

WALA NEWS

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From the President...

Nan Myers (nan.myers@wichita.edu)

We have some fun events coming up in April that you won't want to miss. "Librarians on Parade" is the WALA program at the 2006 Tri-Conference at Century II on Thursday, April 6 at 4:00 pm. The show features fashions for the modern librarian (male as well as female!). Organizers **Rita Severt**, **Sharon Ailsieger**, **Kendra Mork** and **Betty Batten** have a fine line-up of WALA models to strut their stuff!

WALA will also be manning the information desk at the Tri-Conference. Look for the article in this newsletter from **Sharon Ailsieger** requesting your help. **Sharon**, **Rhonda Bethel** and **Sherri Roberts** are the local arrangements committee for the KLA. Hats off to them

for all their hard work!

On May 4, we plan an all-membership evening event at the Alford Branch of the Wichita Public Library – a tour and discussion of the architecture and planning by **Cynthia Berner-Harris**, Director of the WPL. Please see announcement below for details.

I want to thank all those who worked on the WALA Workshop which was held on February 22. Both the morning and afternoon sessions went very well. Dr. **Gwen Alexander**'s energetic session on "Social Marketing" provided new ways to examine our connections with patrons; and **Michelle**



Swain's address on "Library Censorship Issues" gave us a timely look at this topic so problematic to our profession. Thank you also to the panel who discussed areas specific to their libraries: **Mary Kay Bird-Guilliams** (Wichita Public Libraries), **Margie Eaton** (Maize High School Library), **Nan Myers** (academic libraries).

WALA Elections for new officers and board members will be coming up soon. I encourage you all to become active or stay active, whichever applies. The Nominating Committee will soon be hard at work!

WALA ALL-MEMBER MEETING ON MAY 4

Dear WALA Member,

On **Thursday, May 4**, WALA will have an all-member meeting at the **Alford Branch community meeting room** of the **Wichita Public Library** beginning at 6:30 pm.

There will be a staff presentation on the design of the branch, followed by refreshments. We have the use of the meeting room until 8:00 pm. Please plan to attend this interesting tour and talk, as well as visit with other area librarians. The WALA Board will meet from 5:30-6:30 pm.

Hiring, Promotions

Jean Hatfield is the new branch manager of the Lionel Alford Regional Branch Library for the Wichita Public Library system. Initially working as a teacher (where she decided that being a librarian would be cool after reading to children), she has worked as an elementary school librarian and for Kansas State University, the St Joseph Public Library, and Johnson County Library System. She is experienced with youth services, branch services, outreach services, adult programming and library instruction. She is on the 2007 Newberry committee, has served as past president of the Mountain Plains Library Association and on various committees for the American Library Association and Kansas Library Association.

Ofonime Ikpe has been promoted to Circulation Supervisor at the Central Library. Ikpe emigrated from Nigeria as a child. She graduated from Fort Hays State University with a degree in business administration, with an emphasis on computer information systems. She is currently the interim Circulation Supervisor and Stacks Manager. Before coming to the Wichita Public Library, she held positions in project management and quality control for manufacturers.

See You at Tri-Conference

Several Wichita Public Library staff members will be presenting at Tri-Conference 2006. Over 400 people at-

tended the first showing of the 20th Annual Academy Awards® Shorts on March 4, thanks to the hard work of the WPL's Art, Music and Video staff who annually organize the event. Learn the ins and outs of film programming from **Kendall Durst**, **Katie Maroney** and **Sarah Shetlar** on Wed., Apr. 5, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in *20 Years of Shorts: The Wichita Public Library's Academy Awards® Short Film Program*. Ever wonder what really motivates children during summer reading programs? WPL partnered with the Self-Help Network to evaluate summer reading programs in two branch libraries. **Cynthia Berner Harris**, **Jennifer Heinicke** and **Carol Nazar** will share why they took time to ask about reading programs, what responses were received and how future summer programs may change as a result of what was learned in *Programs or Prizes: What Keeps Kids Reading?* on Thursday, Apr. 6, 11:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m. **Julie Linneman** will help you make collection decisions with *What Magazines Are There for Children?* on Friday, Apr. 7, 10:30-11:20 a.m.

Legislative Day

Several members of the Wichita Public Library Board of Directors and Friends Board of Governors attended Legislative Day in Topeka on Thursday, February 16. Library Board First Vice President **Gerald Layman**, **Barbara Baker**, **Randy**

Brown, **Evelyn Neier** and **Helen Parli** (with husband **Ken**) joined Friends Board President **Jim Erickson**, Treasurer **Larry Romine** and **Norma Carlton** to advance library causes with Wichita-area legislators.

Special Guests

Patrick James, technical director of Pixar, hand-carried his company's Academy Award® nominated short subject *One Man Band* and gave the keynote speech to an enthusiastic audience of 400 at the Wichita Public Library's 20th Annual Academy Award® Shorts kick-off event at the Murdock Theatre on Saturday, March 4. If you missed March 4's show, you'll have to wait until *One Man Band* plays before Pixar's full-length feature *Cars* in theatres this June to see it!

Last August's visit by Secretary of Health and Human Services **Michael Leavitt** filled not only the Central Library's auditorium, but the third floor lobby, demonstrating the high interest of area residents in Medicare changes. HHS staff gave high praise to the Library's staff as they prepared for Secretary Leavitt's visit, so they recommended the Library as a stop for the four-city tour of the Rx Express, the Medicare Mobile Office Bus Tour. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services partnered with the Library on Friday, March 10. CMS staff and local partners assisted customers with questions and helped beneficiaries sign up for prescription drug coverage.

On March 29, 1976, the Rockwell Branch Library began serving customers. All through March, visit Rockwell to see a display of Rockwell's history and sign the memory book.

To celebrate 30 years of service to Wichita, Rockwell will hold a special anniversary party on **Saturday, March 25**.

Photo (on right): Rockwell Branch Library.





Interview with Jane Hodge

by Gemma Blackburn

Many changes are taking place at the WSU Libraries, and one of the most noticeable is the reorganization of the Access Services areas. **Jane Hodge**, formerly the Circulation Day Supervisor and a member of the WSU Libraries staff since November 1992, accepted the new position of Access Services Manager in November 2005. She now oversees the Circulation, Reserve, Interlibrary Loan, and Stacks Maintenance departments. To put these changes in perspective, Jane has kindly answered a few questions about her position, her goals, and the future of Access Services.

G.B. (Gemma Blackburn) Jane, you have taken on many new duties recently which have certainly kept you on your toes. Can you tell us a little about these changes, and which aspects of your new position you feel differ the most from your previous job? Also, do you see any difference in your level of public interaction?

J.H. (Jane Hodge) *Communicating with and supervising four departments instead of one is challenging, and it has certainly made me become more efficient in managing my time. I had to break down and get an appointment book! Learning more about Interlibrary Loan has been one of my focal points, because I didn't have much experience in that area. I think the ILLiad [Interlibrary Loan Internet Accessible Database] software is fascinating—it's so efficient and user-friendly. I certainly can appreciate how it's cut down on paper filing, and it makes tracking requests much easier. We've begun utilizing the Document Delivery segment for delivering articles to distance users. I definitely spend less time interacting with the public, which sort of makes me sad. I really enjoy helping patrons and working with the international students especially. These days, I spend more time in meetings and doing administrative work, which isn't nearly as personally rewarding (or fun!)*

G.B. Many new projects have been planned for the Access Services areas in the near future, and some new services have already been introduced. Could you tell us a little about these projects, and how the public may benefit from them?

J.H. *The library opened two new seminar rooms last November. They're equipped with tablet PCs with smartboard software, wireless digital projectors, DVD and VCR players, and a mobile videoconferencing unit. Students, faculty, and staff can reserve the rooms online or in person and use them for training sessions, practicing PowerPoint presentations, or any other educational purpose. We expect them to become very popular, the way laptops were when we began checking*

them out to students about four years ago. Of course, more students have their own laptops now, but the seminar rooms are great



for collaborative projects. The library is also working on the university's move to the new "myWSU" portal. This is a Website that will allow students, faculty, and staff to customize and personalize their access point to the WSU Web pages. They'll be able to control the content and layout of whatever tools and resources they want to be displayed when they sign onto their Website. That sort of flexibility and control is attractive to many people.

G.B. Technological advancements are also impacting Access Services. Which technological advancements do you think may make the greatest impact in the future? Do you see a public demand for any specific new technologies?

J.H. *Of course, digital format is the big thing—not just books and journal articles, but even digital service. Podcasting! iTunes! Videos! Everybody wants everything to be available electronically, and the tough question is how do you keep up? How do you educate your users who may not be familiar with the different file formats or may not have the proper equipment to make them work? How do you deal with the access vs. copyright issue? Plus you have to keep the front line staff informed because they're the ones getting all the questions. It's a little overwhelming to think about sometimes.*

G.B. Finally, could you tell us about any personal goals you may have for your position and for the Access Services department in general?

J.H. *I'm learning so much every day, and it makes me want the same for all the people I supervise. I want to encourage their professional development as much as possible, and I want them to be engaged and challenged by their jobs. Being stagnant is a terrible thing.*

Wichita State University Libraries News

Wichita State University Acquires Manuscript Collection

Mary Nelson, Library Assistant in the Department of Special Collections, is pleased to announce the recent acquisition of a notable manuscript collection.

The Walton and Van Ray Morgan Papers include materials documenting the careers and interests of both individuals. Walton Morgan was the first, and, at the time, only African American in the Wichita North High Band during the late 1930s. While in high school, he formed "The Synopators," one of Wichita's earliest known pre-World War II jazz groups. After serving in the Army, Morgan returned to Wichita and taught in the public school system for over thirty years, earning the moniker "Mr. Music" from his students.

The collection includes photographs, correspondence, sheet music and other materials that document these phases of his life. Van Ray Morgan, a former runway model, is represented in the collection by Le V'Ray Coquettes Studio, the modeling and charm school she began in 1960. The collection includes photographs of her models and a sampling of teaching methods used.

A guide to the collection is available online at <http://specialcollections.wichita.edu/collections/ms/2005-04/2005-4-a.html>.



Photo courtesy: Wichita State University Library Special Collections.

Dr. Breivik will present at the 2006 WheatShocker Seminar

Wichita State University is conducting another Wheatshocker Professional Development Seminar this year. You may remember that last year the speaker was **Camila Alire**, who spoke about marketing, a topic of interest to a broad range of libraries. This year's target audience is higher education librarians and classroom faculty.

Dr. **Patricia Senn Breivik**, a nationally recognized expert on information literacy, will be presenting a seminar entitled, "The Grand Partnership: Librarians and Faculty Enhancing Student Learning Outcomes." Dr. Breivik is past chair of the National Forum on Information Literacy, an umbrella group of over 65 national organizations concerned with the need for people to be able to access and use information effectively, and is past President of the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Dr. Breivik will present the seminar on the WSU campus 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday, April 10, 2006. This will be a lively, hands-on, interactive event examining the cooperation of librarians with other campus faculty. Registration is limited to 80 participants.

The seminar is sponsored by Wichita State University Libraries and is funded in part by the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research. This year we are pleased to welcome as co-host the WSU Center for Teaching and Research Excellence.

Participants must pre-register by March 29, 2006 on the Wheatshocker website <http://library.wichita.edu/reference/wheatshocker2006/>.

Please direct any questions or inquiries to **Angela Paul**, Wheatshocker Seminar Coordinator at 316-978-5084 or angela.paul@wichita.edu.

Wichita Public Library Announcement

Meet with ALA Presidential Candidate

On Monday, April 24, Dr. **Bill Crowe**, candidate for ALA President, will be the guest speaker at the Wichita Public Library's Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. After that, Dr. Crowe will be available from 1:30-2:30 pm for a special Q&A session with area librarians. **Cynthia Berner-Harris**, Director of the WPL, has issued a special invitation for WALA members to take advantage of this unique opportunity.



SCKLS Events

Beginning and Leading a Book Discussion

South Central Kansas Library System presents Beginning and Leading a Book Discussion in two locations and on two dates. Pick the date and location that is best for you!

Monday, March 27, 2006

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Rose Hill High School

506 South Rose Hill Rd., Rose Hill

http://www.usd394.com/rhac/campus_map.html

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

South Central Kansas Library System Office & Training Facility

321A North Main Street, South Hutchinson

<http://www.sckls.info/images/SCKLSMap.jpg>

The most important part of a reading group is, of course, the books. But no matter how good the book, it is sometimes hard to get a great discussion started. Whether you are a first-time group leader looking for general tips or an established group looking for ways to liven up your discussions, we hope this workshop will be helpful. We will cover topics such as:

- Organizing your reading group.
- What makes a good discussion book?
- What kinds of questions should be asked?
- Where can I find discussion guides?

Julie Tomlianovich, SCKLS Youth Services Consultant, will present information on doing book discussions with youth at both locations. Panels will be present to share information, practical experiences, and answer questions. Panelists at Rose Hill – **Jane Barnard**, Library Director Rose Hill High School; **Carol Courtwright**, Augusta Public Library; **Martha Gregg**, Bradford Memorial Library. Panelists at SCKLS – **Steven Hind**, TALK facilitator for the Kansas Humanities Council; **Cecilia Huddleston**, Augusta Public Library; **Amy Brownlee**, Library Media Specialist Sterling USD #376.

For further program information contact Nancy Malone, SCKLS CE Coordinator, 800-234-0529, ext. 149, nmalone@sckls.info. For registration information contact Mia Wilson, 800-234-0529, ext. 120, mwilson@sckls.info. The registration deadline is March 23, 2006.

Who Wants (Their Library) To Be A Millionaire?

Public Library Budget Workshop

5 pm-8 pm, March 22

South-Central Kansas Education Service Center,
Clearwater

<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/sckls/workshops/06>

SCKLS Director **Paul Hawkins** and McPherson Public Library Director **Steve Read** will present an entertaining budget workshop based on the popular game show “Who Wants to Be A Millionaire?” Learn the basics of what new librarians and library board members need to know about public library budgets and have fun while you learn! The workshop begins with a complimentary meal including a brief presentation about the Kansas Library Trustee Association featuring two KLTA board members, **Byron Warta** (Newton) and **Keith Anderson** (Inman). You will then enjoy two lively hours of information and learning that will help your library be better funded.

WALA invites Volunteers to help with the Information Booth at the Tri-Conference

Dear WALA Member,

WALA will be hosting the Information Booth for Tri-Conference this year. This is the booth that gives directions to restaurants, malls, etc. for out of town attendees. We have done it in the past, and it has proven to be a good project for WALA. Usually, two people are scheduled for two hour intervals, starting Wednesday afternoon through Friday morning (no evenings).

If anyone could possibly help, please contact **Sharon Ailsliieger** at sharon.ailsliegar@mccconnell.af.mil or by phone at 316-759-4207 (W) or 316-773-7420 (H)

Thanks so much for any and all help

Wichita Museums this spring

Wichita Art Museum

The Wichita Art Museum presents "Turning Pages: A Collection of Artists' Books" through April. Twelve books from artists across the U.S. and Canada will be displayed along with activity tables to offer book-making opportunities. For more information call 316-268-4921 or visit <http://www.wichitaartmuseum.org>



Photo Courtesy: Wichita Art Museum.

Ulrich Project Series: The General Store

Renegade artists' collective The General Store started as a storefront gallery in Milwaukee in 2000 displaying the works of local and international artists. In addition to making their own work, Scott Reeder, Tyson Reeder, and Elysia Borowy-Reeder, now curate group shows across the country. For their Ulrich Project show, The General Store is inviting up to 70 artists from around the world, as well as WSU students, to submit a 6 by 8 inch painting which, when installed, will transform the exhibition space. Slide talk by the artists at 4 p.m. Thursday, March 30, in 210 McKnight Art Center West (School of Art & Design), followed by a reception/preview from 5 to 7 p.m. The exhibit will be held from March 30 to April 30, 2006.



Photo Courtesy: Ulrich Art Museum.

Botanica

Botanica, The Wichita Gardens, will hold their Botanical Book and Periodical sale on April 1, from 8am to 1pm. This is also the official opening day of the Botanica season, and many other events are planned. For more information call 316-264-0448 or visit <http://www.botanica.org>



Photo Courtesy: Botanica, Wichita.

Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum Exhibit

The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum will host the exhibit "K is for Kansas" from April 22 through July 9. This exploration of Kansas cultural history uses alphabet blocks to illustrate a feature for each letter of the alphabet. Activities are planned for families and school-groups. For more information call 316-265-9314 or visit <http://www.wichitahistory.org>

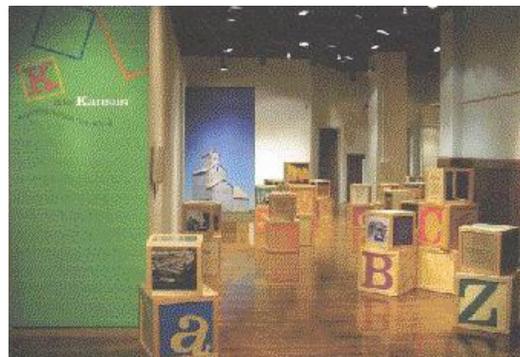


Photo Courtesy: Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum.