Let's do lunch!

Nancy Polette, author of children’s books and over 150 professional books, will be featured at the LASL Author’s Luncheon from 12:00 to 1:30 on Wednesday, April 27. She is Professor of Education at Lindenwood University and travels extensively conducting workshops on Reading-Based Strategies for Reading, Writing and Research. Visit her website at www.nancypolette.com for more info.

See the light with these sessions!

- Best Books for Children
- Best Books for Young Adults
- Louisiana Young Readers’ Choice Awards
- Empowering Teachers through Collaboration
- Research Without Copying
- Mind-stretching Books for Children
- Gotta Have a Gimmick (Selling Teen Read Week)

"An educator with imagination, creativity and an appreciation for the intelligence of children", School Library Journal
Every Student Succeeds @ Your Library

January 22, 2005
Dutchtown High School, Geismar LA

Join us for this exciting day of professional development!

Here is a sample of the great concurrent sessions that offer something for everyone:

- National Board Certification
- Librarian’s Role and the GLEs
- Best Books
- Information Literacy Skills
- Reader’s Choice Discussion Groups
- Reading Counts and Accelerated Reader
- Hands-On Technology in State-of-the-Art Labs
- Share-a-thon for K-12
- Displays in the Library
- Distance Education
- Exploring Online Databases
- Intellectual Freedom
- The Power of Reading

Special Programs for Administrators!!!

- How to Evaluate Your Library Program
- Principal’s Role in Collaboration
- The Impact of Flexible Scheduling on Student Achievement

Registration begins at 7:30
First Session begins at 8:30

COST:
- LLA Members $30
- Non-Members $45
- Teachers $20
- Administrators FREE

* Registration includes lunch. *

Visit www.llaonline.org for updates and registration information.
LASL Executive Board was held September 18, 2004 in Lecompte. Linda Holmes, President, presided over the meeting. Fourteen board members were present. Committees met at 9:30 and the Executive Board convened at 10:00.

Kathryn Arrington, First Vice President and Chair of the Author Luncheon, has contacted Nancy Polette to be the guest author for the 2005 LASL Author Luncheon in Alexandria. She is the author of many professional books for educators as well as books for children. She is sponsored by Literature Seminars who will be helping to pay for her expenses for the conference. More information about Polette is available at: www.nancypolette.com. She will also be presenting two workshops at Conference: “Research Without Copying” and “Mind-Stretching Books for Children.”

Susan Cheshire, Second Vice President and chair of the Continuing Education Committee, has scheduled the following programs for Conference: Best Books for Children, Best Books for Young Adults, Young Readers Choice Awards, Empowering Teachers through Collaboration and Gotta Have a Gimmick.

Janet Lathrop is the new LASL Newsletter Editor. The fall issue should be on the web by the first week in November.

The Liz Bruns Award will be slightly different this year to reflect a change from the sponsoring company, Follett Software. In past years the recipient of the award received $1000 in books for his or her school library. Follett Software would like to change the award to a one-year software subscription to reflect the company’s products. Elizabeth Dumas, Chair of this committee, will be responsible for making sure the online application reflects this change.

Linda Holmes and Idella Washington were Louisiana delegates to the Affiliate Assembly in June in Orlando at the ALA Annual Conference. Minutes of the meetings and the statements of concerns from the different regions are on the ALA website. Next LASL conference will be October 5-9, 2005 in Pittsburgh.

Louisiana Teenage Librarians Association will meet in Alexandria on February 18, 2005.

LALAMP tour was held during the week of September 20-24 in five different cities – West Monroe, Natchitoches, Lake Charles, Baton Rouge, and New Orleans. Beth Bingham was the keynote speaker with a discussion on “Perception and Professionalism: It All Begins with You.” Afternoon sessions included topics such as technology, literacy, best books, and library renovations. LLA membership brochures and Midwinter fliers were distributed at each site.

LASL is planning a Midwinter Conference themed “Every Student Succeeds @ Your Library” on January 22 at Dutchtown High School in Geismar. Terry Young and Catherine Brooks are co-chairing this conference. Also on the Steering Committee are: Linda Holmes, Terry Thibodeaux, Kathryn Arrington, Phyllis Heroy, Patsy Perritt, Margie Thomas, and Janet Lathrop. The conference details are posted on the LLA website with registration forms for attendees and vendors and program proposal forms for anyone interested in presenting a workshop at the conference.

Two Louisiana school districts received the Literacy through School Libraries Grant this year. The two school districts are: Bienville Parish for $399,676 and New Orleans Public Schools for $349,987.

Scholastic’s publication School Libraries Work! utilizes research to show the impact of the school library media specialist on student academic achievement. For a copy go to www.scholastic.com.
There are wonderful things going on in Louisiana’s school libraries. It’s time that we professionals publicize our efforts. Several awards are given to librarians and schools with outstanding library programs. Take some time and nominate someone (how about YOURSELF?) for one of these prestigious honors! All applications are due by December 1 of each year. Visit www.llaonline.org for more information.

James O. Modisette Award for School Libraries

This award is presented annually to an Elementary School Library, to a Middle/Junior High School Library, and to a High School Library to recognize excellence in Louisiana school library programs.

Elizabeth Bruns Award

This award is presented annually by Follett Software Co. and the Louisiana Association of School Librarians Section in memory of Elizabeth Bruns to an elementary, middle, or high school library media specialist to recognize a program that demonstrates exemplary library usage, thereby enhancing the school's learning environment.

School Library Media Specialist Award

This award is presented by the Louisiana Association of School Librarians to the school library media specialist who has demonstrated through action and philosophy a dedication to the mission and goals of the media specialist profession.

Sue Hefley Educator of the Year Award

This award is presented by the Louisiana Association of School Librarians to an educator who has made outstanding contributions to school libraries in Louisiana.
The 2004 AASL Fall Forum, “Collaboration and Reading to Learn @ your Library”, was held Oct 1-3, 2004 at the Omni Mandalay Hotel in (Dallas) Irving, Texas. Three school librarians from Louisiana attended: Pat Tatum from Berwick Elementary- St. Mary Parish, Nelly Arceneaux from Almand School- Lafayette Parish, and Linda Lingefelt from Franklin Junior High- St. Mary Parish.

The purpose of the forum was to learn effective strategies for collaborating with classroom teachers, reading and literacy specialists and/or subject area teachers to promote reading for understanding. The Saturday morning session was divided between Elementary and Secondary speakers. Pat and Nelly attended the Elementary section where Dr. Peter Afflerbach, author of Collaboration for Comprehension: Working to Help Students Become Strategic Readers was the guest speaker. The secondary workshop was attended by Linda L., where Dr. Donna Ogle, author of Reading to Learn: Developing Research and Critical Thinking Strategies was the guest speaker. There was a Reading Panel/Roundtable discussion at the luncheon entitled What is the Role of the Library Media Specialist in Reading?

The Walden Media Company held a special screening of their new movie “I am David” which stars Joan Plowright and Jim Caviezel. It was previewed by the attendees following a dessert reception sponsored by Walden Media. The movie is based on the book North to Freedom by Anne Holm. The story takes place during World War II and deals with the Holocaust. Walden Media is the same company that made the movie "Holes" based on Louis Sachar’s book. Upcoming movie releases based on popular books are: "Because of Winn-Dixie” based on Kate DiCamillo’s novel will be released in January of 2005; "Bridge to Terabithia " based on the book by Katherine Paterson is to be released in the fall of 2005; "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" based on the book by C. S. Lewis, will be released Christmas of 2005; and in the spring of 2006, "The Giver" based on Lois Lowry’s book will be released.

AASL Affiliate Assembly

Linda Holmes and Idella Washington represented Louisiana at the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando on June 24-26, 2004. Dawn Vaughn, AASL President-Elect, shared that the focus of her presidency will be strategic planning. Roundtable discussions of statements of concerns submitted by the Regions were discussed on Friday evening and voting was on Sunday morning. Affiliate Assembly approved the following concerns to forward to the AASL Executive Board.

1. Request that AASL create a toolkit to help ALMS to create and implement an academic integrity policy and assist teachers in presenting plagiarism.
2. Request that AASL monitor federal legislation on all education issues especially as NCLB laws are modified.
3. Request that AASL revise the position statement about reading literacy with guidelines for practicing SLMS.
4. Request that AASL appoint a task force to develop an AASL “Information Power Stamp of Approval” in recognition of exemplary school library media programs.
5. Request that AASL study successful voter turnout strategies for high voting states in state, regional and national ALA elections.
save the date!  http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslindex.htm for more info.

Because student achievement is the bottom line.

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