

Wichita Area Library Association

WALA News

Volume 20, No 1

Spring 2011

Happy New Year to all of you! I hope your Holidays were all that you hoped they would be. Now we start at the beginning of a new year with chances for fresh starts and new hopes and new ideas.

WALA has had a good year so far. Our annual Legislative Luncheon was held November 16th at Crestview Country Club. I was not able to attend, but I was excited to hear that we had a huge turnout with approximately 51 people (including our legislators) in attendance. We have to thank Jeremy Hill, Director of the Center for Economic Development and Business Research at Wichita State University once again for taking the time to speak to us about the economic conditions of our area.



And the WALA Holiday Party was great. It might have been the date we picked or it might have been the good weather, but we really had a good turn out with about 33 people attending. We laughed a lot, ate a lot of good food, caught up with what has been going on with each other, and even met a few new people.

We are staying active. Our Book Buddy Service Project is expanding with books now being carried in the cars of the El Dorado Police Department. Janet Fowler and Sharon Ailsieger will be presenting a session on the Book Buddy Project at KLA in Topeka this spring. Our next event will be the Annual Meeting so keep an eye out for the date and place.

We will also be holding our elections at the Annual Meeting for next year. I was wondering if any of you would be willing to serve on our Board. The only requirements are that you be a member of WALA and that you have a strong interest in libraries. If you have never served on the WALA Board, this is my opportunity to urge you to do so. When I was first asked, I didn't know if I wanted to or not. I am always pretty busy with my work and my home life and didn't know if I wanted to take the time necessary away from either. Now I am glad that I did because I have made friends and have been able to promote libraries and how important they are to our community. It has been a rewarding experience for me and I am sure it would be for you too.

Wichita Area Library Association <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/library/wala/>

WALA Reads

The Grimm Legacy by Polly Shulman...It may be a youth book, but it kept me interested, with a good mix of magic and real world crisis. Our grandson Paul said Grandpa could borrow it after he received it in the WALA gift exchange. (Thanks, Jean!)

-Rita Severt



WALA Loves Libraries:

The Wichita Area Technical College is "pushing" the State Library card to use with the *Overdrive Audiobooks, Music, and More*, which includes e-books. Several faculty and staff received Kindles and Nooks as gifts this holiday season, so this provides an option for them to download some free readings.

WALA Eats: Pecan Pie Bars

Filling

4 Eggs
1 1/2 Cups Light or Dark
Corn Syrup
1 1/2 Cups Sugar
3 Tablespoons melted
margarine
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla
2 1/2 Cups chopped
pecans

Crust

3 Cups flour
1/2 Cup sugar
1 Cup margarine
1/2 teaspoon salt



Pecan Pumpkin Pie Bars

Grease bottom and sides of 15 x 10 x 1 inch pan.

Prepare Crust: In large bowl with mixer at medium speed, beat flour, sugar, margarine and salt until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Press firmly and evenly into pan. Bake 20 minutes @ 350 degrees.

While crust is baking, prepare filling: Prepare in large bowl. Stir eggs, corn syrup, sugar, margarine and vanilla until blended. Stir in pecans. Spread evenly over hot crust. Bake in 350 degree oven 25 minutes or until set. Cool on wire rack. (Makes 48 bars)

- Rita Severt

BOOK BUDDY PROJECT IMPLEMENTED IN EL DORADO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thanks to WALA Board Member, Kristi Jacobs, Bradford Memorial Library Director in El Dorado, Kansas, mentioning the details of the WALA Book Buddy Project to Police Chief Tom Boren with the El Dorado Police Department, he was very anxious to implement the project in his department.



Books were assembled and labeled, placed in tote bags made and donated by the Sedgwick County Department of Aging RSVP Volunteers and delivered to Chief Boren and Lt. Dave Sewell in November. The *El Dorado Times* newspaper featured the project and delivery of the bags on the front page of the November 24, 2010 edition.

Chief Boren is very proactive and interested in children having educational programs that provide a positive interaction with his staff.

If you have any suggestions for funding sources or if you have new or gently used books to donate to the project, please contact Janet Fowler at bookmover@cox.net or call 316-650-0738.

See the *El Dorado Times* newspaper article here: <http://www.eldoradotimes.com/features/x1966818343/Books-offer-ways-for-officers-kids-to-connect>

Author Visit Planned for Derby Public Library

Former Kansas State Senator U.L. "Rip" Gooch will be at the Derby Public Library on Tuesday, March 8 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. for a book signing and to discuss his book *Black Horizons*. Copies of the book will be available for sale. *Black Horizons* explores the life challenges Gooch faced growing up at a time when racial bias limited the opportunities afforded him. Gooch earned his pilot's license shortly after World War II and had a great love for flying. Racial prejudices kept him from flying full time. He persevered and at one time owned an aviation company in the Air Capitol called Aero Services. Gooch is a member of the Kansas Aviation Museum board and an inductee into the Black Aviation Hall of Fame. His story is an inspiration to many.



KID LIT



Book Discussion for Adults

**Derby Public Library
Saturday Mornings
9:30-11:30 a.m.**

Enjoy an informal book discussion of quality literature and authors. Welcome parents, teachers, media specialists, grandparents, librarians and all adults who enjoy reading children books. An opportunity to hear different perspectives and enhance your understanding of literature for children.

January 15

Patricia Polacco

February 19

Mo Willems

March 19

Margaret Wise Brown

April 16

Eric Carle

Prior to discussion read 3 books by the author and bring to scheduled date.
Morning snacks and chance to win a book raffle too!

Registration begins Dec. 15th

Derby Public Library • 1600 E Walnut Grove • Derby, KS 67037 • (316)788-0760
www.derbylibrary.com

WALA MEMBERS TO PRESENT AT KLA CONFERENCE

WALA Board Members, Sharon Ailsieger and Janet Fowler, had their proposed presentation selected for the KLA Conference, April 6, 7, 8, 2011, in Topeka, KS. Their presentation, *Local Library Professional Organization Making a Difference in the Community*, will focus on what is involved with launching a community service project and how to sustain the initiative once it is in place.

Sharon and Janet will give suggestions on how to start a program such as the WALA Book Buddy Community Service Project and provide helpful tips on how to continue to expand and sustain the program.

If you are attending the conference, we hope to see you at this presentation.

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY OFFERS PRIZES TO READING ADULTS

The Wichita Public Library's 8th Annual Adult Winter Reading Program, "Reel Reads," challenges adults to read books and win prizes. This year's program focuses on books that have been made into movies. The program runs Jan. 10-March 10 at all Wichita Public Library locations.

For each book read, participants age 16 or over may enter to win in monthly drawings for Warren Theatres movie tickets and Friends of the Library book bags. After a participant reads six books, the reader earns a finisher's prize of a Wichita Public Library mug, a bag of popcorn, a teabag, a cocoa packet, and a \$5 gift certificate to the Friends of the Wichita Public Library Used Bookstore. The reader may also enter the grand prize drawing for an overnight stay for two at the Castle Inn Riverside, \$50 Visa gift cards, or gift certificates from local merchants.

On Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Clare Vanderpool, local author of "Moon Over Manifest" will be at Derby Public Library.

This is a program recommended for children 8-12 years and for parents or interested adults.



Grand Prize winners will be announced at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 12, at the Central Library, 223 S. Main, in a public party with coffee and doughnuts for all Reel Reads participants.

Look for reading ideas and rules at the Wichita Public Library's web site, www.wichita.lib.ks.us, or at any Wichita Public Library location.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES USE NEW AUTOMATION SYSTEM

Fourteen area public libraries recently began using a new Polaris automation system as part of the South Central Kansas Automation Network (SCKAN). The SCKAN database currently encompasses nearly 255,000 items from the collections of participating public libraries. SCKAN is administered by the South Central Kansas Library System (SCKLS) in South Hutchinson.

According to Larry Papenfuss, SCKLS Director of Information Technology, *"The SCKAN Consortium has provided participating member libraries and their users' access to one of the premier library automation systems in the country. SCKAN offers an automation system to participating member libraries that normally could not afford such high-end features. SCKAN allows users more control over their accounts so they can place their own reserves, renew items and view their current checkouts from home or anywhere they have access to a computer and the Internet. SCKAN member libraries are a consortium and are better able to negotiate affordable pricing and discounts. By working together as a group, SCKAN member libraries have enhanced user access to their local library collections and increased the sharing of library materials in our region."*

Participating SCKAN member public libraries include Arkansas City, Augusta, Burrton, Cheney, Clearwater, Colwich, El Dorado, Haven, Moundridge, Mulvane, Rose Hill, Sterling, Towanda and Whitewater. SCKAN is funded in part by grants from the federal Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA), SCKLS and participating libraries. SCKLS provides grants, continuing education, consulting and cost-effective support services to 149 member libraries in twelve 12 counties.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Larry Papenfuss, Director of Information Technology, SCKLS, 800-234-0529, Ext. 160 or larry@sckls.info.

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY'S ACADEMY AWARD®

SHORT FILM PROGRAM

CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

The Wichita Public Library's 25th Annual Academy Award® Nominated Short Films is Wichita's chance to see Academy Award®-nominated short subjects—films running 40 minutes or less—in animation, live action and documentary categories. One of the first places in the nation to offer this program, Wichita's program attracts hundreds of film fans each year. All showings are free.

The series opens at the Orpheum Theatre, 200 N. Broadway, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 26. The program's originator, Sondra Koontz, will return to host. Animated, live action and documentary categories will be shown. All three categories of films will be shown again at the Warren Old Town Theatre, 353 N. Mead, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 5.

Branch library showings will feature animated and live action shorts.

1 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 27, Alford Branch Library, 3447 S. Meridian

5 p.m., Monday, Feb. 28, Rockwell Branch Library, 5939 E. 9th

5 p.m., Tuesday, March 1, Westlink Branch Library, 8515 Bekemeyer

5 p.m., Wednesday, March 2, Evergreen Branch Library, 2601 N. Arkansas

A showing at the Central Library at 5 p.m., Thursday, March 3, will showcase documentaries exclusively.

Films are not rated and may not be suitable for all audiences. Running times will vary. (At press time, nominees have to be announced.) Audience members are encouraged to vote for their favorites so the Library can determine if Wichita's favorites match the Academy's winners.

The 25th Annual Academy Award Shorts® yearlong celebration, which began in April 2010 with a presentation by Academy Award® winner Roger Ross Williams, has been made possible by the Friends of the Wichita Public Library. The City of Wichita, the Wichita Public Library Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities also make these events possible.

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Bennett to Retire

Judy Bennett, director of Derby Public Library, has announced that she will retire March 11. Bennett has been director at Derby for the past 16 years. Prior to working at Derby, she worked in various positions with the Wichita Public Library and Wichita Public Schools.



Bennett has been instrumental in bringing about many changes to the Derby Library including overseeing the library's move in 2009 to a new facility located at 1600 E. Walnut Grove. The state-of-the-art facility has seen significant growth in usage. The most impressive increase in usage has been in the area of technology. The computer lab and the wireless connectivity throughout the building have tripled the use of technology over the old facility.

The new facility has also become home to the Gathering Space Gallery where art work from throughout the state has been on display. Exhibits this past year included photography, oil paintings, quilts, and artwork by USD 260 students.

In notifying the Derby Library Board of her decision to retire, Bennett wrote "I am humbled and honored to have been the Library Director at Derby Library and to help construct a beautiful and functional building that has and will continue to expand services. It is time for someone else to assume the leadership role who will, hopefully, build on what has been accomplished during my tenure."

A retirement reception will be held in the Community Room at the Derby Library on Thursday, March 10 from 4 to 6 pm. The public is invited to attend.

Snapshot: A Day in the Life of a Library

The Wichita Area Technical College Library participated in the "Snapshot: A Day in the Life of a Library" sponsored by the State Library of Kansas. We sent in statistics for patron count, reference questions, and presentations. It just



happened that I had two classes coming to the Library, so that was a good number for our library. The class in the picture didn't come for a presentation; they just came to have their picture taken with the librarian! We also asked for comments and received lots of nice notes. Maybe it helped that we had treats.

- Rita Severt,
Director, Wichita Area Technical College Library



Game On @ Derby Library

Derby Library recently purchased an X Box 360 and 3 Wii consoles to add gaming activities to their programming lineup. The initial funding came in part from a Wal-Mart Grant. The library currently has Wii Resort, Wii Sports and Super Mario Brothers games for the Wii and Madden 2011 for the X Box. Debbie Thomas, User Support Services Coordinator, is planning an inter-generational bowling tournament sometime in early 2011 to showcase the new technologies. Thomas says she is also working with the Youth Services staff on plans for a "Gaming Club". Individuals could earn time to play on the game systems by reading a specific number of books. Bill Guy Technology has agreed to sponsor a gaming tournament at the library sometime in 2011. Watch for more information on gaming at the library in the near future.