White spends her weekday mornings at Central Library during the summer helping youngsters pay-off their debts. It has nothing to do with casinos or loan sharks; it has all to do with making sure children don’t have any barriers to reading while on school breaks. White is a Foster Grandparent for the Read to Erase Your Library Fines program at MPL. Through July 30, children and young adults to age 17 looking to pay the late fees that have accumulated on their library cards have a solution that will not break their banks. The program is part of the library’s Summer Reading Club that also runs through July 30.

The children’s department and circulation collaborate on the project that allows children to “read off” their fines. For every 15 minutes read, either aloud or silently, children and young adults can read off $2 in fines. Participating locations are the Central Library, Crenshaw, Frayser, Gaston Park, Highland, North, Whitehaven, and Randolph.

The program started last year at Central and, according to Ann Delphin, circulation services manager, was well received. “We had several children come and read to the Foster Grandparents that did not owe fines. The youngsters just enjoyed having someone to encourage them to read.” The Foster Grandparents are offered through Porter Leah Children’s Services. Last year, the volunteers listened for over 7,600 minutes and over $1,000 in fines were forgiven.

— Devin Misko, Communications Specialist, Memphis PL

- ALA expenses 9% less than budget
- Recommended 2006 Budget ceilings (Total: $51,918,655) in alignment with ALA action 2005 Goals and transitioning to ALA2010 Plan
  1. BARC endorses ALA Ahead to 2010 and recommends that a financial plan be developed to support its implementation
  2. BARC recommends that the Executive Board support the extension of the Campaign for America’s Libraries to 2010 (President Brey-Casiano presented the Draft Strategic Plan entitled “ALA Ahead to 2010”:
     a) Goal I: Advocacy / Value of the Profession — ALA and its members are the leading advocates for libraries and the library profession;
     b) Goal II: Education — Through its leadership, ALA Ensures the highest quality graduate and continuing education opportunities for librarians and library staff;
     c) Goal III: Public Policy — ALA plays a key role in the formulation of national and international policies that affect library and information services;
     d) Goal IV: Recruitment — ALA is a leader in recruiting and developing a highly qualified and diverse library work force;
     e) Goal V: Membership — Members receive outstanding value for their ALA membership;
     f) Goal VI: Organizational Excellence — ALA is an inclusive, effectively governed, well-managed, and financially strong organization.

ALA/APA Information Session, Sun., June 26, 2005

- Certified Public Library Administrators Program will launch by December 2005
- Sue Knoche and Martha Whaley, ETSU’s Quillen Medical Library, won the contest to design a guide to accompany the video “Working @ Your Library: For Love or Money?” to be available before Midwinter ’06.

ALA Council I, Sunday, June 26, 2005

- President Brey-Casiano brought her vision statement “Stand Up and Speak Out for Libraries” to fruition with the Advocacy Institute held just prior to the 2005 Annual Conference
- VP/President-Elect Michael Gorman chooses library education as his area of emphasis: “To put it briefly, I believe that ALA should use its accrediting power, delineated in its standards, to ensure that the full-time faculty members in ALA-accredited LIS programs teach, and do research, in a core curriculum covering all of library studies, thus ensuring a consistency of knowledge in the graduates of those programs and that those graduates have an education that equips them well for modern library work.”

- Keith M. Fields, Executive Director, indicated ALA’s Library Disaster Relief Fund would work with IFLA’s Relief and Development Partnership to provide aide to those areas hit by the tsunami.
- Resolutions approved:
  1. …Council of ALA urges the President of the United States to declare National Deaf History Month, to be held annually March 13 – April 15 and to call upon public officials, educators, and librarians to celebrate with programs and activities to highlight and honor the many contributions of the deaf community to American society.
  2. Resolved that ALA Council amend Policy 54 (Library Personnel Practices) by adding: Libraries should encourage discussion among library workers, including library’s administration, of non-confidential professional and policy matters about the operation of the library and matters of public concern within the framework of applicable laws.

ALA/APA Council, Mon., June 27, 2005

- Accepted reports from:
  - ALA/APA Bylaws Committee
  - ALA/APA Certification Committees
  - ALA/APA Committee on Salaries and Status of Library Workers
  - ALA/APA Treasurer’s Report

ALA Council II, Tues., June 28, 2005

- Public and Cultural Program Advisory Committee has established the Cultural Communities Fund to ensure additional funding is available to the ALA Public Programs Office. The National Endowment for the Humanities has recognized the merit of the establishment of this fund and awarded a challenge grant to CCF in the amount of $350,000. ALA must raise $1,050,000 to receive the full $350,000.
- ALA Public Awareness Committee continues to support:
  1. ALA and Woman’s Day Put It In Writing partnership
  2. Major Leagues @ Your Library
  3. “Smartest Card” (Jacksonboro, TN Public Library was highlighted in the Smartest Card insert to the 2005 ALA Annual Conference Program — see page 2)

- New video soon to be available for use in support of the @ Your Library Campaign
- Council approved:
  - ALA Ahead to 2010 Strategic Plan (see Council/Executive Board/Membership Information Session for details)

ALA Council III, Wednesday, June 29, 2005

- Memorials / Tributes:
  - Included one for John David Marshall (resolution printed on page 10)
  - Intellectual Freedom Committee reported:
    - Banned Books Week – September 24 – October 1, 2005: It’s Your Freedom We’re Talking About
  - Council approved the Committee on Legislation resolution:
    - Resolved, that the American Library Association urges the Senate, in the FY 2006 Senate Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations bill, to bar the use of appropriate funds by the Justice Department to search library and bookstore records under Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT ACT; and, be it further
    - Resolved, that the American Library Association opposes any initiatives on the part of the United State government to constrain the free expression of ideas or to inhibit the use of libraries as represented in the USA PATRIOT ACT expansion bill marked-up in secret by the Senate Select Intelligence Committee; and, be it further

- Resolved that the American Library Association urges librarians and other library workers, trustees, and advocates throughout the country to continue their efforts to educate their users on the impact of Sections 215 and 505 of the USA PATRIOT ACT on libraries.
- Council approved additional resolutions
  - Resolved that the American Library Association affirm the inclusion in library collections of materials that reflect the diversity of our society, including those related to sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation; and, be it further
  - Resolved, that the American Library Association encourage all American Library Association chapters to take active stands against all legislative or other government attempts to proscribe materials related to sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation; and be it further
  - Resolved, that the American Library Association encourage all libraries to acquire and make available materials representative of all the people in our society.

- Resolved that ALA urge its divisions to establish lower membership dues for retired members with all the rights and benefits of division membership -- voting, publications, committee work, etc.
- Resolved that the ALA calls for the withdrawal from Iraq of all U. S. military forces, and the return of full sovereignty to the people of Iraq.
- Resolved that the American Library Association urges the United State government to subsequently shift its budgetary process from the occupation to support social services, including U. S. libraries.
ALA Councilor’s Report  
(continued from page 9)  
- Resolved that the American Library Association calls upon the U.S. government to provide material assistance through the United Nations for the reconstruction of Iraq, including its museums, libraries, schools, and other cultural resources.
- Resolved that this resolution be sent to all members of Congress, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the President of the United States, and the press.
- Resolved that the American Library Association goes on record as being opposed to the use by government of disinformation, media manipulation, the destruction and excision of public information, and other such tactics; that the ALA encourages its members to teach and nurture 21st Century information literacy skills among the American Public to help them detect disinformation, media manipulation, and missing information; and that ALA encourages libraries to actively seek and acquire alternative information resources that provide a broad context for public understanding and evaluation of news and opinion; that this resolution be shared broadly with members of ALA, the press, the public and government officials.
- Resolved, that the American Library Association work with REFORMA and other affiliates to inform and educate public libraries and member constituents about alternate forms of identification that will encourage the use of free public library services for all immigrant populations.

The final attendance total for the 2005 Annual Conference: 27,800 — 1,000 more than the previous high!  
— Annelle R. Huggins

John David Marshall Fund  
A University book fund has been established in honor of John David Marshall, Professor Marshall, who passed away on June 6, was university librarian at MTSU for many years, a devoted scholar, and a dedicated servant to the library profession.

Checks may be made out to the MTSU Foundation, indicating "John David Marshall Fund" in the note field. Checks can be mailed to the MTSU Foundation at PO Box 109.

Credit/Debit card donations can be made at: https://mtsu32.mtsu.edu:81/webapps-devoffice/servlet/GivingOnline. Electronic submissions should include "John David Marshall Fund" in the Gift Designation field.

Thank you for your interest in honoring Mr. Marshall in this way.  
— Bill Black  
MTSU

ALA Memorial Resolution Honoring  
John David Marshall

WHEREAS, The officers and members of the American Library Association have recently learned of the death of our esteemed colleague JOHN DAVID MARSHALL, former University Librarian and professor emeritus at Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, John David was a dedicated servant, a ceaseless scholar, and a selfless mentor; and

WHEREAS, John David was an influential life member of ALA, the Southeastern Library Association, and the Tennessee Library Association;

WHEREAS, John David was the author/editor of sixteen books on librarianship and numerous book reviews;

WHEREAS, John David was a recognized authority on Churchill, a Churchill Fellow of Westminster College, and a member of the Board of Governors of Westminster’s Churchill Memorial and Library; and

WHEREAS, John David was the recipient of the Tennessee Library Association’s (TLA) Frances Neel Cheney Award (1984) for his significant contributions to the world of books and librarianship, the Florida State University Distinguished Alumni Award (1989) and Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award (1992), the Bethel College Distinguished Alumni Service Award (1992), the TLA Honor Award (1992); and the Southeastern Library Association Rothrock Award for substantial career achievements (1994);

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association marks with regret the loss of John David Marshall, and expresses its members’ deepest sympathy for his loss to the professional community; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to his cousin, Marshall Stewart, his alma maters, Bethel College and Florida State University; and to the Dean of Walker Library at Middle Tennessee State University, to honor his impact on the profession and on all those whose lives were improved by knowing him.

Moved: Annelle R. Huggins, Tennessee Chapter Councilor; Seconded: Larry Romans, Councilor-at-Large

LJ Seeks Nominations for Best Small Public Library

Library Journal’s annual Award for the Best Small Library in America, co-sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, is founded to encourage and showcase the exemplary work of these libraries. Now in its second year, the award honors the public library that most profoundly demonstrates outstanding service to populations of 25,000 or less (see [insert website] for eligibility).

Members of the editorial board of Library Journal, librarians from around the country, and a representative from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will judge nominations based on key factors, including:

- Creativity in developing services and programs that can be replicated by other libraries
- Innovation in introducing and supporting public access computing, educating patrons in its use, and measuring the impact of this technology usage
- Use of technology to expand the reach of library services
- Demonstrated community support
- Success in developing cooperation with other libraries and partnerships with other agencies and businesses
- Significant increase in library use, particularly by new users
- Evidence of library’s role as community center

The winning library will receive $10,000, a feature story in the February 1, 2006 LJ, membership/conference costs for two library representatives to attend the Public Library Association Biannual Conference in 2006, and a gala reception at the conference.

Nomination deadline: Nov. 1, 2005.

VSBA Page Ready

The web page for the 2006-2007 Volunteer State Book Awards nominees is up (http://www.korrnet.org/tasl/vsba06-07.html). The books come with annotations and hyperlinks to editorial reviews from Amazon.com.

Those middle school librarians whose students will participate in the YA category are encouraged to visit Kathy Patten’s official VSBA site: http://www.mtsu.edu/~kpatten/2005yalist.html where the YA nominees are broken down by middle school and high school interest.

Happy Reading!!
— Scot Smith, Librarian Media Specialist  
Robertsville Middle School
News from UT Libraries

UT Receives IMLS Grant to Educate Librarians for the 21st Century

Scientific and technological research is crucial to the advancement and betterment of society; however there is a shortage of librarians trained to work specifically with scientists. Thanks to a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the University of Tennessee hopes to solve that problem. IMLS awarded UT a $632,249 grant as part of their Librarians for the 21st Century initiative, created to help recruit and educate the next generation of librarians. Bill Robinson, Professor in UT’s School of Information Sciences, and Jill Keally, Assistant Dean of the University Libraries, are co-principal investigators for the project.

The grant monies fund UT’s Science Links program, where qualified students will receive full scholarships to earn a master’s degree through the UT School of Information Sciences. Students will take courses specifically designed to train librarians to assist in scientific and technological research. Students will also gain practical job experience by working at the UT Libraries, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), the Department of Energy’s Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI), and Information International Associates. For more information about the program, please visit: http://www.lib.utk.edu/sciencelinks

Award-Winning International/Independent Films to be Shown

Moviegoers now have a chance to sample award-winning, first-run independent and international feature films that are unlikely to be screened elsewhere in East Tennessee. The UT Libraries’ Film Movement Series will show 16 films every Tuesday, August 30-December 13 in the John C. Hodges Library Auditorium, at 8 p.m. The film screenings are free and open to the public. Although a few of the films are American-made, most hail from Europe, Australia, Africa, South America and Canada. Many have received accolades akin to Academy Awards in their home countries. For film summaries, reviews, trailers, credits and schedules, visit http://www.lib.utk.edu/mediacent/film.

UT Libraries Ranks Among Top Libraries in the Nation

A recent study has ranked UT Libraries among the top research libraries in the nation. The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) ranked UT Libraries 3rd in the Southeastern Conference, 27th out of 68 public research institutions, and 53rd overall. The report also noted that UT had the fifth largest increase in total expenditures; from 2000-2001, when UT was 32nd among public research institutions and 53rd overall.

"An excellent library is an essential component of a first-rate research university," UTK Chancellor Loren Crabtree said. "We are proud to have one of [the] finest university libraries and we are committed to building and supporting this excellence at the core of our learning community."

Eight SEC schools made the list, including Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Vanderbilt, Kentucky, LSU, Auburn and Alabama. The top five ARL libraries are Harvard, Yale, University of Toronto, University of California-Berkeley and the University of California-Los Angeles. ARL considers five key factors in compiling its rankings each year: total number of volumes held, gross number of volumes added, number of subscriptions to current journals, magazines, newspapers and other periodicals, total expenditures and the number of professional and support staff.

UT Libraries support more than 20,000 undergraduate and 6,000 graduate students enrolled in 400 academic programs in 15 schools and colleges. UT Libraries offers reference and instructional services, public and cultural programs, technological and media resources, subject liaisons in a variety of disciplines, and promote information literacy. For more information about the UT Libraries, visit their Web page, http://www.lib.utk.edu.

— Laura Purcell, Library Outreach, UTK

West Tennessee Academic Library Consortium

The West Tennessee Academic Library Consortium consists of a group of public and private academic libraries in West Tennessee. Begun informally in 1965 as a regular luncheon meeting of several Jackson libraries, it has grown to a chartered organization consisting of Bethel College, Christian Brothers University, Crichton College, Dyersburg State Community College, Freed-Hardeman University, Jackson State Community College, Lambuth University, Lane College, Lemoine-Owen College, Rhodes College, Union University, University of Memphis, UT at Martin, and UT at Memphis (Center for Health Sciences). Its web page is http://faculty.jscce.edu/science/wtalc

The organization promotes information sharing with 2 regular meetings a year and special meetings of various library personnel, such as reference. The WETALC group has also discussed a staff development plan which features workshops throughout the year.

Before the discussion, various library staff discussed issues in their areas. After the discussion, there was a luncheon where library staffs talked about what they had been doing since the last meeting.

— Scott Cohen, Library Director
Jackson State Community College

SIS Alumni Board Election Results

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2005 UT School of Information Sciences Alumni Association election of officers and members-at-large. Taking office September 1st are:

Margaret Casado, President
Roger Myers, Vice President/President Elect
Gail Campbell, Secretary
Linda Behrend and Beverly Simmons, Members-at-Large 2005-2007

Tom Whisman and Chrissie A. Peters continue as Members-at-Large, 2005-2006.

— Janet V. Drumheller, Past-President

Jefferson City to Host WWI Series

The Jefferson City Public Library was awarded a grant for the video/discussion series project The World War I Years: America Becomes a World Power from National Video Resources and the National Endowment for the Humanities in collaboration with the American Libraries Association. The viewing and discussion series will begin on Monday, September 12, 2005, at 7:00 p.m., at the Thomas Recital Hall in the Tarr Music Building at Carson-Newman College. The remaining six sessions will be held on the following Mondays — at 7:00 p.m. in the Recital Hall; Sept. 19, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Oct. 10, Oct. 24, and Nov. 7.

We are pleased to have the honor to present this video/discussion series. We invite all libraries in the area to come and join us on the Carson-Newman campus for this special series. If you would like more information, please call us at the Jefferson City Public Library in Jefferson City, TN, at (865) 475-9094.

— Barbara C. Shelton, Director
Jefferson City Public Library
Nancy Pearl Visits Tennessee — An Interview With a “Model” Librarian

Nancy Pearl was the guest speaker at UT Chattanooga’s 4th annual Lupton Library Author Series program in Spring 2005. A champion of reading, books, and libraries, she has been described as America’s favorite librarian and is the author of the best-selling Book Lust, followed by recently-released (May 2005), More Book Lust. She is a featured book commentator on NPR’s “Morning Edition,” is the originator of the “One City, One Book” concept, and is the model of the famous “shushing” librarian action figure. Sheila Delacroix and Priscilla Seaman, UTC librarians, interviewed Pearl in action, and plumbed her thoughts on fame, fortune, and following one’s bliss. Excerpts follow:

PS: You have said that reading for pleasure is very important to you...
NP: Yes, I have a very strong belief in what I call recreational learning. There are many people like me who want to find out things, who want to read history, in the same way that lots of people read mystery or read fiction. I read lots of mysteries. Readers want to find out things about the world, [for example] natural history and ecology. You’re not doing it because you are going to be tested on it in class. It’s just because we have a natural curiosity about what’s going on. I think that everything you read—fiction as well as non-fiction—you learn something from. I am always struck with what I learn from the novels that I read, whether it’s about the particular period, or some other little event. Learning goes on unconsciously. That’s one of the great things [about] libraries.

PS: How do you feel about Amazon.com’s type of ‘reader’s advisory,’ in which they attempt to match your book preferences based on previous sales versus the librarian as reader’s advisor?
NP: Certainly it would depend on how well trained the human being was in reader’s advisory. But given that they were trained, I think that finding a computer recommending system that doesn’t use a human interface is the holy grail of the public library world. It seems that’s what everybody is trying to do. It is very hard, because people read in some ways for unquantifiable reasons. A computer can do really well with the quantifiable stuff, but if I go to a librarian and ask them for a good book and they do a reader’s advisory interview with me, that teaches them something about me. Even if I don’t like the books that they recommend, I get an idea of what I might like another time. At this point I don’t think there’s a computer system that can do that. I think that doing reader’s advisory is part magic, part psychology, part intuition, and part luck. But it begins with a theory or an understanding of the reason why people like the books they like. You see, I think that when you open a book it’s the start of a journey and you never know where that book will take you. Everybody’s journey is... different, even if they begin with the same book. That’s so exciting to me.

SD: We went to [library] school for a love of books, of learning, and of finding things out. Where do you think our profession is heading?
NP: I don’t have trouble with getting rid of the card catalog. [or] with the book as a physical object. It’s the idea. It’s what’s in the book that has always been the most important thing to me. But I do have trouble with the fact that we are not educating people to talk about books and to share their enthusiasm in a direct and helpful way with the library patrons. And I use patrons advisedly because I think turning the library into a business model is not useful to the library profession. To talk about the customers is not something that I find personally compelling.

SD: I love the “One Book, One City” concept. I recently read the following passage in a new reference book: “We live at a time when our desire for community seems to grow in proportion to our sense that it is declining.” What do you think about that, within the [OB,OC] idea?
NP: I think that we live in a society where you can go all day long without having any kind of a discussion besides the most superficial with another human being outside your family. And sometimes you can go through a whole day without interacting with another person. You can do self-check out at the grocery store. There’s self-check out in libraries. Pay at the pump gas stations. And families are so scattered. So where is the community? A lot of people find community in their religion, but there are people who don’t have that. It seems to me that a perfect way to build community is to get people talking about a good book, especially if you choose the books so that they lead to discussion. You can get a group of strangers together and they will grow a common vocabulary over the months of talking about books. Even if it’s just one book, like the one-time get together. It’s so important when you can talk about a book that illuminates the fact that we have similarities underneath our obvious differences. I went into the library profession because I wanted to help make a better world. I think libraries change lives in very fundamental ways by doing what they do best, and building a community around books is one of those things.

PS: How has your experience with writing More Book Lust differed from your experience with writing the first Book Lust?
NP: For the first book, I basically sat down and looked at my own bookshelves and came up with books that I loved. From there, I built categories around them. I thought it was going to be the only sort of popular book I was going to get to do – popular in the sense of published for the trade rather than the library market, so I really wanted to put everything in. I wanted to put as many books in as possible and didn’t feel that I needed to say anything about the books. So there’s that section on the 100 great books for the century, decade by decade, which I just loved doing. And I loved all the lists in there. But one of the things that people said, including my husband, was that they really wished that I would have said more about the books. So, I decided that in More Book Lust I would do fewer categories and fewer sections and instead talk more about the books within those categories. So basically that’s what I did. And then More Book Lust grew out of not just the books that people suggested that I had not read, but also the books that I realized I had forgotten. When I thought about it, it seemed to me that More Book Lust is not really a sequel, because that implies that you are done with something and you are going on to something else, but that it is really a true companion. In the introduction to More Book Lust, I say something about how I imagine that Book Lust would be on one end of someone’s bookshelf and More Book Lust would be on the other and in between would be all the books that come from them.

SD: Have there been [times] in this whole explosion of attention where you have said to yourself, “Wow, I don’t believe I’m sitting here?”
NP: I constantly say, “How did this little kid from Detroit... end up being so fortunate to be able to do what I love and speak to such a wide audience?” This is what I have always done. I’ve always been, in a funny way, very shy and always only interested in talking about books, only able to talk about books, and talk about books that I loved and recommend books and hear from people about books that they love. I went to Tulsa and started reviewing books on their public radio station. Then I went to Seattle and was reviewing books on the public radio station there. Then the Morning Edition thing happened. It’s just me and it’s just me loving books, loving to read. There’s a new book out called The Sixteenth Minute, which is about what happens after the 15 minutes of fame. After Buzz Aldrin was on the moon, somebody asked him what next. And he went into this big depression. I am not equating myself with Buzz Aldrin, but I will say it’s kind of bizarre to have been digitized and turned into 5 inches of non-biodegradable plastic. That little action figure will be around long after we are all dead and gone!
Tennessee Library Association/Southeastern Library Association Joint Conference
April 6-7, 2006 (Pre-Conferences: April 5, 2006)
Memphis, Tennessee

Deadline for Submission: October 20, 2005

TLA’s 2006 conference will feature a variety of program formats. Contributed presentations can be made in 50-minute time slots that include 5 minutes for discussion. Two or three hour sessions will also be possible should there be sufficient interest. Poster Sessions - displays on current information topics with the presenter available to answer questions - will be held each day in the exhibits area. Table Talks - informal discussions on a topic of a presenter’s choice - will give conferees another venue to share ideas with colleagues. TLA leaders who wish to hold business meetings should provide group name below.

The Conference Committee will approve proposals. Requested session times and dates will be honored wherever possible.

Please note:
TLA policy states that conference presenters who work in Tennessee Libraries must personally register for the conference.

Program Presenter:
Attach list of any additional presenters (TLA policy states that Conference presenters who work in TN Libraries must personally register for the Conference)

Program Contact Person:
Organization:
Address:
Phone #/Fax #:
Email: ________________________________

Please write a short description, 50 words or less, of your presentation for the conference program. Please carefully read over what you write as this will be the description published in the program.

AV/Electronic Equipment Required (please check all that apply):
All program sponsors must provide PCs, projectors, software, etc. as required by presenters. No computer equipment will be provided by the Conference Committee. A limited number of rooms will have Internet connections. A program using an Internet connection will receive specific information regarding system requirements prior to Conference. NOTE: There is a convention center charge for each of the items below; charges are paid by the conference planning committee. Please carefully consider whether you need it for your presentation. You must list needed equipment on this form. No equipment will be provided unless noted on this form.

Internet connection & Projection screen  Projection screen (only)  Overhead projector & Projection screen  Phone line only
Flip chart/pens  Easel  VCR/TV  Microphone  Other (please specify):

Program Expenses: (TLA proposed programs only)
Only non-librarians and out-of-state speakers may be reimbursed for travel costs and/or honorarium. Please provide the following information, if the program speaker is eligible for reimbursement.

Speaker Honorarium

Travel  Per diem  ___ days @  ____  =  _____
Lodging  ___ days @  ____  =  _____
TOTAL  =  _____

Form revised 6/14/05
TENNESSEE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Legislation Committee
presents the following

NEWS FLASH

WHAT: LOCAL LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE MONTH
WHEN: OCTOBER 2005
WHERE: IN EVERY LIBRARY DISTRICT IN TENNESSEE
WHY: TO BRING THE MESSAGE OF THE IMPORTANCE
OF LIBRARIES TO OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ON THEIR
HOME GROUND
HOW: THROUGH CREATIVE EVENTS PLANNED BY
LIBRARY STAFF AND FRIENDS

Please Join Us!
This is a call to action for advocacy for our Tennessee libraries. October 2005 will be our first annual Local Library Legislative Month and we encourage all of you to join us. This is a chance to invite your elected officials to your libraries.

We have had great success with our participation at the Tennessee Library Legislative Day and the National Library Legislative Day. Last February we had over 250 advocates attend TLLD in Nashville. A group of 12 experienced, savvy advocates traveled to Washington D.C in May 2005.

Now it is time to bring our message to the local front. This will help us to involve many more Friends and patrons and will meet our elected local, state, and federal officials on their home ground.

To help you start planning we have developed the attached Tip Sheet. We know that many of you are already doing wonderful, creative events to bring the importance of libraries to your officials and we would love to share your success stories (see end of Tip Sheet).

As always, the real key to these events is to involve trustees, Friends, patrons, and residents—the voting constituents. Partnering with other local libraries for our events will make them even stronger and will allow our elected officials to visit with more of us.

Have fun and please fill our event/evaluation form on the TLA web page so we can keep track of your participation.

Vivian Wynn
James Staub
TLA Legislation Committee Cochairs
We would like to have as many libraries as possible advocate for their elected officials during the month of October. This will give TLA a great chance to publicize the event statewide. Please fill out the event form/evaluation form on the TLA web page so we know what is going on. TLA Legislation committee hopes to be able to award some prizes for participants. Details to follow on the TLA web page at http://www.tla.org/capitol/index.html.

Plant a tree on library property to honor the elected official(s) with the press present.

We would love to add YOUR ideas to this list on the TLA web page. Email them to the TLA Legislation Committee through co-chairs Vivian Wynn (vwynn91@comcast.net) and James Staub (James.Staub@state.tn.us).

We know that you all have wonderful creative ideas on how to advocate for your library and here are a few more tips to get the planning started. All of these events should include Friends, patrons, and residents, since they are the voting constituents officials want to hear from.
The purpose of the Tennessee Library Association is to “promote the establishment, maintenance, and support of adequate library services for all people of the state; to cooperate with public and private agencies with related interests; and to support and further professional interests of the membership of the Association.” In order to accomplish these goals, TLA supports continuing education opportunities for its members, especially at its annual spring meeting. TLA works with the State Library and Archives to develop state-wide holdings databases, coordinated networks involving all types of libraries and information centers, and effective and efficient resource sharing initiatives. The Association also initiates and supports legislation promoting library development and monitors legislation that might threaten Tennessee libraries and librarians. We hope that you will find the Tennessee Library Association to be an organization that makes a difference for you, for Tennessee librarians, for Tennessee Libraries, and for the citizens of Tennessee.

Reference in a Foreign Land

In Fall 1998, I arrived in London for a post-graduate internship as supervising librarian for Florida State. I will never forget the sobriety of that first assembly meeting when the director of the program announced that the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania had been bombed. He went on to tell the staff and students that the State Department had warned that Americans abroad may be targets of terrorist groups. We were warned not to dress like Americans (avoiding white tennis shoes, baseball caps, and t-shirts with logos); we were told not to speak loudly in large crowds or while using public transportation.

I spent the next year of my life in this international city, pretending to be a Londoner and watching over my shoulder each time I approached the building where I lived and worked. These things made the work that I did very serious. Though our library’s primary responsibility was to support the curriculum of the schools using the facilities, we also provided a source of tourism information. I felt it very important that those who asked us have accurate information in little things like how to get to the grocery store, where the local Student Travel Association was located, and how to navigate the city. We provided copies of maps of the Tube and bus routes, had maps of the city, and had to give directions like we were in our own hometowns. We realized that students could risk their lives by getting lost or asking directions. Sometimes, what we consider to be menial in reference work can have a greater effect on the communities which we serve.

After a year there, I considered this city home. It was as much a part of me as my hometown of Jonesborough. I would often walk home alone at night or explore the city by myself. I liked seeing the various cultures represented and making friends with the staff of the nearby businesses. Despite the serious warning in the beginning of my term, I grew very comfortable in this city that seemed safer than New York.

Hearing the news that the city’s transport had been attacked on the morning of July 7, 2005, was sad. King’s Cross is the stop I took to visit the British Library; Russell Square is the area that I cut across on my way to the grocery store or to eat lunch in the park. My thoughts remain with those known and unknown to me who bravely go about their way to the grocery store or to eat lunch in the park. My thoughts remain comfortable in this city that seemed safer than New York.

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Amy Arnold is the Reference and ILL Librarian for Virginia Intermont College. She received her MS in Information Studies from Florida State in 1998. Following graduation, she did a post-graduate internship in London at the FSU Study Centre. She is a resident of Tennessee.