



LASL Newsletter

Volume 21, Issue 2

January 2001

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Addy author, LSU alumna slated for March 4 LASL Author's Luncheon in Lafayette

By Terry Thibodeaux

This year's Author Luncheon will feature a writer of both national and local prominence. As writer of the Addy books in the *American Girl* series, Connie Rose Porter has been entertaining readers around the country throughout the '90s. As a 1987 graduate of LSU's Master of Fine Arts program, Porter has her ties to Louisiana as well.

The Lackawanna, New York, native will take the podium at this year's Luncheon, scheduled for Sunday, March 4, in Lafayette, as part of the Louisiana Library Association's annual conference.

The popular Addy books have sold over three million copies. In 1993, *Publishers Weekly* listed *Meet Addy* as the tenth best-selling children's book of the year, and in its Cuffie awards for that year, the magazine's bookseller audience voted the Addy series "Best Children's Stories of 1993."

Several Addy books have followed since then, developing the young character and winning more and more young readers.

The Addy stories trace the development of a young African-American girl who escapes from slavery in 1864 during the Civil War and fights to reunite her family when



LSU graduate Connie Rose Porter, who breathed life into *American Girl Addy*, will be the speaker at this year's LASL Luncheon.

she and her mother reach Philadelphia.

"I wanted children to see African-American people as part of strong, loving families, caught up in slavery, doing what they had to do to survive," Porter says.

In addition to her Addy books, Porter is the author of other works as well. In *All-Bright Court* (1991), which

(Continued on page 6)



Because student achievement *is* the bottom line.

From the President

By Antonia White



Pack your bags: Lafayette, the Hub City awaits! LLA's State Conference is planned for March 2-6. That's right, most of the programming is planned for a weekend!

School librarians have their best chance in recent memory to attend a professional conference and not have to be away from school.

Why not have your parish association invite your school board president or superintendent to attend as their guest? Ask your principal to attend. Let your administrators know what you do and where your library programming is going.

Programs sponsored by LASL begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and continue through Sunday afternoon.

Connie Porter, author of the Addy books in the *American Girl* series, will speak at the LASL banquet on Sunday (noon-2 p.m.) Remember to attend LASL's Business Meeting on Saturday morning. Early bird registration ends on February 2, so don't delay.

Allons à la Lafayette.



Louisiana Association of School Librarians

Vol. 21

No. 2

Preconference 2001 Issue

The LASL Newsletter is published three times a year by the Louisiana Association of School Librarians, a section of the Louisiana Library Association.

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"Why not have your parish association invite your school board president or superintendent to attend as their guest? Ask your principal to attend."



Logo Contest to determine future LLA visual identity

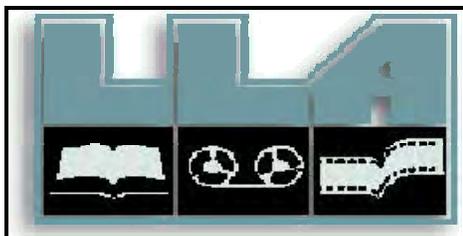
By David Duggar
LLA President

The Louisiana Library Association would like a new logo as we enter the early years of the new millennium. Use your imagination and creativity to design the new symbols for LLA! This logo is used on official documents such as the web site, membership brochures, and stationery.

The current full logo of the Louisiana Library Association includes various formats of information, some of which are now much outdated with new technological achievements. The ideal logo will convey the objectives of the Louisiana Library Association [promotion of libraries and librarians in Louisiana, professionalism, service, continuing education, types of libraries, disciplines within librarianship, and to promote and improve the communication, dissemination and use of knowledge for the benefit of libraries and their users] and concepts of energy, feeling, emotion, and excellence. The logo will be easy to read, quick to download and will reproduce in both color and black-and-white.

Entry deadline March 28, 2001

PRIZES:



**2000 LLA Logo -
Out with the old**

The winner will receive one year (2001-2002) of free membership in the Louisiana Library Association and a free ticket to the 2002 LLA Awards Banquet in Baton Rouge where the winner will be recognized. An article and photo of the winner and logo will appear in *Louisiana Libraries* and on the Louisiana Library Association web site. The winner will also receive a certificate and letter of appreciation from the President of the Louisiana Library Association.

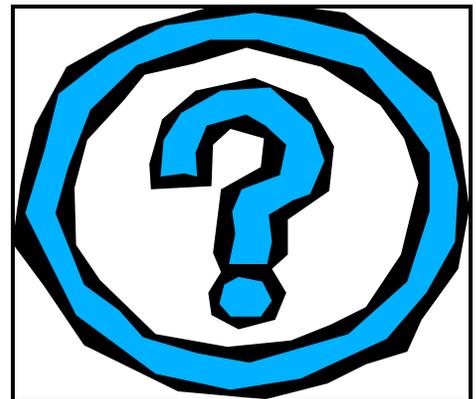
JUDGES:

A 20-member panel made up of the Louisiana Library Association Executive Board, Membership, *Louisiana Libraries* Editor, Advisory Committee on Publications, and Scholarship Committee Chairs will select the winning entry.

RULES ON THE CONTEST:

1. Must be a current LLA member
2. Submit entries in a .jpg or .gif electronic file format. File size should be less than 200x200 pixels.
3. Entries should be sent to David Duggar, President, LLA, via e-mail [ddugga@lsuhsc.edu] by March 28, 2001.
4. All entries will be posted on the Louisiana Library Association Home page as a group no later than April 15, 2001. Louisiana Library Association members will be encouraged to comment on the entries for the remainder of the month.

5. Judges will vote electronically by May 15, 2001.
6. The winning logo will be announced on the Louisiana Library Association web site, listserv, and in *Louisiana Libraries*.
7. The winning logo will be formally unveiled at the Annual Business Meeting of the Louisiana Library Association during the LLA Annual Conference, March 2002.



**2001 LLA Logo -
In with the New**



State Library Youth Services Consultant Gail Criswell needs more school librarians for the Young Reader's Choice Award Committee. Anyone interested may contact Gail at 225-342-4931 or gcriswel@pelican.state.lib.la.us for more information.

Using Technology to Promote Student Achievement

By Linda Lingefelt

Information Power II, the national standards for school librarians, has as its mission "Student achievement is the bottom line." *Information Power II* stresses student achievement through the involvement of the parents, teachers, and the community into this learning process throughout the document.

This mission has been taken literally by two Franklin public school librarians, Mrs. Kathleen Prados, high school librarian, and Ms. Linda Lingefelt, junior high librarian, as they work to promote student achievement by linking it with technology (school's web page).

They have combined forces by joining with the public librarians from the St. Mary Public Library in Franklin, Louisiana, to promote the student's achievement in the Franklin area.

They are working collaboratively and cooperatively with the St. Mary Public Library, at the Franklin Branch, and the public librarians are: Mrs. Judy Ordoyne- Assistant Parish Director; Mrs. Lisette Foster, Technology Coordinator; and Mrs. Cheryl Copper-Moulier, Director of the St. Mary Parish Public Library.

Collaboratively and cooperatively working with the public library has added an extra bonus to the mission—community involvement. This collaborative effort evolved when the school librarian began to post the teachers' assignments on the web page.

Anyone who has access to the Internet and the schools' Internet address is able to access the teachers' assignments and become aware of what the teachers require to complete the assignment.

Parents are expressing a great interest and they are thankful for the foresight of the school librarians for posting of the information on the school web page and allowing them to keep abreast of requirements for their child's assignment.

The first step in achieving the main mission of *Information Power II* was for the school librarians to do collaborative planning with the faculty members of their school, in the different subject areas. The school librarian and the subject teacher decide upon:

- the resources that will be needed for the assignment;
- the goals and objectives;
- the time span for the project,

- and the information to be posted on their school's web page.

The librarian then enters the informational data under the teacher's subject area on the web page. [The St. Mary Parish School Board provides the school's web page to each school in the parish.]

Through this process the school librarian and the subject teacher have formed a collaborative team for presenting the information to the students. This continuity has helped to eliminate most of the student's confusion in what the teacher requires and what he/she thinks is required, through the click of the computer.

The two Franklin school librarians are working hard to develop the school web page into a valuable tool for keeping the students and parents informed about upcoming projects and the requirements for that project. The required information can be accessed on the school's web page by anyone through an Internet connection by:

1. Accessing the school's Internet address (this will bring the person to school's home page).
<http://www.stmary.k12.la.us/fhs>
<http://www.stmary.k12.la.us/fjhs>
2. Locating the library resource folder or the folder under the subject area that contains teacher's assignment he/she is seeking and double click on it to open the file.
3. Locate the teacher's assignment and double click on it to open the folder containing the information.

The student has access to this information at school, at the public library, or at home. Parents may, also, access the school's web page to find out what his/her child is assigned and the due date. This is a tool to help keep parents and the public librarians abreast of the assignments and the requirements.

The second step is the collaboration and cooperation of the school librarians and the public librarians which have enabled the public librarians to provide better services to the student when he/she goes to the public library for assistance.

Working collaboratively and cooperatively with Mrs. Lisette Foster from the public library, the teachers and school librarians have Mrs. Foster now

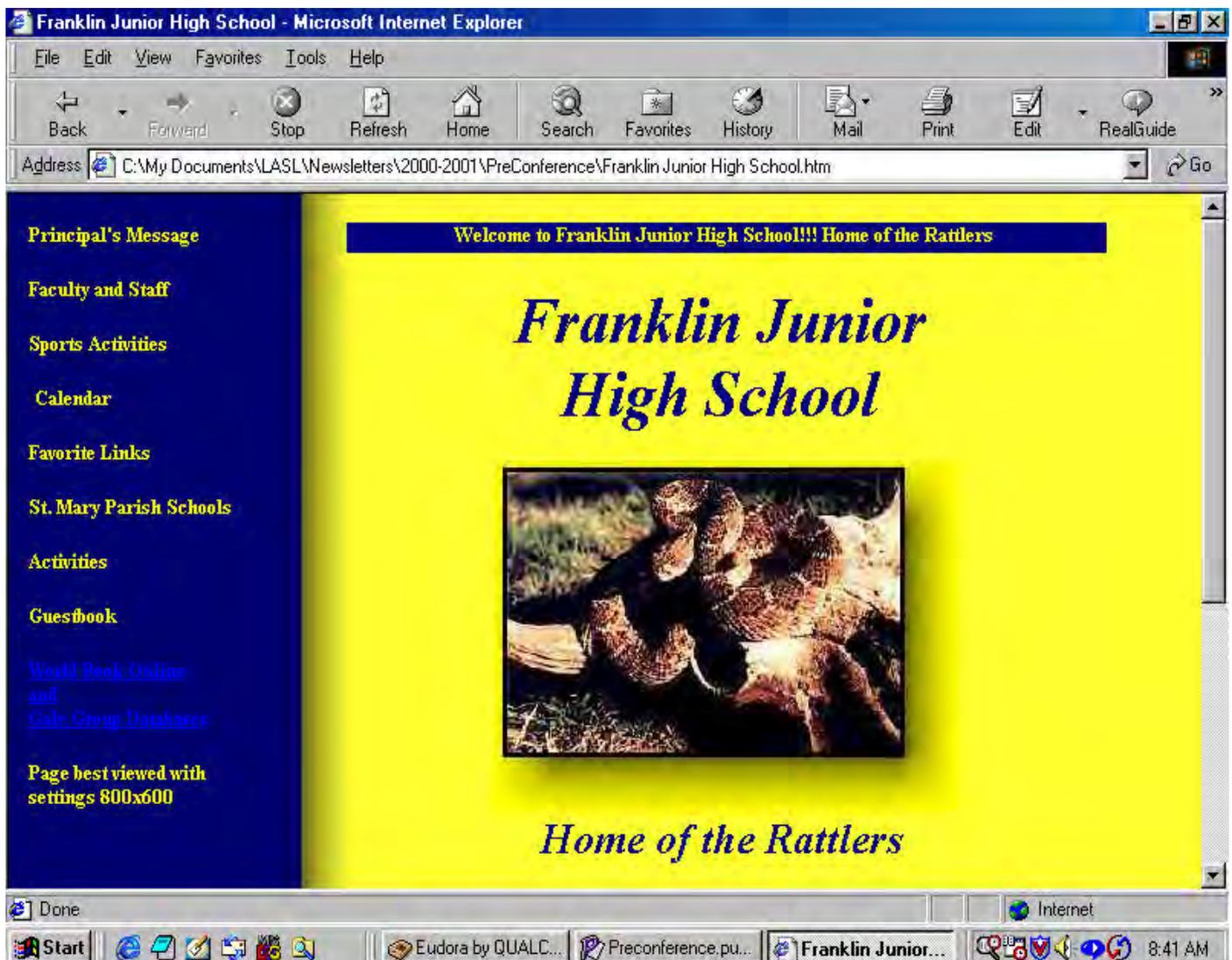
coming to the schools to teach the students how to use the different electronic sources available at the public library. She is able to assess the student's need. From this assessment she has started teaching a class, Wednesdays after school, on how to use the computer and how to type a research paper or project.

The school librarians keep the public librarians updated on upcoming projects at their school, so that they can be properly prepared. The public librarians, also, have access to the school's web page, so that they can find out the what a teacher requires for a research paper or project.

This has aided the public librarians in knowing what reference sources the student will be required to use for his/her assignment, such as a listing of books, Internet addresses they should consult, magazines (paper or electronic), and reference (print, CD-ROM, or electronic) materials that can be used.

This has, also, aided the public library in the ordering of materials that the student will need to use to complete his/her assignment.

These collaborative and cooperative efforts of the school librarians, teachers, and public librarians have paid off for the students in the Franklin area. They are being served better by the school and at the public library. The public librarians and parents know what the requirements are for research papers and projects though the click of a mouse on the school's web page. Thus the mission of *Information Power II* that stresses student achievement through the involvement of the parents, teachers, and the community into this learning process has been achieved.



(Continued from page 1)

Porter

grew out of a writing assignment at LSU, Porter drew upon her own experience growing up in Lackawanna, the second youngest of nine brothers and sisters.

The story focuses on the black steelworkers and their families residing in the ironically named tenement of All-Bright Court in the early 1960s. The story was selected by the American Library Association as one of the “Best Books of 1991.” *The New York Times* tabbed it is one of its “Notable Books of 1991.”

Another adult book, *Imani All Mine* (1999), follows the story of Tasha, a 15-year-old single mother, as she works to bring up her child in an inner city Buffalo, New York, neighborhood.

The story, like much of Porter’s work, presents the picture of a young African-American girl facing challenges, and Porter hopes her novels help to break stereotypes by providing readers with the complexities of these challenges—the poverty, the youth violence and crime, and the need for adult responsibility and resources in the young adult’s development.

In addition to her M.F.A. from LSU, Porter has a degree from the State University of New York-Albany and has attended the prestigious Bread Loaf Writer’s Conference at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont.

She has also taught English and creative writing at Emerson College and Milton Academy in Massachusetts and at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She currently lives in Virginia and is working on a new adult novel.

Connie Porter Resources

Titles

- Addy's little brother (2000)
- Imani all mine (1999)
- High hopes for Addy (1999)
- Addy saves the day : a summer story (1994)
- Changes for Addy : a winter story (1994)
- Addy learns a lesson : a school story (1993)
- Addy's surprise : A Christmas story (1993)
- Happy birthday, Addy! : a springtime story (1993)
- Meet Addy : an American girl (1993)
- All-Bright Court (1991)



Web sites

Children's Literature: Meet Authors & Illustrators

http://www.childrenslit.com/f_connieporter.htm



Connie Porter

http://www.canisius.edu/~cochrane/writer/connie_porter.htm

City Honors School Holds Connie Porter Day

<http://www.cityhonors.buffalo.k12.ny.us/city/Dims/199899/99Mar/99marHTML/por.html>

Connie Porter: a Reader’s Guide

http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/features/readers_guides/porter.html

Author Connie Rose Porter comes to Main (Rapides Parish) Library

<http://www.rpl.org/20000106.html>

Author Hopes Her Love of Reading is Contagious

<http://www.theskanner.com/special99/blackhistory/history05.htm>

“[All-Bright Court] grew out of a short story that I wrote for an assignment during my last year at LSU. At that point it was only twelve pages. I had always wanted to write more about where I grew up and the steel industry there. This book gave me the chance to do both.”

—Connie Porter

Conference Programming

LLA Conference in Lafayette

March 3-6, 2001



CONFERENCE PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2001

Exhibits Open: 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. - Registration: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS BUSINESS MEETING. Presiding: Toni White, Librarian, E. A. Martin Middle School, Lafayette (Louisiana Association of School Librarians)

9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

SCHOOL LIBRARIANS' FORUM. Presenters: Open Session (Louisiana Association of School Librarians) This will be a roundtable discussion for sharing ideas and concerns, and asking questions.

11:00 a.m.-NOON

BOOK TALKING: NONFICTION AND SERIES FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS. Presenter: Joan Creech (Louisiana Association of School Librarians) Book talks for middle and high school students with a focus on nonfiction titles and book series.

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

LOUISIANA YOUNG READERS' CHOICE AWARDS. Presenter: Gail Criswell, Youth Services Consultant, State Library of Louisiana (Louisiana Association of School Librarians) Winner of the 2001 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award will be announced, and the titles selected for the 2002 ballot will be previewed.

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

WHAT CAN I DO FOR MY SPECIAL STUDENTS? Presenter: Jerilyn Woodson, Librarian, Tanglewood Elementary School, East Baton Rouge Parish (Louisiana Association of School Librarians) Suggestions for working with special students, including 504s, along with ideas about where to locate special materials.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2001

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

SHARING SESSIONS. (Louisiana Library Association) Sexuality and Young Adult Literature. Presenters: Jo Ann Moinet, Librarian, Eleanor McMain Secondary School, New Orleans; and Ruth Ann Nadeau, Lusher Extension Middle School, New Orleans. Results of an independent study survey of middle and high school librarians from the metro New Or-

leans area and librarians subscribed to LM Net regarding sexuality in young adult literature.

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

BEST OF WHAT'S NEW IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS. Presenters: Colleen Salley, Professor Emeritus, University of New Orleans; and Joy Lowe, Associate Professor, Louisiana Tech University (Louisiana Association of School Librarians) A look at some of the best books for the year.

11:00 a.m.-NOON

EXHIBITS - NO CONFLICT

NOON-2:00 p.m.

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS AUTHOR LUNCHEON. Presenter: Connie Porter, author of the best-selling Addy books in the American Girls series (Louisiana Association of School Librarians)

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

TECHNOLOGY REFERENCE AND RESOURCE SKILLS FOR THE 21 ST CENTURY. Presenter: Sheila Woerner, Louisiana Resource Center for Educators, Baton Rouge (Louisiana Association of School Librarians) This program will discuss Internet search strategies, search engines, and resource skills.

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2001

9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

WORLD BOOK ONLINE TRAINING SESSION. Presenter: Andy Snelling, Regional Director, School/Library Division, World Book, Inc. (World Book, Inc.) Using World Book Online in libraries for research and new features of the online encyclopedia.

10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

BOOK SELECTION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIES. Speaker: Patsy Perritt, Professor of Library and Information Science, Louisiana State University (Louisiana Association of School Librarians)

10:00 a.m.-11:00a.m.

RE: SEARCHING FOR A BETTER WAY. Presenters: Cinde Sulik and Belinda Edwards, Librarians, St. Thomas

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(Continued from page 7)

More Catholic High School, Lafayette (Louisiana Association of School Librarians) A presentation geared to the school faculty rather than the student population. Will focus on strategies for incorporating literacy and technology skills across the curriculum.

1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. - OFFSITE

SCHOOL LIBRARY TOUR OF ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL. Presenter: Cinde Sulik, Librarian, St. Thomas More Catholic High School, Lafayette

(Louisiana Association of School Librarians) Location: St Thomas More Catholic High School, 450 E. Farrel Road (337) 984-3448. Tour a school library and see firsthand how St. Thomas More Catholic High School Library was re-designed last summer to accommodate more classes at one time without the costs of major remodeling.

AASL Web Sites



<http://www.ala.org/aasl/indy/index.html>

AASL Tenth National Conference and Exhibition

November 14-18, 2001 • Indianapolis, Indiana

<http://www.ala.org/ICONN/index.html>

ICONnect includes online courses, student and family activities, as well as online tours to prepare school librarians for leadership roles



<http://www.ala.org/aasl/kqweb/index.html>

An online companion to the journal of the American Association of School Librarians

<http://www.ala.org/aasl/SLMR/index.html>

***School Library Media Research* (ISSN: 1523-4320) is an official journal of the American Association of School Librarians.**



LLA/LASL Membership Form
Don't delay! Join today!

Send your membership form to
Louisiana Library Association
P.O. Box 3058
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Online Membership Information and Applications
<http://www.leeric.lsu.edu/lla/membership.htm>

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Name (Miss, Mrs., Mr., Dr.): _____ Position : _____
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 Office Phone: (_____) _____ Home Phone: (_____) _____
 E-mail: _____

SECTIONS: If joining more than one section please indicate Main section. _____ Amount of dues (See dues schedule below). Includes one "Main" section Free

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I am currently a member of: ALA SELA
 Additional sections @ \$4 each
 Donation to Scholarship Fund (optional)
 \$ _____ Total Due

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Anyone interested in library service and librarianship may become a member of the Louisiana Library Association. Membership dues are paid for the fiscal year – July to June. For your convenience membership charges are listed below.

Individual Memberships	Cash/Check
Full-time Student	\$10
Friend, Retired	\$10
First-time Member	\$15
Trustees	\$25
Salary Under \$14,999	\$30
Salary \$15,000-\$19,999	\$35
Salary \$20,000-\$24,999	\$40
Salary \$25,000-\$29,999	\$45
Salary \$30,000-\$34,999	\$50
Salary \$35,000-\$44,999	\$55
Salary \$45,000-\$54,999	\$60
Salary \$55,000-\$64,999	\$65
Over \$65,000	\$70
Contributing	\$100





LASL Programming
March 3-4

LLA Conference
March 3-6, 2001
Lafayette, Louisiana

LASL Newsletter (Preconference
2001)

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