



Oklahoma Library Association

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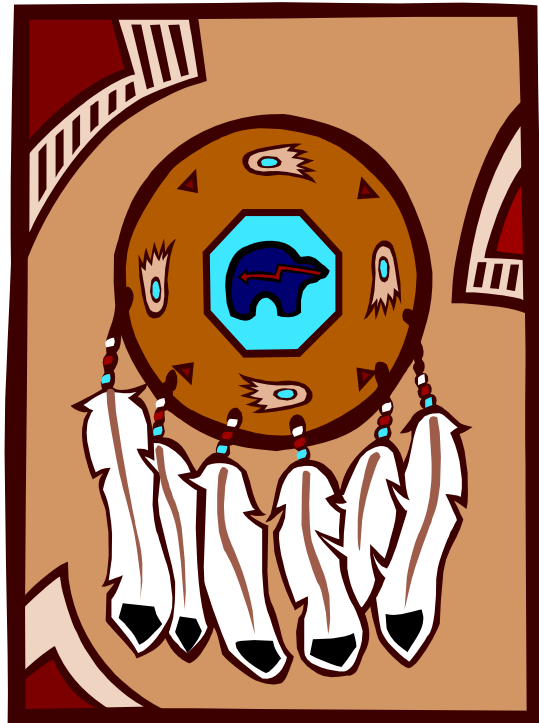
# Oklahoma LIBRARIAN

## Miami Public Library Awarded Grant

City Manager Huey P. Long is proud to announce that the City of Miami and the Miami Public Library were awarded a Public Library Innovation Grant by ICMA, the International City/County Management Association, to establish a Native American Language, Culture, and Health Education/Empowerment Center at the library. ICMA received over 500 applications from jurisdictions in 47 states. Library Director Marcia Johnson and Community Development/Grants Coordinator Larry Eller submitted one of the 9 applications chosen to receive the grant. Letters of support for the project were provided by Chief John Ballard of the Ottawa Tribe, Chief John Froman of the Peoria Tribe, Chief Tom Gamble of the Miami Tribe, Chairman Ron Sparkman of the Shawnee Tribe, Chief Bill Follis of the Modoc Tribe, and Chief LeRoy Howard of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe. In addition, two universities with local tribe affiliations, Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas, also offered letters of support.

The grant, in the amount of \$47,470.90, will be used to purchase state-of-the-art technology to enable tribal members to link to their affiliated universities to take online classes in order to obtain college degrees or work on tribal culture research projects. The technology will also be used for computer lab classes offered by the library to the community. In addition, some grant funds will also be used to cover travel and honoraria for speakers for a variety of programs. Programs offered by the center will be designed to address needs of tribal members and other citizens residing in our community including health issues like diabetes and economic issues such as small business start-ups. Other programs will focus on promoting the language and culture of the local tribes to all area citizens. ICMA, the premier local government leadership and management organization, will provide oversight for the operation of the program.

The ICMA Public Library Innovation Grants are designed to assist local governments in developing new and creative ways to strategically use their public libraries in meeting community needs. Recognizing the importance of the city manager/librarian relationship to create and sustain positive change in communities, the Innovation Grant will be anchored by a partnership between the office of the chief administrative officer and the public library.



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## President ' s Column: A View From the Conference

OLA had a grand annual conference at the Reed Center and the Sheraton Midwest City Hotel, April 20-22. In the tradition of our annual conferences, the president's gavel passed to Charles Brooks. Congratulations, Charles! You will have a fabulous year. And, for the next couple of months, we will be anticipating the next year and appreciating the current year. As we appreciate the membership's contributions and endeavors, what will we remember?

We will remember that OLA does not vacation in the summer. An early activity was in June with the OLA leadership planning meeting at the OU Biological Station at Lake Texoma. Thank you, Stacy Schrank, for your leadership. OLA representatives traveled to the ALA conference; thank you, Anne Prestamo, for representing OLA at the ALA Council. Opening in July was Information Matrix Camp, a fabulous week for young people to explore the many facets of librarianship from the campsite of Rose State College. Thank you, Sharon Saulmon, for illuminating our field and nurturing our future librarians, and thank you, David Oberhelman, Marty Thompson, Sam Richards, and everyone who added to the success of the week. And, in August there were twenty-five committee meetings across the state as OLA leadership set forth plans for serving Oklahoma's libraries, librarians, and librarianship in 2008-2009.

We will remember the fall. In September, OLA regretfully faced the resignation of Oliver Delaney as the OLA representative to government, a position that he had held for fifteen years. Lisa Wells, Chair of the Legislative Committee, organized the search committee that recommended to the Executive Board Vickie White Rankin, who now serves as the OLA representative to government. Thank you, Oliver Delaney, for remarkable service to OLA; and thank you, Lisa Wells, for leadership. Also, in September, OLA was well represented at the Encyclo-Media Conference; thanks to all, including Jan Bryant and Bill Young.

In October, OLA participated in the annual First Amendment Congress. Thank you, Bill Young, Kay Boies, and others, for representing OLA in support of intellectual freedom. The Festival of Books Committee produced a successful conference at the Stillwater Public Library, on October 30<sup>th</sup>, presenting speakers Eric Rohmann, Susan B. Campbell, and Jacqueline Woodson. Thank you, Valerie Kimble and Sara Schieman, Co-chairs, for securing for OLA the \$5,000 Kerr matching grant, raising the matching funds, and laying a foundation for future Festival Conferences. Also in October, Career, Recruitment, and Retention Committee Co-chairs Keith Jemison and David Oberhelman planned regional meetings at the Miami Public Library, the Claremore Public Library, and Oklahoma Baptist University. And the Technical Services Roundtable sponsored the workshop *Buy, Borrow, or Steal: Acquisitions and Interlibrary Loan*; thank you, Muhammad Afzal, Chair of Technical Services Roundtable. And, thank you, Jill Vessels, Chair of the Support Staff Roundtable, which provided an all-day conference at the Midwest City Library in November.

We will remember winter. Thank you, Jenny Stenis, Chair of CATS, and the CATS membership for presenting the workshop "Shh! I'm Creating." Thank you, Lisa Wells and Alicia Smith, Co-chairs of the Legislative Committee, for sponsoring the Legislative Workshop in February and Legislative Day in March. In winter the Program Planning Committee completed plans for our annual conference; thank you, Kathleen Lienke, Chair; and, thanks and congratulations to each Program Planning Committee member for your development of the 102<sup>nd</sup> OLA Conference program.

We will remember that all through the year, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sequoyah Awards was being planned, thank you Lynda Reynolds; that all the bills were paid, thank you Sarah Robbins; that the budget was managed, thank you Jan Bryant; that the *Oklahoma Librarian* was published, thank you Janet Croft; and that hundreds of Oklahoma librarians united to keep Oklahoma school libraries open, thank you one and all.

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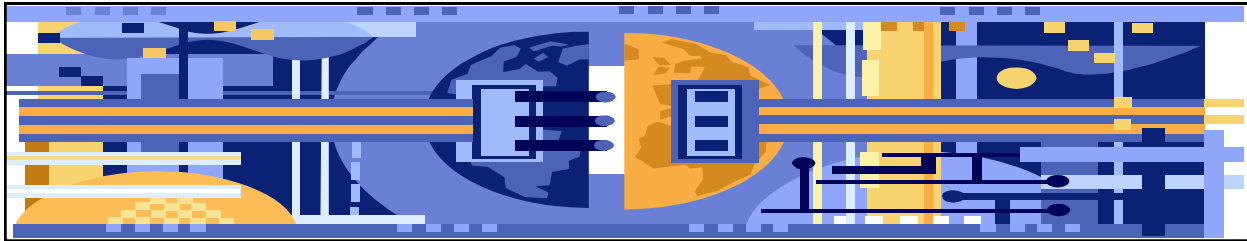
We will remember our spring conference and especially two committees. Thank you, Shari Clifton, Melissa Huffman and the Local Arrangements Committee, for attention to the details that made meetings functional, meals pleasant, and spaces accessible and comfortable. And, thank you, Lynda Reynolds and the Sequoyah 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, for a fabulous celebration and an extraordinary evening with S.E. Hinton.

We will remember Marty Thompson. About his being ever-ready, everywhere at the 102<sup>nd</sup> Conference, Pat Weaver-Meyers, noted in an informal email message (April 24, 2009),

... Marty has outsmarted us all! He is just better than the rest of us at figuring out how to have the most fun at a conference. Marty, I'm sure glad you are a fun-loving guy and even more glad that your staff knows it. My appreciation is as sincere as everyone else's, but I'm even more happy to learn from an expert at living a good life!

And, we will remember that the OLA is a learning organization with appreciation for having fun at our conferences and for living a good life.

—Kathy Latrobe



## Information Matrix Camp 2009

The Information Matrix Camp for ages 12-14 will be held this summer July 19-25. Past participants have found it the most fun camp they have ever attended. We visit many different kinds of libraries, archives and museums in the Central Oklahoma area.

The camp is mainly supported by a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services and sponsored by the Oklahoma Library Association and Rose State College.

The camp web site is at <http://www.rose.edu/lrc/careers/camp.asp>, which has the application, sample schedules, etc. The cost is \$50 for the student. Hotel, food, transportation, and staff are all furnished by the grant, gifts from Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma, local friends groups, individual gifts, hosting libraries, library volunteers, and the sponsors.

The key is YOU. Librarians and school media specialists need to relay the information that the camp will be in session and recommend the students to participate. You can recommend your favorite library volunteer or most industrious student worker or your niece or nephew, child, church friend. You get the picture. It is not limited to just young adult librarians or school media specialists.

We want students from all over the state. Last year we had four or five from Poteau. We also invited back the previous year's participants. Eight of them attended again, having different activities. One is a homeschooled young woman who is indeed planning to become a school library media specialist. The objective of the camp is to introduce them to the variety of library careers and library materials and let them get to know some librarians personally.

It is truly a great experience for everyone participating. Please let me know if you have any questions AND tell a middle-schooler about the Info Matrix Camp today. —Sharon Saulmon

## BECOMING A BETTER PUBLIC LIBRARY MANAGER WITH CPLA®

By Jenifer Grady, Director, American Library Association-  
Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA)

In addition to the myriad of professional development offerings from ALA divisions and units, ALA is the sponsor of a national certification program for public librarians who want to improve their management skills. The Certified Public Library Administrator Program (CPLA®) is a key tool for librarians who envision management in their futures, or who are already managers but need to acquire or refresh their skills. Candidates and graduates cite many benefits to the program such as networking, finding solutions to problems, job retention, and being promoted and appointed as directors.

Members of three ALA divisions, the Public Library Association (PLA), Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA) and Association for Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA), developed the program's standards to give training on critical topics in public library management.

Candidates learn by taking courses face-to-face or online. The first four are required and candidates take courses in three of the five electives. CPLA® approved courses are 12 contact hours (12 hours spent "in the classroom" plus time to read articles and complete assignments) and include projects that are related to candidates' library situations. Instructors are practitioners, professors and consultants.

Becoming a candidate is a simple process. If you have three or more years of supervisory experience in a public library, a graduate degree in library and information studies from an ALA-accredited program, and the desire to share with and learn from your colleagues and instructors, complete the application, <http://www.ala-apa.org/certification/cplaapplication.html>, email your resume to [cpla@ala.org](mailto:cpla@ala.org) and pay the fee of \$250. The CPLA® Certification Review Committee reviews applications four times a year, spring and fall and at the ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. Deadlines are posted on the CPLA® website - <http://www.ala-apa.org/certification/cplacandidates.html#deadline>.

Over the five years you have to complete the program, your investment, including the application fee, will be approximately \$2710. Candidates take seven courses, which cost approximately \$300 each. After completing a course, candidates submit a Course Completion Form detailing the impact of the course on their professional growth and a \$45 fee. There is a final review in which candidates submit two projects and the \$45 fee, which is waived if the candidate recommends CPLA® to a colleague who is admitted into the program. Graduates are permitted to use the designation of CPLA® after their names in professional contexts, such as resumes and business cards.

If you have questions about your qualifications, courses, logistics or benefits of the program, contact the American Library Association-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA), which manages the program for ALA, at 800-545-2433, x2424 or [cpla@ala.org](mailto:cpla@ala.org).



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## *The Women of the Oklahoma Legislature Oral History Project and Website*

The Oklahoma State University Library invites you to visit the newly created *Women of the Oklahoma Legislature* oral history project website at ([www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol](http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol)). Between the years of 1907 and 2008 only 77 women have been elected to the Oklahoma Legislature. This oral history project explores and records the journeys of many of these women who have served or are currently serving in the Oklahoma Legislature. The website includes transcripts, audio excerpts, photographs and memorabilia collected as a result of interview efforts. Over the course of the project, photographs of all 77 women were located and are now included on the website. It is believed this is the first time a complete collection of photographs of all Oklahoma women legislators has existed in one location.

The oral history project was developed in 2006 and carried out over the course of two years. Goals of the project were to fill a gap in the historical record, complement and supplement the OSU Library's Women's Archives Collection, support the Women's Studies program, and to create a resource for all of the citizens of Oklahoma. As of February 2009, 46 of these remarkable women have shared their stories as part of the project. Taken individually, these interviews reflect the careers and interests of the narrator; taken collectively they constitute a narrative of the role of women in the Oklahoma legislature over time.

As such, they form an invaluable part of the historical record of the Oklahoma government. Little has been written about these women other than the occasionally brief mention in the local or state newspaper during the time they served. To date, of the 77 women legislators, 20 are known to have passed away, three have not been located (Mary Helm, Judy Swinton, and Sue Milton), eight are yet to be interviewed, and 46 have been interviewed. Two of the 46 interviewed reside in the Washington, DC area (Hannah Atkins and Clea Deatherage Mitchell) and the remainder resides in Oklahoma. Among those interviewed are a representative elected in 1966 (Anna Belle Wiedemann) and the first African American woman Oklahoma legislator (Hannah Atkins), elected in 1968.

In 1920 the first two women were elected, one to the Senate and one to the House of Representatives. These two pioneering women paved the way for future women to be viewed as legitimate contenders for legislative seats. The remainder of the 1920s saw six more women add their names in the history book for Oklahoma women legislators. During the 1930s no women were elected to serve in the Oklahoma legislature, perhaps due to the struggling economy at the time and again in the 1950s no women were elected to serve. The 1940s saw three women elected to the House and none to the Senate. The 1960s saw five women legislators elected. Moving into the 1970s and continuing on through the present the voices of women have been heard in the Oklahoma legislature but not in proportion to their numbers in the population. The majority of women legislators have been members of the Democratic Party and more have served in the House of Representatives than in the Senate. Two of these women legislators have gone on to become Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma (Mary Fallin and Jari Askins) and one is now serving in the U.S. Congress (Mary Fallin), the second woman to do so from the state.

Interviews covered such topics as campaign strategies, issues championed, what a typical day was like, Election Day and swearing in day, and first experiences of presenting a bill on the floor. Many reflect on their thoughts as they viewed the Capitol building each morning and as they took their respective places on chamber floors. Reading is a major part of the life of a legislator. During sessions 300 to 400 bills cross their desks. Listening is also a major component from listening to constituents to colleagues, to lobbyists, to the News. An important lesson shared was not to knock on doors during Oklahoma State University or the University of Oklahoma sporting events.

The interviews last an average of an hour and a half with the narrators having the opportunity to edit their transcripts. Each transcript, viewable online, represents an average of 30 hours of labor. Gathering oral histories provides opportunity to pursue answers to questions left silent in what little archival materials exist for these women. It has been an incredible experience to really listen, not just hear, but really listen to these remarkable women and to have had the opportunity to conduct a little of my work in the place we call our Capitol. I have had a small glimpse into what it is like to serve the people of Oklahoma and now with the launching of the *Women of the Oklahoma Legislature* website others can share these experiences.

The *Women of the Oklahoma Legislature* oral history project is only one of the projects underway at the Oklahoma Oral History Research Program (OOHRP). The OOHRP was formally established in 2007 by the Oklahoma State University Library and will continue to gather the cultural and intellectual heritage of the state through oral histories.

The *Women of the Oklahoma Legislature Oral History Project* website ([www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol](http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol)) was officially launched during an event at the Oklahoma Capitol February 26, 2009. In attendance for this historical moment were 15 former women legislators, all 17 current legislators, and special guests. The program included an overview of the project given by the project leader, Dr. Tanya Finchum, Associate Professor and Oral History Librarian at Oklahoma State University, and a demonstration by the website creator, Juliana Nykolaiszyn, Visiting Assistant Professor and Oral History Librarian also with Oklahoma State University.

—Tanya Finchum



First row on steps left to right: Wanda Jo Peltier, Joan Hastings, Jari Askins, Anna Belle Wiedemann, Vickie White Rankin, Billie Jean Floyd. Second row left to right: Maxine Horner, Jan Collins, Barbara Staggs, Mina Hibdon, Daisy Lawler, Penny Williams and Trish Weedn.

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## Oklahoma Webpages:

### Women of the Oklahoma Legislature Oral History Project

[www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol](http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol)



We've reviewed the excellent digitized resources from the Oklahoma State University Edmon Low Library before, and welcome this new website. Dr. Tanya Finchum, Oral History Librarian, began this project in 2006 to interview and preserve the histories of the remarkable women who have served or are currently serving in the Oklahoma Legislature. Between 1907 and 2008 seventy-seven women were elected to the Legislature; Tanya has conducted oral history interviews with 46 of the 57 known to be still living. This website provides transcripts of interviews, audio excerpts from the transcripts, and some memorabilia collected during the process.

- **About WOTOL** – most important here is the *How to participate* link. If you know a woman who has served in the Oklahoma Legislature who hasn't been interviewed yet, tell her about this link.
- **Women Legislators** – this is an A-Z list of our women legislators, from Bessie McColgin, 1920-1924, to women who are currently serving as Lisa Johnson Billy and Constance Johnson. Included are histories for women who have moved on to other political offices such as Jari Askins and Mary Fallin. When you click on the links you will choose either "View Interview Transcript" or "Listen to Audio Excerpts." This is still a work in progress, and information for some legislators isn't yet available, which is why the next link is important: it contains only completed interviews with full transcripts and audio excerpts from those transcripts.
- **Completed Interviews** – there are 37 of these that have been completed so far. When you click on either the name of the interviewee, such as "Hannah Atkins," or her photo, you will access a record of the transcript that you can view by page number, or you can click on "Full Transcript." You can print either the entire transcript or specific pages from it.
- **Search the Collection** – this is a standard search engine, but it allows you to search within the text for what either the interviewer or the interviewee said, and lets you search the interview transcript by keywords.
- **Additional Resources** – links to other Internet resources that contain information about women in government.

#### ADDITIONAL ORAL HISTORY LINKS:

##### **OSU Current Oral History Projects**

<http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/current.htm>

Included here are such collections as *Inductees of the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame*, *Oklahoma Centennial Farm Families*, and *O-State Stories*.

##### **Library of Congress. Veteran's History Project**

homepage - <http://www.loc.gov/vets/> ; <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/diglib/vhp/html/search/search.html>

This is the search engine for this collection. Click "female" in the search option noted as "Gender?" for 3,822 hits. Each of these hits is or will be the transcript of an oral history, interview highlight clips, and the complete interview from women who have served in our military. Use additional search options to narrow your search to era, branch of service, or prisoner of war status (there's currently one woman in this collection who was a prisoner of war). This is also a work in progress, and the button labeled "View Digital Collection" that appears after you've done a search indicates interviews that are currently available.

##### **Library of Congress. StoryCorps**

<http://www.storycorps.org/>

This is our national oral history project. Click on "Listen to Stories" then either listen to featured stories, search stories, or browse stories by topic. You can also subscribe to their podcasts, sign up for their e-newsletters, or access their blog. Everything posted on this website is complete.

—Steve Beleu

# New Faces, News, and Farewells

## Sharon Morrison wins Mountain Plains Library Association Unsung Hero Award

Sharon Morrison, Director of the Southeastern Oklahoma State University Library, is winner of the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) 2009 Unsung Hero Award. The award is given for her creation of a program to provide checkout for required textbooks, saving the students thousands of dollars.

Morrison is constantly looking out for students' needs, whether they are factual research or information access. "I believe our faculty and students are striving to be first-rate scholars, and it is our role to support their efforts," said Morrison. She has a life-long love of learning and is a 30-year veteran of sharing that love through library services. She has worked in libraries serving ages six through adult – and insists those patron's needs are not very different.

Since earning a degree in History and Political Science and a Master's of Library Science, she has been active in the Oklahoma Library Association, the Texas Library Association, the American Library Association and the Oklahoma Division of the Association of College and Research Libraries. Her professional interests are in library administration, library assessment and distance education.

Morrison received her award at the joint conference of the Kansas Library Association and Mountain Plains Library Association, April 2, 2009, in Wichita, KS.

## Sequoyah Winners

**Children's:** *Clementine* by Sara Pennypacker

**Intermediate:** *Runaway* by Wendelin Van Draanen

Both authors have agreed to attend the award ceremony at the OLA Conference on April 19, 2010 at the Cox Center in Oklahoma City.

**Donna Norvell Award:** *Fred Stays With Me* by Nancy Coffelt

## DIGITAL REPOSITORY LAUNCHED AT SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY'S AL HARRIS LIBRARY

Dr. Jon Sparks, Director of Libraries, announced that more than 70 years of memories have gone on-line with the launch of the SWOSU Digital Repository for Al Harris Library at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. The publicly accessible site features SWOSU's entire collection of yearbooks dating from 1906 to 1993 and will soon include the archive of the annual senior photographic publication, *The Graduate Record*, the successor of the yearbook, and the student newspaper *The Southwestern*.

The site can be accessed at <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/swosudr> or by clicking the link "SWOSU yearbooks go digital!" on the Al Harris Library home page.

The next phase in the development of the site will be to upload *The Graduate Record*, *The Southwestern*, and other periodicals and documents from the Southwestern Room at the Library, including Dr. Melvin Frank Fiegel's thesis, *A History of Southwestern State College, 1903-1953*; *Southwestern Oklahoma State University: The First 100 Years*, by Dr. Jerry G. Nye; and the 1651 edition of Nicholai Culpeper's *A Physical Directory*. All of these resources will be keyword searchable.

The SWOSU Digital Repository is hosted by ebrary® ([www.ebrary.com](http://www.ebrary.com)) a leading provider of e-content services and technology. The company helps libraries, publishers, and other organizations worldwide disseminate valuable information to users, while improving their research and document interaction.

Users of the digital repository can:

- Search documents by keyword.
- Print or save pages electronically.
- Create a password-protected "bookshelf" on which any books can be set aside for repeated viewings and use.
- Highlight documents.
- Add repositionable software notes on items on the Personal Bookshelf.
- Provides ADA-compliant software to read the text for those users with visual impairments.

For more information regarding the digital repository, please contact Phillip Fitzsimmons at [phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu](mailto:phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu) or call 580-774-3731.



Dottie Brawley of Stillwater Public Library won the 2009 OLA Support Staff Award, which was presented at the Annual Conference in April.

## Dan Chaney wins Mountain Plains Library Association Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award

Dan Chaney, Social Sciences Librarian at Oklahoma State University is the 2009 winner of the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award. The award is given for his contributions as MPLA Webmaster for the past 12 years.

Dan Chaney earned his MLS from Northern Illinois University in 1992 and joined the staff of the Oklahoma State University's Edmon Low Library the same year. He joined MPLA in 1996 and became Webmaster in 1997. He served several terms on the Electronic Communication Committee including its chairmanship, and served as chair of the New Members Roundtable.

As MPLA Webmaster Chaney has been responsible for conceiving, developing and implementing all facets of the website. He created an extensive archive of reports, and conference handouts as well as a "Faces of MPLA" page with photos of board members. He is credited for making the website functional as well as "human" site, alive with color and photos.

According to nominator Carol Hammond, "Dan's work will be a lasting legacy to MPLA, and something that has changed us for the better forever. He has consistently been accommodating, easy to work with, and a source of wise advice on all matters technical. I simply can't imagine how MPLA would be where it is today without his impressive, outstanding contribution."

According to Chaney, "being MPLA Webmaster continues to be an extremely fun opportunity, allowing me to exercise my creativity and problem solving skills. Every day has been fun, working with the MPLA board, the officers, the members, and even non-members. I am very appreciative to MPLA for the opportunities to substantially contribute to the Association, as well as the members who have helped me develop as a professional."

Chaney received his award at the joint conference of the Kansas Library Association and Mountain Plains Library Association, April 2, in Wichita, KS.

# DOCS 101

## Looking for a summer vacation getaway? The National Park Service Website can help you!

Did you know that government websites are a great place to go to plan a vacation?

The National Park Service <http://www.nps.gov/>, has all kinds of valuable information for national parks, trails, and monuments to tour all over the U.S. You can link via a map of the states to a state you want to visit, and another map pops up with locations of national parks in that area. A link to Oklahoma brings up information on the Washita Monument, the Oklahoma City Memorial, and nearby (Arkansas) Fort Smith. There are also links to historic trails, the Trail of Tears and the Santa Fe Trail. For each location the site provides information on directions, operating hours (and seasons of operation), fees, and reservations.

If you aren't sure which state you want to visit, try other tools on the site. If you already have your destination you can link to parks by *name*. You can also link to parks by *activity*, such as boating or camping, hiking or climbing, swimming or horseback riding, fishing, hunting, or wildlife observation. Clicking on any of these links will bring up an alphabetical list of parks, from as near as Oklahoma to as far away as the Bering Land Bridge National Park, which has an international park set up between the U.S. and Russia (on the other side of the Bering Strait from the U.S.). Information for each national park again lists directions, hours, fees, reservation info, and in this case climate also (don't want to freeze to death in Alaska!). Special features of the site are also included.

An interesting set of links is to National Parks by *topic*. Do you have a particular historical interest such as the Civil or Revolutionary War, or Westward Expansion, or a geological interest such as glaciers, geysers, coral reefs? Or perhaps you are interested in fossils? Wildflowers? Each of these topics has a link to parks along with information about the park. There is also a link to auto tours, where you can, for example, take a tour of lighthouses in the country. This feature will tell you which lighthouses are available to tour. Great if your destination is "down Maine."

Want more information? A link called "Nature and Science" will take you to information on biology, geology, water, air, or natural sounds. You can then link to particular parks, say, Grand Canyon National Park, and get a multi-media tour through the park and learn about its history and special features, along with a slide show of various views of the park. If you click on Biology or Geology you will learn about the specialists: archaeologists, biologists, geologists, who work at the parks and have set up special exhibits, and who are usually on hand to provide in depth background once you arrive at the park. Check on these links to be better prepared to appreciate the parks before you go. The Biology section covers such topics as ecological restoration, wildlife, invasive species, endangered species and migratory birds. You and your children will learn a lot in a living museum.

Finally, we can't leave out teachers and librarians. There is a link on this site for **teachers and students** that helps you plan programs for children once you return to home base. And don't forget about the gift shops in the parks, which often have excellent books on topics related to history, archeology, wildlife and conservation, in addition to biographies of historic figures associated with the site. And if you forget to pick them up, check back with your depository library to find copies of several of these items for you to check out!

—Barbara Miller

Target is currently accepting grant applications. The on-line application process takes about 15-minutes and the grants can be used next year to bring authors to schools! Grants will be awarded from \$1,000-\$3000.

Target will accept grant applications online between March 1 and May 31, 2009, for programs taking place between October 1, 2009, and September

30, 2010. See: <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821>



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## **ALSC selects three libraries for third annual Bookapalooza program**

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), has announced the winners of the third annual Bookapalooza program. The three libraries selected to receive a collection of children's materials are Fletcher (Okla.) Public School Library, Laguna (N.M.) Public Library and Henry Whittemore Elementary School Library (Waltham, Mass.). The ALSC Executive Committee reviewed and scored the applications.

The collections, which consist of books, videos, audiobooks and recordings produced in 2008 and were submitted by children's trade publishers to the 2009 award and media evaluation committees for consideration, are intended to help transform each library's collection and provide an opportunity for these materials to be used in each community in creative and innovative ways. The Bookapalooza program aligns with ALSC's core purpose of creating a better future for all children through libraries.

"Public and school libraries all across the nation are suffering severe budget cuts. This is seriously affecting collection development and children's programming at a time when our nation's youngest citizens and their families are turning to libraries for their recreational and informational needs. I'm thrilled that the Bookapalooza program can make a difference to three libraries and the children they serve," said ALSC President Pat Scales.

The Fletcher Public School library council, consisting of students in the seventh-11th grades, will use part of the collection to conduct a family night to introduce the collection to parents, as well as through booktalks and during reading buddy times. The collection will also be used to increase and enhance the existing collection in the soon-to-be constructed central library. Debbie Arthur, Fletcher librarian said, "Acquiring this collection will create excitement among the students and community and spark their interest in reading new materials."

Information on how to apply for the 2010 Bookapalooza program will be available later this spring on the ALSC Web site at <http://www.ala.org/alscawards>, then click on "Professional Awards." For more information contact the ALSC office, (800) 545-2433, ext. 2163, or e-mail, [astrittmatter@ala.org](mailto:astrittmatter@ala.org).

