

# WALA NEWS

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## Newsletter Production:

**Sai Deng**

## Inside this issue

WALA Activities & Events —p.2

KLA News —p.3-4

WSU Libraries News — p.5

SCKLS Events — p.6

## Read WALA NEWS on the WWW

<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/library/wla/walapubs.html>

## Submit your materials for WALA NEWS to

Nan Myers at [nan.myers@wichita.edu](mailto:nan.myers@wichita.edu)  
phone: 316-978-5130.

## From the President...

Sharon Ailslieger (Sharon.Ailslieger@mccconnell.af.mil)

The holiday season is upon us and just when we think that our lives could not get any busier—they do!! It is often a “fun” busy and WALA is no different. The WALA Christmas party is set for Friday, December 14, 6:00-8:00 pm at the library at WATC, thanks to **Librarian Rita Severt**. It will be a potluck with a white elephant book exchange (always fun). Things just get better with WALA .

In January we will have an evening meeting. **Joe Forte**, Newman University, has graciously invited everyone to tour his new library. There will be food, drink and fun—January 8, 6:00-8:00pm.

Now that the future has been established, I want to look to the past—

The legislative luncheon, held at Tallgrass Country Club, was well attended with around 35 people in attendance including 4 legislators. The great asset of such events is that librarians from all types of libraries attend and networking definitely happens.

A big thank you to the WALA members that helped with Technology Day. The feed back was totally positive.

WALA’s successes can be traced directly back to its Board. I want to say



WALA President: **Sharon Ailslieger**.

“Thank you” and “Happy Holidays” to **Janet Fowler, Amy Ramsey, Nan Myers, Cindy Bailey, Allen Tanner, Joe Forte, Katie Menon, Nancy Malone, Angela Paul, and Marissa Lewis**.

Hope to see many WALA members at the party.

Sharon Ailslieger, President  
Wichita Area Library Association  
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759-4207 or 773-7420

## UPCOMING WALA EVENTS

**December 14, 2007 – WALA Christmas Party (see p.2 for details)**

**January 8, 2008 – WALA Open House at Newman University Library.**

**Please drop by and see the new Newman University Library/Campus Center on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Refreshments will be available. The WALA Board will meet beforehand from 5:30 to 6:00.**





**Holiday Party**  
**Friday, December 14, 2007**

**Wichita Area Technical College  
Library Learning Resource Center  
301 S. Grove  
6:00 – 8:00 pm**

**(Welcome to park anywhere close, including staff parking)**

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**WALA will provide the meat (ham), beverages and paper goods. Please bring a dish to share. There will be vegetarian dishes for those who do not eat meat.**

**And ... of course we will have the famous WALA white elephant book exchange. Choose a favorite or a stinker and wrap it up for the mystery grab.**



# WALA Legislative Luncheon



Tallgrass Country Club was the setting for the annual WALA legislative luncheon on Nov. 15th.



Guest speaker **Cynthia Berner-Harris**, Director of the Wichita Public Library.



Representative **Geraldine Flaharty**.



WALA president **Sharon Ailsieger**.



Representative **Nile Dillmore**.



Representative Joe McClelland and Senator Jean Schodorf.



Representative **Flaharty** and guest speaker **Paul Hawkins**, Director of SCKLS (right).





## Legislative Luncheon Report

*by Nan Myers*

On Thursday, November 15, 2007, about 35 attendees enjoyed the Wichita Area Library Association's annual Legislative Luncheon at the Tallgrass Country Club. Guest speakers were **Cynthia Berner-Harris**, Director of the Wichita Public Library and **Paul Hawkins**, Director of the South Central Kansas Library System. Four area legislators were present: **Senator Jean Schodorf** and **Representatives Nile Dillmore, Geraldine Flaharty, and Joe McClelland**.

Guest speakers were Cynthia Berner-Harris, Director of the Wichita Public Library and Paul Hawkins, Director of the South Central Kansas Library System. All of the legislators present offered remarks as well, ranging from concerns about KAN-ED (McClelland) to the suggestion of patron cost-sharing for ILL costs (Dillmore).

There was an excellent mix of librarians from public, school, special and academic libraries, as well as SCKLS, present. The following libraries were represented: Public – Clearwater, Goddard, El Dorado, Haysville, Newton, Valley Center, and Wichita. Academic: Butler County Community College, Friends University, Newman University, Wichita Area Technical College, and Wichita State University. School: USD259. Special: Hawker-Beechcraft.

Speakers Berner-Harris and Hawkins concentrated on an explanation of the 2008 Legislative Agenda from the Kansas Library Association, which involves five important requests for funding:

1. Provide funding to establish a statewide delivery system for library materials: \$250,000
2. Provide funding for LearningExpressLibrary, a statewide database to assist Kansans in career and education test preparation: \$200,000
3. Statewide Youth Services Consultant for libraries: \$60,864
4. Digitizing Kansas related newspaper files: \$70,000
5. Continuing the outreach program for Talking Books: \$76,500

More information about this agenda can be found at: [http://skyways.lib.ks.us/news/publish/article\\_00571.shtml](http://skyways.lib.ks.us/news/publish/article_00571.shtml)

## Kansas Library Association Legislative Day

*by Rosanne Siemens  
Director, Kansas Library Association*

Kansas Library Association Legislative Day will be held on **Thursday, February 21, 2008**, in the Kansas State House, on the third floor in front of the entrance to the State Library of Kansas. Activities will take place from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The theme this year is "Kansas Libraries Deliver."

The State Library of Kansas will again host a Breakfast/Reception in the morning for those attending and participating in the activities.

Briefings on legislative issues will take place at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. These briefings will include handouts and updates on legislative issues that affect libraries in Kansas and will be held in front of the entrance to the State Library of Kansas.

Other information on issues and the KLA pushcard with legislative priorities will be sent prior to the event via urban and regional system library directors.

Lunches will be available for those who have registered for the event and for all legislators beginning at 11:30 a.m. A registration/lunch order will be sent as the date approaches.

Special thanks to members of the KLA Governmental Affairs Committee for their work in preparation for this important day. Please feel free to call if you have questions: 785-580-4518.

**Lewis & Clark and the Indian Country —  
200 Years of American History**

**National Travelling Exhibition at WSU Libraries  
January 12 — February 22, 2008**

*by Cathy Moore-Jansen  
Coordinator for Collection Development*

### About the Exhibition

From January 12 through February 22, 2008, Wichita State University Libraries will host a national traveled exhibition called “**Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country: Two Hundred Years of American History**”. The exhibit will be on display on the first floor of Ablah Library. WSU Libraries is one of only 23 libraries and four Native American sites in the United States (and the only library in Kansas) selected to host the traveling exhibition, which was organized by the Newberry Library, Chicago, in cooperation with the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office.

Based on original documents in the rich Native American collections of the Newberry Library and other institutions, the exhibit examines Lewis and Clark’s expedition to the Pacific Ocean and back, its encounter with more than 50 native tribes along the way, and the long term effects of that encounter on the Indian country and United States history. The Corps of Discovery’s interactions with Native Americans brought together cultures with very different world views, motivations, and expectations, and resulted in two centuries of dramatic change in the region. **Frederick E. Hoxie**, Swanlund Professor of History at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, curated the exhibit.

### Companion Exhibits

Along with the large multi-panel display of text and photographs that comes with the traveling exhibition, there will be two companion exhibits in Ablah Library. One exhibit of Plains Indian artifacts including beaded moccasins and other clothing, bows, arrows, and coup sticks will be prepared by WSU’s Lowell D. Holmes Museum of Anthropology. A second exhibit by the Libraries’ Special Collections and University Archives will feature 19th century maps, newspapers, drawings, letters, and other writings which document the settlers’ first impressions of what was to become Kansas.

### Nine Program Series

In addition to the exhibits, a series of nine programs are scheduled that focus on the history and discoveries of the Lewis and Clark expedition and its impact on native peoples,

Plains Indian settlements and beliefs, understanding Native American identity, and historic maps of North America. Speakers include current and emeritus WSU faculty, members of the Native American community of Wichita, and an award winning storyteller, co-sponsored with the Wichita Public Library. The opening reception will be on **January 18, 2008** and will feature a lecture, “Rethinking Indian Country” by **Dr. William E. Unrau**, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History at WSU who has recently published a new book on the Indian Country. The opening event will include a book signing and a performance by **Medicine Park**, Southern Plains Indian drummers and dancers.

A complete list of programs, a description of the traveling exhibit, and related resources are available at WSU’s exhibition website at <http://library.wichita.edu/lewisandclark>.

### Funding

“Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country” is made possible by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): great ideas brought to life. Additional support comes from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Sara Lee Foundation is the lead corporate sponsor; Ruth C. Ruggles and the National Park Service also supported the exhibit. The exhibition at WSU Libraries is funded in part by a grant from the Kansas Humanities Council. Additional support is provided by the University Libraries, the WSU Department of Anthropology, and the Wichita Public Library.



Karl Bodmer. “Mandan Village” from Prince Maximilian of Wied’s *Travels to the Interior of North America, 1843-1844*.

The Newberry Library, Chicago.



## Mock Newbery/Mock Caldecott

Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup> the South Central Kansas Library System held its first Mock Newbery/Mock Caldecott at the Alford Library in Wichita. Discussion centered on children's titles that were submitted by school and public librarians in the system as well as ones that were being discussed on lists and received excellent reviews. Attendees learned how the Newbery and Caldecott Awards are chosen as well as the committees. The most integral and challenging part of the day was being able to express the merits of each book beyond, "It made me laugh, cry, etc." or "The pictures are pretty."

After evaluating the suggested list of Newbery and Caldecott titles the group voted and the day's winners were:

**Newbery Winner:**

*Emma-Jean Lazarus Fell Out of a Tree* by Lauren Tarshis

**Newbery Honor Books:**

*Jack Plank Tells Tales* by Natalie Babbitt  
*Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis  
*On the Wings of Heroes* by Richard Peck

Other books receiving votes were:

*Cracker: The Best Dog in Vietnam* by Cynthia Kadohata  
*Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney  
*The Silver Cup* by Constance Leeds  
*Letters from a Slave Boy: The Story of Joseph Jacobs* by Mary E. Lyons  
*What the Dickens: The Story of a Rogue Tooth Fairy* by Gregory Maguire  
*The Wednesday Wars* by Gary Schmidt  
*The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick  
*The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain* by Peter Sis  
*Leepike Ridge* by N.D. Wilson

**Caldecott Winner:**

*The Toy Boat* by Randall DeSeve, illus. by Loren Long

**Caldecott Honor Books:**

*Rainstorm* by Barbara Lehman  
*Grumpy Bird* by Jeremy Tankard

Other books receiving votes were:

*Jazz on a Saturday Night* by Leo and Diane Dillon  
*Lightship* by Brian Floca  
*Comets, Stars, the Moon and Mars: Space Poems and Paintings* by Douglas Florian  
*Casey Back at the Bat* by Dan Gutman, illus by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher  
*The Chicken Chasing Queen of Lamar County* by Janice Harrington, illus. by Shelley Jackson  
*At Gleason's Gym* by Ted Lewin  
*New Socks* by Bob Shea  
*Deep in the Swamp* by Donna M. Bateman, illus. by Brian Lies  
*Hurry Hurry!* by Eve Bunting, illus. by Jeff Mack

## Proactive Approach to Driving— Defensive Driving Training at SCKLS

South Central Kansas Library System personnel spend a lot of time "on the road". Because of this, director **Paul Hawkins** felt it would be wise and beneficial for the staff to take a defensive driving course. Training will be for 2 one-half days in December.

Defensive driving is a more advanced form of driver's training that goes beyond mastery of the rules of the road and the basic mechanics of driving. The goal of the course is to reduce the risks of driving by being proactive and avoiding dangerous situations, despite adverse conditions and/or the incorrect actions of others. This is accomplished through adherence to a variety of general purpose rules, as well as the practice of specific driving techniques. By having SCKLS personnel take this defensive course, the System and personnel should see a reduction in their insurance rates.

The training at SCKLS will be conducted through video and instruction. The trainer is Pro-Tech's founder and president, Gordon Smith, a retired police officer with over 23 years in law enforcement. The Pro-Tech Driving School, Inc. of Hutchinson initially began as a way to educate drivers of the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Smith has spent 8 years as a traffic investigator analyzing many vehicle crashes involving serious injuries and/or fatalities. Smith applies his experiences to his instruction, helping others avoid driving pitfalls.