Trustees can update their knowledge of First Amendment issues in public libraries by attending the Lawyers for Libraries Regional Training Institute scheduled for February 12 - 13, 2004, at the Fairmont Hotel located in Dallas, Texas. Lawyers for Libraries is a unique continuing education program created especially for library trustees and library attorneys, covering the basics of and latest changes in intellectual freedom and the law.

Topics covered include:
- Internet filtering and the Children's Internet Protection Act
- Privacy, confidentiality laws, and the USA Patriot Act
- Challenges to library resources
- Minimizing library liability while maximizing access to information

The mission of the Trustees Section is to support members of library boards by encouraging development of effective library service and effective leadership on their boards. To that end the section identifies and coordinates programs for the development and education of trustees at the LLA Conference and publicizes other programs and information that will benefit trustees.

South Central Regional Training Institute
February 12 - 13, 2004    Dallas, Texas

Bid Law Amended

In the 2003 regular session, the Louisiana Legislature passed the following amendment to the Public Bid Law:

H.B.254 by Martiny
(Act 575) PUBLIC CONTRACTS/BIDS increases the amount on purchases of materials and supplies requiring advertising and letting by contract from $15,000 to $20,000 and increases the amount on purchases requiring three telephone or facsimile quotations from $7,500 or more but under $15,000 to $10,000 or more but under $20,000.

More Inside

To Register

The Fairmont Dallas is offering an exceptional rate of $119/night for meeting attendees. For reservations, call (800) 441-1414 and mention the American Library Association. To register or for more information, visit ALA’s Web site, www.ala.org/lawyers, call (800) 545-2433 Ext. 4226, or e-mail Jonathan Kelley at jkelley@ala.org.
The LLA Conference planners want trustees to experience a successful conference AND have a wonderful time in Monroe. They have scheduled several excellent programs for trustees on Thursday, March 25, concluding with the gala Book Dinner that night. The tour programs on the schedule for Friday, March 26 offer an excellent excuse to stay over and explore the area. A walking tour of old Monroe and a bus tour of museums, gardens, and Antique Alley will make the drive to the northeast corner of our state worthwhile.

**Reserved Room Early**

The LLA Conference planners have made arrangements for rooms at the special rate of $75 a night (single or double) at the Holiday Inn Holidome in Monroe. This rate applies for the nights of March 23 through 25, making it possible to stay over for the Book Dinner and go to the tours on Friday before returning home.

**Location:** 1051 US Hwy 165, Monroe  
**Phones:** 318-387-5101 or 1-800-Holiday  
**Fax:** 318-387-0334

Be sure to mention that you are reserving rooms at the Louisiana Library Association special rate.

**Help Needed for Trustees Scholarship**

Dana Casteel won this year’s Trustees Scholarship, which covers her tuition for one hour of graduate coursework at the LSU School of Library and Information Science. Any student receiving this award must plan to work as a librarian in a public library in Louisiana. In a time when it is harder to recruit new librarians with master’s degrees to work in our libraries, it is imperative that we support the education of future public librarians.

At the present time there is in excess of $8,600 in the Trustees Scholarship endowment. With cost of tuition at $407 per semester hour and rising, it is impossible to fund the scholarship from earnings alone.

If every member of the Trustees Section would donate $5 or $10 annually, the total would come to $2,000 to $4,000. We could grow the Endowment by 50% this year and reach the goal of a self-supporting endowment within a few years. The amount of $16,000 would generate $480 at a rate of 3%.

**LUA Conference Highlights for Trustees**

**Wednesday, March 24 (10:30 am-12:00 pm)**

CIPA and Filters: What’s a Library To Do?  
In light of the Supreme Court’s recent decision upholding CIPA, libraries are now faced with a mandate to implement filters in order to receive federal e-rate funds. A panel of librarians will discuss the ramifications of using filters.

**Wednesday, March 24 (4:00-6:00 pm)**

First General Session and Awards Ceremony  
The Modisette Award for Trustees will be presented.

**Thursday, March 25 (10:30 am-12:00 pm)**

Renovate! New Ideas for Old Libraries  
Library architect and interior designer Denelle Wrightson presents concepts, designs and product updates for reviving existing libraries.

**Thursday, March 25 (12:00-1:30 pm)**

Public and Trustees Luncheon and Business Meeting  
Jennifer Blake, one of the “First Ladies” of romance fiction, will be the featured speaker and will autograph her books.

**Thursday, March 25 (1:30-3:00 pm)**

Libraries YES! Campaigning for a Few Dollars More  
A panel discussion on strategies for winning tax elections. Includes how library supporters can organize a political action committee to do everything a library cannot do to persuade the voters to vote YES.

**Thursday, March 25 (3:00-4:00 pm)**

Are you the Victim of Identity Theft? Identity Theft and Credit Reporting Rights  
Identity theft is a growing problem. Consumer rights attorney David Szwak will explain how it happens, how you can prevent it, and how you can fix the mess if it does happen.

**Thursday, March 25 (4:00-6:00 pm)**

Second General Session  

**Thursday, March 25 (7:00-10:00 pm)**

LLA Book Dinner  
Sarah Shanksman, is the author of the seven-volume Samantha Adams mystery series. She is hard at work on her next novel, which she characterizes as “Steel Magnolias meets the Canterbury Tales meets Weight Watchers.”

**Friday, March 26**  
Have Some Fun!  
Strolling Through History: A Blueprint for Conducting a Successful Walking Tour of Your Community  
(9:30 am-1:00 pm)  
This walking tour of old Monroe includes lunch. It is also offered on Tuesday, March 23 at the same hours.

**Off the Beaten Path**  
(1:30 - 5:00 pm)  
Tour the Beauchamp Museum and El-Song Gardens, Layton Castle, Masur Museum of Art, and spend time on Antique Alley.*  
(Also offered on Tuesday, March 23 at the same hours.)

* Please note: If your library pays for your conference registration, add a personal check to pay for the tours. “Strolling Through History” (the walking tour) has a connection to using the library for researching local history, but “Off the Beaten Path” is a tour for personal pleasure only and cannot be paid for with public funds.

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**DENELLE C. WRIGHTSON, A.I.A.**

Throughout her career Denelle Wrighton has specialized in the planning and design of libraries. As a recognized library design specialist her experience includes more than 60 library facilities, ranging in size from 1,000 square foot additions to design and construction of new libraries of more than 160,000 square feet. Her greater than 20 years experience, coupled with six years of employment in libraries has provided her with a unique understanding of user needs and a sensitivity to design. Recent projects include the new 100,000 square feet Southfield Library and the new Terrebonne Parish Library. She is presently working with DeSoto Parish on two new branches and has signed up with Lafayette Parish to work on the program for future libraries there.

**JENNIFER BLAKE**

Blake has been called one of the First Ladies of romance, and the Steel Magnolia of romance fiction for her enduring career in the genre and her Southern heritage. Her initial book was published in 1970, and she became a New York Times Best Selling author in 1977 with the release of LOVE’S WILD DESIRE. Her titles have regularly appeared on this and other major lists since that time. A charter member of Romance Writers of America, Jennifer was one of the earliest recipients of the organization’s Golden Treasure RITA for Lifetime Achievement and earliest inductees into the RWA Hall of Fame. She holds numerous honors from Romantic Times Magazine, is a member of the Affaire de Coeur Romance Hall of Fame, and has been awarded two silver "Maggies" and the Holt Medallion for Outstanding Literary Talent, as well as other publishing industry citations. In 1997 she was granted the Frank Waters Award for Excellence in Writing, the first time this prestigious literary honor was presented to an author of commercial work. She has published more than 50 books, with titles released in 18 languages and an estimated 30 million copies in print worldwide.

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**Please send donation to:**  
LLA Trustees Section Scholarship  
Louisiana Library Assoc.  
421 South 4th St.  
Eunice, LA 70535-5301.