Greetings from the President

This year’s ALA Midwinter meeting in Boston offered the first Advocacy Institute. This full-day pre-conference was attended by all types of librarians and public library friends and trustees. The keynote speaker was Massachusetts Lt. Governor and library advocate Kerry Healy.

ALA President Carol Brey-Casiano’s President’s Program featured bestselling author Malcolm Gladwell, author of *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*. This book examines social epidemics by comparing them to viruses. I encourage you to read this book and use its principles in your library advocacy work.

One of the most anticipated events each year is the announcement of the Caldecott and Newbery Medal winners. This year’s Caldecott winner, *Kitten’s First Full Moon*, was written and illustrated by well-known author Kevin Henkes. Henkes’ previous books include the popular *Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse*. Cynthia Kadohata’s first young adult novel *kira-kira* won the coveted Newbery Award. Several other awards and honor books were named including the Coretta Scott King Author Award winner, *Remember: The Journey to School Integration* by famed author Toni Morrison.

The next ALA election is upon us. Leslie Burger, director of the Princeton (NJ) Public Library and Christine Lind Hage, director of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library (MI) are the two candidates. The candidate elected will serve as ALA President-Elect for 2005 - 2006 and as President the following year. You can read the candidates’ curriculum vitae and platforms at http://lb.princetonlibrary.org/ (Burger) and http://www.cmpl.org/christine/ (Hage).

Members can log on to the ALA website to set their preference for an electronic or paper ballot. I encourage all ALA members to sign up today and participate in this important responsibility and privilege.

We should all be very proud of three Kentucky librarians who have been elected to national and regional offices. Terri Kirk, Reidland High School, was elected to ALA’s Executive Board at the Midwinter meeting. Terri serves as AASL Councillor and has served KLA for many years. Judith Gibbons, KDLA, is serving as SELA president and Carol Brinkman, University of Louisville Ekstrom Library, is serving as SELA secretary. Both Judith and Carol have served on the KLA Board. Kentucky is well represented by these bright, energetic women.

Serving our professional associations is an honor and duty. Dynamic, healthy organizations are only effective with fresh ideas from emerging leaders. If you have not served your section or our association I hope you will consider doing so.

_Service is the rent you pay for room on this earth._

- Shirley Chisholm

Linda Kompanik

Section and Roundtable News

Academic Library Section. Plans are being finalized for the spring conference, "Visibility for Libraries : Communicating Our Vision," April 13-15, 2005, at Lake Barkley State Resort Park, jointly planned with KLA Special Libraries Section and Special Libraries, Kentucky Chapter. General sessions will feature Judith Siess, Information Bridges International, speaking on why librarians must market ourselves and our libraries; Bruce Crocco, OCLC, bringing another aspect of library marketing by sharing what libraries are doing; Sheri Meyers, NKU, on copyright in the online environment. Pre-conferences scheduled for Thursday, April 13 are The Visible Librarian: Marketing and Advocacy (Judith Siess) and Making Serials Visible: Basic Principles of Serial Cataloging (Marsha Seamans, UK). Registration information was sent in February. Rooms at Lake Barkley will be held until March 13, so call in your reservations ASAP. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for the fun and informative conference! Rose Davis.

Interlibrary Loan Round Table Changing and Expanding. The KLA Executive Board passed a proposal at its February meeting to change the name and purpose of the Interlibrary Loan Round Table to the Resource Sharing Round Table, which now represents the areas of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery, Circulation, Reserves, and Distance Education. If you have any interests in these areas, please join us. The membership form can be accessed at http://www.kylibasn.org/join.htm (check the line for Interlibrary Loan listed under Round Tables). The cost is only $5.00. We hope you will join us for our interesting and informative presentations at the 2005 Joint Spring Conference in April and the Fall 2005 KLA/KSMA Joint Annual Conference. Leoma Dunn.

NEXT INFOCUS DEADLINE IS MAY 20, 2005

Send your info to Elsie Pritchard, editor at: e.pritch@morehead-st.edu
KLA Member News and Library Updates

Ashland Community and Technical College. Matt Onion took over as Library Director in August, replacing Dr. Carol Greene, who returned to the classroom as a full-time Professor. Yiqi Zhou, Acquisitions & Serials librarian, left ACTC in December to return to Urbana, IL and undertake a full time career in motherhood for her daughter, Ann, born last June. Bettie George Frye, Cataloging librarian, presented an in-service on cataloging with the new OCLC Connexions software at Hazard CTC’s annual teaching/learning conference last fall. Sara Brown, Reference & Instructional librarian and Matt Onion launched a series of book discussions last fall, which continue through the spring semester. Brown’s book discussions center on ALA/OIF’s “Banned Book Week” and feature a different banned book every other month. Onion targeted students enrolled in ACTC’s Culinary Arts and Auto Mechanics/Diesel Repair technical programs for book discussions this spring, on Anthony Bourlain’s Kitchen Confidential and Jack Canfield’s (ed.) Chicken Soup for the NASCAR Soul, respectively. Matt Onion.

Boone County Public Library and the Community Early Childhood Council co-sponsored the first ever Boone County Early Childhood Fair on February 5. Representatives from thirty-two local businesses, day cares, preschools, and other organizations were available that day to talk to parents of young children. Maisy Mouse made several guest appearances and the library offered story times and family activities for all. More than 800 people attended the event and it was so well-received that plans are already underway to host the Second Annual Early Childhood Fair next year! Becky Kempf.

Boyd County Public Library was recently featured on the cover of the Ashland Area Magazine, with students from area high schools posing amid the stacks in a photo taken by Bob Lanham, Lanham Media Service, Frankfort. The library conducted two successful community programs in January. Food For Fines netted a total of 1,808 pounds of food for River Cities Harvest, a local organization that distributes food to 19 agencies that serve the needy. In Hands That Touch a Heart, children of all ages who visited the library were invited to make their hand and decorate it, creating more than 800 cards. The library also launched a homework help program in January. Study Buddy provides free weekly tutoring to junior high and high school students. Professors and students from Ashland Community & Technical College act as the tutors, with library staff also providing assistance. Amanda Gilmore.

Bowling Green Public Library, along with Western Kentucky University Libraries and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, will hold the 2005 SOKY Book Fest at the Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green Friday, April 15 (Children’s Day) and Saturday, April 16. Day one features popular author Sharon Creech, winner of two Newbery awards (a medal for Walk Two Moons; an honor for The Wanderer), plus an impressive ensemble of award-winning authors, illustrators, poets, artists and editors of books for younger readers. Day two adds internationally acclaimed, award-winning authors familiar to adult readers all across the country, including Sue Grafton (R is for Ricochet), Chuck Barris (Confessions of a Dangerous Mind), Linda Bruckheimer (Southern Belles of Honeyuckle Way), and Jacquelyn Mitchard (Twelve Times Blessed). Ashley Fowlkes.

Hopkinsville-Christian County Public Library. A $100,000 federal grant through the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences will be used to update the library’s entire nonfiction collection and to purchase a reader printer for genealogy and research. -From Kentucky New Era, February 12, 2005. Linda Kompanik.

Kenton County Public Library. Guy Young joined the staff as Director of Development, to manage resource development programs for the Library. He has a successful track record of accomplishments managing membership, marketing, and communications programs for history and art museums, arts organizations, and human service organizations. In January a series of Get Fit Clinics were developed to prepare individuals to participate in the Library’s Racing To Read 5k Run and Walk to be held Saturday, June 5. Participants will learn motivation tips to stay on their fitness program, healthy eating and snacking habits from a registered dietician, and how to have fun and compete well in road races. The Library is also teaming up with the Kentucky Speedway and other Northern Kentucky libraries for a promotion during National Library Week called “Get into Gear @ your Library.” Beginning April 11 through April 30 the Kentucky Speedway is offering a buy-one, get-one free voucher to one of two of its races to anyone who uses, renews or signs up for a library card. Robin Klaene.

Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives. Marjorie Flowers recently retired from KDLS. During her tenure, Marjorie was an active member of many KLA committees including the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the KPLA Public Library Standards Committee. Judith Gibbons.

Logan County Public Library received a bequest of $200,000 from the estate of a long-time library supporter, Mathilde Perry, who passed away in December, 2004. She served on the Library Board of Trustees from 1980 to 1987 and remained an avid user and supporter until her death. Library Director Linda Kompanik states there are no immediate plans for the money, but the Board is considering several projects. Linda Kompanik.

McCracken County Public Library. Recent programs include Garden Club of Kentucky’s Audubon District Director Bud Qualk in a presentation entitled “Sexual Reproduction in Plants,” on growing plants from seeds; Kentucky Humanities Council speaker Robert S. Clark, on “Kentucky and The Great Depression 1929-1939;” Western Kentucky Community and Technical College English Professor Andrew Halford in a discussion of Sue Monk Kidd’s Secret Life of Bees; Former Illinois Central Railroad Paducah Shop Supervisor John Rogers with “The History of the Illinois Central Railroad Shops in Paducah;” writer Constance Alexander discussing her upcoming work, Thirty-One Fat Ladies on a Bus; noted poet and award-winning author Frank X Walker on “Affrilachia Revisited.” Programs planned for March include Professor Andrew Halford in a discussion of Dan Brown’s The Da Vinci Code. Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter Regent Cynthia Byrd will present “The DAR: Daughters of the American Revolution.” The Library also launched Live Homework Help, leading the Commonwealth in serving more youth than any other library participating in the Live Homework Help program. Marie Liang.
Morehead State University. Larry X. Besant, Director of Libraries and Media Services retired in December. Besant, who has been at MSU since 1985, led Camden- Carroll Library from the era of paper files to automation, with its first automated system, LS/2000 in 1987. Under Besant’s leadership, MSU became the first state school in Kentucky to have a web-based catalog, and through his activity with the SAALCK Director’s group, worked to create the Kentucky Virtual Library and to make databases and other electronic resources available statewide. Prior to his service at Morehead State, he was director of the Linda Hall Library, assistant director for public service at the Ohio State University library, and assistant director for technical service at the University of Houston library. He began his career as a librarian at Chemical Abstracts Service. Besant has been active in state and national organizations, having served as the president of the Kentucky chapter of SLA twice, 1996-97 and 2002-2003, and chair of the State Assisted Academic Library Council of Kentucky from 1989-1990 and 1997-2000. Clara B. Potter.

Northern Kentucky University. Steely Library is honored to have received the papers of Congressman Ken Lucas. The papers will be housed in the NKU Schlachter Family Archives. Eric Landwehr has joined the library as a Technical Support Specialist II. Craig Person is the new Night Supervisor of the Access Services Department, and Kareem Simpson is the new Supervisor in charge of the Information Desk. Michael Providenti moderated a discussion on web page development at the Greater Cincinnati Library Consortium in October. Jennifer Smith recently served on the ALA Andrew Carnegie Committee, which awarded the medal for the best film for children to “The Dot,” produced by Weston Woods. Sheri Myers.

Rowan County Public Library is pleased to announce that Joseph Sheehan is the Library’s new, full-time Automation Specialist. Joe assumed the position on February 1. Helen Williams.

Transylvania University. Federal agents arrested four men in connection with the theft of rare books from the university library. The theft, which occurred December 17, involved two men overpowering a librarian by using a stun gun and tying her up. Although shaken, the librarian who was attacked was well. On Feb 11th the arrests were made and librarians were able to identify the missing items at the scene. These included a first edition Darwin Origin of Species, a 15th century manuscript, a copy of the Ortus Sanitatis which was a presentation copy for Henry the VII, and twenty pencil drawings by Audubon for the 1856-57 octavo edition of Birds of America. All items appeared to be in good shape and, as of the writing of this, are expected to be returned Monday, Feb 14. Three of the four 20 year old men had been UK students and one was a Transylvania student. The men had attempted to sell the items at Christie’s auction house in New York. See http://homepages.transy.edu/~subrown/booktheft/theft.htm for more information. Susan Brown.

University of Kentucky Libraries. Bonnie Cox, Bibliographer and coordinator of electronic product licensing, retired in December after 18 years of service. Active in women’s issues, Bonnie held a joint appointment as Director of Women's Studies from 1989 to 1992. Helane Davis, Associate Director and Head of Public Services, and Robert Whelan, Reference Librarian, have recently joined the UK Law Library. Helane was formerly Publications Coordinator for the Seattle University School of Law, and Robert most recently headed reference service at the State Law Library of Montana. After nearly a year of planning, with staff and librarian input at every stage, the University of Kentucky Libraries implemented a new organizational structure on January 3. The transition from a team structure to a more hierarchical structure is anticipated to be complete by June 30. Five divisions based on work processes are headed by Associate Deans: Research and Education (Toni Greider); Access and Delivery (Patricia Wilson); Information Technology (Kelly Vickery); Special Collections and Digital Programs (Terry Birdwhistell); Collections and Technical Services (Kate Seago, Interim AD). Joining the Associate Deans and Dean of Libraries Carol Pitts Diedrichs on the Executive Committee are Janet Stith, Director of the Medical Center Library, and Rebecca Trammell, Director of the Law Library. Maureen Sullivan served as the consultant for the reorganization. The new administrative structure and departmental work assignments can be viewed online at www.uky.edu/Libraries/divdept.html. The reorganization necessarily has resulted in some physical moves of staff; the online directory can be accessed from the Libraries’ main web page at www.uky.edu/Libraries. Judy Sackett.


William B. Harlan Memorial Library - Monroe Co. Stephanie Penick Fuson, Library Director, resigned in December to take an Administrative Assistant Position at the Peabody College Library on the Vanderbilt University Campus in Nashville. During her six year tenure as director, the library went through several improvements in technology and programs, with an automation project that was completed in Oct. 2004. Regina Holland, formerly Cataloguer for 2 1/2 years, was named Library Director. She is a member of the Kentucky Library Association, was co-grant writer for the automation project, and served on the automation committee. She has an Associate Degree in Accounting and a diploma from The Institute of Children's Literature Writing for Children and Teenagers. She will receive her ParaProfessional Certification after completing her final course in Library Administration in Spring 2005. The Library’s automation project was completed on October 7th with a matching grant received from Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives. The library chose TLC as the automation vendor. Regina Holland and Stephanie Fuson.
**KLA Calendar of Events**

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<tr>
<td>Mar. 3 - 4, 2005</td>
<td>Kentucky Teaching and Learning Conference</td>
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<td>Apr. 13-15, 2005</td>
<td>KPLA/KLTA Spring Conference</td>
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<td>June 23 - 29, 2005</td>
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**Terri G. Kirk**, former KLA President, was elected to the American Library Association’s Executive Board at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston in January. The Executive Board consists of the President, President-elect, Past-President, Executive Director and 8 at large members. Terri was nominated from the floor and then elected from the entire ALA council. Terri is filling the remaining term of Michael Gorman, President-Elect of ALA and can run again after this term ends. ALA Board members are listed at [http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceb/executiveboard/executiveboardroster.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceb/executiveboard/executiveboardroster.htm). Congratulations, Terri!

**In Memoriam**

**Mary Ruth Brown**, retired Associate Director of Libraries at the University of Kentucky, died on November 30, 2004. Ruth also served as UK's Agriculture Librarian for many years.

**John Bryant**, retired UK Associate Director for Technical Services, died on December 29, 2004 from cancer. Before joining the UK Libraries, John was a librarian at Transylvania University and Thomas More College. After taking early retirement in 1990, John became a travel consultant and visited many countries around the world.

**Norma Jean Gibson** passed away on December 30, 2004. Norma Jean had been employed at the Libraries for over 40 years. At the time of her retirement she was a Reference Librarian in the King Library. Judy Sackett.

**Southeastern Library Association News**

The 2006 Southeastern Library Association (SELA) Biennial Conference will be a joint meeting with the Tennessee Library Association. The location is the Hilton Memphis and the dates are April 5 - 7, 2006.

I want to encourage all Kentucky librarians to join SELA and volunteer for committee work. Please e-mail me for information or membership application at christie.robinson@ky.gov or go to the SELA website at [http://sela.jsu.edu](http://sela.jsu.edu).

**Christie Robinson.**

The 2005 KLA/KSMA Joint Annual Conference will be held September 14-17 at the Galt House East in Louisville, KY. Our theme, “Study the Past, Experience the Present, See the Future @ your library,” emphasizes the importance of libraries and librarians throughout history, their vital role in the present as defenders of informational freedom, and their part in the shaping of visions of the future. National and regional speakers will add their voices and perceptions to our profession’s past, present and future roles. Reserve the dates of September 14-17, 2005 now and plan for a great conference experience. Christine McIntosh.

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