



# IN-FO-CUS

*A Kentucky Library Association Newsletter*

March, 2006



## Greetings from the President

Read the best books first, or you may not have a chance to read them at all. - *Henry David Thoreau*

In January, at the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio, TX, I attended an excellent, all-day Advocacy Institute, where, having met many other state association leaders from across the country, I came to the conclusion that the challenges that face libraries in Kentucky are not unique. This was both a comforting and disheartening epiphany, giving me both hope that, together, we can accomplish much, while at the same time emphasizing that the more things change, the more they can stay the same. If I had to put what I learned at the institute in one sentence, it would have to be "There is no such thing as over-exposure when it comes to libraries." Make sure everyone knows where you are, who you are and what you have to offer.

On Monday, January 23, I attended the American Library Association's announcement ceremony for the top books and video for children and young adults. Amid an atmosphere reminiscent of rock concerts from my youth, several awards were announced, including the Caldecott, King, Newbery and Printz awards. I was especially interested in the Randolph Caldecott Medal announcement as it went to *The Hello, Goodbye Window*, illustrated by Chris Raschka, who I was fortunate to meet several years ago at the McConnell Conference (which is held each spring in Lexington). The coveted Newbery Medal went to *Cross Cross* by Lynne Rae Perkins, while the Coretta Scott King (Author) Book Award went to *Days of Tears: A Novel in Dialogue* written by Julius Lester. For a complete listing of all the award winners, go to <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/2006MediaAwardWinners.htm>.

My time at Midwinter was an informative and energizing experience. On returning, I was met with the exciting and gratifying news that Terri Kirk was re-elected as AASL Division Councilor on the ALA Executive Board. We-- association, state and profession--are fortunate to have Terri in such a leadership position at the national level.

The ALA election is here. The candidates for ALA President-Elect 2006-2007, serving as president the following year, are William Crowe, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas, and Loriene Roy, Professor, School of Information, The University of Texas at Austin. You can read the candidates' curriculum vitae and platforms at <http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governance/electioninfo/alaelectioninfo.htm>, I encourage all ALA members to participate in this important responsibility and privilege.

Next up is the Southeastern Library Association/Tennessee Library Association Joint Conference, which will be held at the Memphis Hilton, Memphis, TN, April 5-7, 2006. Kentucky has a great influence on this conference as **Judith Gibbons**, KDLA, is serving as SELA presi-

dent and **Carol Brinkman**, University of Louisville Ekstrom Library, is serving as SELA secretary. Please consider attending this exciting and informative conference which will have over 100 great programs, poster sessions, and table talks. Show your support for our profession and the people who have taken on the challenges of leadership positions. The fruits of their labor benefit us all. **Christine McIntosh, Ed.D.**

## Section and Round Table News

**Academic Library Section.** This Spring, KLA Academic Section's Communications Committee has started a blog where Kentucky academic librarians can post information about upcoming events at their libraries or useful tips and information related to the profession. The blog is located at: <http://academiclibrariansKLA.blogspot.com> To become a member, please contact the Communications Committee chair Maureen Cropper at [maureen.cropper@kctcs.edu](mailto:maureen.cropper@kctcs.edu). **Maureen Cropper.**

Plans are well underway for the spring conference, "Information: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly," March 29 - 31, 2006, at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, jointly planned with the **KLA Special Libraries Section, the Kentucky Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, and the Kentucky chapter of ACRL.** Information was emailed to the KLA-Listserv, and is posted on the KLA website: <http://www.kylibasn.org/events.cfm?eid=33> There will be two pre-conferences: 1) The Blogger's Toolkit; and 2) Disaster Preparedness and Recovery. Our Opening General Session speaker is Michael Stephens, whose topic is "Conversation, Community, Connections, and Collaboration." There are 11 concurrent sessions planned. Our Closing General Session speaker is Marshall Breeding, Director for Innovative Technologies and Research for the Jean and Alexander Heard Library at Vanderbilt University. **Mary Margaret Lowe.**

**KSMA.** This year's Executive Board includes:  
**Angie Hawkins**, President  
**Darlah Carmen**, President-Elect  
**Pat Hall**, Secretary  
**Mary Alice Hunt**, Treasurer  
(correction from Dec., 2005 issue)

## KPLA/KLTA Spring Conference

The KPLA/KLTA Spring Conference will be held at the Galt House in Louisville April 26-28, 2006. The theme of the conference will be "Get With the Program @ your library." ALA President Elect **Leslie Berger** will be this year's keynote speaker. Preconference sessions will feature YA librarian **Nick Buron** and motivational speaker **Jay McChord**. **Lisa R. Rice**

(continued on page 3)

## KLA Member News and Library Updates



**Boone County Public Library.** Kentuckians can now take advantage of a new virtual reference service called [www.AskWhyKY.org](http://www.AskWhyKY.org). The service is available 24x7, 365 days a year. Librarians from Boone, Kenton and Campbell spearheaded efforts to start the service. Thanks to a \$103,000 grant from KDLA, all costs are covered for the first year. **Michelle Foster**, Technology Coordinator for the Boone County Public Library, is the project administrator for the Ask-WhyKY pilot project and hopes to spread the service to libraries around the state. If your library is interested in participating, call or e-mail Michelle at 859-384-5550 or [mfoster@bcpl.org](mailto:mfoster@bcpl.org).

**Becky Kempf.**

**Boyd County Public Library** opened the gates on its new 2,000-square foot Reading Garden on Feb. 21. The walled outdoor reading room has tables, benches and swings, as well as an eight-foot water wall and a children's grotto. A grand opening celebration will be held April 8. "It's been a joy to see it finally come about," Director **Debbie Cosper** said. The library is also currently undergoing extensive renovations at the Main Branch in Ashland. The changes, dubbed "Project:Trading Spaces," cost nearly \$300,000 and will result in a new meeting room and genealogy department, updated children's section and circulation desk, and additional spaces for reading and wireless computer use throughout the building. The work is scheduled to be completed in May. Boyd County Public Library is the newest place in town to see movies. The library purchased a site compliance license in the fall of 2005 and has been showing an average of four movies each month, with a great response from the public. Outside groups can also host movies at the library using its license. **Amanda Gilmore.**

**Eastern Kentucky University.** On December 6, 2005, ECU Libraries hosted author **Charles Bracelen Flood** for a special evening presentation. Mr. Flood discussed and signed copies of his new book entitled *Grant and Sherman: the Friendship that Won the Civil War*. The evening with Mr. Flood was well attended drawing over 120 faculty, staff, students and community members. Also in December, ECU Libraries hosted two *Food for Thought Nights* during finals week. Countless students visiting the Main Library between 9 and 11 p.m. on Sunday and Monday of finals week enjoyed a study break with free hot chocolate and cookies. Students greatly appreciated the light snack and encouraging atmosphere in the midst of an otherwise stressful week. **Clay Howard** and **Joe Schweiss** just joined the staff of ECU Libraries. They are both pursuing their Master's Degree in Library Science at the University of Kentucky and are currently serving as graduate assistants with ECU Libraries. Clay is working with the Reference Team and Joe is working with the Justice and Safety Library. We are glad to have them on board.

**Kari Martin.**

**Hazard Community and Technical College** Libraries will host a Regional Library Conference for public and academic librarians on May 19th, 2006. Sessions and speakers on the agenda so far include the following: Cataloging with **Kathleen Richardson**, Intellectual Property and Copyright with **Terry Manuel**, Web Page Design with

**Patrick Davison**, Distance Learning Library Services with **Jason Vance**, KCTCS System Update with **Paul Fuller**, Scrapbooking with **Mary Ann Stacy**, and more to be announced. For more information, contact **Esther French** at [Esther.French@kctcs.edu](mailto:Esther.French@kctcs.edu) or **Cathy Branson** at [Cathy.Branson@kctcs.edu](mailto:Cathy.Branson@kctcs.edu). Phone: 800-246-7521 ext.73124 or 73550. **Esther French.**

**KYVL. Tim Chase**, former Senior Reference Librarian, resigned his position February 21 to work in the IT department of Insight Communications in Louisville.

**McCracken County Public Library.** Young readers will soon have new library books to help develop their reading skills, thanks to a generous donation from the Kiwanis Club of South Paducah. Club members recently donated \$600 to the McCracken County Public Library's Youth Services Department to update the popular *A Rookie Reader*<sup>®</sup> series. The books are designed with beginning readers in mind. *A Rookie Reader*<sup>®</sup> books include word lists to make selecting an appropriate title easier. The stories center on children learning new concepts or solving problems. This series has successfully encouraged many young library patrons to learn to read. The Kiwanis Club of South Paducah is the longest-standing partner contributing funding for Youth Services Collection Development, helping the library update old and worn materials since 1999. The club recognizes a need to expose young readers to popular book series. Through the years, members' chili suppers, funnel cake sales, and other fundraisers have stocked shelves with new copies of Nancy Drew, Hardy Boys, Boxcar Children, Clifford the Big Red Dog, Babysitters Club, Berenstain Bears, and Little Critters series books. **Marie Liang.**

**Morehead State University. Donna Baker** joined the Camden-Carroll Library in January as the new Special Collections Librarian. **Jennifer Little** is organizing a four part book discussion series, "Telling Kentucky's Story," for the Morehead community with a \$1,000 grant from the Kentucky Humanities Council. The library also received a \$2,500 grant from the Association of Research Libraries to participate in the 2006 LibQual+™ survey. **Jason Vance.**

**Northern Kentucky University. Mary Chestnut** has accepted the position of Coordinator of Information Literacy in the Steely Library Research and Instruction Services Department. **Sheri Myers** has accepted the position of Systems Librarian in the Steely Library Systems Department. Steely Library recently welcomed two new staff members to the Technical Services Department: **Cristen McHugh** is the new Cataloging Specialist, and **Courtney Rose** will be the Specialist working with Government Documents. On January 17th, **Colleen Kennedy** presented Using Blogs to Market Your Library at the Greater Cincinnati Library Consortium. **Allen Ellis** edited and co-wrote the "Comic Books" section for the 14th edition of *Magazines for Libraries*. **Lois Schultz** was a panelist in the Collection Development Forum at the Kentucky SOLINET Users Group Meeting on December 2, 2005 at General Butler State Resort Park, Carrollton, KY. Steely Library recently received a Preservation Assistance Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for \$5000 which will allow the library to utilize the expertise of a consultant to conduct a preservation needs assessment for the library's Department of Special Collections & Archives. The library was also awarded a 2006 Maureen Hayes Author/Illustrator Visit Award for \$2300 to bring well-known children's author, **Eric Kimmel**, to an elementary school in the Appalachian region of Kentucky. This visit is in conjunction with the Ohio Kentucky Indiana Children's Literature Conference. **Sheri Myers.**

**NEXT INFOCUS DEADLINE IS MAY 20, 2006**

Send your info to Marcia Freyman, editor at:  
[marcia.freyman@kctcs.edu](mailto:marcia.freyman@kctcs.edu)

**University of Louisville.** In December 2005 **Dean Hannelore B. Rader** attended the annual fall Task Force meeting of the Coalition of Networked Information (CNI) in Phoenix, Arizona where she gave a presentation on "The Library as the Center for Teaching, Learning and Socializing." **U.S. Secretary of Labor, Elaine Chou** and **U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell** were among over 300 guests at the dedication and opening celebration of the University of Louisville Ekstrom Library expansion on Monday Feb. 20, 2006. As part of the opening program, Senator McConnell requested the first book from the Robotic Retrieval System (RRS). His choice, *Henry Clay : statesman for the Union* by Robert V. Remini, was retrieved in under 2 minutes from the RRS. The RRS occupies 8,000 square feet and will hold up to 1.2 million volumes. The 42,500 s.f. addition also houses an auditorium, 3 technology laden instructional labs, conference and seminar rooms, a café serving Starbucks, a 24 hour study facility, multiple areas of quiet seating and the McConnell Center. The Circulation/Interlibrary Loan Department and the Office of Libraries Technologies have offices and workrooms in the expansion. The celebration continued on Feb 21 with the first post-opening event held in the new auditorium; a book signing by noted Louisville sculptor **Ed Hamilton**. Hamilton spoke briefly and copies of his new memoir "The Birth of an Artist: A Journey of Discovery" were available for purchase and signing. Other events in celebration of the library expansion continue through out the year including:

**Feb 27-28** Mardi Gras @ the Library: Perspectives on the People and Culture of New Orleans, including exhibits of original student art and documentary photos from U of L Photographic Archives; student musical and theater performances; a series of documentary and feature films; free food and, U of L faculty talked about New Orleans and recent events there from the perspectives of a variety of disciplines.

**March 7, 3-5 p.m.** **Dr. J. Blaine Hudson, Dean, A&S** gave a presentation on the Underground Railroad

**June 5, 5 p.m.** 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the birth of civil rights activist and educator, Lyman T. Johnson. An exhibition and some of Johnson's papers from the library's holdings will be on display in the new wing for the June event.

**October 2 – 3** Overview of Scholarly Communication and institutional repositories by **James Neal**, Vice President Columbia University and **Clifford A. Lynch**, Coalition of Networked Information.  
**Diane Nichols.**

## SELA News

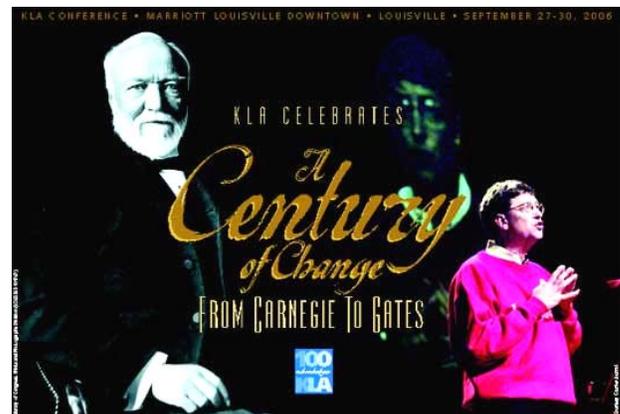
The SELA and Tennessee Library Association Joint Conference will be April 5-7 at the Memphis Hilton, Memphis Tenn. The Tennessee Library Association has conference information posted on its newly revised website at <http://www.tnla.org/>. Highlights of the conference include: over 100 great programs, poster sessions, and table talks; 8 pre-conferences and 2 tours; **Carol Brey-Casiano** as our keynote speaker at the General Session; wonderful exhibits; interesting meal events; and an all-conference reception at the Memphis Rock and Soul Museum. Of interest is the ALA pre-conference: ALA Regional Advocacy Institute: Library Advocacy in the Post-Katrina South. Send inquiries: [Jennifer.Cowan-Henderson@state.tn.us](mailto:Jennifer.Cowan-Henderson@state.tn.us) or <http://www.tnla.org/>. **Christie Robinson.**

**KLA Member Benefits Long Term Care Program**  
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Phone: 859-276-2513 or 800-458-1186  
E-mail [CBJack1020@aol.com](mailto:CBJack1020@aol.com)

## Section and Round Table News

(continued)

Planning has begun in earnest for the **2006 KLA/KSMA Annual Conference**. The Planning Committee consists of representatives of each Section and Round Table and very much appreciated volunteers. The conference theme is "KLA Celebrates a Century of Change: from Carnegie to Gates" and coincides with KLA's 100th anniversary. We hope to have some special events this year in honor of the centennial, including a joint banquet with the Western Library Support Association (Louisville Free Public Library's Western Branch) as they wrap up their 100th anniversary year-long celebration. ALA President-Elect **Leslie Burger** will be in attendance and speaking during the Conference, and plans are under way for another talent show! So mark your calendar and make plans now to attend, September 27-30th at the Louisville Marriott Downtown. **Laura Davison.**



## SOLINET Class

### Customer Service and Communication

This full-day class covers the general principles of customer service in relationship to library services; group activities will provide for application of principles covered. Topics include the impact of customer service in relation to the library's success, basic customer needs, understanding interaction styles, effective telephone customer service techniques, dealing with the angry patron, and the impact of library policies on customer service. **Intended audience:** Any library staff member who deals with the end-user or provides a service to other library staff members. This session also provides a good refresher for seasoned customer service providers. The class will be held at the Kentucky Department of Library & Archives in Frankfort on May 16, 2006, from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. To register, go to <http://www.solinet.net/workshops/workshop>

For further information on the classes, contact Vanessa Richardson at [vrichardson@solinet.net](mailto:vrichardson@solinet.net) **Sara Swain.**



KLA has joined forces to recycle empty ink jet and laser cartridges. It's easy and you will be contributing to KLA!

Details at: <http://www.kylibasn.org>

## KLA Calendar of Events

Mar. 29-31, 2006	Academic/Special/SLA Ky. Chapter Spring Conference, Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, Prestonsburg
Apr. 26-28, 2006	KPLA Conference, Galt House Hotel, Louisville
May 20, 2006	KLA Board Meeting and Conference Planning, Marriott Downtown, Louisville
June 16, 2006	Joint Kentucky SOLINET/Virtual Library Users' Groups spring meeting, Holiday Inn North, Lexington
June 22 - 28, 2006	ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA
July 8, 2006	KLA Board Meeting and Conference Planning, Executive West Hotel, Louisville
Sept. 27-30, 2006	KLA/KSMA Joint Annual Conference, Marriott Downtown, Louisville

### KUDOS!

**Teri G. Kirk**, School Library Media Specialist at Reidland High School (Paducah) was re-elected to serve on the American Library Association Council's Executive Board at ALA's mid-winter conference in San Antonio. She serves on Council as a division counselor, representing the American Association of School Librarians. She first served on the Executive Board January 2005, filling the term left vacant by current ALA President Michael Gorman. Congratulations and many thanks go to Teri for her hard work and service! **Ashley Fowlkes**.

### One Stop for New Library Grant Opportunities

The new **Library Grants Blog**, by librarians **Pam MacKellar** and **Stephanie Gerding**, provides a free resource for finding library grant and award opportunities. This blog is the only single online location where a librarian can find the latest grants from all types of sources - government, foundations, corporations, organizations, and professional associations - as well as additional opportunities for awards and internships. Examples of current postings include government grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute for Museum and Library Services, foundation grants from the Verizon Foundation and the For All Kids Foundation, awards from the National Library Commission and the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, a corporate grant from the Bank of the West, an internship at Cornell University Library, and grants from the American Library Association. For more information on all aspects of grants for libraries, purchase their new Neal-Schuman title, *Grants for Libraries* at <http://www.neal-schuman.com/db/5/505.html>. Visit the **Library Grants Blog** at <http://www.librarygrants.blogspot.com/> for a complete listing of grant opportunities. **Pam MacKellar**.



### Kentucky Librarian Receives New York Times Librarian Award

In November, the *New York Times* announced the names of 27 winners of the 2005 New York Times Librarian Award. Now in its 5th year, the program honors librarians from around the country who have provided outstanding public service and have had a strong and positive impact. Among this year's winners was **Kay Morrow**, Director of the McCreary County Public Library in Whitley City. Nominations exceeded 1,200 and came from 48 states. Of the 27 winners, 13 were from New York and New Jersey. At a special ceremony held in The New York Times building in New York City, each winner received \$2,500 and a commemorative plaque. A second plaque was sent to each librarian's home library for display. Ms. Morrow is a down-to-earth, reticent person unfamiliar with this type of attention. Her commitment to her community and the library she has led for 30 years is best illustrated in her own words, "My whole thing is the fact that I wanted to make a difference here." Alyse Myers, V. P. for Marketing at the New York Times, said of the recipients: "What began as a local initiative to recognize the efforts of public librarians in New York City has grown to a national awards program that garners nominations from nearly every state in the country. Such enthusiasm clearly demonstrates what a vital role librarians play in all our communities. We take this opportunity to congratulate our 27 honorees, but also to salute librarians everywhere and to applaud the enormous contributions they make to our society."

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