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on the cover
Snow Day
Anonymous
From the Editor

It’s the most wonderful time of the year...not the summer or holiday season as most might think: it’s LLA conference time! Every year, I join colleagues and friends to learn, laugh and motivate each other to build better libraries with better resources for those we serve.

I encourage you to take a look at the conference schedule contained in this volume as well as the article concerning my library’s RFID project. Peruse other volumes and local media to see the great things that librarians throughout the state are accomplishing and let that spark your own talent and genius. Then, bring that inspiration to conference!

I hope to see you in Alexandria where we will all be reflecting upon and garnering fresh outlooks from the Wisdom and Wonder of Louisiana libraries.
Hello, everyone,

This has been a year of intense and surprising storms, from the run of mid-season hurricanes to the ice and snow of December and January. Is this turbulent weather a reflection of the rapid changes in our profession and in the governmental and cultural climate we find ourselves in? From the continuing battle for funding to the advances and disasters of widespread computerized information technology, we have seen a lot of this before, yet it still surprises us. So what do we do? We study, we plan, we anticipate, we lobby, we present, we work. And sometimes, when conditions are particularly bad, we get time off to recuperate.

Last fall, my ad hoc Committee for Direction and Support of LLA Lobbyist came up with one goal: increase funding for education. The Legislation Committee, under the capable direction of Melanie Sims, is working to focus our advocacy on this crucial need. Lobbyist Scott Kirkpatrick has asked for a statement of “the uses of the funding, history of funding and how much additional funding is needed would be helpful.” Although it’s obvious to us that library books and magazines, online resources, and trained librarians are not free, others still need convincing. To respond to this request, contact any LLA board member, or your local representative and senator.

By the time you read this, the time for the 2018 conference will be almost here. Look for more information elsewhere in this issue and online at llaonline.org. Get your calendar out as you decide which of over a hundred sessions, meetings, programs, meals, and parties to attend. And please help by including time to be a room monitor for a session.

Wisdom and wonder,

Patricia Brown
President
Louisiana Library Association 2017-18

A bit of further reading on advocacy issues. Sometimes it’s both energizing and inspiring to read what others are doing:


Woodworth, Andy. (2017, April 21). Things that are not the library killer: Internet, Amazon, ebooks, cafes, makerspaces, mission creep, paraprofs. Things that are: Funding [cuts]. https://twitter.com/wawoodworth/status/855581547726024704
SCMA (Special Collections, Manuscripts & Archives) in Prescott Memorial Library wish to announce the retirement of Peggy Carter Woodard from Louisiana Tech University. Peggy, a graduate of Tech’s College of English, received her master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Louisiana State University (LSU). She came to Tech in 1998 to serve as the archivist and head of Special Collections, Manuscripts & Archives in 1998 and remained so until May of 2016. Through her meticulous attention to detail and her love of archives and history, she transformed SCMA from a small and little-known floor to the highly valuable manuscript repository and research center that it is today.

Nell Hays, administrative coordinator in the LSU Health Shreveport Library, retired December 29, 2017. She began working at LSU Health Shreveport in the Urology Department in 1980, and she was hired in the Library in 2000. She retired from full-time employment in December 2015 but has continued to help in the Library on a part-time basis. Ms. Hays was recognized with an LSU Health Shreveport Employee Excellence Award in 2012.

Montié Dobbins, head of user access services, was recently installed as president of the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association (SCC/MLA) at its annual meeting. As president, she will lead an organization of more than 200 health sciences information professionals from Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. Her term of office as president is October 2017-October 2018.

Southeastern Louisiana University interlibrary loan supervisor, Barbara West, retired in October after 36 years at Sims Memorial Library. She began working in cataloging in 1981 and moved to ILL in 1990.

John Kelly is the new evening reference/instruction librarian. He has a Bachelor’s Degrees in history and political science from Quincy University in Illinois, a Master’s Degree in history from the University of Maryland, and a Master’s Degree in Library Science from LSU. For the past decade, he worked for The Times-Picayune/NOLA Media Group as a digital librarian, online editor, and web developer. John also worked in libraries at the University of New Orleans and at Loyola University School of Law, in New Orleans.

Elizabeth Sanders was recently inducted into the Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma. The mission of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society is to promote the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Desiree Alexander, regional director of North Louisiana for the Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana, is one of the 2017 Young Professional Initiative 40 Under 40 Awards Honorees, 2017 Center for Digital Education Top 30 Technologists, Transformers & Trailblazers, and was recognized as the 2017 PBS Learning Media Digital Innovator for Louisiana.

LSU Libraries welcomes Melissa Smith to the faculty as assistant curator of manuscripts for Special Collections. She has worked as a processing archivist beginning with her first internship at Historic New Orleans Collection and professionally for the past fifteen years, starting with her position at the Louisiana Research Center at Tulane University’s Special Collections. Since her time at Tulane, she has also worked for Amistad Research Center and the Louisiana State Museum.

Emily Frank is the new coordinator of scholarship and open access. She has been with LSU Libraries since August 2013 when she started as the instructional technologies and engineering librarian. Frank will oversee the various initiatives to provide access to affordable course materials on campus. Frank is a leader in the e-textbooks program, which aligns licensed e-books with titles used in courses. She also works to provide open
education resources that are not free for students and faculty. Additionally, she promotes open access.

Nick Skaggs recently became the manuscripts processing archivist. He has worked for LSU Libraries since July 2016 when he accepted his first position as a library associate in the public and research department at LSU Special Collections in Hill Memorial Library. Skaggs preserves, arranges and describes manuscript collections in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections (LLMVX). He creates finding aids, catalog records, and subject guide entries for collections. Additionally, he provides reference services at public service points in Hill Memorial Library.

Megan Lounsberry is now Middleton Library’s electronic resources librarian. This entails working with the director of collection services to oversee the life-cycle of the electronic resources, addressing access issues, building and maintaining an electronic resources management system, and assisting the director of copyright policy and education in the review, creation, and renewal of licenses governing the electronic resource materials. She also has some assessment duties such as compiling collection usage data and providing annual statistics to the Association of Research Libraries and other educational entities.

Hayley Johnson has joined LSU Libraries faculty as head, government documents and microforms. Johnson began working in academic libraries in 2012. She started as the government information librarian at Nicholls State University where she was in charge of a small selective depository that received federal and state documents, and she worked to expand the reach and use of government documents through tools such as video tutorials and course guides. Prior to working in an academic library, Johnson was an information specialist for the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library at the Louisiana House of Representatives. Johnson is in charge of the government documents collection located in the basement of Middleton Library and the daily operations of the department. As the regional depository coordinator, she oversees the federal depository program in Louisiana and she assists depository libraries in fulfilling their roles in the program.

Please send contributions for the People Column to mdobbi@lsuhsc.edu.
LLA 2018-19 Election
Association Nominees

LLA First Vice President / President-Elect Candidates

Sonnet Ireland
Reference Librarian, St. Tammany Parish Library

Education

- Texas Woman's University, MLIS, 2008
- Loyola University, BA in Classical Studies, 2004

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors

- Experience 1: Associate Librarian, Earl K. Long Library, University of New Orleans
- Experience 2: Part-time Learning Commons Librarian, J. Edgar and Louise S. Monroe Library, Loyola University
- Experience 3: Library Associate, Tulane University Law Library
- Experience 4: Library Assistant, San Antonio Public Library
- LLA: Second Vice-President, 2017-2018
- LLA: Louisiana Literary Award Committee, 2016-2019
- ALA RUSA: Emerging Technology Section, Chair, Social Events Task Force, 2017-2018
- ALA RUSA: Emerging Technology Section, Services for Systems and Discovery Committee, 2016-2018
- NOLA Information Literacy Collective: Executive Board Member, 2013-current
- ALA GODORT: Notable International Documents Panel, 2016-current
- SELA GODORT Chair, 2016-2017
- NOLA Information Literacy Collective: Executive Board Chair, 2013-2014, 2016-2017
- ALA GODORT: State and Local Documents Task Force Coordinator, 2016-2017
- LLA: Academic Section, Chair, 2015-2016
- ALA GODORT: State and Local Documents Task Force, Assistant Coordinator/Coordinator-Elect, 2015-2016
- SELA GODORT: Vice Chair/Chair Elect, 2015-2016
- Louisiana State Depository Library Council: Member, 2014-2016
- LLA: Academic Section, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, 2014-2015
- LLA NMRT: Chair, 2013-2015
- Louisiana Federal Depository Library Council: Chair, 2012-2014
- LLA NMRT: Vice Chair, 2012-2013
- LALINC: Information Literacy Committee, 2011-2013
Jeremy Bolom
Head of Public Service/Assistant Director, Lincoln Parish Library

Education
- M.L.I.S. with emphasis on Reference Services, University of Texas, Austin, TX, December 1999.
- B.M. in Orchestral Performance, Magna Cum Laude, Centenary College of Louisiana, Shreveport, LA, May 1997.

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors

National
Memberships
- American Library Association
- Public Library Association
- Young Adult Library Services Association
- Reference and User Services Association
- Association of Rural and Small Libraries

Activities
- American Library Association
  Conference Attendance: 2007, 2011
- Public Library Association
  Spring Symposium 2009
- Young Adult Library Services Association
- Association of Rural and Small Libraries
  Conference Attendance: 2011-2017
  Conference Presenter: 2012-15, 2017
- Penguin Random House Library Advisory Board Member, 2016-

State
Memberships
- Louisiana Library Association

Activities
- Louisiana Library Association
  Officer: Public Section
Past Chair: 2017/2018
Committees:
- LLA Meritorious Service Award: 2008-2012
- Finance: 2011-2013
- Scholarship: 2013-2015
- Nominating: 2015-
- State Library of Louisiana
  - Executive Leadership Training Institute: 2009-2010
Awards
- State Library of Louisiana Executive Leadership Training Institute Graduate, 2010
- Louisiana Library Association Public Librarian of the Year, 2012
- Louisiana Library Association Anthony H. Benoit Mid-Career Award, 2016

LLA Second Vice President Candidates

Megan Lowe
Director of the Library, University of Louisiana at Monroe
Education
- ULM/Master's of English/2008
- University of Southern Miss/MLIS/2002
- MS College/Bachelor's of English/2000
Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Director of the Library, University of Louisiana at Monroe
- Experience 2: Interim Assistant Dean of the Library, ULM
- Experience 3: Coordinator of Public Services, ULM
- Experience 4: Reference/Instructional Librarian, ULM
- Member of both LLA and ACRL-LA (for which I serve on the Executive Board); founded/edit the OAJ Codex; have in the past served on several committees for both LLA and ACRL-LA, not to mention LOUIS (most recently the LUC 2017 planning committee). I have served on the Faculty Senate and have chaired and served on several committees (including SACS re-accreditation committees) both within and outside of my library for my university.

Lindsey Reno
Acquisitions Librarian/Liaison, Earl K. Long Library, University of New Orleans
Education
- M.S. Library and Information Science, Simmons College, 2003
- B.A. Art History, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, 2001
Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
Experience 1: Acquisitions Librarian, Mary Norton Clapp Library, Occidental College
Experience 2: Technical Services Librarian B, Morton R. Godine Library, Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Member of both LLA and ACRL-LA (for which I serve on the Executive Board); founded/edit the OAJ Codex; have in the past served on several committees for both LLA and ACRL-LA, not to mention LOUIS (most recently the LUC 2017 planning committee). I have served on the Faculty Senate and have chaired and served on several committees (including SACS re-accreditation committees) both within and outside of my library for my university.
Statewide California Electronic Libraries Consortium (SCELC) Program and Professional Development Committee (PPDC), Member, 2007-2011, Chair, 2008-2010.

LLA Secretary Candidates

Christopher Achee
Branch Librarian, Ascension Parish Library
Education
- M.L.I.S. from LSU, 2009
- B.A. from Millsaps College, 2006

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Secretary for Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution, 2016-Present
- Chairman of Print Culture and Books Interest Group, 2017-Present
- Co-Chairman of Library Managers Interest Group, 2015-2017

LLA 2017-18 Election
Section Nominees

Academic Section

Vice Chair/ Chair-Elect Candidate

Heather Plaisance
Head, Reference & Research Services, Dupré Library, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Education
- Louisiana State University, Master of Library and Information Science, 2003
- Louisiana State University, Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication, 2002

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1 Interim Head of Reference and Research Services (2014-2016)
• Experience 2 Research Librarian, (2005-2014)
• Experience 3 Access Services Librarian, South Louisiana Community College (2004-2005)
• Member of American Library Association; Association of College and Research Libraries;
• ACRL-LA; Louisiana Library Association;
• Secretary, LLA Academic Section (2017-2018; 2009-2010);
• Editor of the Bayou State Periodical Index (2017-present);
• 2017 LLA Conference Committee, Publicity Subcommittee Co-Chair;
• 2018 LLA Conference Committee, Poster Session Subcommittee Member;
• Grassroots Grant Award Committee Chair (2017-2018);
• LLA Tellers Committee Member (2007-2008);
• Grassroots Grant Award Committee Member (2008-2009)

Secretary Candidate

Sarah Dauterive
Director of Library Services, Fletcher Technical Community College

Education
• BS History, Mississippi State University (2010)
• MLIS, University of Alabama (2011)

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
• Experience 1 Assistant Librarian at Nicholls State University (2015-2017)
• Experience 2 Librarian, East Mississippi Community College (2013-2015)
• Experience 3 Asst. Librarian, East Mississippi Community College (2011-2013)
• Sarah has served on the LLA Conference Committee as the Exhibits Sub-Committee Chair and is currently the chair of the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award Committee. Her interests include collaborating with faculty to integrate information literacy concepts into the classroom and working with students to get their citations just right.
LaSSAL Section

Vice Chair / Chair - Elect Candidate

Shayne Bertrand
Branch Manager, Rapides Parish Library

Education
- LSU Baton Rouge, BA in History, 2000

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Rapides Parish Library Manager, Georgie Johnson Branch
- Experience 2: Rapides Parish Library Reference Specialist
- Experience 3: Rapides Parish Library Reference/Circulation Clerk
- Experience 4: LSU Middleton Library Assistant Head of Circulation
- LaSSAL Board Member
- LSU Libraries Staff Association Treasurer, Vice President, and President

Treasurer Candidate

Brenda Manning
Retired

Education
- High School graduate

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Branch Manager Rapides Parish Library (retired)
- Experience 2: Past Chair for LaSSAL
- Local Arrangements for 2018 LLA Conference
- Past Chair and & Vice Chair of LaSSAL
- Held offices in Patience Quilts Guild
- Worked on LaSSAL Conferences several years

Secretary Candidates

Jane Vidrine
Library Specialist III, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Edith Garland Dupre’ Library

Education
- Ville Platte High School, 1983

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1 April 1985 – present
- LLA member since 1997
Pamela Bennett  
Rapides Parish Library  
Education  
- Master of Education, 2004  
- Bachelor of Science/ Psychology, 1999  
Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors  
- Experience 1: Manager  
- Experience 2: Assistant Manager  
- Experience 3: Clerk  
- LSU Staff Association Treasurer, 2008  
- LLA Member  
- LaSSAL Member  
- LaSSAL Board Member  
- LaSSAL Awards Committee Member  
- LaSSAL Secretary

Public Section

Vice Chair / Chair - Elect Candidates

Ruth Bond  
Director, West Baton Rouge Parish Library  
Education  
- MLS, Kent State University 1996  
- BS History/Psychology Washington State University, 1994  
Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors  
- Experience 1: Director of Public Services, Kitsap Regional Library  
- Experience 2: Assistant Director, St Mary Parish Library  
- Experience 3: Reference Librarian, Santa Barbara Public Library  
- Experience 4: Assistant Director, DeSoto Parish Library  
- Member of ALA and PLA  
- President of Leadership Kitsap  
- Secretary and Treasurer of the Bremerton Olympic Council Navy League
Secretary Candidate

Rebecca Cloud
Research & Readers Services Librarian, Lincoln Parish Library

Education
- San Jose State University, MLIS, 2012-2015
- Lewis & Clark College, B.A., 2006-2010

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Lincoln Parish Library-Librarian
- Experience 2: Portland Village School-Records Manager
- Louisiana Library Association Member 2014-Present
- Served as Public Section Secretary for 2017
- Presented "Hook Line and Sinker: How to Attract Adult Readers" at 2017 Conference, Lafayette, Louisiana
- Presented “Readers Advisory Socialite” at 2016 Conference, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- Served as Public Section Parliamentarian for 2016

Parliamentarian Candidate

Krishanna Patrick
Teen Coordinator, Lincoln Parish Library

Education
- Fundamentals of Acquisitions 2015
- LSSC course Supervision and Management 2017
- LSSC Foundations of Library Services 2018
- Enrolled and attending classes to receive Library Support Staff Certification 123 college credit hours

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1 Research and Reader’s Services Lincoln Parish Library 2011-2012
- Experience 2 Teen Coordinator Lincoln Parish Library 2012-Current
- My memberships include ARSL(Association for Rural and Small Libraries), PLA (Public Library Association), YALSA (Young Adult Library Association), LLA (Louisiana Library Association), Delta Kappa Gamma Theta Section, Current Parliamentarian for LLA public section 2017
GODORT Section

Vice Chair/ Chair-Elect Candidate

Eric Wedig  
Coordinator of Scholarly Resources, Social Sciences Howard-Tilton Memorial Library  
Tulane University  
Education  
• BA University of Dallas 1976  
• MLS LSU 1983  
Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors  
• Experience 1 Coordinator of Scholarly Resources and Librarian at Tulane since 1988  
• Experience 2 Government Documents Librarian Memphis State University 1983-1988  
• Member of LLA and GODORT for 30 years

2nd Vice Chair Candidate

Tony Barnes  
Information Division Assistant Manager, Federal Documents Librarian, New Orleans Public Library  
Education  
• LSU MLIS  1987  
• USL Urban Planning 1978  
Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors  
• Experience 1: New Orleans Public Library Information Division Assistant Manager  
• Experience 2: New Orleans Public Library Information Division Manager  
• Experience 3: New Orleans Public Library Technology Center Manager  
• Experience 4: New Orleans Public Library Interlibrary Loan Librarian  
• LLA 30+ years  
• ALA 30+ years
Secretary Candidate

Jennifer Creevy
Reference and Government Documents Librarian, University of Holy Cross

Education
- Louisiana State University, Master’s Degree in Library and Information Science, Graduated 2000
- Louisiana Scholars’ College at Northwestern State University, Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts, Graduated 1992

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Reference & Government Documents Librarian, University of Holy Cross (3 years)
- Experience 2: Serials/Acquisitions Librarian, Law Library of Louisiana (8 years)
- Experience 3: Assistant Head of Cataloging, New Orleans Public Library (1 year)
- Experience 4: Librarian, New Orleans Public Library (4 years)
- Secretary, Health Sciences Library Association of Louisiana, 2017
- Membership Committee Chairperson of various Sections, American Association of Law Libraries, 2007-2014
- Secretary, New Orleans Association of Law Libraries, 2009-2010

LASL Section

President Candidate

Tiffany Whitehead
Director of Library, Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

Education
- Northwestern State University of Louisiana, 2012
  Master of Education in Education Technology Leadership
- Southeastern Louisiana University, 2007
  Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, Concentration in Grades 4-8, School Library Certification

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1 Central Middle School - School Librarian, 6-8 Grades - 2011-2016
- Experience 2 Tanglewood Elementary - School Librarian, 2-3 Grades - 2008-2011
- Experience 3 Central Middle School - Teacher, 6 & 7 Grade ELA - 2007-2008
- Louisiana Association of School Librarians
- Publicity Chair, Present
- LASL Executive Board Member, 2014-Present
- Member since 2011
• EdCamp Baton Rouge Unconference
• Founder & Organizer, 2014-Present
• International Society for Technology in Education
• Librarians Network Past President, 2014-2015
• Emerging Leader, 2014
• SIGLIB President, 2013-2014
• SIGMS President-Elect, 2012-2013
• SIGMS Vice-Chair, 2011-2012
• Member since 2010
• American Association of School Librarians
• AASL Best Apps for Teaching & Learning Committee Member, 2012-2014
• AASL Fall Forum 2012 Committee Member
• Member since 2010
• Louisiana Library Association
• Member since 2011
• Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators
• Member since 2010
• American Library Association
• Member since 2010

2nd Vice President Candidate

Amanda Blanco
Library Media Specialist, Lafayette High School

Education
• 2017 - Louisiana State University Shreveport - Masters in Education - focus in Educational Technology Leadership
• 2009 - Northwestern State University - Certification in School Library Science
• 2006 - University of Louisiana at Lafayette - BA in Education with certifications in Secondary (6-12) English, Secondary (6-12) Social Studies, and Elementary Grades 1-5
• 2004 - University of Louisiana at Lafayette BA in Liberal Arts, major in English, minor in Social Studies

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
• Experience 1 2 years at Lafayette High School as Librarian
• Experience 2 3 years at Prairie Elementary School as Librarian
• Experience 3 7 years at Acadiana High School as English Teacher
• 2016-Present Member of Louisiana Teen Reader's Choice Committee
• 2015-2016 Member of Louisiana Young Reader's Choice Committee
• 2014-Present Member of LASL committees
Secretary Candidate

Shannan L. Hicks
Librarian, J.S. Clark Elementary School, Shreveport

Education
- LSU, MLIS, May 2014
- Tulane University, JD, 1995
- LSU, BA, 1992

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Librarian - J.S. Clark Elementary School
- Experience 2: Student Worker - State Library of Louisiana, Talking Books & Braille
- Experience 3: Graduate Assistant - Middleton Library, LSU (Cataloging Department)
- Experience 4: Graduate Assistant - LSU Law Center Library
- Member- LLA, LASL, AASL, ALA, ALSC, EMIERT
- Caddo Association of School Librarians (President)
- Accepted to Bill Morris Seminar at ALA for evaluators of children's literature
- Adjunct Professor, LSU-SLIS

Stephanie Wilkes
School Librarian, Good Hope Middle School

Education
- Google Level 2 Certified Educator, Google DECEMBER 2017
- Masters of Library and Information Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA MAY 2008
- Bachelor of Arts - English Literature, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA FEBRUARY 2006

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Ouachita Parish Public Library, 2006-2013
- Experience 2: Lincoln Parish Library, 2003-2005
- PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS
  - Louisiana Association of School Librarians
    --Chair of Membership Committee, 2017-Present
    --Chair of the James O. Modisette Award for Middle
  - School Libraries of Excellence, 2017-Present
    --Former 1st Vice President, 2016-2017
    --Publicity Committee, 2015-2017
    --LALAMP District Coordinator for North Louisiana
  - North Louisiana Quilt Guild
    --Conference Registration Chair, 2018

GRANTS AND AWARDS RECEIVED
- James O. Modisette Award for Middle School Libraries, presented by the Louisiana Library Association for excellence in Louisiana school library programs, March 2015
- Junior League of Monroe Education Grant, presented by the Junior League of Monroe for $500 towards advancement of library technology, September 2014
YALSA/Dollar General Summer Intern Grant, provided by the American Library Association and Dollar General for $1000 to provide financial support for the hire of interns to work during Summer Reading Programs, April 2012

Junior League of Monroe Endowment Grant, provided by the Junior League of Monroe for $10,000 to provide financial support for the parish summer reading program for children, teens, and adults, May 2011

Great Stories CLUB Grant, provided by the American Library Association for financial support for Green Oaks Detention Center and Our House Homeless Shelter for Teens to facilitate discussions about second chances, January 2011. Program was so successful that we were chosen as one of three site locations nationally to host a visit from the author of one of the assigned readings

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

• Professional reviewer for School Library Journal, 2017 - Present
• Professional reviewer for Voices of Youth Advocates, 2012 - 2018
• Presented multiple presentations concerning youth services and collection development services for school librarians at Louisiana Library Association Meetings, 2007 - Present

Panel Member for “Building a Bridge to Literacy for African-American Male Youth” Summit, presented at the University of North Carolina, June 2012

Subject Specialists Section

Vice Chair/ Chair-Elect Candidate

Janelle Zetty
Head of Cataloging/Assistant Professor of Library Science, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Education

• Louisiana State University, Master’s degree/Library and Information Science 2006-2007
• University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Bachelor’s degree, English Language and Literature 1995-2003

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors

• Experience 1 Assistant Cataloger, Shreve Memorial Library, 2008-2017
• Experience 2 Student Worker, Dupre Library, 2006-2007
• Experience 3 Library Clerk, St. Mary Parish Library, 2003-2006
• ALCTS Mentoring Program
• COSUGI Enhancements Forum Moderator, Cataloging
• ALA NMRT Nominating Committee
• ALA NMRT Field Trip Committee
• ALA Cataloging and Metadata Management Section (CaMMS) Recruitment and Mentoring
• ALA NMRT Annual Conference Local Information Committee
Secretary Candidate

Ellen Jenkins
Louisiana Documents & Reference Librarian, Louisiana Department, State Library of Louisiana

Education
- MLIS, LSU ‘15
- M.Ed. Counseling, McNeese State University ‘09
- B.S. Psychology, Northwestern State University

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Louisiana Documents & Reference Librarian, State Library of Louisiana
- Experience 2: Reference Librarian at Bossier Parish Community College
- Experience 3: Librarian at Shreve Memorial Library
- Experience 4: Library Assistant at Virginia College in Shreveport/Bossier
- Academic Section Chair 2017-18
- Outstanding Academic Librarian Award Committee 2017-current
- Library User Education Interest Group Leader 2015-current
- Meritorious Service Award Chair 2016-current

Allison Gallaspy
Business Librarian 1, Tulane University - Freeman School of Business

Education
- University of Pittsburgh, MLIS, 2012
- Tulane University, B.A., 2010

Experience, Memberships, Activities & Honors
- Experience 1: Head of Cataloging, Dupre Library, UL Lafayette
- Experience 2: Head of Serials and eResources, Dupre Library, UL Lafayette
- LLA New Members Roundtable IG Coordinator, 2017-2018
WISDOM & W O N D E R
AT
LOUISIANA LIBRARIES

MARCH 7-9 | ALEXANDRIA, LA

2018 LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION’S 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE, WITH LOUISIANA’S ACADEMIC, PUBLIC, SCHOOL AND SPECIAL LIBRARIANS IN ATTENDANCE.

REGISTER ONLINE
2018 LLA CONFERENCE

WELCOME!

I hope to see you in March at the Louisiana Library Association 2018 Annual Conference, in historic, centrally-located Alexandria: two and a half days of seeking and practicing wisdom and wonder while having fun and meeting colleagues in a relaxed atmosphere.

I’m sure you will find several events of professional and personal interest, including sessions, programs, and social events. Don’t miss the awards ceremony and reception Thursday evening, and be sure to attend the president’s program to hear Southeastern librarian and activist Dayne Sherman’s experiences and advice in advocating for libraries, public education, and good sense generally.

Our conference packet, both in print and online, is your best guide, but the main registration table onsite will answer questions and provide directions and suggestions.

Patricia Brown

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration is required for admission to the LLA Annual Conference and for all meal functions (see the registration form on the last page for fees). Tickets to meal functions are only available during pre-registration, which will end on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, so reserve your spot! Online registration is available at www.llaonline.org. Attendees may also complete the registration form on the last page of the packet and return to:
LLA Office - Conference Registration
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Ste. 1001, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, or fax to (225) 408-4422.
For the security of your data, please do not email registration forms that include credit card information.

Additional fees will apply for on-site registration. Please make checks payable to LLA. Additional forms of payment accepted are Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover. Please do not send cash through the mail and for your security, please do not email credit card information. If you are registering on-site and paying with cash, please bring exact change.

The deadline for pre-registration is Tuesday, February 21, 2017.

Registration and check-in will be at the Riverfront Center on the second floor during the following times:
Wednesday, March 7: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday, March 8: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday, March 9: 7:00 am - 3:00 pm
Chair: Laura-Ellen Ayres
Audio/Visual: Chester Mealer
Exhibits: Jennifer Seneca
Local Arrangements: Gail Goldberg and Brenda Manning
Program: Elissa Plank
Publicity: Suzanne James
SUGGESTED ATTIRE

The LLA Conference is a time for networking and professional development with your library colleagues. It is recommended that business casual attire be worn throughout the duration of the event.

EXHIBITS

Coffee Break
8 AM - 4 PM
9 AM - 9:50 AM

Thursday
March 8

8 AM - 1 PM
10 AM - 10:35 AM

Friday
March 9

ARRIVAL & PARKING

All attendees must check in at the registration desk in the Riverfront Center in the foyer on the second floor upon arrival at the Conference (hours are provided in the schedule listing). You will be given a packet with all event details and a name badge at that time. Parking will be available in the lots surrounding the Riverfront Center.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Pre-Registration Deadline
February 21, 2018

Hotel Room Reservation Deadlines
Holiday Inn Downtown Alexandria Convention Center - February 6, 2018
HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN ALEXANDRIA CONVENTION CENTER
701 4th Street | Alexandria, LA 71301
Phone: (318) 541-8333

LLA has received a group rate of $119/night plus tax for standard, single and double occupancy guest rooms.

Registrants and exhibitors must make their own room reservations. When booking your reservation over the phone, please identify yourself with the “Louisiana Library Association” to receive the group rates. If you are booking your room online, please use the code, “LLA”. You may also reserve your room online by visiting the following website and using the code "LLA" in the group code box:

Please reserve your rooms early. Although the hotel guarantees the room block at the above rates, this is only the case for reservations made under the LLA room block before or on February 6, 2018 on a first come first served basis. Please call the Holiday Inn for availability regardless of when arrangements are made.
2018 LLA CONFERENCE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

PRE-CONFERENCE

WED
MARCH 7

- Grants and Proposal Writing
- Digitization: The Process of a Completed Digitization Project
- Historical Trolley Tour of Downtown Alexandria Featuring the Alexandria Genealogical Library, the Main Library, and a Garden Reception
- Dine-Arounds

EVENTS

THURS
MARCH 8

- President’s Program
- Public/Trustee Luncheon
- Academic Section Luncheon
- Awards Ceremony and Reception

EVENTS

FRI
MARCH 9

- GODORT Breakfast
- LASL Luncheon

Join LLA and Save on Conference Registration!

Members receive discounts on all LLA events...join today and enjoy all of the benefits throughout the year, including:

- Quarterly issues of our scholarly publication Louisiana Libraries and the annual printed membership directory
- Voting privileges: Elect leaders who influence the direction of libraries and librarians
- Grassroot and Advocacy efforts to support the library profession
- Access to the members list to talk with colleagues on a private email discussion list
- Member’s Only Access Online, including an online Member Directory
- The latest news from the American Library Association through LLA’s Chapter Membership
- Connections with colleagues across the state at continuing education events

To learn more and join, visit us online at www.llaconline.org
I. ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

PRE-REGISTRATION [BY 2/21/18]                                      ONSITE PRICING                TOTAL

LLA MEMBER     $90                                          $120
NON-MEMBER     $135                                         $165
LIBRARY SCIENCE STUDENT $25                                   $45
ONE DAY ONLY LLA MEMBER  $70 THURS  $70 FRI  $125 THURS  $125 FRI
ONE DAY ONLY NON-MEMBER $115 THURS  $115 FRI  $155 THURS  $155 FRI
EXHIBITS ONLY $10                                          $15

II. PRECONFERENCES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

EVENT                                           FEE/MEAL CHOICE # OF TICKETS TOTAL

[PRE-CON] GRANTS AND PROPOSAL WRITING, RAPIDES PARISH LIBRARY WESTSIDE BRANCH
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7 [1:00 PM - 5:00 PM] $15 MEMBER/STUDENT  $22.50 NON-MEMBER

[PRE-CON] DIGITIZATION: THE PROCESS OF A COMPLETED DIGITIZATION PROJECT
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7 [1:30 PM - 4:30 PM] $30 MEMBER  $45 NON-MEMBER  $15 STUDENT

PRE-CON) HISTORICAL TROLLEY TOUR OF DOWNTOWN ALEXANDRIA, LA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7 [1:30 PM - 4:30 PM] $17 MEMBER  $23 NON-MEMBER

AWARDS CEREMONY & RECEPTION - 3/8/18 NO CHARGE - Please list number of tickets if attending/bringing guests

ACADEMIC SECTION LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, MARCH 8 [12:00 PM - 1:20 PM] $13

PUBLIC/TRUSTEES LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, MARCH 8 [12:00 PM - 1:20 PM] $26

GODORT BREAKFAST
FRIDAY, MARCH 9 [7:30 AM - 8:50 AM] $16

LALS AUTHOR LUNCHEON
FRIDAY, MARCH 9 [12:00 PM - 1:20 PM] $24

III. SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

FUND                          TOTAL

LLA DISASTER RELIEF FUND
LLA SCHOLARSHIP
LLA TRUSTEES SCHOLARSHIP
OLLIE H. BURNS SCHOLARSHIP

ADD SECTIONS I, II & III FROM ABOVE

TOTAL ENCLOSED $
## Wednesday, March 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event/Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM - 5:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Second Floor Riverfront</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM</td>
<td>LLA Executive Board Meeting</td>
<td>Rapides Parish Library Westside Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 5:00 PM</td>
<td>*Pre-Con: Grants and Proposal Writing</td>
<td>Rapides Parish Library Westside Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM - 2:20 PM</td>
<td>LASL Executive Board Meeting</td>
<td>Rapides Parish Library Westside Branch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 PM - 4:30 PM</td>
<td>*Pre-Con: Digitization: The Process of a Completed Digitization Project</td>
<td>Admiral Porter Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 PM - 4:30 PM</td>
<td>Trolley Tour of Downtown Alexandria</td>
<td>Genealogical Library, Downtown Alexandria</td>
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<td>6:30 PM - 9:30 PM</td>
<td>Past-Presidents' Dinner/Dine-Arounds</td>
<td>Various Restaurants</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Dine-Arounds</td>
<td>Various Restaurants</td>
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### Thursday, March 8

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event/Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM - 5:20 PM</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Second Floor Riverfront</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM - 8:50 AM</td>
<td>Program Session 1</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM - 5:20 PM</td>
<td>Exhibits Open (No Conflict 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM)</td>
<td>Exhibit Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 AM - 10:50 AM</td>
<td>President’s Program</td>
<td>Exhibit Hall B</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM - 11:50 AM</td>
<td>Program Session 2</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM - 12:50 PM</td>
<td>*Public /Trustee Luncheon</td>
<td>Banquet Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM - 12:50 PM</td>
<td>*Academic/ACRL-LA/Subject Specialist/ Preservation IG Luncheon</td>
<td>Room with Doors F-G</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 1:50 PM</td>
<td>Program Session 3</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM - 2:50 PM</td>
<td>Program Session 4</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 PM - 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Poster Sessions</td>
<td>Outside of Exhibit Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 PM - 4:20 PM</td>
<td>Program Session 5</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 PM - 5:20 PM</td>
<td>Program Session 6</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 PM - 6:50 PM</td>
<td>Formal Awards Ceremony</td>
<td>Banquet Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 PM - 9:30 PM</td>
<td>Awards Reception</td>
<td>Riverfront Foyer</td>
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### Friday, March 9

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event/Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 AM - 2:50 PM</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Second Floor Riverfront</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 AM - 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Exhibits Open (No Conflict 10:00 am - 10:50 am)</td>
<td>Exhibit Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 AM - 8:50 AM</td>
<td>GODORT Breakfast</td>
<td>Banquet Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 AM - 8:50 AM</td>
<td>Program Session 7</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM - 9:50 AM</td>
<td>*GODORT Business Meeting</td>
<td>Banquet Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 AM - 9:50 AM</td>
<td>Program Session 8</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM - 10:50 AM</td>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>Exhibits Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM - 11:50 AM</td>
<td>LLA Business Meeting</td>
<td>Lake Charles/Lafayette Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM - 12:50 PM</td>
<td>*LASL Luncheon</td>
<td>Banquet Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 1:50 PM</td>
<td>LASL Business Meeting</td>
<td>Banquet Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 1:50 PM</td>
<td>Program Session 9</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM - 2:50 PM</td>
<td>Program Session 10</td>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
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*Additional registration fees required for attendance. See registration form for pricing information. Session Descriptions begin on page.
Program Sessions

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Grants and Proposal Writing
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Rapides Parish Library-Westside Branch

Sponsor(s): Academic Section, Subject Specialists Section

Description: Designed for beginning grant proposal writers, this class presents a general overview of the grant and funding processes as well as the level of detail required in a successful proposal. Each component of the grant writing process will be addressed, including: finding funding opportunities, becoming familiar with internal grant office structures, documenting the need, identifying the target population, writing measurable objectives, developing a work plan, basic budget development, and an evaluation plan. Grant and proposal writing skills are crucial to health promotion professionals in the modern funding environment. Institutional budgets are increasingly tight and obtaining external funding is very competitive. Obtaining basic grant writing skills can be crucial for obtaining funding for projects. This session will be a blend of interactive lectures and hands on exercises. The hands on exercises will cover basic proposal development and budgeting.

Speaker(s): Bethany Livingston and Debbie Montenegro from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine South Central Region

Digitization: The Process of a Completed Digitization Project
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
HI-Admiral Porter Room

Sponsor(s): Subject Specialists Section

Description: As physical archival materials age and begin to degrade, there is a push to digitize for further access so that the originals can be better preserved. By making digital collections available online, scholarship is made more widely known. This workshop covers the process of completing successful digitization projects. The presentations will include selecting and evaluating materials to digitize, scanning and appropriate formats, ingesting digital content, ensuring accessibility, storage and preservation, and copyright issues for digitized materials. Through lecture and discussion, participants will gain insight into what digitization projects entail so they can expand on their institutions’ digitization programs. They will be exposed to best practices for scanning and examples of institutions’ successful projects. The workshop is ideal for professionals with little to no experience in digitization, as well as those who are planning to start a digitization program in their institutions.

Speaker(s): Charlene Bonnette, State Library of Louisiana; Gabe Harrell, Louisiana State University; Cara Key & Will Conlin, Louisiana State University; Jeff Rubin, Tulane University; Zachary Stein, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Historical Trolley Tour of downtown Alexandria, LA
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Main Library, Downtown Alexandria

Sponsor(s): Public Section

Description: A trolley tour which will cover important sites in downtown Alexandria, including the historic Hotel Bentley, The Main Library, Alexandria Genealogical Library (Carnegie Library) and the Huie-Dellmon House, where a reception will be held.

Speaker(s): Alexandria Genealogical Library / Rapides Parish Library

LLA Executive Board Meeting
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Rapides Parish Library- Westside Branch

Description: Quarterly meeting of the LLA Executive Board.

LASL Executive Board Meeting
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM | Rapides Parish Library- Westside Branch

Description: Meeting for the LASL Executive Board.

Past-Presidents’ Dinner
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM | TBA

Invitation Only

Dine-Arounds
6:30 – 8:00
Enjoy an evening with friends at a local restaurant to reconnect and discuss a book!

Thursday, March 8

PROGRAM SESSION 1
8:00 AM to 8:50 AM

Trouble in Teen Services: Let’s brainstorm together to help each other solve tough teen problems
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | RFC- Doors F-G

Sponsor(s): Business Meeting for Teen Services IG

What’s New at OverDrive
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | RFC- Doors H-I

Sponsor(s): Public

Description: What to expect: In case you still need an introduction, you’ll meet Libby, the one-tap app designed to get your users reading as quickly and seamlessly as possible. We’ll also dive into our expanded sharing features and additional access models, all geared toward helping you serve more readers with more titles as flexibly as possible. See you there!

Speaker(s): Shane Spencer, OverDrive

Building Capacity in New Orleans Charter School Libraries
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- OK Allen Room

Sponsor(s): LASL

Description: Public charter schools are less likely to have school libraries than traditional public schools. How can charter schools offer access to library services, instruction, and information when so few schools have the space or personnel? Come learn strategies for building library capacity in charter schools and mission-driven organizations through internships, partnerships, and internal influence and change management.

Speaker(s): Anna E. Gentry, FirstLine Schools

Discussion Group for Children’s Services: What’s right and what’s wrong
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- Admiral Porter Room

Sponsor(s): Public

Description: Children’s Services staff will have a chance to discuss our jobs and bring up success and things that need tweaking. It’s sharing time!

Speaker(s): Pabby Arnold EBRPL

READ is not a four letter word!
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- New Orleans A & Baton Rouge A

Sponsor(s): LASL

Description: In these days of high stakes testing, students spend hours working on skills in every subject. Research shows that students need to be good readers to be good test takers. This session present the data supporting the value of self-selected, independent reading. You will also be given ideas to encourage you to create a community of readers at your school, no matter what level students you serve.

Speaker(s): Catherine A. Smith, Caddo Parish Public Schools

* HI = Holiday Inn
* RFC = Riverfront Inn
Program Sessions

Librarians Read and Rave: Upcoming Books That Librarians Are Wild About
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- New Orleans B & Baton Rouge B

Speaker(s): Public
Description: Join this panel of public librarians from around the state as they sound off about the upcoming books that they are most excited about and can’t wait to share with their patrons.

Speaker(s): Vicki Nesting, St. Charles Parish Library. (Other panelists to be named later.)

“He also abused Miss Claudia Billiu, librarian, though she was good to him and gave him clothes.”
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- New Orleans C & Baton Rouge C

Speaker(s): Subject Specialists
Description: (Lecture) Several Louisiana Supreme Court cases prior to 1922 held by the UNO Earl K. Long Library make mention of libraries and librarians. This presentation will highlight a few of the cases that involve librarians.

Speaker(s): Connie L. Phelps, University of New Orleans, Earl K. Long Library

We Never Thought it Would Really Happen: Crisis Communication Planning at Your Library
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- Lake Charles/ Lafayette

Speaker(s): LaSSAL, Public
Description: Crime, shootings, the Opioid crisis - these are the things we never thought we would see in the library but we do. Having a Crisis Communication and Response Plan in place will make all the difference as you respond to staff, the public, other government entities, and the media. Join staff from the New Orleans Public Library as they talk about how they developed a plan and then refined it when the unexpected happened.

Speaker(s): Joshua Mcclotlin, John Marc Sharpe, Jessica Styons, New Orleans Public Library

Exhibits Open
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM | RFC- Exhibit Hall
Coffee Break: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

President’s Program
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM | HI- Lake Charles/Lafayette
How to be a Librarian-Activist Without Burning Down Your Library (or Burning Up Your Career)

Discription: A talk about history, theory, and urgency for the 21st-century reevaluation of public education.

Speaker: Davyn Sherman, SELU; librarian, novelist, social activist and political commentator.

PROGRAM SESSION 2
11:00 AM to 11:50 AM

Subject Guide Makeovers: Interactive Embeds to Engage and Promote Use
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | RFC- Doors H-I

Sponsor(s): Subject Specialists, Academic
Description: Inspired by the wide range of embeddable interactive instruction tools now available to librarians at low or no cost, our staff took a fresh look at how our subject guides could incorporate interactive elements to improve student engagement and appeal to a broader range of learning styles. These attention grabbing, social-media-friendly instruction tools also make it easy to promote the new subject guides to students and faculty. Enjoy a lightning round of before and after shots and our reports on what was hot and what was not in media campaigns and student testing.

Speaker(s): Heather Plaisance, Blair Stapleton, Jennifer Hamilton, Tiffany Ellis, Ian Richardson, Laurie Vanderbrook, UL Lafayette

Print Culture & Books IG Business Meeting
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | HI-OK Allen Rm

Distance Eduation IG Business Meeting
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | HI-Admiral Porter Rm

Down the Rabbit Hole of Early Literacy: Planning a big impact for small patrons
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | HI-New Orleans A & Baton Rouge A

Sponsor(s): Public, LaSSAL
Description: When it comes to developing a plan for enhancing pre-literacy offerings, it can be difficult to start. Programs? Check! (But are they enough?!) Passive activities in the children’s department? Check! (But are they developmentally appropriate and diverse?!) Outreach and community awareness? Check! (But are we reaching the patrons who need us?!) Librarians from Lafayette Public Library will discuss their journey into enhancing early literacy activities at their main branch as well as smaller branch libraries and connecting with their community and community partners to provide services to the youngest of patrons as well as their caregivers. Come down the rabbit hole and share your thoughts and experiences as well!

Speaker(s): Amy Wander, Amanda Owen, A. Criddle and Meredith Crawford: Lafayette Public Library

State of the State Library
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | HI- New Orleans B & Baton Rouge B

Sponsor(s): Public
Description: State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton will present an overview of the activities and initiatives of the State Library.

Speaker(s): Rebecca Hamilton, State Library of Louisiana

Getting Started with AASL’s Comprehensive Learner, Librarian, and Program Standards
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | HI- New Orleans C & Baton Rouge C

Sponsor(s): LASL
Description: Designed to empower leaders to transform teaching and learning, the 2017 AASL National School Library Standards enable personalization for every learner and school librarian, allowing you to continuously tailor your library to local needs, your own strengths, and learners’ benefit. An overview of the framework, shared foundations, and supporting resources.

Speaker(s): Wendy Stephens, AASL Region V Director

LLA: The Next Frontier
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | HI- Lake Charles/ Lafayette

Sponsor(s): LLA
Description: Find out more about Louisiana Libraries and the work of the Editorial Board, Interest Groups, and LLA awards.

Speaker(s): Celise Reech-Harper, Sonnet Ireland, Ellen Jenkins

Public / Trustee Luncheon

Public/Trustee Luncheon
* TICKET REQUIRED
12:00 PM - 12:50 PM | RFC- Banquet Room

Sponsor(s): Public, Trustee
Description: The Public and Trustee Sections invite all interested in Public librarianship and Trustees to attend the Public/Trustee Luncheon. Meet other public librarians and trustees and enjoy good food!

As the guest speaker, Dr. Joan Archer, a licensed professional counselor and National Board Certified counselor, will speak on the topic of “Four Things to Do When It Gets Tough.” She will discuss strategies that library trustees and stakeholders can use when problems arise and how to implement goals and benchmarks effectively.

Speaker: Dr. Joan Archer
Program Sessions

**Academic/ACRL-LA/Subject Specialist/Preservation IG Luncheon**

*TICKET REQUIRED*
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM  
RFC- Doors F-G  
**Sponsor(s):** Academic/ACRL-LA/Subject Specialist/Preservation IG  
**Description:** The Academic Section, Subject Specialist Section, Preservation Interest Group and ACRL/LA Chapter invite all interested in academic, subject specialist, preservation librarianship to attend the Academic - ACRL/LA Luncheon. Meet other academic, subject specialist, and preservation librarians and enjoy good food!

**BUSINESS MEETINGS**

**Trustees Business Meeting**
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM  
RFC- Banquet Rm  
**Public Business Meeting**
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM  
HI- OK Allen Rm  
**Subject Specialists Business Meeting**
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM  
HI- Admiral Porter Rm  
**Academic/ACRL-LA Business Meeting**
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM  
HI- New Orleans A & Baton Rouge A  
**Preservation Interest Group Business Meeting**
2:00 PM - 2:40 PM  
HI- Admiral Porter Rm

**PROGRAM SESSION 3**

1:00 PM to 1:50 PM  
3-5th Grade Booktalks for the 2019 Louisiana Young Readers’ Choice Nominees  
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM  
HI- New Orleans B & Baton Rouge B  
**Sponsor(s):** LASL  
**Description:** The 3rd-5th grade Louisiana Young Readers’ Choice committee will booktalk the exciting lineup of 15 nominated titles. This is the book list students are encouraged to read and vote on in 2018.  
**Speaker(s):** Debbie Montenegro

**Academic/ACRL-LA Business Meeting**
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM  
HI- New Orleans A & Baton Rouge A  
**Preservation Interest Group Business Meeting**
2:00 PM - 2:40 PM  
HI- Admiral Porter Rm

**PROGRAM SESSION 4**

2:00 PM to 2:50 PM  
*Crisis in Play*
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM  
**Sponsor(s):** Public  
**Description:** Play is essential for children’s healthy development and learning. Children use play to try out new ideas, actively construct knowledge, learn new skills and grow socially and emotionally. Through creative play, a child lays the foundation for later academic learning. Sadly, children are playing far less than previous generations. Open play time is being cut from schools, replaced with screen time and usurped by organized sports. In this age of technology play is more important than ever. This Crisis in Play has resulted in an increased rate of mental illness, a reduction in creative thinking and poor social skills in our children. What can we do? We can help guide parents and caregivers to promote rich and meaningful play. Let’s enhance our story times and programs with play time.  
**Speaker(s):** Natalie D. Beam, MLIS

**Surviving a Millage Renewal: Advice from a Newbie**
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM  
**Sponsor(s):** Public, Library Managers Interest Group  
**Description:** Are you coming up on your public library’s millage renewal? Do you even know where to start? This presentation will give you tips and tricks on wading through and surviving the process. Although my experience (Natchitoches Parish: population 39,000; millage rate - 8 mils) may not fit your library’s needs entirely, surely you can walk away with something you may not have known or thought of before.  
**Speaker(s):** Jessica McGrath, Natchitoches Parish Library

**Withdrawn! Cutthroat Competition for the Crafty**
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM  
**Sponsor(s):** LasSAL, Public  
**Description:** Four library workers enter; only one leaves a champion! Four fearless competitors will face off with mystery boxes of programming supplies and directions to craft an unique library event within the allotted time. At the conclusion of each round, the audience will vote for their favorite, and the individual with the fewest votes will be eliminated. In the end, only one can reign supreme. Who will stay in circulation and who will be withdrawn?  
**Speaker(s):** Sonnet Ireland, St. Tammany Parish Library; Celsee Reech-Harper, Beauregard Parish Library

**6-8th Grade Booktalks for the 2019 Louisiana Young Readers’ Choice (LYRC) Nominees**
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM  
**Sponsor(s):** LasSAL  
**Description:** The 6th-8th grade Louisiana Young Readers’ Choice committee will booktalk the exciting lineup of 12 nominated titles. Students are encouraged to read and vote on these books in 2018.  
**Speaker(s):** Angela Germany, State Library of Louisiana

* HI = Holiday Inn  
* RFC = Riverfront Center
Program Sessions

Virtual Reality: Library??
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM | HI- New Orleans C & Baton Rouge C
Sponsor(s): Academic, Library User Education
Description: Virtual Reality is a teaching and learning tool at NSU College of Nursing & School of Allied Health. An award funded the Virtual Reality system. The Virtual Reality, VR, system, Oculus Rift presents pathophysiology of different diseases and/or conditions. A student is able to create the problem by choosing a system from the wheel. This is valuable for students to create problems from different systems and learn the signs and symptoms, laboratory values and radiography. For example, one can view the rhythms of the heart, the blood flow, and the electrical conduction. A pre and post test will be given to faculty on the day they view these tools for the first time. Is this something the Library should embrace? Will this be available in the Library? Will the faculty incorporate and use in their classes?
Speaker(s): Paula Craig, Northwestern State University College of Nursing & School of Allied Health
Poster Sessions
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM | Right Outside of the Exhibit Hall

PROGRAM SESSION 5
3:30 PM to 4:20 PM

Welcoming Autistic Patrons in the Library
3:30 PM - 4:20 PM | RFC-Doors H-I
Sponsor(s): LaSSAL, Managers Interest Group
Speaker(s): Rob Wright, M.D.
Speak Out: Government Documents Learn and Share Session
3:30 PM - 4:20 PM | HI-OK Allen Rm
Sponsor(s): Subject Specialists, GODORT, Preservation IG
Description: Do you wish you could connect in person with other depository coordinators from around the state? Now is your chance! Join in a discussion with Louisiana’s two Regional Coordinators about issues you see in depository libraries; gather ideas, and connect with other depository staff. Over the last decade, Government Documents has changed drastically; there are more online resources, coordinators wear multiple hats at their institutions, and departments have been merged. Let’s work together to share experiences and find strategies that we can all use to make our depositories better.
Speaker(s): Abigail DeSoto, Louisiana Tech University and Hayley Johnson, Louisiana State University

Louisiana Libraries Editorial Board Meeting
3:30 PM - 4:20 PM | HI-Admiral Porter Rm
Maybe I Need a Hat Rack: Wearing Many Hats in an Evolving Library Environment
3:30 PM - 4:20 PM | HI-New Orleans A and Baton Rouge A
Sponsor(s): Academic, Library Managers
Description: In an evolving library environment, it is often necessary for staff members to wear many hats. Is your library in this position? Many libraries and other organizations now depend on one individual to perform several jobs. Reduced budgets, staff changes and new library services are some of the reasons that require staff to have multiple roles and responsibilities. Despite undeniable burdens, wearing many hats opens us up to unexpected benefits and provides us the opportunity to embrace change. Need encouragement? Join several library staff members on a panel discussion about the challenges and rewards of having multiple roles and responsibilities in an academic library.
Speaker(s): Sheryl Curry, UL Lafayette, Brian Sherman, LSU Shreveport, Jodi Duet, Fletcher Technical Community College, Angela Dunnington, Southeastern Louisiana University

2019 Louisiana Teen Readers’ Choice Booktalks (9th-12th Grade Nominated Titles)
3:30 PM - 4:20 PM | HI-New Orleans B and Baton Rouge B
Sponsor(s): LaSSAL
Description: The 9th-12th grade Louisiana Teen Readers’ Choice committee will booktalk the exciting lineup of 10 nominated titles. Students are encouraged to read and vote on these titles in 2018.
Speaker(s): Angela Germany, State Library of Louisiana

Baby Time and Beyond: Programming for Children Under the Age of Two
3:30 PM - 4:20 PM | HI-New Orleans C and Baton Rouge C
Sponsor(s): LaSSAL, Public
Description: Interested in expanding your library programming to include babies and their caregivers? Already do but want some fresh ideas? This session will first discuss the elements and give examples of a successful baby time program that not only entertains and engages the babies but equips the caregivers with the tools they need to foster learning and literacy at home. Then go beyond baby time and learn about other fun and age-appropriate programs for babies such as a multi-sensory playtime and messy art activities.
(lecture)
Speaker(s): Sarah Durr, Lafayette Public Library

Downsizing a Federal Documents Collection Using the ASERL Disposition Tool: New Orleans Public Library 2 Year Progress Report
4:30 PM - 5:20 PM | HI-OK Allen Rm
Sponsor(s): GODORT, Subject Specialists, Preservation IG
Description: Using the ASERL Disposition Tool, New Orleans Public Library undertook a weeding project of its ancient and massive collection of Federal Depository materials in 2016. Two years into the task, and after well over 100,000 items having been withdrawn or shipped to claiming libraries, the work continues, and will continue for many years to come. An overview of the ASERL system will be presented, and the workflow needed to keep the project functioning smoothly will be discussed.
Speaker(s): Tony Barnes, New Orleans Public Library

Library Managers IG Business Meeting
4:30 PM - 5:20 PM | HI-Admiral Porter Room

* HI = Holiday Inn
* RFC = Riverfront Center
Program Sessions

Teaching with the Louisiana Digital Library
4:30 PM - 5:20 PM | HI- New Orleans A & Baton Rouge A
Sponsor(s): LASL, Academic, Library User Education IG, Preservation IG
Description: By lowering the threshold of access to unique cultural heritage resources, digital libraries offer valuable opportunities to enhance learning across a range of instructional contexts. The Louisiana Digital Library, long celebrated as a source of Louisiana historical and cultural content from across the state, was recently migrated to a new platform. This presentation will illustrate features of the new LDL site that make it useful for instruction; discuss some real-world case studies of learning with digital primary sources; and recommend a framework for building lesson plans around digital library materials.
Speaker(s): Cara Key (LSU)

WHY-brarian
4:30 PM - 5:20 PM | HI- New Orleans B & Baton Rouge B
Sponsor(s): LaSSAL, Public, Academic
Description: At some point in our careers, we have all experienced burn-out, a lack of inspiration and motivation, or even a loss of connection between our work and the organizations we represent. Do you know why? The solution is simple, but it’s not always the easiest one to acknowledge, especially when the everyday often gets in the way. With inspiration from the WHY (Golden Circle) principle developed by Simon Sinek, reconnect with your inner WHY-brarian and the spark he/she can ignite for you.
Speaker(s): Jeremy Bolom, Lincoln Parish Library

Book Talk by Kurt Iles
4:30 PM - 5:20 PM | HI- New Orleans C & Baton Rouge C
Sponsor(s): Public

ALL-CONFERENCE

Formal Awards Ceremony
6:00 PM - 6:50 PM | RFC- Banquet Room
A ceremony honoring distinguished librarians in our state. Join us as we celebrate the library profession.

Awards Reception
7:00 PM - 9:30 PM | Riverfront Foyer
A celebration of the accomplishments of librarians and libraries, and a time to mingle with colleagues.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Exhibits Open
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM | RFC- Exhibit Hall
Coffee Break: 10:00 AM - 10:50 PM

GODORT BREAKFAST
GODORT Breakfast & Business Meeting
* TICKET REQUIRED
8:00 AM - 9:50 AM | RFC- Banquet Room
Sponsor(s): GODORT
Description: Kevin Norton, Louisiana State Conservationist for USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service, will provide a presentation on the protected status for Louisiana’s agriculture and forest lands. Born out of the Dust Bowl of the “dirty 30’s,” the Soil Conservation Service, now the Natural Resources Conservation Service, works in partnership with state agencies and local soil and water conservation districts to provide conservation assistance tailored to each agriculture and forest producer. The presentation will highlight Louisiana’s conservation gains in soil erosion, water quality, coastal restoration and disaster response to major hurricanes. Specifically, highlighted will be the removal of the Louisiana Black Bear from the threatened and endangered species list in 2016. The recovery of the species can be directly attributed to the voluntary conservation work of private land stewards and assistance provided through USDA.
Speaker: Kevin Norton

PROGRAM SESSION 7
8:00 AM to 8:50 AM

The Librarians are Coming!!!
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | RFC- Doors H-I
Sponsor(s): Public
Description: Presenting at library conferences is great, but did you ever think about breaking out of your field? Have you ever wanted to invade a non-library conference or convention to promote libraries and librarians? Have you ever dreamed of colluding with other organizations to spread the hidden librarian agenda? If so, this is the program for you. After infiltrating CONtraflow, a New Orleans-area sci-fi/fantasy literature con, Sonnet joined a band of librarians who took over a panel at the 2017 North American Discworld Convention. Find out what she experienced, as well as some tips on launching your own mission into new territories.
Speaker(s): Sonnet Ireland, St. Tammany Parish Library

Mapping the Field of Mixed Methods Research: A Pathway for Innovative Research
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- OK Allen Rm
Sponsor(s): Subject Specialists, Academic
Description: Is mixed methods research a natural complement to traditional qualitative and quantitative research? By providing a framework for designing and conducting mixed methods research within the context of pragmatism, one finds certain commonalities between quantitative and qualitative research that position mixed methods research as an effective and insightful process. A key feature of mixed methods research is its methodological pluralism or eclecticism, which frequently results in superior research when compared to traditional mono-method research designs. This presentation will focus on the emergence of mixed-methods research and the impact of it in the field of academic library and information services.
Speaker(s): Jud Copeland, University of Central Arkansas

So YOU want to become a director?
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- Admiral Porter
Sponsor(s): Public, Library Managers IG
Description: A step-by-step guide to becoming a effective director. Dr. LeBert-Corbello developed a detailed plan of action when assigned to become the director of Jefferson Davis Parish in 2003. She wanted to share the plan to give new directors her blueprint for the success that she, the Board of Control, the employees and the public have experienced in the last fifteen years.
Speaker(s): Dr. Linda LeBert-Corbello, Director of Jefferson Davis Parish Library

Using Technology with Children and Young Adult Literature
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- New Orleans A & Baton Rouge A
Sponsor(s): LASL, LaSSAL
Description: This presentation will provide resources and detailed lessons, and recommendations for using the latest in technology and software in conjunction with children’s literature to teach story elements, vocabulary, genres, book reports, web research, eBooks, and comprehension strategies. The presentation will also include recommendations for using technology across the curriculum and tips on using programs that are available to all.

* HI = Holiday Inn
* RFC = Riverfront Center
Program Sessions

receive new ideas from all participants.

Speaker(s): Jennifer Nitz, Caddo Libraries
District Technical Librarian

News Literacy: Teaching students to be discerning in a world of fake news, clickbait, and extreme bias
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- New Orleans B & Baton Rouge B
Sponsor(s): LASL, LaSSAL, Library User Education IG

Description: Teaching news literacy is more challenging and necessary than ever in a world where news is delivered at a constant pace from a broad range of sources. Since social media and filter bubbles can make it challenging to access unbiased, factual information, we must equip students to be critical as they access news sources for a variety of purposes. This lecture-style session will give an overview of the phenomenon of fake news going viral and tools educators can use to help students develop news literacy skills.

Speaker(s): Tiffany Whitehead, Director of Library at Episcopal School of Baton Rouge

Interdisciplinary Collaboration in the Library
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM | HI- New Orleans C & Baton Rouge C
Sponsor(s): Academic

Description: Libraries are beginning to be viewed as more “hands on spaces” that offer patrons more than just what’s in the collections. The question is no longer “What does the library have?”, but “What can we do at the library?”. As an academic library, we have the opportunity to work with many departments, colleges, and student organizations to make patron experiences more “hands on”. Experiences and applied learning are preferred methods in the way libraries provide information, and for university libraries there are endless opportunities for providing specialized learning experiences. The sheer number of departments, colleges, and student organizations found around any academic library provides an endless number of collaborative partners to diversify public programming and illustrate your library’s versatility. This idea, to provide applied learning experiences for students, has the potential to help the academic library evolve.

Speaker(s): Whitney Collins, University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Chelyon Woods, University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Tiffany Ellis, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Performer’s Showcase
8:00 AM - 9:50 AM | HI- Lake Charles/ Lafayette
Sponsor(s): Public, LaSSAL

Description: Up to 6 performers will be invited to share a 15 minute demonstration of their programs. At the end attendees will have the chance to talk with the performers.

Speaker(s): TBA

PROGRAM SESSION 8
9:00 AM to 9:50 AM

Librarian and Teacher Collaboration
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM | RFC- Doors H-I
Sponsor(s): LASL

Description: This will be an opportunity for elementary and middle school librarians of every level to learn about ways to collaborate with classroom teachers across content. From graphic novels in the middle school social studies class to fiction in the science class, librarians will see how their knowledge can influence curriculum. They will have the opportunity to discuss ways they have collaborated.

Speaker(s): Kathryn (Katie) Loomis, University of North Texas, College of Education

Is Dewey Dead? The Metis Challenge to “Ditch” Dewey
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM | HI- OK Allen Rm
Sponsor(s): LASL

Description: In 2011, librarians at the Ethical Cultural Fieldston (ECF) School in New York City implemented a new classification system for their pre-K-5 students. The new system, Metis, is based on “whole-word labeling, child-friendly categories, and visually compelling signs.” It is a Dewey-free library classification system that places the thinking, interests, information needs and information-seeking behavior of children at its center. It was developed as an alternative to the Dewey decimal system, which is currently the most commonly used system in school and children’s sections of public libraries. The implementation of Metis to replace the Dewey system is increasing in certain areas of the United States. This paper will address the fundamental issues involved in this challenge for school library media specialists.

Speaker(s): Jud Copeland, University of Central Arkansas

Teachers of Library Science IG Business Meeting
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM | HI- Admiral Porter Room

Digitization on a Budget
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM | HI- New Orleans A & Baton Rouge A
Sponsor(s): Subject Specialists, Academic, Preservation IG

Description: Archives and libraries are seen as public hubs of information on demand. As expectations for digital information grows, it is imperative that archives and libraries strive to accommodate users’ growing needs for effective online access, while ensuring the longevity of digitized and born-digital primary sources. There is still a struggle for digital access to archival and special collections; many factors, such as time, funds, and administrative support limit the digitization of archival collections. None of these things have to be a real hindrance to digital migration and preservation. In this presentation, we will explore “DIY” ways to establish a functioning digital archive, regardless of the size of your institution. Topics will be covered include, but are not limited to recommended specifications for the digitization process, determining essential metadata for collections, and advocating for the development and growth of your digital repositories.

Speaker(s): Zachary Stein, Digitization Archivist/Instructor of Library Science, University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Chelyon Woods, Archivist and Head of the Ernest J. Gaines Center/Assistant Professor of Library Science, University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Cara Key, Metadata Librarian, Louisiana State University

Search and Find, Browse to Discover
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM | HI- New Orleans B & Baton Rouge B
Sponsor(s): LASL, Library User Education IG

Description: Two of my high school students visited the Book Festival for the first time in 2017. In the State Library, as I showed them how a paper card catalog functioned and how a microfilm machine spun around, I reflected on how much we have lost with the convenience of technology. This session will bring you ideas of how to combine the best of both worlds. How to teach the lost art of browsing while keeping our foot pressed firmly on the accelerator of computerized searching. Most of my high school students fully succumb to a goal-oriented approach in their research and can rarely stomach revising, revisiting, and exploring their topic fully. Come see me for tips on teaching and enjoying the freedom of digital primary sources. There is still a struggle for digital access to archival and special collections; many factors, such as time, funds, and administrative support limit the digitization of archival collections. None of these things have to be a real hindrance to digital migration and preservation. In this presentation, we will explore “DIY” ways to establish a functioning digital archive, regardless of the size of your institution. Topics will be covered include, but are not limited to recommended specifications for the digitization process, determining essential metadata for collections, and advocating for the development and growth of your digital repositories.

Speaker(s): Erin Berry, Caddo Magnet High School
Program Sessions

The Short and Long of Family Literacy Programming
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM | HI- New Orleans C & Baton Rouge C
Sponsor(s): LaSSAL, Public
Description: This 50 minute panel brings together the wisdom of a long-time family reading coordinator with the wonder of a first-time’s experience while describing the short-term and long-term impacts of the PRIME TIME Family program through the perspective of two library professionals. The panel will consider how programs like PRIME TIME impact library use. PRIME TIME Family Program Manager Hali Dardar will moderate the panel between Allison Clark and Adrienne Strock. As Youth Services Assistant at the Lafourche Parish Public Library, Allison Clark has hosted over 20 PRIME TIME programs. She will share her perspective of the program’s long-term benefits over the past 10 years in Lafourche. Branch Manager of Mid-City Library in New Orleans, Adrienne Strock will share the impacts she observed after hosting one six-week program. The session will end with a discussion on how these impacts can be measured, communicated, and folded into a library’s narrative of public impact and funding stewardship.
Speaker(s): Hali Dardar, Program Manager at Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Allison Clark, Youth Services Assistant and PRIME TIME Coordinator at the Lafourche Parish Public Library Adrienne Strock, Branch Manager of New Orleans Mid-City Library

LLA BUSINESS MEETING
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM | HI- Lake Charles/ Lafayette

LASL LUNCHEON
* TICKET REQUIRED
12:00 PM - 12:50 PM | RFC- Banquet Hall
Description: Ashley Elston lives in Shreveport with her husband and three sons. She is the author of five Young Adult novels, two of which have not yet been released. Her most recently published novel, This Is Out Story, has been chosen for the 2019 Louisiana Teen Readers’ Choice Award list. A graduate of LSU, she has worked as a wedding photographer and is a licensed landscape horticulturist. Her first YA novel, The Rules for Disappearing was a finalist in the Young Adult category for the International Thriller Writers’ Awards. The daughter of an attorney, Ashley was surrounded by discussions of court cases and the law which influences her writing. She will share her motivations and experiences as a Young Adult author and her thoughts about writing for this special group.
Speaker: Ashley Elston

PROGRAM SESSION 9
1:00 PM to 1:50 PM

LASL Business Meeting
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM | RFC- Banquet Hall
Sponsor(s): LASL

Unconventional Outreach: Going Where the People Are
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM | RFC- Doors H-I
Sponsor(s): LaSSAL
Description: How do librarians reach non-users while increasing their community’s understanding of the library’s value and relevance to their lives? By bringing a library presence outside the walls of the building! Beginning with a very basic outreach at a comic con in 2008, New Orleans Public Library has been increasing our presence around our city with a variety of unconventional outreach events. NOPL has walked in parades, hosted panels at fan conventions, created pop-up reference desks at festivals, exhibited S.T.E.M activities at maker fairs, and more. Regardless of staff size or budget concerns, every connection with your public and partners can be beneficial. In this panel, presenters will give advice for creating non-traditional outreach efforts and making a case for administration buy in. Participants will learn strategies for tailoring marketing and activities to specific events. Additionally, presenters will share best practices, favorite experiences, and lessons learned.
Speaker(s): Aimé Lohmeyer, Sara Olivia Melton, & Kacy Helwick (New Orleans Public Library)

Supporting Trans* Teens in the Public Library
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM | HI- OK Allen Rm
Sponsor(s): Public
Description: This program would be a presentation of a chapter in an upcoming publication “Gender Issues and the Library: Case Studies of Innovative Programs and Resources”. The chapter is a “how-to” style introduction to making all varieties of gender non-conforming teens feel welcome and included in public libraries. I frame the topic in terms of the physical library space, the social atmosphere created in teen areas, and the ways programming is conducted. The recommendations are experimentally based and can operate as a starting point for discussions on inclusivity and the specific needs of an especially vulnerable population of teens.
Speaker(s): M’issa Fleming, New Orleans Public Library

Notable Louisiana Books 2017
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM | HI- Admiral Porter Rm
Sponsor(s): Public, LaSSAL
Description: Three members of the Louisiana Literary Award Committee will give a booktalk featuring notable books published about Louisiana or by Louisiana authors in 2017.
Speaker(s): Elissa Plank, LSU; Kimberly Adkins, Byrd High School; Debbie Huntington, Northwestern State University

Locked in the Library! How to Host an Escape Room at Your Library
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM | HI- New Orleans B & Baton Rouge B
Sponsor(s): LaSSAL, Public
Description: The timer is ticking down. The clues are hidden. Now all you have to do is escape! Escape rooms have become extremely popular in the last few years. In this presentation, you’ll learn what an escape room is, how to create one, and resources that will help you provide an incredible experience for your patrons.
Speaker(s): Amanda Owen, Lindsey Harmon, Amanda Hopkins, Sterling Birdwell Lafayette Public Library

PROGRAM SESSION 10
2:00 PM to 2:50 PM

Full STEAM ahead!
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM | RFC- Doors H-I
Sponsor(s): LASL
Description: Now that the new Library Guidelines have been released how do you as a librarian or how does your librarian implement the guidelines? Four librarians from across the state will provide strategies and ideas for your librarian to collaborate with teachers on the implementation of STEAM activities. Get your library and your librarian on the right track!
Speaker(s): Kim Howell, Librarian, Stockwell Place Elementary School, Bossier City, Adri LeBlanc, Librarian, Dequincy High School, Dequincy, Charlene Picheloup, Librarian, Loreauville High School, Loreauville, Kristy Sturm, Librarian, Edgar A. Martin Middle School, Lafayette

LaSSAL Business Meeting
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM | HI- Admiral Porter Rm
Program Sessions

**Excel at your Destiny**
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM | HI- New Orleans A & Baton Rouge A
Sponsor(s): LASL (school libraries)
Description: It is your Destiny to Excel at information management!
Using a combination of customized Destiny reports and formula-laden Excel spreadsheets, we have been successfully wrangling data in our parish. Automated library debt lists, tally of overdue books by homeroom, sign in sheets, analysis of prior circulation of lost books, and the list goes on. This presentation will show you tips and tricks (and some pitfalls) of manipulating Destiny data in Excel. The information shared could be applicable to any online catalog or other software which can export data in a CSV or similar format. Definitely applicable to data exported from Renaissance Learning, student information systems, etc. Time permitting, the presenter will take ideas from participants and create reports on the spot.
Speaker(s): Erin Berry, Caddo Magnet High School

**Gov Docs: Scholarly or Not?**
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM | HI- New Orleans B & Baton Rouge B
Sponsor(s): GODORT, Subject Specialists, Academic, Library User Education, Preservation IG
Description: Government Documents can be a daunting world for students and even those academic librarians who assist them in conducting research. Oftentimes, it can be hard for students to differentiate what types of sources are considered scholarly. Join us as we discuss the importance of government documents within a research context and how to assist students in evaluating and assessing their research needs.
Speaker(s): Hayley Johnson, Louisiana State University, Tasha McClain, Louisiana State University

* HI = Holiday Inn
* RFC = Riverfront Center
Report on the
2017 LaSSAL
Conference

The 2017 Louisiana Support Staff Association of Libraries (LaSSAL) Conference was held Monday, October 2 at the beautiful Horseshoe Bossier City Hotel and Riverdome. A record number of library personnel, including those from the parish school systems, traveled to Bossier City to attend LaSSAL’s 22nd Annual Conference, including many from surrounding parishes but also some from as far as Tangipahoa. Attendees were primarily from public libraries and school libraries.

As attendees arrived Sunday evening, they were invited to a pre-conference “Meet and Greet” at the hotel buffet. The “Meet and Greet” provided an opportunity for library staff to network with other library professionals and share ideas. We had an excellent time with the twenty attendees as we chatted about our library experiences.

The 2017 Annual LaSSAL Conference started bright and early the next morning. The conference’s General Session was led by Sarah Creekmore and Kathy Tuminello, Chair and Vice-Chair of LaSSAL, and featured guest speaker, Charlotte Pringle Bourg, Library Consultant from the State Library of Louisiana. Bourg spoke to conference attendees on the importance of setting the tone for great customer service, being able to recognize customer’s needs, and being able to adapt to various communication styles. Even though it was a little early, participants listed Bourg’s presentation as one of the most helpful at the conference.

Throughout the day, attendees were encouraged to attend several breakout sessions focusing on a variety of subjects. The LaSSAL Conference offered nine different breakout sessions, including diverse topics such as: improving literacy outcomes, improving stress management, using Google Docs for collaboration, meeting records retention standards, improving management/employee relations, rebranding adult programming, re-thinking community engagement, assisting development of library boards, and encouraging Friends of the Library groups. The sessions listed as most helpful ranged the gamut of topics, from using Google Docs and other technology, to stress management, to improving adult programming. One of our last-second changes, the addition of a program on the Step Forward North Louisiana on literacy, also gained rave reviews and deserves special mention as a bonus replacement for one cancelled session.

After a short introduction by LLA President Patricia

Charlotte Pringle Bourg presents “Game of Tones: Setting the Tone for Great Customer Service.”
Brown, the keynote address was delivered by Kate Delaney (Emmy Award-winning journalist, author, and inspirational humorist) at the conference luncheon, which featured a tasty meal with phenomenal dessert and a fun set of door prizes, including copies of Delaney’s book Invade the Man Cave. Delaney’s presentation was a fun-filled, yet educational, discussion on “Influential Listening,” which covered a brief outline of her career highs and lows and what she learned about listening and interviewing during those times. Attendees particularly enjoyed her humor and her audience engagement. Delaney followed the presentation with a book signing and sold copies of her books at the registration table.

Conference attendees were well-pleased with the conference. The grand majority of the attendees rated both presentations and speakers as Excellent, with most of the remainder listing them as Good. Despite some confusion with registration and a temperature that was a bit brisk for some attendees, we still had an excellent time learning, networking, and sharing our learning experiences. The Riverdome at Horseshoe Casino turned out to be a splendid venue, as the hotel and meeting areas were very clean and professionally managed. One attendee summed up the experience well by sharing that “every segment of the event was beautifully orchestrated. What a plus when everyone can learn, network, and have a good time!”

LaSSAL would like to thank Horseshoe Bossier City Hotel and Riverdome, Caesars Entertainment, Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau, LaSSAL Board of Directors, Louisiana Library Association President Patricia Brown, and each of the conference presenters and speakers who provided top-notch sessions to further the education of library support staff in all classifications, including directors and board trustees.


This compact narrative of Bayou Sara and its ties to St. Francisville is an interesting book well sprinkled with old photographs. Anne Butler and Helen Williams are a formidable duo concerning West Feliciana Parish’s history: they’ve put together a readable twelve chapters from Bayou Sara’s early years to crossing the Mississippi River by ferry boats. Anne is the author of twenty plus books and hundreds of articles relating to the St. Francisville area. Helen has been connected with the West Feliciana Historical Society for many years—her mother worked with the Historical Society before Helen became responsible for the Society’s museum about twenty years ago.

Stories vary as to how Bayou (Creek) Sara got its name but we can be grateful that earlier names shown on French maps didn’t stick. “River of the Jewish Virgin” and “Bayou Gonorrhea” just lack something.

The creek, Sara, empties into the Mississippi River, and at this point, Louisiana’s version of Natchez-Under-The-Hill developed. For almost two centuries, Bayou Sara was quite the port with boats delivering goods downriver from St. Louis and upriver from New Orleans. An icehouse, cotton compress, saw mill, coal company, liqueur and tobacco outlets, and a hotel—as well as a bustling wharf area—provided a profitable economy for the area. The business life of Bayou Sara certainly overflowed to the social life of St. Francisville.

Bayou Sara was also the center of a bustling horse market. Large herds of horses were brought in from Kentucky and other areas. Stables owned by Messrs. Henshaw and Haile did a thriving business. Horses required blacksmiths and livery stables, both found in Bayou Sara. Throw in cattle drives coming through St. Francisville on their way to Bayou Sara or teams of oxen hauling logs to the lumber mill that turned out $75,000 feet of lumber daily—well, a person could feel like he was out west as easily as being in Louisiana.

One learns of the large Jewish population that owned dry good stores as well as other businesses that supported the agrarian empire, extending credit or taking cotton as payment, which led these merchants into the cotton business.

Bayou Sara was a thriving community, a community that had fortitude. Yearly flooding and the aftermath were givens. Fires spread through the wooden structures/businesses periodically. Citizens were willing to rebuild due to the proximity of the Mississippi River. But the Civil War and Reconstruction were as devastating as fire and flood, and Bayou Sara was finished off by the 1927 Mississippi River flood. “Time waits for no man...”

Or Bayou Sara.

The chapter “Crossing the River” is a wonderful collection of vignettes on the ferry boats and captains. Elephants and monkeys to run-away boars, motorcycle weddings to moonshiners are just a few tales that are shared in this chapter.

I would recommend this book for anyone who has an interest in Louisiana history. A little Louisiana geography is thrown in as well. The average reader isn’t reading a history book, just a good overview of the Felicianas. A detailed bibliography and index are included for further reference or for students who may be doing a report for a specific class.

Carolyn Files, Morehouse Parish Library


This is an outstanding book about the Chenier Plain, a Cameron Parish region known for its fishing and bird hunting. The region’s history and economic development and the growth of the Coastal Club, an historic hunting and fishing lodge, are excellently covered. Richard Crowell, a former attorney, has been an officer of the Coastal Club since 1982 and resides in Alexandria, Louisiana.

Chenier Plain is between Cameron Prairie National
Wildlife Refuge and Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge. Cheniers are ridges with wetlands. Numerous oak trees are on the ridges. The refuges are kept by the United States Fish and Wildlife Services. There were initially six hunting lodges at Chenier Plain before the current Coastal Club. Mallards, mottled ducks, gad walls, widgeons, teals, pintails, wood ducks, and ring necks are at Coastal Club. The rice fields attract the birds to Chenier Plain. At sunset, the birds fly to rice crops to eat. Chenier Plain features trails, ditches, canals, and ponds for ducks on the sixty hundred acres. Aluminum mud boats and pirogues are utilized. John James Audubon was in New Orleans in 1820 and painted the waterfowls that the Acadians sold at the New Orleans French market. The Acadians had moved from Nova Scotia to the marshes of Cameron to live quietly and to be near other French Catholics, following the Napoleonic code of law.

The outstanding work has a contents, foreword, preface, eleven chapters, afterword, acknowledgments, appendix, notes, selected bibliography, an accurate index, notes on the typeface, and about the endpapers. The appendix contains four charts and twenty-two good quality illustrations. The four charts are The Coastal Club Directors, The Coastal Club Presidents, The Coastal Club Managers, and the Coastal Club, Inc. annual reports between 1949 and 2013. Notes embodies two hundred four references divided by foreword, preface and the titles of the eleven chapters. A selected bibliography embraces 123 references. The book also provides thirty-nine maps, and good quality illustrations. The recommendation for audience is researchers of Chenier Plain in Cameron, Louisiana and duck hunting and fishing. The book is superb as a gift and excellent for public and academic libraries.

Melinda F. Matthews, University of Louisiana at Monroe Library


Initially inspired by the 1955 film starring Gary Cooper, “The Court-Marshal of Billy Mitchell,” this biography of General Billy Mitchell explores the backstory of the path to war in the Pacific Theater focusing on the cultural and political events that set up Japan’s surprise attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

With last year’s 75th anniversary of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, many military history books about aviation history during World War II have recently been published. What makes this book different is that it reaches back into the events that led to the subsequent court martial of one of the true lone voices crying in the wilderness from an aeronautical expert’s point of view.

Ronald Drez is a Tulane University alumnus, Marine veteran and award-winning and best-selling author and historian. He examines social life and customs in the Far East as well as the culture of imperial Japan from the era. It includes Mitchell’s early war predictions and ends with his subsequent court-marshal.

This is an important title for public libraries and would be a beneficial addition to university military history collections as it provides new insight to events leading to World War II.

Vivian Solar, Ascension Parish Library
News from Louisiana Association of School Librarians

Compiled from LASL Executive Board Meeting Minutes, LASL president’s and committee reports

By Adri Leblanc

20-20: Our Vision for the Future; LASL’s Slogan for 17-18:

On September 30, 2017, LASL held its first Executive Board meeting for the 2017-2018 school year. President, Susan Gauthier, expressed her commitment to moving LASL forward with consistency and has selected this year’s slogan to be “20-20: Our Vision for the Future.” The same slogan will be used throughout the presidency of both of the Vice-Presidents. LASL will have the same focus and will be moving in the same direction for the next three years.

In order to maintain consistency and alleviate confusion, an email address has been set up for the LASL President. Access to this email account will be handed down from president to president each year. This will make things more convenient for members as well as easier for LASL presidents to keep up with all correspondence. The address is geauxlasl@gmail.com. There is also a new Google drive account that can be used to store all information and will be passed down from year to year as well. This will allow new LASL officers to fulfill the responsibilities of their positions right away.

Committees:

LASL committee work has begun for the 2017-2018 school year, but we still have vacancies in some committee slots. We are looking for new members to fill some of these positions.

Committee report forms will be in a new format this year in order ensure each committee has a clear focus. Suggested timelines will be included in the reports, and a cohesive report will be compiled for each committee at the end of the year. Suggestions will be given on the committee’s plans by LASL officers which can be used or discarded at the discretion of the committee. The committee report forms will be uploaded to Google Drive and can be shared.

Handbook:

There are several changes to the LASL Handbook that are ready to be revisited and approved. These changes are to be voted on by the General membership in March. The LASL rubrics and award form were discussed last year and will be included in the handbook this year. This will be done following the Board’s approval. Another important change will be a rubric written for the candidates of the School Librarian of the Year Award.

Standards:

The Guidelines for Library Media Programs in Louisiana Schools was recently updated to include the grammar and word choice revisions LASL members previously voted to include. The Louisiana Department of Education has decided to make these edits/revisions, and they released a new version of the document in October.

AASL standards were rolled out at the AASL Conference in November in Phoenix. There will be many webinars available online explaining these new standards. Currently no one has been assigned to the LASL Standards Committee. These committee positions will be filled in the Spring. The members appointed in the Spring will continue in their positions until next Spring. They will be aligning the Guidelines for Library Media Programs in Louisiana Schools to the new AASL Standards to make our document a more powerful tool for librarians in our state. They will also reach out to other states to see how our new AASL standards are being utilized across the country.

Professional Development:

This year there will be an LASL summit and not a LALAMP conference. The summit will be held on January 20th. The location will be Baton Rouge Magnet High School. Registration information has been emailed to LASL members and can be found on the LLA website.
Concerns Moving Forward:
There are two main concerns facing LASL this year. The first is membership. Our current membership stands at 142 members. The LASL president’s personal goal is to raise membership to 252 members. One suggestion to improve membership is to conduct face-to-face recruitments through meet-and-greets, membership drives, and networking with Louisiana school librarians who are not members of LASL.

LASL may do a few meet-and-greets in conjunction with the release of the new AASL standards. Pamphlets, brochures, and banners will be produced to promote LASL. We plan to send a clear message of what our organization does to recruit school librarians who are not LASL members. We plan to provide a medium to connect the school librarians of Louisiana with the resources they need. We will also revisit the idea of creating and maintaining a YouTube channel focused on the specific needs and interests of Louisiana school librarians.

The second concern is finances. One financial issue has been the LASL luncheon held during the LLA Conference. LASL compensates the author and, despite hosting the event, does not make any profit from the luncheon. Bearing in mind these circumstances, LASL’s continued hosting of this luncheon will be seriously considered after this year. Plans for this year’s luncheon are already in motion with Louisiana author Ashley Elston confirmed as our guest author.

Moving forward, we are considering a meet and greet with an author at the LASL Summit which would not only be a meaningful experience for librarians but also profitable for LASL. Additionally, the LASL project committee will be moving forward with the Little Free Library Raffle. This venture should also be profitable for LASL.

The next LASL Executive Board meeting will be in January after the LASL Summit. For more information about LASL, visit http://laslonline.weebly.com/.
Many Moving Parts:
Implementing RFID at the Beauregard Parish Library

By the end of 2016, the administration and staff of the Beauregard Parish Library completed a four-year project to implement radio frequency identification (RFID) tagging on all circulating collections. The RFID project involved almost every department in the library and changed many of the library’s daily operations. This article will describe how implementation was approached by different departments in the library and will include lessons learned from the experience.

The Beauregard Parish Library is a public library located in southwestern Louisiana serving a rural population of 36,927 individuals who live in an area of 1,157.34 square miles. At present, the library has a total of five service locations with the headquarters in DeRidder, and it employs thirty staff members. In addition to a full suite of digital resources, the library’s physical circulating collections include books in print, magazines, audiobooks on compact disc and Playaway flash player, CD-ROMs, DVDs, and microfilm.

One of the features of the Beauregard Parish Library that sets it apart from other libraries in Louisiana pertains to its longstanding technology practices. The operating system for library computers, currently CentOS, is one of the varieties of Linux, which is neither Windows nor Mac. The current integrated library system (ILS) is Evergreen, an open-source system developed by Georgia Public Library Service. These conditions have affected the decisions made by this library. Vendors are often more prepared to work with libraries that use Windows, and they typically have few options that are compatible with Linux. The vendors that do provide Linux-compatible contents may not be able to do it within a project’s budget constraints.

Other libraries will have their own technology and budget concerns as they move forward with RFID projects, and no one choice will fit every library’s situation. Finding a vendor to do the job will be easier for libraries with Windows. Some libraries may choose turnkey options in which the vendor takes care of all steps of the RFID installment and collection conversion. Though fast and convenient, this is one of the more expensive options and cost-prohibitive to some libraries.

Administration

In late spring 2013, Beauregard Parish Library Director Erin Chesnutt began the process of information gathering about the RFID conversion process. Chesnutt’s four primary goals in making the collection RFID-ready were security and theft prevention, better control over inventory, easier shelf reading with accessory equipment, and enabling the future use of patron self-checkout. Chesnutt read professional literature and consulted with colleagues, including reading blog articles and sending out questions by email to professional mailing lists. Two of the most important resources she consulted were the 2005 ALA Midwinter resolution “Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Technology and Privacy Principles”, and the July 2012 issue of Library Technology Reports containing “RFID in Libraries: A Step toward Interoperability” by Lori Bowen Ayre. During the 2013 American Library Association Annual Conference, Chesnutt reached out to several vendors, studied their product brochures, and followed up in autumn and early winter with a few informational meetings.

In early 2014, the RFID project was advertised on the library website with a Request for Proposal (RFP) that included both software and hardware options for the project. Chesnutt and the Information Technology Department had meetings with the respondents, but it became clear that none of the vendors at that time had software that would work with the library’s Linux operating system, though some vendors had worked previously with the Evergreen ILS. Some vendors were willing to make a Linux-compatible version of their product, but the cost was more than had been budgeted for the project. Chesnutt decided to develop the RFID tagging software in-house as the
only viable option.

Once the software development was in order, Chesnutt turned her attentions to installing RFID security gates at the DeRidder branch and adding new automatic doors at the entrance. She had to work with vendors and consult blueprints as she considered necessary changes in the wiring to power the new equipment. Some information gathering was delegated to the Security and Safety Officer. The doors and gate were installed in the DeRidder Branch in February 2015.

While she completed her parts of the project, Chesnutt allowed her team to take the lead on various parts of the project that fell within their different areas of expertise.

**Information Technology:** Developing the RFID Wedge Software

Managed by Janet Reichley, the Information Technology (IT) Department at the Beauregard Parish Library also includes Systems Administrator John Morris and an IT Assistant. For several years, the imperatives of the department have been to customize and control as much of the library’s computing as possible and to do it as frugally as possible. Those values have fostered a can-do attitude that has manifest itself in a variety of ways, including developing new software.

In approaching the RFID project, Morris elected to develop original tag editing software according to International Office for Standardization (ISO) standards, and he designed it as a keyboard wedge. A keyboard wedge can be hardware, like a handheld barcode reader, or software that translates data into keyboard strokes, such as a specific book’s accession number. That data can then be shared with the library’s ILS. Morris finished initial programming of the wedge by July 2014, and the Technical Services Department began using the wedge to tag new items in December 2014.

The specifics of the software development will not be described in this article, but Morris has maintained development logs and is willing to answer questions about his work.

The RFID wedge (software) works with the RFID plate and transmitter (hardware) to retrieve and imprint data. The wedge appears as the inset image below, and the five icons are labeled below the wedge. Different users possess different settings defaulting to unlock (circulation clerks), closer look (technical services), or lock (shelving clerks) depending on primary duty. All users are able to use the lock and unlock features, but only Technical Services staff have access to the editing functions.

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1. Book icon, sends wedge data to ILS
2. WiFi icon, turns RFID plate on or off
3. Closed padlock icon, locks security bit for check in
4. Glasses icon, takes a closer look at data
5. Open padlock icon, unlocks security bit for check out
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For an item that is already data tagged, relevant information will appear in a box below the RFID wedge when scanned.

**RFID Wedge scan of Chase’s Calendar of Events**

The wedge displays data pertaining to Barcode, Shelf Tag, SetInfo/Ok, and Edit. The Shelf Tag is the same as the spine label. The SetInfo/OK indicates the number of parts and whether all parts of the set are present. The Edit group has three small icons—an X to remove the scanned item from the wedge so the data won’t be sent to the ILS; a pencil that allows editing from users with Technical Services permissions; a lock to manually lock or unlock the security bit on the individual item.

If there is a missing piece from a multi-part set, users will see that information under SetInfo/OK. For example, if a DVD set has five parts but only four are present, the set will scan as “4 of 5.” After the missing piece is located, the icon will change to a check mark, which is used to show all items are present. This is helpful when circulating multi-part items, such as DVDs or CDs.
The RFID wedge used with initial data tagging is identical to the one used for circulation but Technical Services Department staff use the glasses icon and have special permissions associated with their accounts allowing the editing of tag data. Editable fields on the RFID tag include accession number, spine label, International Standard Identifier for Libraries and Related Organisations identifying code, multi-part set, and shelf tag (spine label).

As it is currently arranged, users scan the unique nine digit accession number into Primary ID 001 field. The barcode will retrieve the rest of the information from the bibliographic record to autofill the fields in each tag. The information is saved on each tag by clicking Write Tag on the RFID wedge.

After the items are data tagged, clerks use the RFID wedge to scan items for checkin or checkout. The circulation clerks’ default permissions unlock the security bit so patrons can take items off premises without triggering the security alarm. Check-in clerks’ default permission is to lock the security bit on the RFID tag once the items have returned to the library.

**Information Technology:**
**Installing the Hardware**

The Beauregard Parish Library received the RFID hardware consisting of antenna plates and control boxes that serve as both signal transmitter and computer interface in November 2014. The IT team installed the new hardware at Technical Services workstations first. Once the tagging process was moving smoothly in that department, the new hardware was installed at circulation desks in all branches, check-in desks in DeRidder, and two other internal offices. Though there is a scheduling clerk on staff, the IT department did its own scheduling for installing the new hardware.

The flat, wide antenna plate can sit on top of a desk, or it can be securely mounted underneath. The transmitter box is connected to both the plate and the computer, and it can be stowed in an inconspicuous location.
Technical Services
The Technical Services Department began affixing RFID tags to new items in December 2014. With some guidance from John Morris, Department Manager Mary Breitkreutz decided where the different tags would be applied on the different formats of materials. While there are a few different sizes and styles of tag, the two varieties of RFID tags the Beauregard Parish Library uses are the square blocklite tag and the round stingray tag, designed for single-sided media discs (CD-ROMs, audio CDs, DVDs, etc).

One of the significant Technical Services advances with RFID tagging concerned multi-part sets. Previous to using RFID tags, each piece of a set had its own accession number. For example, a print book with coordinating CD-ROM would have two different accession numbers. Each accession number had its own circulation history, and each accession number could accrue fines.
Checkout errors from not handling all of the accession numbers correctly resulted in inaccurate circulation statistics, weeding reports and assessed overdue charges. The new use of RFID tags to indicate all parts of a multi-part set with one accession number improved circulation accuracy, ensured accurate weeding reports and reduced wrongly assessed overdue charges. The change eliminated an annoying cataloging problem and patron service obstacle.

Though the Technical Services Department is responsible for the physical tagging of new items in the collection, during the RFID project, the department also tagged some of the pre-existing collections. To alleviate some of the load on the Technical Services Department, two DeRidder customer service clerks were given additional training after August 2015 so they could tag materials. Those clerks would tag items at their workstations while also directly serving patrons. Sometimes, the clerks would work on DeRidder collections from the shelves; other times they would tag the daily returns that had not yet been shelved.

The process of RFID tagging the pre-existing collection allowed Department Manager Breitkreutz and her team to find and fix catalog errors that had resulted from bibliographic record dumps into the various integrated library systems prior to Evergreen. She trained the Tag Team on what factors to look for during the weeding and inventory of the collection, and they were able to correct minor mistakes during the tagging process. Items needing specialized cataloging attention were brought back to the Technical Services Department for correction.

**Scheduling**

The Beauregard Parish Library employs a scheduling clerk to ensure all employee schedules are properly followed and that there are no gaps in services. Two particular instances needed special scheduling attention to ensure the smooth running of the library.

When the security gate and new automatic door were installed in the DeRidder branch in February 2015, the library headquarters was closed to the public for a full day and three hours the following morning. During that interim, Deridder-based patron services clerks assisted in weeding and inventory of the collections.

When the patron services staff received RFID circulation training in March and April 2015, the Scheduling Supervisor organized coverage of the public areas by using members of the Technical Services Department, all of whom had previous experience as circulation clerks. The temporary arrangement allowed the staff members to be trained on new procedures and refresh previously learned skills.

**Security and Safety**

Security and Safety assisted the RFID project most notably as Director Chesnutt prepared for the installation of a new security gate as well as the installation of automatic doors at the entrance to DeRidder branch. Security and Safety Officer Charles Forman coordinated with electricians to run new wiring into the lobby and front areas of the library. While electricians were working the area, Foreman made sure safety signs were posted and that the work area was cordoned off to avoid injury or accident to patrons and staff.

The installation included work on the internal automatic doors between the lobby and main floor of the library, and the external automatic doors. The library had internal automatic doors previous to the installation of the gate and outer doors, but the area was rewired, resulting in necessary adjustments to the original work.

DeRidder branch automatic doors and security gate

**Training the Clerks**

By early 2015, the library had developed its own RFID tagging software, installed the hardware, and began tagging all newly purchased items. In March, it was time to train the clerks on using the new RFID features in their daily work. The staff training for this was led by Associate Director of Collections and Computing Julie Moncada, System Administrator.
John Morris, and Branch Manager Debbie Mullen, who had been in charge of training new hires. After July 2015, staff training duties were reassigned to Human Resources Coordinator Trish Simpson, who now handles the training new hires.

Mullen, Morris, and Moncada worked together to develop a staff training schedule. Their goal was to create staff ease and comfort using the new check-in and check-out procedures in time for the summer reading program efforts, a typically busy season in Louisiana public libraries. The staff to be trained were divided into three groups. The first group to be trained was the shelving team in the DeRidder branch. The second group of trainees was the set of clerks assigned primarily at rural branches away from the headquarters. The third and last group to be trained were the clerks who work only at the DeRidder branch.

In choosing this staggered training, Moncada, who wrote the training materials, hoped to give advantage to staff who might not otherwise have as many opportunities to practice their skills with the new technology. Morris monitored the training and so he could see how his software worked when used by real people in real situations. He would then make adjustments as needed to best fit the situation. Morris also added an update of the library ILS that users installed to use the new RFID features.

Each group’s training was staggered by two weeks during March and April. The staff were encouraged to try everything out and give feedback about what worked and did not. The clerks would check items in or out with the RFID technology first and repeat the process with older procedures for any items that were not yet tagged. Morris challenged staff to find bugs in the system. By the end of April, initial clerk training was complete with a few RFID problems already found and solved, and the security gate was turned on in the DeRidder branch.

Once the staff were using RFID for circulation, Associate Director of Public Services Celise Reech-Harper devised an inexpensive way to smooth over a potentially embarrassing customer service experience. If patrons items wrongly set off the alarm in the security gate, the items were rescanned, and more importantly, the patrons were given a free apology pen with the library’s contact information on it. The pen filled both duties of mollifying patrons and promoting the library in the community.

**Inventory and Weeding the Collection**

One aspect of doing an RFID conversion that other libraries may not need to consider as a part of their RFID project but that was critical for the Beauregard Parish Library project was collection weeding. For libraries with collections in need of weeding, it is better to weed thoroughly first to save the cost and effort of tagging materials that are about to be removed from the collection. For the Beauregard Parish Library, a long period focusing on material acquisition necessitated intensive weeding of the collection.

Moncada, who also serves as the library’s Acquisitions and Collection Development Librarian, decided to focus on the popular lending library model, bringing the library’s overall collections to Comprehensive standard according to the 2010 edition of the *Standards for Louisiana Public Libraries*. To accomplish that goal, members of the staff from all departments were brought in to assist with the high volume weeding.

Systems Administrator Morris ran circulation reports to locate the non-circulating items while staff members retrieved the materials. Moncada decided whether or not to retain the items for the library collections. The items that were retained were returned to the shelves, but the other items were discarded from the ILS. The discarded pieces were then physically marked as removed from the library’s collection. Lastly, they were released to the public according to library policy.

While this was a typical typical weeding process, the amount of materials handled was significantly larger than the norm. During several of the staff training days when the library was closed to the public, all staff members were involved in intensive weeding projects, often working through the library collection by sections. In terms of volume, one weeding intensive day yielded multiple hundreds of items removed from the collection.

Moncada’s efforts at changing the collection were successful. The entire system had been weeded according to the new standard by the end of 2016. During the three years of 2014-2016, over 60,000 items were withdrawn from the collection. Interestingly, this number is not far from the number
of physical items that still remain in the collection. Internal statistical reports at the end of the year revealed that over 44% of the materials in Beauregard Parish Library’s collection had been added within the last five years. This is well over the 25% for Comprehensive in the Standards of Louisiana Public Libraries.

**Materials Tagging the Collection**

Materials tagging is not in itself a difficult or time-consuming process. It involves affixing a tag that has an adhesive backing and then coding the tag with the correct accession number, which links it to the bibliographic record in the catalog. For the Beauregard Parish Library, the materials tagging process was combined with several collection management tasks. Specifically, the collections were inventoried, weeded, checked for correct electronic properties in the ILS, and checked for potential bibliographic record oddities. Other libraries may omit some of these collection management tasks as they tag their collections.

By handling each piece of material and scanning the accession numbers into the ILS, the staff performed a quick and easy inventory of the entire library system in two years. Then the circulation data was used to sort the items, and those that qualified for potential weeding were given to Moncada for the final decision. The items that were retained in the collection were checked for correct electronic and physical properties, such as making sure the pieces of the collection were both physically and electronically in the right place. Lastly, the items that indicated potential problems with the bibliographic records were sorted and either weeded by Moncada or given to Mary Breitkreutz and her team for catalog corrections in Technical Services.

Materials at four rural branches were tagged beginning in April 2015 and ending at the end of August 2015. The Fields Branch was tagged by Moncada and the Rural Branch Clerk Brenda Jarrell. The other three branches were tagged by Moncada and the summer Tag Team consisting of two college-age workers, both of whom had been previous Beauregard Parish Library employees, and sometimes Jarrell, who tagged materials with the team at the Merryville branch.

In mid-May 2015, the two temporary workers were given two weeks of tagging training in DeRidder branch so that they could get supervised experience in the workflow of collection management and tagging different types of media. After Memorial Day, the team started tagging the materials in the Singer Branch. Of the three rural branches the team would work at, the Singer branch was the smallest in terms of collection size and, therefore, was the branch the team could finish tagging the fastest. The branch tagging was complete within two weeks. After that, the team spent the rest of June, July and the first two weeks of August tagging the Merryville and South Beauregard Branches. The two temporary workers were brought back to the library’s employ during winter holidays in both 2015 and 2016 to assist with tagging the collections at DeRidder.

A fully tagged branch allowed rural branch clerks to gain more experience and confidence working with RFID collections while the rest of the library system was being processed. It also brought the material taggers to the materials instead of transporting entire collections back and forth between branches. For the DeRidder branch, those items were tagged later because the larger collection, conveniently located in the same building as the Technical Services Department, still needed weeding.

It was impossible for the material taggers to tag everything at rural branches because items might have been checked out or otherwise away from the library branch when the taggers were on site. To allow for the tagging of items that were missed, the clerks brought untagged materials to Technical Services in DeRidder and placed them on specific carts for that purpose. The staff in the department would process the items and send them back to the branch of origin. This was approached in order according to which branches or sections of collection had been deemed complete.

For example, the tagging of the Singer Branch collection took less than two weeks. Afterwards, anything that the Singer Branch clerk encountered that was not properly tagged would be sent to Technical Services. The same situation sometimes applied to portions of collections, such as all adult paperbacks at a given branch.
The DeRidder Branch was the last branch to be completed thanks to the work of various staff members, particularly Kathryn Everett and Krystle Sowells, who both pressed to finish the tagging of the adult non-fiction section before the library closed for the New Year.

**Conclusion**

An RFID project in any library system is no small endeavor, and it took the Beauregard Parish Library four years to get from the idea to completion. Some of the benefits the library gained from the project were in line with Director Chesnutt’s original goals, but there were other surprise benefits that were discovered over the course of the project.

One of the original aims in using RFID was as a theft deterrent. It has understandably not eliminated all theft because determined thieves have found new ways to deface materials and trick the security gate. In general, though, the use of RFID has worked positively for material retention and stopping loss through theft.

The use of RFID in the collections has improved the patron experience, including faster circulation transactions at both checkin and checkout. That has been particularly useful to patrons who want to take advantage of the library’s extensive DVD collection. The Beauregard Parish Library limits how many DVDs an individual can checkout at one time, and often patrons return old items at the same time as they checkout new items. Previous to RFID, the return of DVDs was a slow inconvenience for some patrons, but staff can now handle it much more efficiently.

One of the other surprising patron benefits from the tagged collection involved a reduction in inaccurate fines and reports of missing materials. Even with multi-part items, both patrons and library staff could be confident about the items that were checked out.

Internally, RFID tagging added several improvements to library operations. Firstly, tagging multi-part items as one set with many pieces resulted in more accurate circulation statistics. Secondly, the weeding and inventory prior to RFID tagging allowed for a cleaner catalog representing a fully-weeded collection. Fixing the catalog errors has made for believable search results, and patrons can be assured that the items that are available to them are the popular ones that are actually being used.

For the Beauregard Parish Library, the RFID implementation was a difficult job done well, and the results have been worth the effort. Other effects of the RFID project are yet to come as the library has not yet tested shelf reading with the portable equipment. The library is also not yet doing patron self-checkout, but the administration is confident that the collection is now ready for that eventuality.

As other libraries implement RFID in their collections, it is wise to keep in mind that not every library will experience an RFID project the same way. Different technology in a system may make it easier for some libraries to use a vendor’s hardware and software without much tweaking. Some vendors also offer full service packages where they do all of the collection tagging, but those would understandably come with a higher price tag. Some library collections may not need extensive weeding before beginning their RFID efforts. All libraries, however, can reap the immediate benefits of RFID tagging: better materials inventory control, heightened security, and enhanced patron service.

**REFERENCES**


Your Profession
Your Passion
Your Association
Your Journal

Get involved by emailing celise@beau.org
Calendar

2018

Louisiana Library Association Conference
Alexandria, Louisiana
March 7-9, 2018

Teen Tech Week
March 4-10, 2018

Public Library Association National Conference
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
March 20-24, 2018

National Library Week
April 8-14, 2018

National Bookmobile Day
April 11, 2018

Texas Library Association Conference
Dallas, Texas
April 10-13, 2018

COSUGI Conference
Atlanta, Georgia
April 16-18, 2018

Preservation Week
April 22-28, 2018

National Children’s Book Week
April 30- May 6, 2018

Medical Library Association Annual Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia
May 18-23 2018

North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) Annual Conference
Atlanta, Georgia
June 8-1, 2018

Special Library Association Annual Conference
Baltimore, Maryland
June 11-13, 2018

American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting
Baltimore, Maryland
July 4-17, 2018

American Library Association Annual Conference
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 21-26, 2018

Teen Read Week
October 7-13, 2018

Young Adult Services Symposium (YALSA)
Salt Lake City, Utah
November 2-4, 2018

Charleston Conference
November 5-10, 2018

2019

American Library Association (Midwinter)
Seattle, Washington
January 25-29, 2019

Music Library Association Annual Meeting
St. Louis, Missouri
February 20-24, 2019

Teen Tech Week
March 3-9, 2019

ACRL Annual National Conference
Cleveland, Ohio
April 10-13, 2019

Texas Library Association Conference
Austin, Texas
April 15-18, 2019

Medical Library Association Annual Meeting
Chicago, Illinois
May 3-8, 2019

American Library Association Annual Conference
Washington, D.C.
June 20-25, 2019
Teen Read Week
October 13-19, 2019

American Association of School Librarians Conference
Louisville, Kentucky
November 14-16, 2019

Charleston Conference
November 4-9, 2019
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