

# WALA NEWS

**WALA OFFICERS:**

**Sharon Ailslieger,**  
President  
**Janet Fowler,**  
Vice-President  
**Cindy Craig,**  
Secretary  
**Joe Forte,**  
Treasurer  
**Rhonda Bethel,**  
Past President  
**Nan Myers,**  
WALA News Editor  
**Angela Paul,**  
Webmaster  
**Nancy Malone,**  
Ex-officio

**WALA BOARD:**

**Cindy Bailey,**  
**Marissa Lewis,**  
**Susan Matveyeva,**  
**Katie Menon,**  
**Amy Ramsey,**  
**Allan Tanner**

**Newsletter team:**

**Sai Deng**  
Production

## From the President...

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

The Wichita Area Library Association did its part for Kansas Library Conference this year. Members worked the registration booth, had a display table, put together a basket for the raffle and entered the talent show (**Rita Severt, Amy Ramsey, Betty Batton, Nancy Malone and Sharon Ailslieger**) in a reprisal of a WALA Traveling Show number "Cows" (see **the dancing cows on p. 3!**).

We did not win, but a good time was had by all and money was raised. In addition, many of our members were program presenters throughout the conference.

A big THANK YOU to **Amy**

**Ramsey** for putting together a WALA membership brochure. We will have them at the Annual Meeting--take some and try to get co-workers interested in WALA. The dues are only \$15.00 per year. All library personnel are welcome.

A new Board will take over in June. If you would be interested in serving, please notify me or President-elect, **Jan Fowler**. WALA is a great way to network and be involved in the library community. Our members serve on various library community Boards and congratulations goes to **Marissa Lewis**, Librarian at Hawker/Beechcraft.



WALA President: **Sharon Ailslieger.**

She has been appointed to the Kansas State Library Board.

Don't forget to make your reservation for the **WALA annual luncheon with guest speaker C. J. Box!** Details are in the flyer on p. 2.

Sharon Ailslieger, President  
Wichita Area Library Association  
sharon.ailsliegar@mccconnell.af.mil  
759-4207 or 773-7420

### Inside this issue

- WALA Activities & Events — p.2-3
- WSU Libraries News — p.4
- Hawker Beechcraft News — p.5
- SGKLS and WALA — 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)

## 2008-2009 Slate of Officers

WALA's 2008/2009 President will be Janet Fowler. We need to replace four Board of Directors members if Amy Ramsey becomes President-Elect. Treasurer Joe Forte's term runs through 2008/2009. Please submit names of nominees to President Sharon Ailslieger. Or, nominations may be made from the floor at the WALA Annual Meeting on June 5. The WALA board meets over lunch the first Monday of each month at Watermark Books.

President-Elect: Amy Ramsey  
Secretary: Cindy Craig  
Board of Directors 2008-2010:  
Katie Menon  
Kendra Mork  
Alan Tanner  
Your name?

# WALA

*Wichita Area Library Association*

## ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Thursday, June 5

11:30am-1:30pm

Newman University Dugan Student Center

**COST: \$14 WALA Members \$16 Non-Members**

Featuring Special Guest Speaker:

**C.J. BOX**

Author of  
Joe Pickett Mystery Series  
and "Blue Heaven"



Book Sales for Book Signing  
Courtesy of Watermark Books

RSVP BY June 2, 2008: Joe Forte  
Newman University 3100 McCormick Wichita, KS 67213

# "WALA Cows"

Lets hear it for the WALA "hoofers" at the Kansas Library Conference in April!  
Cows: Rita Severt, Sharon Ailsieger, Nancy Malone, Betty Batten, and Amy Ramsey.



## "Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country" Traveling Exhibit Exhibit and Event Photographs



*Photo courtesy: Cathy Moore-Jansen.*

### A Few Words from WSU Libraries' New System Developer Gemma Blackburn

I'm excited to be the new Library Systems Developer at WSU Libraries, and I look forward to the combination of technical challenges and creativity that this job requires.

I'm especially eager about participating in projects to improve the Libraries' online services because these changes will immediately benefit our clients. Although I'm not new to WSU (I have worked in the Libraries for the past 10 years) this position is the first time I have been able to interact with all areas of the library, and I'm learning a lot about the cataloging and acquisitions departments which are new to me.

My technology background began as a hobby designing web pages in high school, but I've continually built on that with the tech courses offered as part of the MLS degree at Emporia and other supplemental course work and self-taught skills. It's something that I really enjoy, and I know this position will be a lot of fun with plenty of room to grow.



WSU New System Developer **Gemma Blackburn.**

*Photo courtesy: Sai Deng.*

## *My Life as a Flight Test Guinea Pig*

by Marisa Lewis

I have a pathological fear of flying. Very ironic, considering that I work at an aircraft manufacturer. About six months ago, I got a call from one of our human factors engineers—she is responsible for design and testing of aircraft interiors.

“How tall are you?” she asked.

“Um, I’m 4’11,” I replied.

“Perfect. We need you for a flight test.”

Oh crap, I thought. My first instinct was to say heck no, but I was curious so I asked more questions. My task would be to test out the emergency escape apparatus of our Hawker 4000 while the plane sits on the runway. The purpose of the test was to make sure that the emergency door handle can be operated by someone of small stature.

After making her swear that the plane would not take off, I agreed to participate in the test.

I showed up at the flight test hangar one morning, not knowing what to expect. The engines of the jet were on, and it was difficult to hear. One of the engineers told me to go first—I told him if it takes off I’m jumping out. He laughed and swore it wouldn’t.

I stepped into the plane. Planes used for flight tests are often pretty banged up—this one had some wear, but it still had a very nice, comfortable interior. The main lights were off, but the emergency ones remained on. Still, it was fairly dark inside. They didn’t give me any instructions, in order to make things as realistic as possible. “Go!” someone yelled and then they timed me while I pulled the door’s emergency

handle up. It was a bit difficult for me, since I don’t have a lot of upper body strength.

However, I managed to escape the jet in 10.2 seconds. In recent years, the number of female military pilots has increased. Because of this, the training planes that we and other companies provide are being designed to better accommodate people of different sizes. My second flight test experience will be sitting in the cockpit of a T6B, to see if I can reach the controls.

Last year, I attended a banquet for the aviation industry. I got the opportunity to speak to a fellow who was a Navy fighter pilot and a flight instructor. He said the T6 is the Porche of military trainers. Often, when I was eating lunch outside the plant at the picnic table, I saw the T6 flight tests overhead. That is when I realized I would never, ever fly in one of those. I don’t like being upside down at a billion miles an hour. However, our human factors engineer swears that the T6 will not be taking off because she will be standing on the wing taking measurements. All I have to do is sit in the cockpit and look pretty. I think I can do that.

This will probably be as close to being a pilot as I will ever get. People in my family suffer from lack of depth perception. My grandpa was training to be a pilot in WWII, but had the misfortune of totaling a Stearman biplane. He and the flight instructor lived, but he finished out his service as a telegraph operator.

After I started driving, I realized I had the same problem. So I think I’ll stick with being a non-pilot.

## Marisa was appointed to the new State Library of Kansas Board

**Marisa Lewis** was appointed to the new State Library of Kansas Board. This was the Kansas Library Network Board in a former incarnation. She will be the first person to serve from the aerospace industry.

Marisa was one of the 11 appointed by Governor Kathleen Sebelius to the State Library of Kansas Board, which was created with SB 67 and signed by the governor during the 2007 Legislative Session.

Congratulations go to Marisa!

*Photo courtesy: Duane Frazier.*





## 2008 SCKLS Internship

The South Central Kansas Library System and its 149 public, school, academic and special library members encourage and foster the professional development and training of new librarians through an annual internship program. The paid internship can be designed to assist the intern in developing experience in the following areas of library service: Administration, Automation/Technology, Interlibrary Loan/Cataloging, Training/Continuing Education and Programming for Adults and/or Youth. Interns work with SCKLS staff located in South Hutchinson and with member librarians in our twelve county south central Kansas service area.

Eligibility for the SCKLS internship program is open to any graduate or undergraduate student enrolled in a library course of study at a university in the United States or internationally. The paid internship program can be arranged for 3, 6, 9 and 12 month periods depending on the needs of SCKLS and the intern. The application process for 2008 is currently open and letters of application may be submitted up to September 30, 2008. The letter of application should address the intern applicant's area or areas of interest, the desired length of the intern period and a statement of the intern applicant's experience and professional goals. Applicants will be contacted by SCKLS within 45 days of application regarding the status of their internship application.

Previous interns include (2006) **Katy Androski**, Emporia State University, Kansas and (2007) **Jessica Wiens**, University of Stuttgart, Germany. For more information about the SCKLS Intern Program contact: **Paul Hawkins**, Director, 321A North Main Street, South Hutchinson, KS 67505, 800-234-0529, Ext. 113 or e-mail: [phawkins@sckls.info](mailto:phawkins@sckls.info).

## Newman University Library Open House

A big "Thank you" goes to **Joe Forte**, Newman University, for hosting the January WALA meeting at the new Dugan Library. The building is beautiful, the food was excellent, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.



L: Gathering in the main hall.



R: Education Resource Room.



Above: Is Joe Forte proud?



L: Refreshment line.



R: Dugan Library's Steve Hamersky.

*Pictures courtesy of Nancy Malone.*