

LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
8550 UNITED PLAZA BLVD., SUITE 1001
BATON ROUGE, LA 70809-2256

LOUISIANA LIBRARIES

LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



LOUISIANA LIBRARIES

LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Contents

- 2. **From the Editor**
- 3. **From Your President**
- 4. **Stronger Libraries, A Stronger Louisiana**
by Ben Bell
- 6. **Instructions to Authors**
- 7. **LLA Annual Conference Overview**
- 9. **Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**
- 18. **Call for Nominations**
- 19. **Bayou State Periodical Index: 33 Years of Preserving Louisiana's Culture**
by Heather C. Plaisance
- 27. **Still Life of an Old Library in Folsom, La.**
by David Armand
- 30. **Reviews**
Column Editor Sheryl Moore Curry

**Inside
Back
Cover Calendar**
Column Editor Abigail DeSoto



From the Editor



Our libraries change on an almost daily basis—from the populations we serve to the tasks that we complete. Information professionals must anticipate and welcome change in order to do our best work. This year is a time of monumental change within our professional organization. The Louisiana Library Association Executive Board is examining ways to best serve the membership and make a positive impact upon libraries throughout our State.

As these decisions are made, I invite you to actively participate in your organization: attend meetings, town halls, and conference. Express your opinions about all aspects of the Louisiana Library Association. I encourage you, as Editor of Louisiana Libraries, to think about how the journal, in particular, can best meet the needs of the members and offer your suggestions. With the continuing dearth of submissions, we are examining the best way to go forward, and we need your input to make that happen.

As always, I invite you to read the volume and reflect on the literary offerings of our state, the history of our libraries, and the future of our organization.

LIBRARY

Editorial Board

Editor

Celise Reech-Harper
Beauregard Parish Library
205 South Washington Ave.
DeRidder, LA 70634
(337) 463-6217 (work)
(337) 401-7145 (cell)
celise@beau.org

Advertising Manager

Jackie Choate
1602 W. 3rd St.
Kaplan, LA 70548
(337) 412-7366
Jackie.choate@yahoo.com

Section Representatives

Academic Library

Sarah Simms
Middleton Library, LSU
141 Middleton
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
(985) 448-4663
sarahlynnsimms@lsu.edu

Government Documents

Round Table
Connie L. Phelps
Earl K. Long Library, UNO
New Orleans, LA 70148
cphelps@uno.edu

Public Library

Christopher Achee
Ascension Parish Library
cachee@stste.lib.la.us

LASL

Adri LeBlanc
107 Fields Hwy.
DeQuincy, LA 70633
adri.leblanc@cpsb.org

Subject Specialists 8

Sandra M. Himel
Head of Research &
Government Information
Edith Garland Dupre Library
(337) 482-1174
shimel@louisiana.edu

LaSSAL

Gail Goldberg
J.W. McDonald Branch Library
Rapides Parish Library
(318) 748-4848
rgoldberg@rpl.org

Trustees

Al Barron
Washington Parish Library
(985) 839-7805
tangibrarian@gmail.com

Column Editors

Buildings

Glenna Fallin
West Feliciana Parish Library
(225) 635-3364
gfallin@wfpilibrary.org

Calendar

Abigail DeSoto
Prescott Memorial Library
Ruston, LA 71272
desoto@latech.edu

People

Montié Dobbins
LSUHSC - Shreveport
6023 Sandalwood Dr.
Bossier City, LA 71111
(318) 675-5664x
mdobbi@lsuhsc.edu

Reviews

Sheryl Moore Curry
Edith Garland Dupre Library
University of Louisiana, Lafayette
Lafayette, LA 70504
(337) 482-5704
sherry@louisiana.edu

Louisiana Talks

Dayne Sherman
Sims Memorial Library
Southeastern Louisiana University
Hammond, LA
(985) 549-3965
dayne.sherman@selu.edu
daynesherman.com

Views and News for School Librarians

Adri LeBlanc
107 Fields Hwy.
DeQuincy, LA 70633
adri.leblanc@cpsb.org

From Your President

Ch-ch-ch-changes... Turn and face the strange

Well, it has certainly been an exciting year, and it's only just begun! First, I want to thank all of you who have paid your dues. Whether you are a long-time member or a new member, you are what makes this organization, and we need your help to make it the best library association we can!

There are a lot of changes on the horizon, and I appreciate everyone's patience. I know change can be scary, but change can also be good. We've had a lot of comments and suggestions, and I want you to know that we hear you. We can't change everything at once, but I think you'll find that we are heading in the right direction.

We have successfully transitioned from our previous management firm, Postlethwaite & Netterville (P&N), to our new firm, Amigos! As we get acclimated to our new partners, we are preparing for an amazing conference. We already have some exciting events and speakers scheduled, but we don't want to ruin the surprise with too many spoilers just yet.

The next thing we really need to focus on, aside from making sure that each of you gets the most out of your membership, is getting a detailed Treasurer position approved by the membership. A Treasurer will go a long way towards ensuring the continuation and growth of our organization. We really need this position in order to safeguard everything you put into LLA. This, as well as revising and updating the Bylaws and LLA Manual, is a priority for me and LLA. It's time for us to usher LLA into a new age and secure the future of the organization for years to come.

Time may change LLA... but it is up to us to guide those changes!

Sonnet Ireland

LLA President, 2019-20



Stronger Libraries, A Stronger Louisiana

by Ben Bell

Notes from the NOLA Information Literacy Collective

<https://nolailc.wordpress.com/>

As librarians, we all know the need to be information literate in today's world. To do our job professionally, we must be able to find, evaluate, and use information ethically. If we are not able to then how are we to empower our communities to do it? Indeed, it is part modelling and part teaching. Our profession is a primary social responsibility. Not only do we organize and provide access to our collections, we show how to do it.

Then we have our library users. Through us, people from all walks of life are able to read high quality sources with multiple perspectives. That is our neutrality at work. One thing that separates us from "Anything Goes" Google, though, is the quality of our collections. For the good of our communities, we ensure the information we provide passes muster. We are the objective gatekeepers of all the ideas shaping our communities. In addition, to borrow from the proverb, we teach people how to fish.

How about our communities? After we find and evaluate, what does it mean to use information? People do not sit in their homes simply proud they know some good stuff. College students do not Google directions to a restaurant just to cite it. Corporations do not just stroke their chins admiring the data they retrieved. No, they use the information to make informed decisions. That is how libraries shape communities.

Our role in libraries is to empower our communities. Allowing libraries to do this helps create a more information literate population. This population becomes a better-educated workforce which, as a result, takes their social responsibilities more seriously. We believe

such a workforce will entice more national and international, high tech businesses to locate here. Louisiana industries will have employees who are intellectually curious, flexible in their thinking, tech-savvy, problem-solving, solution-oriented, have the grit to keep reading and thinking, and contribute innovations and solutions. Perhaps this rising tide will float all boats.

Libraries play a strong role in economics. Every industry requires people who are empowered to think for themselves and make informed, evidence-based decisions. US News and World Report ranks Louisiana 48th in education and 49th in economics. There is a link between these two and everyone knows it, but we just cannot agree on how to make it better. Some think we need to privatize education and give tax breaks to industry. Others believe we need to provide better public services and allow industries to pay more to help. Either way, the goal is education and economics.

This year's NOLA ILC Forum hosts presentations from several professional librarians who offer both theory and practice to empower people towards Information Literacy. From being better able to work with new technologies to classroom teaching, from how to effectively deal with disinformation to create mindsets that always grow, from open access of information to how Information Literacy can help solve social ills, this conference offers all Louisiana librarians fresh, new tools to do their jobs with passion in the best way they can.

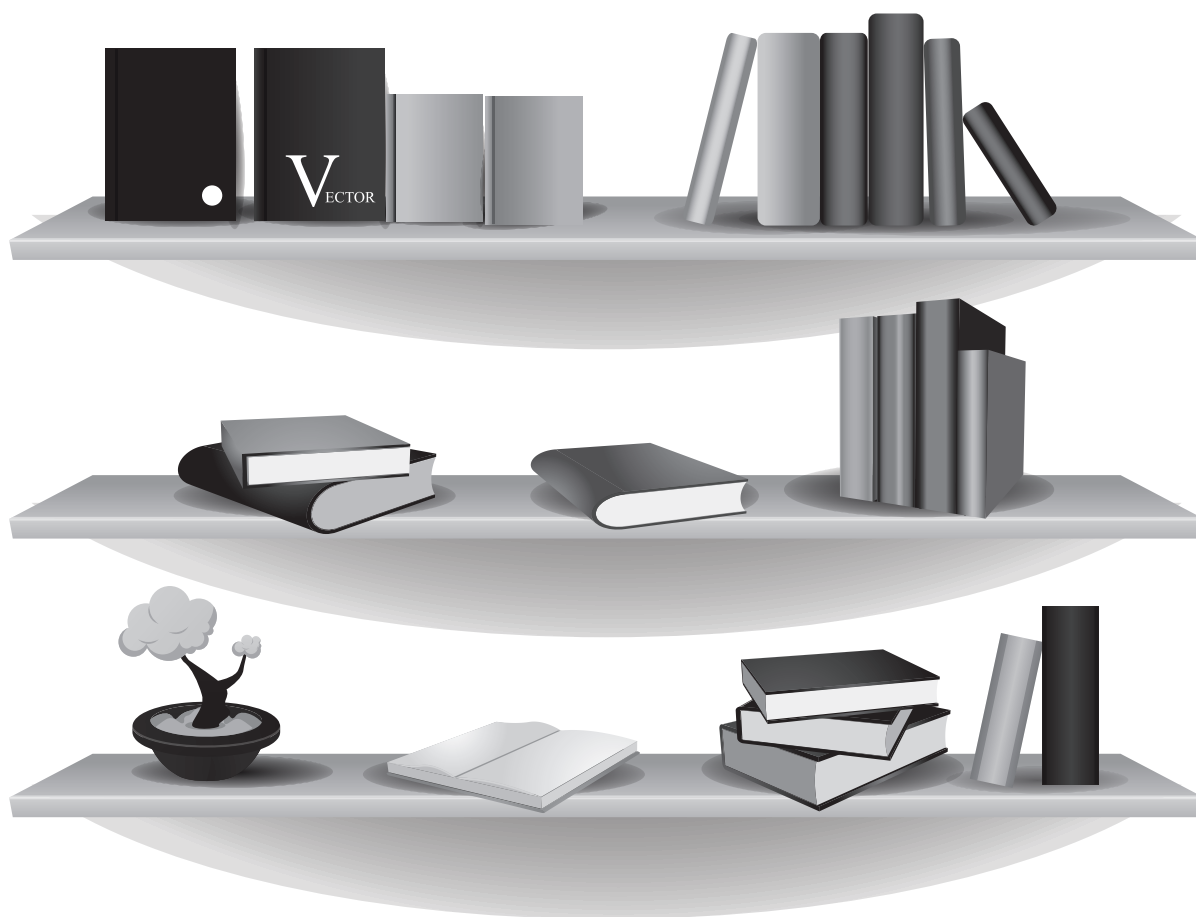
So in this hyper-political world, where public services like ours are increasingly headed for the chopping block, libraries must stand up for

ourselves and emphasize what we ultimately do:
empower communities and businesses to make
the best, most-informed decisions for all.

Ben Bell, MLIS
NOLA ILC Executive Board Member
Southeastern Louisiana University

Citation:

U.S. News Ranks the 50 States. (n.d.). Retrieved
June 11, 2019, from [https://www.usnews.com/
news/best-states](https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states)



Instructions to Authors

of Louisiana Libraries Articles

The editor welcomes articles of interest to Louisiana librarians. Manuscripts may pertain to any aspect of librarianship, but those concerning librarianship in Louisiana will be given first consideration. Authors are encouraged to submit queries in advance of preparing manuscripts which are intended specifically for Louisiana Libraries or associated with a particular event because publication schedules are dictated to some extent by the calendar of forthcoming theme issues. Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the Louisiana Library Association's approval.

Specific areas judged by referees include appropriateness to Louisiana Libraries, innovation, scholarship, and quality of writing. Articles should be analytical, critical expositions based on original research where indicated. They should be historical, descriptive, or experimental based on subjects of broad interest to Louisiana members of the profession. Articles should reflect issues and developments in library theory and practice. They should present new information, a new interpretation, or a different perspective. Articles should demonstrate an awareness of current writing and activity on the subject and cite it appropriately. The manuscript should be well organized, with material presented logically and clearly. Mechanics (grammar, spelling, punctuation) and the literary style must be of acceptable quality.

The manuscript should not have been published elsewhere, nor should it be under simultaneous consideration for another publication. Manuscripts may be submitted to the editor as Microsoft Word document attachments. Since there may be technical difficulties in transmission, authors should be prepared to submit materials in an appropriate electronic format by mail if necessary. Authors should provide a separate attachment with authors' names, affiliations, and addresses; the authors' names should not appear in the body of the article.

Authors must provide a separate file with their names, affiliations, and addresses; the authors' names should not appear in the body of the article. Please do not use the footnote component; instead, use superscript with endnotes when referencing information. A single

article should be a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 20 double-spaced pages, including all figures, tables, and references. At least three reviewers, including one or more members of the Louisiana Libraries editorial board and one or more outside reviewers, blind review all articles for content and style. The review process usually requires six to eight weeks. Authors are notified upon receipt of the manuscript and when a decision has been reached. The editor reserves the right to edit for style, clarity, and length. Manuscripts will not be returned, unless for revision. Upon acceptance of their articles, authors permit digitization of their work as well as consideration for the Louisiana Libraries Article of the Year Award given at annual conference.

Define all symbols and spell out all acronyms the first time they are used.

Louisiana Libraries follows the most recent edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Under most circumstances, the journal style does not use professional, social, or academic titles in the text.

It is the author's responsibility to obtain written permission to use copyrighted material by another author or publisher and to pay all fees appertaining thereto. A copy of the copyright holder's permission must accompany the printout. Appropriate credit must be shown in the body of the work as prescribed by the copyright holder.

Authors are encouraged to submit illustrations that complement the text. They should be high resolution digital images. The author is responsible for obtaining written permission to reproduce illustrations and paying all fees associated with the photographs. A photocopy of the owner's permission must accompany the typescript, and appropriate credit must be shown in the body of the work as prescribed by the owner. The editor reserves the right to limit the number of illustrations or to omit them. Print photographs will not be returned.

Submit manuscripts to Celise Reech-Harper, Associate Director, Beauregard Parish Library, 205 South Washington Ave., DeRidder, LA 70634. For questions or electronic submissions, email: celise@beau.org.

LLA Annual Conference Overview

Lafayette, LA · March 25-27, 2020

Two great Preconference options 4-4:50 p.m.Session 4

No-Conflict Meal Events 6-9 p.m. Awards Reception

60+ Sessions

Hundreds of enthusiastic librarians, library workers, trustees, and vendors

Exhibit Hall

Scholarship Basket Silent Auction

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

6-8 p.m.Executive Board Meeting (at hotel)

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

8 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Preconferences

5-6:30 p.m.President's Program and Welcome

6:30-8:30 p.m.Exhibits Opening

7-9 p.m. Past Presidents' Dinner (by invitation only)

Thursday, March 26, 2020

8 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration

8 a.m.-5 p.m.Exhibits Open

7:30-8:50 a.m.Academic/ACRL/
Subject Specialist Breakfast

9-10 a.m.Session 1

10 a.m.-11 a.m. ... Exhibits No Conflict/ Coffee Break

11-12Session 2

12:30-1:50 pmPublic/ Trustees Luncheon

2-2:50 p.m. Poster Sessions

3-3:50 p.m.Session 3

Friday, March 27, 2020

8 a.m.-12 p.m. Registration

8 a.m.-2 p.m. Exhibits Open

7:30 a.m.-8:50 a.m.GODORT Breakfast

9-9:50 a.m.Session 5

10-11:30 a.m. LLA Membership Meeting

11:30-1 p.m.LASL Luncheon

1-1:50 p.m.Session 6

2-2:50 p.m.Session 7

Louisiana Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, August 2, 2019
Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

Call to Order & Welcome

Sonnet Ireland

Sonnet called the meeting to order a little after 10:00 a.m.

Sonnet asked all Board members and committee members to please print out your reports and bring them with you to the meeting if you don't submit them in time to be a part of the board pdf package.

Board Members Present

Sonnet Ireland, President
Don Smith, 1st Vice President/President-Elect
Julie Champagne, 2nd Vice President
Cathy Smith, Past President
Celise Reece Harper, *Louisiana Library* Editor
Heather Plaisance, Academic Chair
Kim Adkins, LASL President
Shayne Bertrand, LaSSAL Chair
Janelle Zetty, Subject Specialist Chair

Guests Present

Blair Stapleton, Academic Vice Chair
Tracy R. Byerly, Amigos
Keith Gaertner, Amigos

Approval of Minutes

Shayne Bertrand moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on July 8, 2019. Cathy Smith seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

President's Comments

All the committees have been filled by Sonnet Ireland except for three: Membership (in the process of choosing a student), Nominating (which is in need of a School Librarian), and the Conference Relations Committee (which was approved in July 2018 but never filled).

Sonnet is also currently working with the sections that need new Vice Chairs: Public, GODORT, and Trustees.

Finally, we have a theme and a logo for the conference. LLA 2020: Envisioning a Brighter Future.

Budget and Financial Discussion

Sonnet called Bland O'Connor from P&N and placed him on speakerphone for the report. The reports presented were from May 31, 2019. Bland made note of Page 7. LLA had total assets of \$428,726.81. Net assets with restrictions were \$203,747.78. Net Assets without Donor restrictions \$172,263.48. Net Assets without Donor Restrictions-Current year \$18,345.55.

Louisiana Library Association
 Board of Directors Meeting
 Friday, August 2, 2019
 Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

	Budget	Actual
Income	\$184,185	\$165,677.49
Exp	<u>\$170,298</u>	<u>\$147,331.94</u>
	\$13,887	\$18,345.55

Bland made note that even though projected revenue was down, Net income was ahead of projections and not expected to change dramatically at year-end. There was some discussion about why revenue for the conference was budgeted at that level. The location played a factor (Baton Rouge). The Board acknowledged that the organization needs to start overestimating costs and underestimating revenue in our budgets.

Amigos was asked when they typically issue financial statements. The response was that once things were setup, Amigos staff tries to issue monthly financial with in 7 days of month close. Year-end financials typically 3-4 weeks to generate as all the income and expenses are accrued and realized.

Heather Plaisance and Blair Stapleton both noted that the amount in the Academic Section's designated funds was still incorrect.

Louisiana Libraries Editor's Comments

Celise Reech-Harper noted that the journal continues to see a low submission rate, which is a nation-wide trend. This will hopefully be alleviated next year with the approval of a reduced number of volumes per year, as it is more cost-efficient to make fewer, longer issues than to make more issues with fewer pages. Mailing and preparation are the primary costs. There was some discussion about the voting procedures to reduce the number of volumes published per year. If a vote is conducted by ballot 2/3 of the majority is needed. If the vote is done in person a simple majority is needed. Sonnet noted that we will address the possibility of changing the number of Louisiana Libraries issues from quarterly to biannually at the next meeting.

Celise is also seeking advertisers and columnists. She will be sending reminders to the general LLA listserv regarding submissions of articles and photographs, as well as information about becoming a referee. Section chairs were encouraged to make submissions for their book review. They should be sent to Sherry Curry. Sherry@Louisiana.edu

ALA Comments

Vivian McCain was absent and no report was submitted prior to the meeting.

Louisiana Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, August 2, 2019
Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

Section Comments

Academic

Heather Plaisance shared that the Academic Section is using Mail Chimp for the Louisiana Virtual Academic Conference, news about the agreement with Amigos, and LLA Annual conference updates. The Louisiana Virtual Academic Conference planning committee met to review submitted proposals, and a draft agenda was created for the event. Presenters are being notified of proposal acceptance. Registration information and the official conference agenda will be available soon. Registration will be opening the end of August/early September.

Details for the section's co-sponsored conference breakfast are still being discussed. They are still trying to resolve some budget issues with P&N from the last fiscal year. There was a question about last year's virtual conference funds. The income was believed to be \$900 less the \$450 in expenses for a net of \$450.00.

GODORT

Eric Wedig was absent and no report was submitted prior to the meeting.

LASL

Kim Adkins shared that LASL had been organizing the two Fall Summits this September: Lafayette High School on September 14 and LSU-Shreveport University Center on September 17. The section sent out Save the Date postcards to every school library in the state for the Summits.

The proposed schedule will be out soon. The registration is active. LSUS is providing the space for the North Summit for \$250. Lafayette HS is providing the space for the South Summit--the only costs will be for the custodian. The vendors will be charged \$100 a table. There will be no preconference. Attendees will write checks to CASL and that group will write one check to LLA.

LaSSAL

Shayne Bertrand summarized LaSSAL's last meeting and mentioned that they had been encouraging newsletter submissions. Their conference is in October at the Hotel Bentley. All the speakers and presenters are set and there will be very little cost to LLA. They hope to use Google Forms like Academic and LASL have started doing. Sonnet will work with Shayne to ensure a smoother experience.

Public

Rebecca Cloud was absent but submitted a report ahead of time. Due to the Public Chair's, Ruth Bond, departure from the Louisiana Library Association, Rebecca Cloud

Louisiana Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, August 2, 2019
Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

has moved from Vice-Chair to Chair for 2019-2020. The Public Section is actively courting a new Vice-Chair in the hopes that they will be able to attend the next meeting of the Public Section Officers in September.

Subject Specialists

Janelle Zetty created a MailChimp account to communicate with all Subject Specialist members after receiving an updated roster from P&N. They have asked members for suggestions regarding continuing education webinars and encouraged publishing in Louisiana Libraries. Janelle also asked about the possibility of the section paying for an ALA webinar that could then be viewed by members remotely. Sonnet said she would look into the logistics for that, but that there was no reason the section couldn't purchase some form of CE for all LLA members to view.

Janelle has appointed David Duggar to the Lucy B. Foote Award Committee; Connie Phelps and Elissa Plank are the other two members. The Subject Specialists section is continuing to work with the Academic Section to organize the annual conference breakfast/business meeting.

Janelle also asked about the possibility of sections having their own social media presence. Sonnet said that this could be a possibility, but she had some concerns about multiple LLA-related pages going dormant for years. It was agreed that LLA needs a social media policy.

Trustees

Deborah Hollimon was absent and no report was submitted prior to the meeting.

First Vice President's Comments

Donald Smith has touched base with all of the committees he oversees and has asked them to cc him on messages and send him reports for Board meetings.

Second Vice President's Comments

Julie Champagne has touched base with all of the committees she oversees and expects to have more to report on them next time. The Web Oversight Committee had questions about their function and role. Sonnet explained that there were going to be a lot of changes with the new management company. Once Amigos has fully taken over the site, Sonnet plans to work with them to update the information and include more information about committees and officers. Julie has also contacted the various Interest Groups and had questions about their purpose. She asked about taking action on inactive Interest Groups. It was conceded that they do not appear to offer members much value. A discussion was held about possible changes to the Interest Groups, including no longer charging for them and having them strictly function as listservs or online communities for members. Sonnet also mentioned the possibility of changing

Louisiana Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, August 2, 2019
Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

any truly popular Interest Groups to Round Tables or Sections if warranted. Sonnet asked Julie to investigate options for the Interest Groups and their uses. During this report, we realized that listservs are not mentioned in the Amigos contract. Sonnet said she and Tracy would discuss what needs to be done to make that happen.

SELA Report

Hayley Johnson and Sarah Simms were absent and no report was submitted prior to the meeting.

Past President's Comments

Cathy Smith discussed the possible budget. She is still working on the numbers. After discussing the financial reports, Tracy suggested that the Conference Budget be separated from the Regular Budget. Instead of a giant, complicated spreadsheet, the Conference Budget amount would be a line item in the Regular Budget. The Board agreed that this made sense. Celise, as Conference Chair, will work on the Conference Budget and send that out for approval. Cathy will work with Sonnet and Amigos to get the Regular Budget out.

P&N Report

Sonnet shared the information from P&N's report on membership. Current membership is at 1065 as of July 31st. By policy, non-renewed members are scheduled to be dropped on August 31st. We have only had 691 members renew so far for this year, but that could be the result of many institutions not renewing until October or November. The second dues notice was sent on July 2, 2019. The LLA Office is scheduled to send a third notice out in August. The report indicates that the LLA Office needs some direction regarding the third notice; Sonnet said she will contact P&N to find out what guidance is needed.

Amigos Report

Tracy Byerly updated the Board on the transition progress. A discussion needs to be held between Sonnet and Amigos about the listservs. Otherwise, the transition is proceeding as scheduled with Amigos taking over completely by August 31st.

Old Business

- I. Resolution to add Tracy and two additional Amigos employees to our account.

Julie Champagne made a motion to add Tracy Byerly, Linda Elkow and Keith Gaertner from the Amigos Management services to the LLA Chase bank account. Motion was seconded by Don Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

- II. Updating Scholarship Fund Account

Louisiana Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, August 2, 2019
Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

No one knows who are the signers of these accounts. Sonnet Ireland will research this.

III. Updating Contact List for Officers

A sheet was passed out for all the board members to update their contact information.

IV. Vacant Vice Chair Positions: GODORT, Public, Trustees

Sonnet is working with the Chairs for each of these sections to identify Vice Chairs.

V. PDF Directory on Website

Discussion was held about the use of the PDF on the site. It was agreed that a fully functional Membership Directory that allows us to search by section would be a better replacement.

Don Smith made a motion to eliminate the PDF directory. Kim Adkins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

A consensus was reached that it would also be best if the website had email addresses for LLA officers instead of phone numbers.

New Business

I. Executive Board Name Tags

Sonnet presented several options for Board Member name tags. She reasoned that name tags are used in many other organizations and create a feeling of professionalism at events. It would allow officers to represent LLA at various events throughout the year while also providing a nice keepsake to the members. She provided three options for name tags:

Option 1. Purchase name tags for the president, past president, president-elect, ALA councilor, and the editor of Louisiana Libraries. This would cost, roughly, \$10.25 each with a \$40 set-up fee for a total of \$91.25.

Option 2. Purchase name tags for the entire board (17) at \$10.25 each with a \$40 set-up fee for a total of \$214.25.

Option 3a. Purchase name tags for the entire board (17) plus living past presidents (~25) at \$8 each with a \$40 set-up fee for a total of \$280.

Louisiana Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, August 2, 2019
Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

Option 3b. Purchase name tags for the entire board plus the known members of next year's board (~24) plus living past presidents (~25) at \$8 each with a \$40 set-up fee for a total of \$408.

The cost for Board members would be covered by LLA's General Fund. Any section that wanted to purchase name tags for officers or committee members (aside from Chair and Vice-Chair) would need to pay for it out of their own funds.

Kim Adkins made a motion to purchase name tags under Option 3b. Shayne Bertrand seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Conference Program Applications

Sonnet and/or Celise will get the Pre-Conference Applications to section Chairs as soon as possible.

III. Conference Updates

Celise Reech-Harper reported on the conference committee, which meets immediately after the Board meeting. Jessica Styons, the exhibits chair, had to step down, but Joe Gremillion, another committee member, is willing to take the position. He has just returned to the state after being gone for a period, so he is excited to get involved.

A skeleton schedule has been developed and has been placed in Google Docs. The schedule will be very similar to last year. Exhibits will be open the evening before. The committee is recommending that the schedule allows for all meal events to be no conflict times in order to encourage cross-attendance. We are also asking that sections secure their speakers soon, so that information can be used to encourage attendance.

The call for proposal will be sent out the week of August 5th. The full schedule will be sent out in November and or December. Registrations will be open up in January. The executive board meeting will be held the evening before the conference starts (Tuesday Night). This meeting will be focused more on last minute issues that need addressing to allow Board members to focus on the events they are organizing.

Last year the awards committee ask for a budget of \$2,000. Actual amount spent was \$6,023. This year, we are planning a budget that better reflects actual costs.

Attendance in past years was as follows:

2017 (Lafayette): 216

2018 (Alexandria): 158

Louisiana Library Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, August 2, 2019
Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

2019 (Baton Rouge): 260

The conference committee is proposing a package conference rate that includes membership of \$199. This is a savings of roughly 13%.

Section chairs need to have meal selection done by the end of October.

Kim reported that LASL will sponsor the last lunch on Friday. Last year, more Public Library members attended than School Library members. LASL did not keep any of the money made on last year's luncheon, as it all went to the general LLA fund. For this year's lunch and learn, the LASL section was thinking of inviting Jason Reynolds or Alton Carter. There will be an opportunity for other

committees to co-sponsor to help pay for the speakers. The committee will work with Angela Germany to develop contacts.

Preconference funds go to the section sponsoring the preconference, while lunch revenue will go to LLA.

The arrangement with Barnes and Nobles should be researched for what percentage of sales that LLA will get at book signings. Publishers will send LLA books to sell for a better profit. LLA could take advantage of this by having Barnes and Noble not carry those particular books at the conference.

Celise wanted to get feedback from the Board about purchasing t-shirts to sell at the conference. This had been done in the past, but that was over ten to twenty years ago. There were concerns about sizes and ensuring that we are not stuck with too many leftovers. There was also discussion about design of shirt. The original plan was to use the conference logo, though we could also look at using the LLA logo instead. Celise will look into various options.

IV. Google Forms Training

Since we are encouraging sections to do their own registration for events, Sonnet mentioned the idea of offering Google Forms Training to new officers in the future. This will be addressed again after the transition to Amigos is complete.

V. LaSSAL Conference

Shayne presented the budget for the LaSSAL Statewide Conference.

Cathy Smith moved to accept the budget. Heather Plaisance seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Social Media

Louisiana Library Association
 Board of Directors Meeting
 Friday, August 2, 2019
 Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

Sonnet Ireland made note that everyone should follow Pierre, the LLA mascot, on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Because of the popularity of LLA’s posts and how overwhelming this can become for one person, Sonnet wants to create a social media committee of seven people--2 people per social media outlet with one coordinator to oversee it all.

The idea of using HootSuite or another program to cross platforms was mentioned, but Sonnet pointed out that some posts do not translate well across all three media. Her most common issue is tagging the appropriate accounts. Some entities may not have accounts in all three platforms or the usernames may differ just enough to create an issue. Sonnet was also concerned about continuity of the activity throughout the years.

Announcements

Follow Pierre!

Decisions Made

1. The Conference Budget will be separated out from the regular budget. Celise, as Conference Chair, will work on the Conference Budget and send that out for approval.
2. Tracy Byerly, Linda Elkow and Keith Gaertner from the Amigos Management Services will be added to the LLA Chase bank account. (Motion: Julie Champagne/Don Smith, passed)
3. PDF directory will be eliminated. (Motion: Don Smith/Kim Adkins, passed)
4. LLA will purchase name tags under Option 3b. (Motion: Kim Adkins/Shayne Bertrand, passed)
5. LaSSAL Statewide Conference budget approved (Motion: Cathy Smith/Heather Plaisance, passed)

Action Items:

Who	What	By When
Eric Wedig	Identify new Vice Chair for	ASAP

Louisiana Library Association
 Board of Directors Meeting
 Friday, August 2, 2019
 Lafayette Public Library Main Branch

	GODORT	
Rebecca Cloud	Identify new Vice Chair for Public	ASAP
Deborah Holliman	Identify new Vice Chair for Trustees	ASAP
Sonnet Ireland	Complete Membership, Nominating, and Conference Relations Committees	August 31st

Next Meetings

Friday, October 4, 2019, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.- Virtual (Zoom)

Join meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/787255028>

Or call 646-876-9923 US (New York) or 669-900-6833 US (San Jose)

and enter meeting ID: 787 255 028

Monday, November 4, 2019, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.: In-Person in Alexandria,

Rapides Parish Library, Westside Regional Branch,

5416 Provine Place, Alexandria, LA 71303

Adjournment

At 1:03 a motion was made by Julie Champagne to adjourn. Motion seconded by Cathy Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Call for Nominations:

by Angela Dunnington

The Essae M. Culver Distinguished Service Award 2020

Nominations are being sought for the Essae M. Culver Distinguished Service Award.

Who can be nominated?

Qualified librarians with an M.L.S. or equivalent degree who are current members of the Louisiana Library Association (LLA). Nominations for the Essae M. Culver Distinguished Service Award should be sent to the LLA Office for endorsement. Re-nomination of previous nominees within three years is encouraged.

Selection Criteria

The Essae M. Culver Distinguished Service Award will be awarded to a librarian whose professional service and achievements, whose leadership in Louisiana association work, and whose lifetime accomplishments in a field of librarianship with the state merit recognition of particular value to Louisiana librarianship.

Selection criteria includes:

- Selection should be based on accomplishments and not solely on numbers of endorsements.
- Nominations are valid for three years provided the person making the nomination sends an annual request for reconsideration.
- Endorsements presenting special knowledge of the candidate are highly desirable in making the selection for the award.

This award includes a bronze medal with the name of the award, the name of the recipient, and the year in which it is given. The winner will be honored at an award reception during the Louisiana Library Association Annual Conference in Lafayette, March 25-27, 2020.

For more information about this award, visit:
<https://llaonline.org/>



Bayou State Periodical Index:

by Heather C. Plaisance

Thirty-three Years of Preserving Louisiana's Culture

Introduction

Louisiana's local, regional, and statewide periodicals provide a wealth of information to library users. These publications feature articles that discuss the different aspects of Louisiana's unique culture and highlight the state's social, political, and economic concerns. They serve as newsletters for civic and professional organizations, feature genealogical histories of families, and provide the historical background for a city, town or region. Unfortunately, because national sources often ignore them, much of the rich information contained in these periodicals are inaccessible to library users.

Many factors can contribute to the limited accessibility to Louisiana's periodicals. Due to budget constraints, publishers may only print a limited number of copies. Publications intended for readers in a specific geographical location may not be widely publicized, leaving a substantial number of users unaware of their existence. "Perhaps the most salient factor contributing to the lack of access to these periodicals is the fact that they are not indexed by the widely available "national" indexing and abstracting services."

Due to the vast amount of information available on the Internet today, this problem has been somewhat mitigated. Many publishers provide access to a limited amount of content from the publications most current issue on their websites. Others provide links to digital versions that allow users to view the entire contents of a single issue or the publication's complete archive. While there is more information readily available today compared to before, not all Louisiana publications have a strong online presence leaving the content in the majority of them largely inaccessible to researchers.

Addressing the limited accessibility to Louisiana's periodicals is not new for libraries and solutions to this problem have long been sought. Like many libraries in the 1980s, Dupré Library at the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL), now

the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, addressed this issue by maintaining a vertical file of pamphlets and newspaper clippings that focused on the rich culture of the Acadiana region. While it helped to fill this information need, the file's contents were only accessible to users at Dupré Library. However, the "need for information on local topics and the difficulty of locating articles in Louisiana publications" was seen as a statewide issue."

Louisiana's unique culture provides readily available topics for student research assignments. Unfortunately, articles found in commercial sources like Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature are "written to introduce Louisiana topics to outside readers" and lack the depth that articles in Louisiana periodicals provide. While regional publications contain more useful information, due to lack of indexing, they are vastly underutilized by library users. In the spring of 1986, Anna S. Brown, Jean M. Schmidt (who later married and became Jean Kiesel), and John S. Wilson, librarians at Dupré Library, met to discuss this issue and find a solution for not only their institution but for libraries throughout Louisiana. They determined that the ideal solution was to develop an index of Louisiana's regional periodicals that would be made available to libraries statewide. Thus the Bayou State Periodical Index (BSPI) was born.

Selected Periodicals

A key decision in the planning process was identifying the periodicals the BSPI would include, and the index's founders considered several factors. Of most importance, the periodicals needed to be published in Louisiana and have widespread availability to libraries throughout the state. While the majority of the periodicals had to feature Louisiana-focused articles, regional magazines such as Southern Living would be indexed only for articles about Louisiana related topics. Continued access to the selected publications was crucial for BSPI editors

and indexers. As a result, Dupré Library made efforts to acquire as many of the periodicals as possible. Most were obtained by paid subscription and added to the Library's collection. Missing issues were supplied by the Lafayette Public Library or requested through interlibrary loan. Complimentary copies were requested from publishers of titles not available locally.

The first edition of the index featured twenty-one titles that covered a variety of topics including "history, business, agriculture, the humanities, and the social life of Louisiana." As the BSPI grew, periodicals were added to expand the subject areas covered while others were dropped from the index due to minimal interest or ceased publication. Since its inception, more than ninety titles have been indexed in the BSPI. Twenty-seven continue to be indexed today. A list of current and previously indexed periodicals follows below. Titles marked with a * represent the original publications included in the index's 1985 edition.

Currently Indexed Periodicals

64 Parishes
*Acadiana Profile**
*The Angolite**
*Forests and People**
La Louisiane
Le Raconteur
Louisiana Agriculture
Louisiana Cookin'
Louisiana CPA Lagniappe
Louisiana Folklife Journal
Louisiana Gardener
Louisiana Genealogical Register
*Louisiana History**
*Louisiana Horse**
Louisiana Libraries
*Louisiana Life**
*Louisiana Literature**
Louisiana Sportsman

McNeese Review
New Orleans Genesis
*New Orleans Magazine**
NOMA: Arts Quarterly
*North Louisiana History**
OffBeat
Preservation in Print
SB Magazine
Watermarks

Previously Indexed Periodicals

Alumni Columns
Attakapas Gazette
*Artsprectrum**
Artworks
Baton Rouge Magazine
Best of Lafayette
Classical
Coast & Sea
Delta Business Review
Delta Tradeways
EQ: Louisiana Economic Outlook
Fins and Feathers: Louisiana
Gambit
*Gulf Coast Cattleman**
Impact
Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society
LAES Bulletin
LMSA Journal
Louisiana Archaeology
*Louisiana Bar Journal**
Louisiana Business Perspectives
Louisiana Business Survey
Louisiana Cattleman
Louisiana Coastal Review
*Louisiana Conservationist**

Louisiana Contractor
Louisiana Country
Louisiana Educational Research Journal
Louisiana English Journal
Louisiana Environmentalist
Louisiana Folklife
Louisiana Folklore Miscellany
Louisiana Game and Fish
Louisiana Morbidity Report
Louisiana Municipal Review
*Louisiana Musician**
Louisiana Parish Government
Louisiana Political Review
Louisiana Rural Economist
Louisiana Tech Alumni News
Louisiana Wildlife Federation
New Delta Review
New Orleans Homes & Lifestyles
*PAR Analysis**
PAR Legislative Bulletin
*Port Record**
Regional Dimensions
Res Scholars
Rouge Magazine
*River Cities: The Magazine of Shreveport and Bossier**
Southeast Louisiana Historical Papers
Southeastern Annual Report
*Southern Accents**
Southern Exposure
*Southern Living**
Southern Magazine
Southern Outdoors
Southern Outdoors' Saltwater Magazine
*Southern Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of the South**
Southpoint

Southwestern Review
Spectra
State Business Louisiana
*The Times of Acadiana**
Tulanian
University of New Orleans Magazine

Building the Index

The BSPI was not the first of its kind. Other regional periodical indexes such as the Index to Texas Magazines and Documents and the North Carolina Periodical Index existed during the 1980s. The Ozark Periodical Index (OPI), published by the Southwestern Missouri Library Network from 1979 to 1999, served as the index for periodicals published in Missouri and surrounding states of the Ozarks region. BSPI co-founder Anna Brown was familiar with the project and used the OPI as the model for the newly created Louisiana periodical index. In the early years of the OPI, article citations and subject headings were recorded on index cards. To set itself apart, BSPI founders decided to use a “computer program to manipulate and organize the data rather than a manual system to manipulate and organize data.”

Developed by Ontario-based Reference Press in 1984, AUTHEX was chosen to serve as the BSPI’s periodical indexing program. AUTHEX is a “menu-driven, easy to use indexing system, for use with certain types of bibliographic material, in particular periodicals,” and held up to 32,000 records and utilized two separate files. The main database contained article titles, author names, and the periodical’s citation information including volume and page numbers. The second file was the authority file that stored the index’s subject headings. Reference Press had an authority file already developed, but BSPI editors chose to create one specific to the index. To build the new authority file, index founders consulted the thesaurus of the Ozark Periodical Index, Reader’s Guide to Periodical Literature and the Library of Congress Subject Headings.

Each newly added subject heading was assigned a five-digit numerical code that represented the heading in the authority file. This code was used for entry of the subject heading into the main database. The purpose was to link records in the database “to the authority file so that when an index is generated, it automatically creates the appropriate See and See also references.” After all subject headings were coded and citations were entered into the main database, the index was ready to be printed.

Print Editions, 1985-1998

The editors wanted to publish the BSPI semi-annually. The intent was for the index to be self-supporting using funds generated from the sale of copies to academic, school and public libraries throughout Louisiana after the publication of the first edition. However, securing funding to print the premier edition proved difficult. In 1986, Brown submitted a mini-grant proposal to the Louisiana Committee for the Humanities requesting funding for printing costs, supplies and other incidental expenses for the index’s first issue but funding was denied. The Publications Committee of the Louisiana Library Association was contacted and though enthusiastic, they were unable to provide funds for the project. In the end, Dupré Library provided the necessary technology and money needed to print the index. With dedicated funds lacking beyond the first issue, the editors decided to print the BSPI annually in order to keep production costs low.

The 1985 edition of the BSPI was published in January 1987. The index included citations from twenty-one periodicals and featured a subject index, an author index and a list of book reviews published within those periodicals in 1985. Six months later, the 1986 edition was released. By this time, the index was expanded to thirty-four periodicals.

Reception to the index was positive. By the end of August, 185 copies of the index had been sold. Public libraries accounted for the majority of sales at 75 percent. Academic and school libraries also purchased copies of the BSPI but sales fell short compared to those by public libraries. While subscribers to the index were mainly libraries in

Louisiana, several historical societies in Utah, Missouri, and Wisconsin also purchased copies. Copies of the index were modestly priced at \$14.00 for the current edition and from \$2.00 to \$12.00 for prior editions. As hoped, sales of the index each year generated enough funding to cover printing costs for another year.

Print editions of the BSPI were available from 1986 until the final edition was published in 1998. During its run in print, more than 2,000 copies of the index were sold. By 1998, the index had grown from twenty-one titles to more than fifty and contained over 15,000 article and book review citations. However, the discontinuation of print editions did not signal the end of the BSPI. As technology began to advance, libraries provided users with more electronic resources available on the World Wide Web. The time had come for the BSPI to evolve and transition to an online format.

Moving the BSPI Online

In 1997, Bob Heriard at the University of New Orleans and chair of the Louisiana Online University Information System (LOUIS) Databases Committee suggested moving the Bayou State Periodical Index online. He wrote, “Wouldn’t it be neat to create an index on the net which could be accessed through the net? Wouldn’t it be neat if we could make an index to Louisiana periodicals available as a menu choice on LOUIS?” Heriard thought a key advantage to the online index was its accessibility anywhere internet access was available. He also felt that an electronic index would “get indexing/indexers from several areas of the state to contribute - share the work to create a resource for all.” With Heriard’s interest as motivation, the committee began exploring the idea of putting the index online.

To gauge interest in an online index of Louisiana periodicals, the committee began by surveying libraries who subscribed to the print version of the BSPI in late 1997. One hundred fifty-two surveys were mailed, and the committee received ninety-four responses. When asked if they were in favor of the index being available online, an overwhelming 93% of respondents said yes. Libraries were also asked

if they preferred the number of periodicals indexed be expanded. The response was positive with 81% wanting new periodicals added to the index. Results were mixed on whether or not respondents would pay to access to the online index.

Based on survey results and discussion among its members, the committee recommended the BSPI be “put on the World Wide Web, free of charge and available to all.” The committee recommended the new database be searchable and include both new indexing and citations from the previously published volumes of the index. They added that the list of titles indexed be expanded to include more regional and local publications. With the staff at Dupré Library already indexing at capacity, the committee also recommended that librarians from around the state be recruited to contribute indexing. However, Dupré Library would continue to provide editorial support for the index.

Different groups investigated ways to put the BSPI database online and make it searchable. In the fall semester of 1997, a group of computer science students at USL worked on creating a search engine for the index as part of a class assignment. Unfortunately, once the semester finished the students lost interest in the project. LOUIS was asked to examine the main database and authority files from the 1996 edition of the index for use in producing the online database and later determined they did not have adequate staff or programming to work on the project. It would be several years before the dream of a fully searchable index of Louisiana periodicals available online would become a reality.

Louisiana Library Association Sponsorship

Getting the Bayou State Periodical Index online was considered a “statewide project, and it will need a statewide organization to accomplish it.” In its 1998 publication, LOUIS and LLN: An Integrated Academic, Public, and School Library Network, LOUIS’ plans included the development of “an online index to Louisiana periodicals.” However, LOUIS’ primary function was to provide libraries with access to resources, not create them. The

Louisiana Library Association (LLA) was the obvious entity to lead the effort mainly because of its connection to libraries and librarians around the state. In addition, the association had shown early support for the BSPI by assisting with the publicity of the index and sharing booth space at the 1987 annual conference where the first edition was displayed.

LLA had shown interest in an index of Louisiana periodicals decades earlier. In 1948, the association formed the Special Committee on Indexing of Louisiana Magazines to “study whether or not the association should sponsor a project to index Louisiana magazines.” From 1949 to 1952, this committee worked to gauge interest in Louisiana periodical indexes; however, their focus was on “comprehensive retrospective indexes to individual titles, rather than a current index to many titles.” In 1957, the committee found that while librarians considered indexing Louisiana periodicals to be important, little work was being done on indexing projects due to the demands being placed upon library staff. Progress toward creating a Louisiana periodical index was made under the leadership of Dr. Eugene P. Watson who served as chair of the committee from 1959 until his death in 1964. During his tenure, indexes to Louisiana Conservationist, Louisiana Schools, and Louisiana Municipal Review were compiled despite funding challenges. In order for work on the indexes to continue each year, the committee recommended that along with strong support from LLA, “a budgetary provision be made for subsidizing this project.” After Watson’s death the committee was less active and issued its final publication in 1969, an index to the L.L.A. Bulletin.

The LLA Advisory Committee on Publications, formed in 1965, absorbed most of the functions of the Special Committee on Indexing of Louisiana Magazines. In 1998, under the direction of LLA President Idella Washington, the committee was charged to evaluate the structure of the association’s publications and work to establish “policies and procedures for all publications, including electronic publications, as well as evaluating current publications and recommending future publications.” The issue of “LLA becoming involved in the production and publication of the Bayou State Periodical Index” was presented to the Publications

committee who recommended that a special committee be formed to investigate the idea. Upon approval by the LLA Executive Board, the Bayou State Periodical Index Study Committee was created in December 1998.

The BSPI committee met in early 1999 with BSPI Editor Jean Kiesel serving as chair. Members of the committee represented not only academic libraries but public and school libraries and the State Library of Louisiana as well. In its report to the Board at the March meeting, the committee recommended an editorial board for the BSPI be appointed. The editorial board would “be responsible for selecting titles to be indexed and for recruiting indexers.” The committee also recommended that board members represent all types of libraries and serve rotating terms. Additionally, the committee suggested that BSPI indexers “be asked to commit to indexing one or more specific titles for a designated period of time, at least one year.” At the March 1999 meeting of the LLA Executive Board a motion to appoint an editorial board for the BSPI was passed.

The BSPI committee also investigated hosting options for the online index. In 1998, Reference Press, who published the indexing software used to produce the index’s print version, began developing a search engine that would make the index searchable online. The database could be mounted on Reference Press servers for a fee of \$250 each year for up to 200,000 records that “would include all processing, one load of the database, and 24-hour access.” LEERIC, who maintained the LLA website, was approached about hosting the index, but concluded that it would be better to use Reference Press since they had “an interface software with the existing information as well as a familiarity with the program.” In the end, the committee recommended the database be hosted by Reference Press but was faced with securing funding for the annual fee. At the June 2001 meeting of the LLA Executive Board a motion requesting that the association pay the annual hosting fees for the index passed. From then on, LLA has continued to dedicate funding in its annual budget for the BSPI.

Going Live on the Web

After a delay in development, Reference Press’ server and searching software were completed in early 2001. BSPI files for the 1998 edition were used to test the system. The new database was searchable by author, title, subject or keyword. Boolean searches and truncation were allowed in keyword searches. Subject searches listed “thesaurus terms, with cross-references, and the number of articles indexed under each term.” Clicking on a specific record displayed the complete bibliographic citation and all assigned subject headings. Articles written by the same person were linked, and “topics (subject headings) link back to the list of subject terms, where you can find subject subdivisions and cross-references.” The online version of the BSPI included both new indexing and citations from the print editions.

By September 2001, all BSPI records from 1996 to 1999 had been loaded into the new database. Updates to the index were uploaded to the Reference Press servers two to three times a year using “Dreamweaver’s FTP function to submit the files and then switched to the WinSCP FTP application” in 2015. The process was not without its challenges. Uploads would sometimes fail due to increasing security on UL Lafayette’s firewall, changes in network ports, or problems with the open-source FTP server used by Reference Press. In August 2003, the database had expanded to include over 27,000 article citations from eighty periodicals covering 1992 to 2003. The index’s back files were added as time permitted. Today the BSPI database contains more than 60,000 records.

User response to the online index has been positive since the beginning. Statistics from 2006 to early 2007 show the database was accessed over 23,000 times and more than 42,000 searches were performed. From 2012 to mid-2019, the online database was accessed over 60,000 times and more than 15,000 searches were conducted. While not as heavily used today, yearly statistics indicate the continued value of the BSPI to libraries and library users.

Editors

Throughout its history, six librarians at Dupré Library have served in editorial roles for the BSPI. The three founders all served as editors for the 1985 and 1986 editions of the index. Anna Brown was lead editor due to her experience with subject cataloging and authority file maintenance. Jean Schmidt and John Wilson served as co-editors with Schmidt responsible for publicity and marketing and Wilson for computer applications. All three had proofreading responsibilities.

After Brown's retirement in 1990, Schmidt, now Jean Kiesel, took over as editor. From 1990 to 2005, Kiesel and co-editors Susan M. Richard (1990-1994) and Ashley E. Bonnette (1995-2005) shared editorial responsibilities. Kiesel became the sole editor of the index in 2005 and served in that capacity until her retirement in 2017. In addition to her editorial role, Kiesel personally indexed issues of more than ten periodicals each year. It was because of her hard work and dedication that the index grew into what it is today. Heather C. Plaisance became editor in 2017.

Indexers

A tremendous amount of time and work goes into compiling the BSPI. To assist with the workload, indexers are recruited each year. These volunteers accept indexing responsibilities in addition to their normal job duties and receive no compensation while serving as an indexer. Assigned one or more periodicals to review, each indexer is responsible for assigning article subject headings based on the index's controlled vocabulary.

Over the years, different methods have been used by indexers to enter information into the index. Prior to 2017, "indexers filled out worksheets for their assigned periodicals, recording the bibliographic data for each article and assigning subject headings." Completed worksheets were forwarded to the editor who checked for accuracy of subject headings and made the necessary corrections. The editor was also responsible for entering both the citation and subject heading information into the index's main database using the DOS-based AUTHEX software. While

some indexers had the program installed on their office computers, the majority of indexers continued to use paper worksheets. In 2001, Reference Press began development of a Windows-based version of AUTHEX that would allow for easier updates to the index. Unfortunately, due to "little modern demand for periodical indexing software," that project stalled for many years.

In 2016, AUTHEX developers were approached about the availability of the long-awaited, web-based version of the program. It was hoped that the new interface would be used by indexers to enter both bibliographic data and subject heading information, relieving the editor of those duties. The editor would review the information and publish the latest version of the index without having to follow the cumbersome uploading process. In 2017, work on the online program was completed and it continues to be utilized by BSPI indexers today. Use of the web-based program allows for quicker availability of index updates as new information is live on the BSPI website within 24 hours.

Since its inception in 1986, fifty-one librarians have served as indexers for the index during their tenure at various institutions across the state. The index has flourished because of their hard work and continues to serve as a valuable tool in the preservation of Louisiana's culture. Because the BSPI originated at UL Lafayette, the majority of indexers have been faculty members at Dupré Library. Current and past indexers are listed below.

Current Indexers

Mary Bloomquist
Charlene Bonnette
Tiffany Ellis
Andrea Flockton
Elaine Harris
Jean S. Kiesel
Heather C. Plaisance
Ian Richardson
Blair Stapleton
Janelle Zetty

Past Contributors

Kelly D. Blessinger
Anna S. Brown
Charles Brown
Ashley E. Bonnette
Monique Breaux
Sherry T. Broussard
Carol Casey
Cara Chance
Lance Chance
Kerri Christopher
Sheryl Moore Curry
Erika Day
Emily Deal
Megan S. Farrell
Sherrill Faucheaux
Barbara Flynn
Anne Frohlich
Lillian Woon Gassie
Denise Goetting
Stuart Grinell
Jennifer Hamilton
Chuck Hamsa
Judith Haydel
Sandra M. Himel
Casae Hobbs
Beth Holley
Frank G. Hulse, Jr.
Beate N. Kukainis
Sheila A. Leahy
Betsy B. Miguez
Jeremiah Paschke-Wood
Ramona Pellerin
Marina Pereira
Jo Ann Proctor

Jan O. Rice
Susan M. Richard
Steven C. Ring
Virginia R. Smith
David M. Stokes
Bruce Tribble
Charles W. Triche III
John S. Wilson

Conclusion

The BSPI is freely accessible at <https://www.libris.ca/bayou>. Currently, the index features articles from ninety-three periodicals published between 1958 and today. Approximately 1,200 new citations are added to the index each year. Numerous academic, public, and school libraries highlight the BSPI on their websites. It is also featured on library subject guides and various genealogy websites.

For more than 30 years, the Bayou State Periodical Index has supported a critical research need in the state of Louisiana. It has connected researchers to the rich information found in many of the state's periodicals. The BSPI has evolved through the years, adapting to changes in the technological landscape making the index available to not just researchers in Louisiana but worldwide. As it continues to grow, the BSPI will serve as a valuable tool in the preservation of Louisiana's culture and heritage for many years to come.

Still Life of an Old Library

by David Armand

in Folsom, Louisiana

1.

See the old library there, a little one-room building at the end of a gravel lane, surrounded by tall grass and weeds and trees, a tiny cement bench out front for sitting and reading. The place is small, made up of white-flecked slats of clapboard siding and tar shingles, and with big beds of brown pine needles on its roof. A small air-conditioning unit in one of the front windows chugs out cold air for the librarian working inside. It also keeps the books from getting damp and moldy, the pages warped and yellowed from all this humidity.



2.

The library is in the middle of a small, one-red-light town where the land rolls and sways into steep hills like the giant swells of an ocean, heaving. It is thick with pine woods in almost every direction, broken up in places by large blankets of pastureland that are pocked with horses and cows and smooth brown ponds for them to stand in and cool off if they want to. Sweet dusty hay is rolled up into bales as big as tractors, covered in clear plastic sheets of Visqueen, or cracked blue tarps, and they edge the perimeters of the fields like boulders, while barns in various states of aging and decay blot out parts of the horizon like dark-ink thumbprints on a sheet of crisp, clean paper. But still it is beautiful here and quiet. Peaceful. You can even see the stars in the sky at night, hear the crickets and the frogs and the buzz and hum of life out there like you're living in a different time altogether.

3.

Back when I was a kid, the tiny village of Folsom,

Louisiana, had a Baptist church, a post office, a diner, two hardware stores, a John's Curb Market where you could get Slush Puppies and candy cigarettes and rent VHS and Betamax tapes. There was a Jr. Food Mart where you could buy fried chicken and potato logs and cheeseburgers wrapped in tin foil from under a heat lamp. Another small grocery store called Bernie's had oil-darkened cement floors and they sold Mary Jane's and IBC root beers in brown glass bottles that were cold and good. There was an elementary school and of course, that tiny library where, when I was in first grade, our teacher would take us once a week to check out books.

We'd walk down the crooked spine of sidewalk, which was broken in places by large oak roots, rising up like arms digging their way out from under all that thick black loam. Then we'd go up Highway 25 until we got there, our whole class of twenty students.

4.

The library was about the size of a small storage shed, and I remember that only two or three of us could go in at a time. We would glance up at the dark shelves, the cracked spines of books limned only by a single sixty-watt light bulb that was suspended

from a gray cord stapled to the rafters in the ceiling, or otherwise from a lonely slant of light coming in through one of the windows, and we would point to the book we wanted.

The librarian would reach up, get it down, open it, take a card out of it, mark the due date on the card with a rubber stamp, then slide the card back into the little pocket that was glued to the inside flap of the book, and hand it to us.

We would give her our library card, and she would record the entire transaction in her dusty ledger that sat open on the tall wooden desk in front of her. It was so high that you had to stand on your toes to even reach the edge of it.

5.

Most of the kids at my school didn't care about books, and they would make fun of me for reading them. But I did it anyway. I got books by Jules Verne, Mark Twain, S. E. Hinton, Franklin W. Dixon, Jack London, and Edgar Allan Poe. Even one by Stephen King when I was a little older, although the librarian still made me get permission first. I can remember the way all those books smelled, the way their pages felt, and of course the stories printed on them. It was all so magical to me. And it still is.

6.

I think I inherited my love for books from my mother and father, that it's in my genes. My mother had loved to read and tell stories ever since she was a child and some of my first memories are of her reading to me in bed at night.

And this: her copy of *The Catcher in the Rye*, which I still have and which I read for the first time when I was about fourteen or fifteen. As an adult, I like to open that book up sometimes, look at the title page on which my mother had written in dark blue ink her name and telephone number, then just beneath J. D. Salinger's name, in cursive, the words, "Good Book," which she then underlined.

I also have her copy of D'Aulaires' *Book of Greek Myths* that her parents had given to her for Christmas one year. I used to love looking at all of the drawings in there when I was a kid, then reading for hours the

stories that went with them. Today there's a slip of paper tucked between the front pages of that book from when my daughter used it to do a school project on Greek gods and goddesses not that long ago.

I only mention these things here to say something about the importance of books in my life. And to say this too: that they saved me.

7.

I grew up in a single-wide trailer in the middle of about twenty acres of woods. We didn't have a car. We didn't have cable TV. It was before computers and Internet, and even if those things had existed then, we probably wouldn't have been able to afford them, either. We were poor. The kind of poor that could change how a person thought about the world, and what their place was in it.

There was a lot of work to be done too. We had horses, ducks, chickens, a large vegetable garden, peach trees that would make tons of those sweet, golden and mauve, fist-sized fruits every summer—which we then had to pick. I can still remember putting them in a scrap of quilt that we used to line the rust-covered wheelbarrow that we loaded them all into, as much as we could fit. But the thing is, we couldn't pick them fast enough and many of those peaches rotted on the grass as a result. And the other thing is, that could have easily been me. I could have been left there like that. To rot. But books got me out. Both reading them and then eventually writing them myself. Listen.

8.

When I was eleven years old I took a faded blue ledger book with lined paper inside that my grandfather had given me to collect stamps in. I carefully pulled the stamps out with a set of tweezers, and then used the blank pages to start writing a short story. It wasn't very good. It wasn't good at all actually, and so I never showed it to anyone. The point though is that I was writing.

And I would continue to: secretly making up stories and poems all through my adolescence and then into adulthood. I even tried to write a novel when I was sixteen after I found an old IBM Selectric typewriter

in my grandparents' attic one day. I remember that it smelled thickly like the grease which had been used to oil the parts inside of it, and that the keys were loud and heavy under my fingers. But it felt good to press on them.

I also remember the feeling of seeing words that I had written being printed one-by-one on a clean white sheet of paper as it spooled over the platen and then curled out and off onto the desk. I would stack the pages into a neat little pile. Doing this made me feel like a real writer, even back then: a professional who had let all of those stories he read as a kid engrave themselves onto his subconscious, like the glowing tip of a wood-burning tool pressed onto a piece of freshly-cut pine. The seeds for my work had already been planted, and all I had to do was water them. So I did.

9.

Then in what seemed like a rush of time and events, the thrum and pulse of years going by, I finally finished writing my first book. I was twenty-nine. Then I wrote another one. And one more after that. I kept going. I didn't stop. In a way, those books became like all of that fruit I had picked from those sagging peach trees as a kid. I just had to get as many of them in that wheelbarrow as I could before they had a chance to rot. Even now I don't know if I would have been able to do all of that if I hadn't loved reading for so long, hadn't been able to check out all of those books from that sweet lady behind the tall desk.

10.

The library I went to as a kid has since moved into a more modern building on the other side of town. But the little shed where it once was is still there, still standing, though now it is vine-covered and chipped and mostly falling apart. You can still see the old address to the right of the door, though, the white metal numbers "13260" nailed to the wooden frame, where bright green vines have grown up to hide most of what else is left there: the slatted, wooden door and the rusty padlocked hasp that holds it shut; the roof that is covered now with thick tendrils of brown lichen and moss, where it all pulls up at the shingles,

exposing the strips of black tarpaper beneath.

One of the windows is sealed shut with a sheet of rain-darkened plywood, a green metal awning casting a rectangle of shadow over its surface, while several of the other ones are cracked in places and have broken panes of glass here and there. The air-conditioning unit is gone.

You can imagine families of raccoon or squirrels or rabbits or cute little brown field mice living inside, making nests in the rafters or on the sagging wooden shelves that once held all of those wonderful books. It's dark in there now so you can't know for sure. But you can still glimpse the little white curtains inside. Those are still there. You can even start to imagine the librarian putting them up one day—that would have been so, so long ago now, before you were even born: the sun coming in through the glass and warming her skin as she worked, stopping for just a second to brush off a skein of dust from the windowsill so that everything would look nice and clean and new before all the children got there. One of them probably thinking already about all the books he would borrow, and maybe even dreaming too about all the ones he might someday write himself.

Abraham, Joseph N., M.D. *Kings, Conquerors, Psychopaths: From Alexander to Hitler to the Corporation*. University of Louisiana at Lafayette Press, 2018. ISBN 978-1-946160-32-4. \$19.95 (paperback).

Throughout history, human beings have committed horrible acts of violence and exploitation against each other. To this day, there appears to be no end in sight for these crimes that more and more resemble the cruel and diabolical political machinations portrayed in Game of Thrones. When thinking about past atrocities, such as the Jewish Holocaust (Shoah), the Khmer Rouge, and the Darfur Genocide, the ringing mantra has always been the same: “never again”. However, as more crimes against humanity are committed, “never again” turns into the same cruel joke that “thoughts and prayers” has become: disingenuous condemnation and no action. Dr. Joseph N. Abraham, a south Louisiana emergency physician and evolutionary biologist, is interested in why these inhumane acts continue when people are supposed to have learned from history. In his book, *Kings, Conquerors, Psychopaths: From Alexander to Hitler to the Corporation*, Dr. Abraham attempts to answer that question by analyzing authoritarian conquerors and rulers throughout history. He not only finds this being the result of socio-political upheavals, but also due to the genetics and natures of the oppressors and the oppressed. The book recently won the 2019 Indie Book Award for Current Events/Social Change and was a finalist in the Historical Non-Fiction category.

Dr. Abraham audaciously creates two terms that bring together the different kinds of despots (e.g. kings, dictators, conquerors, etc.). The first is atrox, which Dr. Abraham derives from the word atrocity. The atrox refers to a ruler who only lives to spoil the resources of the poor and destroy anyone who attempts to block his path (many vicious conquerors and corporate tycoons happen to be men). In the first two chapters, Dr. Abraham briefly goes through examples of rulers who committed heinous acts, such as murder, rape, robbery, and exploitation, in order to maintain their positions. Most of the names that appear are expected (e.g. Alexander the Great, Napoléon Bonaparte, Idi Amin, and of course Adolf Hitler), though a couple are

quite surprising (e.g. King David and Queen Victoria). The later chapters examine the motives behind the atrox, which always goes back to their lust for power and the vanity they genetically inherited. The second term introduced is atrocino, which Dr. Abraham uses to describe modern-day corporate bullies. Such examples brought up in the book include William Randolph Hearst, Andrew Carnegie, and Henry Ford. While these people do not commit violent acts, they still exploit honest workers and cheat the system if it means gaining a little more. These acts not only include low wages with little benefits for workers, but also risking lawsuits over customers’ safety, taking advantage of “too big to fail” with government bailouts, and even committing treason by colluding with enemies (e.g. Standard Oil selling products to the Nazis during World War II).

Dr. Abraham’s arguments are at their strongest when he explains why the atrox and atrocino do what they do and why the oppressed go along with the insanity. What drives the atrox’s behavior is complex psychopathy. It is too simple to say that murderers such as Hitler and Stalin were evil. These authoritarians were malignant narcissists and Machiavellians who promised to bring greatness to their nations by any means necessary. Their actions, therefore, are driven by their lack of empathy and the need to feed their giant egos. Dr. Abraham suggests that genetics and social Darwinism play roles in not only putting authoritarians in power, but also driving the oppressed to be submissive. Survival of the Fittest is certainly a part of these kinds of behaviors. For the oppressed, when there is little power, the way to avoid suffering and death may sometimes be to join. This ends up leading to desperation and a desire to survive by climbing the social ladder, which can explain why one would praise a cruel dictator.

The book is not without its flaws, however. The structure of the thesis is a bit disorganized, and it reads less like a historical work and more like a polemic. Dr. Abraham sometimes lets his political views get in the way of his argument, which act as distractions that thwart what should be unbiased takes. There are also moments where he seems to go on tangents. For example, there is a confusing section where he

suggests that animal overpopulation is a crisis and predators are just as important to society as their prey. It is uncertain what the point of this passage is and it leads to a couple of problems. First off, the passage unfortunately brings to mind a funny South Park episode where a hunter justifies the slaughter of animals by saying they [him and his hunting partner] need to thin out their [animals] numbers: “We have to kill animals or else they’ll die”. He then proceeds to annihilate a bunch of deer with a flamethrower. Referring to the deer corpses, he says “Good, now they won’t starve”. Second, this argument comes dangerously close to suggesting that dictators are needed in order to keep the oppressed in line. It is clear that this is not what Dr. Abraham intends, and the section may be interesting to evolutionary biologists, but it feels as if it were dropped from a different book.

Despite some of these reservations, *Kings, Conquerors, Psychopaths: From Alexander to Hitler to the Corporation* is still an important book that defines how ordinary people let atrocities happen and continue to enable them. While there are no easy answers, Dr. Abraham suggests that change starts from below. If oppressed citizens can successfully organize, their power grows. As the oppressed gain power, the oppressors start to lose their own. This book is recommended for historians and patrons of public and academic libraries, especially considering the current rise of vicious right-wing dictators across the world. Upon reading, perhaps people will start to think more critically about who they are putting in power and will reject the phrase “never again” as an expression of scorn.

Zack Stein, Edith Garland Dupre Library, UL Lafayette

Oldaeus, Per. *Professor Longhair: A Scrapbook*. Gretna: Pelican Publishing Company, 2019. ISBN: 978-1-4556-2459-1. 286 pages. \$19.95. (paperback).

This title is a marvelous history and a work of genius about Professor Longhair, a famous gifted and talented musician and piano player of rhythm and blues including calypso, rumba, and jazz in New Orleans who influenced Fats Domino, Huey Smith, Allen Toussaint and others. Professor Longhair’s name was Henry Roeland “Roy” Byrd and he was

referred to as Fess. Some of his recordings are “Go to the Mardi Gras,” “Tipitina,” “The London Concert,” “Bald Head,” “The New Orleans Sessions 1950,” and “Crawfish Fiesta.” It is a full of life great work about Professor Longhair in an expressive, powerful, and articulate writing style. The book is a fascinating and attention-grabbing success, revealing dialogues with rhythm and blues musicians in New Orleans from the 1950’s to the 1980’s. The details of the performances and photographs of live performances of the rhythm and blues bands are impressive.

The author, Per Oldaeus, is a Swedish freelance musician and researcher who has studied and written articles on Walter Nelson Sr., Allen Toussaint and rhythm and blues music and performers. Per Oldaeus was a drummer and was captivated by Professor Longhair’s concert in Stockholm, Sweden. Around 120 great quality illustrations enhance the remarkable story of Professor Longhair. The accurate index is twelve pages and a good appendix. The book features short essays, excerpts from published articles and extensive notes. An excellent “The Best of Fess: 1949-1979” lists twenty-two musical works by Professor Longhair. Some of Professor Longhair’s music listed are “I Believe I’m Gonna’ Leave,” “[Oh, When The] ‘Saints,” “Ball the Wall,” “In the Night,” “Hey Little Girl,” and “House Party New Orleans Style: The Lost Sessions 1972-1973.”

This book is a brilliant work of an expert and is supremely essential for academic and public libraries. It is recommended for researchers and anyone interested in rhythm and blues music and New Orleans rhythm and blues.

Melinda F. Matthews, University of Louisiana at Monroe Library



Materials which appear in *Louisiana Libraries* express the views of the respective authors and not necessarily the opinion of the editorial board. Manuscripts and inquiries should be directed to the editor. Instructions for authors of *Louisiana Libraries* articles appear in the first issue of each volume. The Louisiana Library Association is a chapter of the American Library Association. *Louisiana Libraries* (ISSN1535-2014, USPS0076-640) is published quarterly (summer, fall, winter, and spring) with a special directory issue in the fall, by the Louisiana Library Association, 1190 Meramac Station Road, Suite 207, Baldwin, MO 63021-6902. Subscription for non-members out-of-state is \$25.00, and for members \$15.15 per year, included in dues paid. Single copies of back issues cost \$5.00. Send subscription orders and membership requests to Louisiana Library Association, 1190 Meramac Station Road, Suite 207, Baldwin, MO 63021-6902. Periodicals postage paid at Baton Rouge, LA, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Louisiana Libraries*, 1190 Meramac Station Road, Suite 207, Baldwin, MO 63021-6902.

Calendar

Abigail DeSoto, Column Editor

2019

Teen Read Week
October 13-19, 2019

LOUIS Users Conference
Baton Rouge, LA
October 15-16, 2019

Federal Depository Library Council Meeting and Conference
Arlington, Virginia
October 21-23, 2019

Mississippi Library Association Conference
Jackson, Mississippi
October 22-25, 2019

Texas Book Festival
Austin, Texas
October 26-27, 2019

Young Adult Services Symposium (YALSA)
Memphis, Tennessee
November 1-3, 2019

Louisiana Book Festival
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
November 2, 2019

Charleston Conference
November 4-9, 2019

Louisiana Virtual Academic Library Conference
November 7, 2019

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

2020

American Library Association (Midwinter)
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
January 24-28, 2020

Louisiana Teen-Age Librarians Association
Alexandria, Louisiana
February 9-10, 2020

Public Library Association National Conference
Nashville, Tennessee
February 25-29, 2020

Music Library Association Annual Meeting
Norfolk, Virginia
February 26 - March 1, 2020

Louisiana Library Association Conference
Lafayette, Louisiana
March 25-27, 2020

Texas Library Association Conference
Houston, Texas
March 24-27, 2020

National Library Week
April 19-25, 2020

Preservation Week
April 26-May 5, 2020

COSUGI Conference
Provo, Utah
April 28-30, 2020

Medical Library Association Annual Meeting
Portland, Oregon
May 15-20, 2020

American Library Association
Chicago, Illinois
June 25-30, 2020

American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 11-14, 2020