



Communiqué

A newsletter of the State Library of Louisiana

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Record Breaking Year



"I don't know what's in the drinking water down there, but the people associated with the Louisiana Book Festival, both organizers and attendees, might be the nicest folks in America," declared George Singleton, one of the more than 150 writers and panelists who came to Baton Rouge to pass a good time at what has become an annual celebration of readers, writers, and books. "Between the literature and food and camaraderie, it's not easy leaving," said the writer, who was hardly able to tear himself away from Baton Rouge.



This year's festival proved to be an overwhelming success, where nearly 21,000 festival goers celebrated all things book. Held in early October, the festival drew the highest attendance figures by far over the six years it has been cel-

ebrated, topping last year's attendance by 5,000 participants. Presented under the auspices of the Louisiana Center for the Book in the State Library of Louisiana, the festival is the premier event of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton is proud of the rapid growth of the festival. "What has impressed authors and festival goers alike is that as the festival has grown, it has continually maintained its hallmark reputation of quality by delivering



an intimate experience with attention to detail, the special personal touch that they may find lacking at larger events. Someone has said that our festival has become a big annual family reunion of booklovers," she said. "We also have found that as the Louisiana Book Festival continues to grow, more business partners step up to pitch in as sponsors. For instance, we've had more media sponsors than ever before. In addition, private donors, having seen our track record of quality and dedication, want to contribute to the festival."



Significant new media sponsors include *Louisiana Life* and *The Oxford American*. The latter publication catapulted the awareness and reputation of the Louisiana Book Festival to national and even international levels.

Louisiana's book festival impressed Carol Ann Fitzgerald, managing editor of the *Oxford American*. "This was one of the best book festivals I've ever attended, as an exhibitor and as

a visitor. The crowds were enthusiastic and genuinely interested in literature," said Fitzgerald. "This festival is obviously put together with immense care and respect and it was a thoroughly rewarding experience for the *Oxford American*."

The Louisiana Book Festival enjoyed many firsts. This is the first time

that a children's author was honored with the Louisiana Writer Award. William Joyce, award-winning author and illustrator of best-selling children's

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Viewpoint

As you know, the State Library received an IMLS grant to provide "Executive Leadership Training for Louisiana Public Librarians." In Louisiana, 40% of library directors have retired over the last year, or will be eligible to retire within the next five years. Many Louisiana librarians currently lack the necessary knowledge and skills to fill these positions. With this project, the State Library hopes to change that.

On October 27 and 28, we held the planning meeting that is the first phase of the grant. We asked eight public library directors from around the state to participate, representing small, medium, and large libraries, along with Peggy Rudd, the Texas State Librarian, and Connie Van Fleet, currently professor in Library and Information Science at University of Oklahoma and formerly at LSU. The meeting was facilitated by Cal Shepard, from SOLINET.

These incredible individuals worked very hard to plan the 8 one-

day, practical management workshops and the week long institute, which will turn operational managers into strategic leaders. They made decisions about content of the workshops and the institute, and defined the characteristics of the librarians who will be targeted to participate. In addition, we had many fruitful discussions about how to evaluate the project, and ways that the State Library will continue the project after the grant is finished.

This was a very rewarding and productive two days. The future of our public libraries will be assured when we train the next generation of library leaders to be as dedicated and knowledgeable as our current directors.



State Librarian



Early Literacy Workstations

Workstations pre-loaded with educational software designed to promote early literacy skills have been placed in 62 of Louisiana's 64 parishes, with two parishes having declined. These were purchased with grant funding. By buying these workstations in bulk, the State Library was able to obtain a significant volume discount. One workstation was allocated per parish and each library could choose whether to add on an additional set of Spanish programs.

"In Louisiana, we recognize that the low level of literacy is a serious factor in the future of our state. We must improve the educational and literacy levels of citizens and we believe this starts with the children," said State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton.

Training for public library staff was held in three locations during the last week of October.

New E-Mail Addresses for SLOL Staff

The State Library has implemented a new e-mail server for State Library staff. This will *not* affect those of you for whom the State Library provides e-mail services. Your e-mail addresses will continue to be @state.lib.la.us

This only affects State Library employees. Our new e-mail addresses are: firstinitial, fulllastname, then @slol.lib.la.us. For example, mharriso@state.lib.la.us is now mharrison@slol.lib.la.us.

For several months, we will continue to forward e-mail from our old addresses to our new ones, but please make a note and start using our new addresses immediately.

SLOL Staff Attend WCEF in New Orleans

With the attendance of several State Library staff members, Louisiana's libraries were well represented at the World Cultural Economic Forum. State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton, along with Associate State Librarian Dorothy White, Head of the Louisiana Section Judy Smith, and Center for the Book Director Jim Davis all attended the first full-scale WCEF event, held in New Orleans on October 30 and 31. The WCEF, a month-long program being carried out throughout the state, is an ini-

tiative of the Office of Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu and the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development. The WCEF supports the development of the cultural industries as a viable sector of Louisiana's economy. Specifically, it seeks to grow the cultural economy by sustaining the people who create and preserve artistic and cultural products and assets, enhancing capacity for production, developing new markets for their

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People & Places

State Library



Dylan Wade joined the State Library on October 14, 2008 as a Library Specialist 1 in the Louisiana

Voices Audio Book Recording Program, Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Dylan holds an undergraduate degree from Tulane University and a graduate degree from Louisiana State University in Philosophy.

Helen Brunet is the new Interlibrary Loan Manager at the State Library. Previously Helen served as the Interlibrary Loan/Serials Librarian at Terrebonne Parish Library System. She is a graduate of the Louisiana State University School of Library and Information Science.

Around the State

Barry Bradford became the Director of the Tangipahoa Parish Library on September 15. Barry is a native of Birmingham Alabama, attended the University of Alabama and received his Masters of Library and Information Science from Louisiana State University in 1991. He worked for

the New Orleans Public Library and spent the past five years as the Assistant Director of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library.

Barbarean Elmore has been re-appointed to the LaSalle Parish Library Board of Control for another five year term. She has been a library board member since 1998. Barbarean is currently Director of Federal Programs with the LaSalle Parish School System, where she has been employed for the past 39 years.

East Baton Rouge Parish Library named **Chaundra Carroccio** as Assistant Division Head of Teen/Young Adult Services on October 13. She has been with the East Baton Rouge Parish Library for 4 years and most recently served as Branch Manager of the Scotlandville Branch Library. She holds a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and a Masters of Library Science Degree from LSU.

Beverly Laughlin, former Executive Director of LLA, now works for Allen Parish Library.

Remembrances

Ruth Major, Pointe Coupee Parish Library Trustee for the last 12 years, passed away peacefully at her home Thursday, September 25, 2008 after a lengthy illness. She was originally an employee of the Pointe Coupee Library, driving the Bookmobile, in the early 1940s.

Former Madison Parish Library director and long time board member **Mabel Clair Placke** passed away September 6, 2008, after a lengthy illness.

The St. Charles Parish Library is saddened by the passing of retiree, **Fay Walker Louque**. She worked for the library from 1978 until her retirement in 1999.

New Orleans storyteller **Coleen Salley** died recently at the age of 79. She told stories for children at many libraries and was a published children's author.

Ethel James, 86, formerly the State Library Supervisor of Acquisitions, passed away Friday, Oct. 17, 2008. She worked for 34 years for the State Library, retiring at age 82.

Rapides Parish Library Welcomes New Branches

Rapides Parish Library has been busy celebrating three new branches and a 25th anniversary for the Gunter Branch in the Deville area. On Sunday, October 12, Gunter's Branch staff welcomed approximately eighty guests.

The two new facilities were built to replace older, crowded branches in Hineston and Glenmora. A grand opening ceremony was held at the Hineston Branch in July 20. The new branch was built on land donated by Mr. Teddy Price and is a 4,000 square foot building. The new facility has a meeting room for both general and

public meetings, library programming, and room to grow for collections and services.

The J. W. McDonald Branch Library at Glenmora had a grand opening ceremony on July 27. The property was given to the library in memory of Mr. J. W. McDonald, a long-time library advocate. The new branch is also 4,000 square feet.

The third facility will replace the Fuhrer Branch in Alexandria. The Westside Regional Library will be completed in February 2009.



West Baton Rouge Parish Library hosted Bill Jones, author of "Louisiana Cowboys," on October 16. Jones presented an interactive, multi-media program to a packed house. The Louisiana Center for the Book provided grant funding to assist with the program.

SLOL Die Cut Templates Available

The State Library has received a large active collection of AV materials from the Northeast Texas Library System (NETLS), which eliminated its AV service because of budget cuts. We are adding these items to our collection and they will be available to you via ILL. Of the more exciting items are approximately 500 die cut templates which can be used either with Ellison or Accu-Cut die cutting machines. We have placed the NETLS catalog of die cuts on our website at: <http://www.state.lib.la.us/dieblocks/>

You will need to get the DC number and brief description for the ones you want and request them via Loan-SHARK if you want to borrow them. NETLS also gave us a machine, which we will loan out for 30 days as well. The caveat is that you must come here to pick it up. It is heavy and unwieldy. In the die cut catalog, if you see that the DC number has an X through it, that means the item was lost over the years.

Staff Attend WCEF

(Continued)

creations and services, and fostering a support system that enables arts and culture to flourish.

How do the state's public libraries fit in this mix? According to Hamilton, "As public libraries, we embrace and promote Louisiana literature. This state enjoys not only a remarkable literary heritage, but a wealth of current literary talent. As librarians one of our key roles is to ensure that our literary body of work is preserved, promoted and easily available to all her citizens. Libraries therefore play a vital role in enhancing our cultural economy."

The primary purpose of the WCEF is to foster a global dialogue on cultural economy with more than 60 nations participating.



What's Up At Beauregard Parish Library

The Beauregard Parish Library now offers a multitude of new programs, clubs, and events, along with our regularly scheduled book club meetings, coffee club, and Saturday morning movies!

Beginning in November, a special staff picks display will be featured every month at the main branch of the Beauregard Parish Library. Staff members will write reviews of library materials they enjoyed; these reviews along with the materials being reviewed will then be showcased and highlighted every month.

The library will also be continuing the "Beauregard Parish Library Presents" program, which has featured wonderful entertainers and educators throughout the year. During November, famed chef Marcelle Bienvenu, author of *Who's Your Mama, Are You Catholic, Can You Make a Roux?*, will discuss the importance of food and foodways in the Cajun culture for the Senior Coffee Club.

Also, during November, the library's Y.A.C. Members are hosting a special reading day, Good Books for a Good Cause. The young people will be taking pledges for minutes read or flat-rate pledges between November 1st and November 15th. Then, on November 15th, they will gather at the library and enjoy good books for a good cause with snacks and drinks provided throughout the day by the library.

Finally, to conclude the month of November, the library is hosting a special patron appreciation week during Thanksgiving week. During this time, patrons who have overdue fines and materials are encouraged to return their materials and have all fees related to overdue items erased. For patrons who have no overdue materials or late fees, the library is handing out a special goody bag with treats and a raffle ticket for special library prizes.

Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu Is *Library Journal's* Politician of the Year 2008



Congratulations to Louisiana's own Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu, who *Library Journal* named as its 2008 Politician

of the Year. The September 15 issue features the Lt. Gov as having been awarded the prestigious honor. The distinction is given to a "political figure making a difference in your library community," according to the *Journal*.

"It is obvious why we selected Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu as LJ's 2008 Politician of the Year—from specific initiatives and funding to the use of his influence, position, and high profile, he gives libraries tremendous

importance and visibility in Louisiana and the nation," noted the LJ.

State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton said, "When he assumed office in 2004 he took a proactive approach working closely with the State Library to determine the status of libraries statewide, identifying the greatest needs. He then worked tirelessly with the Louisiana Legislature to secure the necessary funding to fulfill all State Library initiatives needed to further library development statewide."

Ensuring that libraries achieve the necessary resources is important to Landrieu. The storms in 2005 reinforced that belief. "From the hurricanes we learned something that we should have known already. We learned how important libraries are to everything that we do," he said.

Assumption Parish Library Wins Grant

The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the Fetzer Institute's Campaign for Love & Forgiveness, announced that the Assumption Parish Library was one of 50 libraries that will receive \$2,500 grants to support Let's Talk About It: Love & Forgiveness reading and discussion programs. The library will receive:

- » A grant of \$2,500, to be used to support program costs and scholar honoraria.

- » Program materials, which include introductory literature and essays on each of the themes, selections for additional reading and template promotional materials.
- » Training for the library project director at a national workshop, where they will hear from the project scholar, expert librarians and program organizers and receive a program planning guide, materials and ideas.

Walker Percy Southern Literary Festival

The Walker Percy Literary Festival will take place Wednesday, January 14 through Saturday, January 17, 2009. The first night, Southeastern's Dr. Richard Louth will discuss Walker Percy. On Thursday, Dr. Edward Dupuy will discuss themes in Percy's body of work. Both of these discussions are offered at the Covington Branch of the St. Tammany Parish Library. The One Act Play Festival will be presented at the Greater Covington Center on Friday and Saturday.

Louisiana Book Festival (continued)

books, was named winner of the 2008 Louisiana Writer Award. This is also the first year that a book club was offered. Organizers added the Big Buddy program's "WordPlay Teen Writing Project" with a spoken word performance by area youth.

The sun set on the book festival with the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra presenting a free outdoor concert in front of the Louisiana State Capitol. "The Sound of Books," a program of music selections from films that originated as books, was a wonderful way to cap the 2008 Louisiana Book Festival.

Mark your calendar for next year's Louisiana Book Festival, set to be held October 17, 2009.



SLOL Staffers Visit National Book Festival

Beverly Dugas and Pete Gagliano, both Library Specialist Supervisors in Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at the State Library, travelled to Washington, D.C. this September to represent Louisiana at the National Book Festival. They brought with them a poster depicting Louisiana's rich literary heritage, bookmarks and other promotional items, along with a huge bag of Mardi Gras beads to give away.



E-Rate Workshops Coming Up

Meg Huddleston will offer a series of regional workshops to assist you with filing for E-Rate for FY-09-10. The workshops will feature an information session in the morning. After lunch, Meg will be available until 4:00 p.m. to assist attendees with filling out 470 and 471 forms on the computer.

The information session will be tailored to attendees and experience levels. Some topics for the morning session will include:

- » Technology planning
- » Review of the procurement process – 470s, RFPs, contracts, evaluating bids
- » 471s and receipt acknowledgment
- » Recordkeeping, reviews, audits and any general E-Rate concerns

If you need guidance evaluating bids, please bring your Form 470 with you and all bids under consideration.

If you plan to file your Form 471 during the workshop, you will need to bring with you the following information:

- » Your Form 470 application number.

» Costs for services to be requested on your Form 471. This includes any estimates or contracts provided by vendors or copies of recent telephone, cellular, data line or other bills.

Dates and Locations:

Friday, November 7 –
Ouachita Parish Public Library,
Monroe

Friday, November 14 –
St. Charles Parish Library, Luling

Tuesday, November 18 –
State Library, Baton Rouge

Friday, November 21 –
Calcasieu Parish Library,
Lake Charles

These sessions will be from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Lunch will be on your own.

We scheduled these workshops based on requests from libraries. However, if you cannot make one of these workshops, please contact Meg Huddleston to schedule an individual session, or to answer any questions, at mhuddleston@slol.lib.la.us or 225-342-4931.

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Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu

Department of Culture,
Recreation & Tourism
Pam Breaux, Secretary

State Library of Louisiana
Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian

Paulita Chartier,
Communications Director

State Library of Louisiana
Communications Section
701 N. 4th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Phone: (225) 342-9713
Fax: (225) 219-4804
www.state.lib.la.us

The State Library of Louisiana is one of our state's greatest resources for research information, government documents, genealogical data, books in Braille, audiobooks and more.

The State Library's mission is to build an informed, literate and democratic society by ensuring access to informational, cultural and recreational resources, especially those resources unique to Louisiana.

Trial Of Goldilocks



The Drama Warehouse of the Union Parish Library and the North Central Louisiana Arts Council

presented the play "The Trial of Goldilocks" on September 20 in the Union Parish Courthouse Courtroom. Admission was free.

Stephanie Herrmann, Library Director comments, "This was the first year our library initiated activities for teens. The teens involved in our program are very artistic, so drama seemed like a natural fit. We are grateful to the North Central Louisiana Arts Council for co-sponsoring

the program and overseeing its administration. They have been a wonderful asset to our community."

The Trial of Goldilocks is a one-act play in verse that basically combines the fun and whimsy of the fairytale of Goldilocks and the Three Bears with the courtroom drama of Law and Order as Goldilocks herself stands trial for the destruction of the bears property.



New Orleans 1867

Gary A. Van Zante

Publisher: Merrell Publisher Limited

Publication Date: February 2008

ISBN: 1-85894-210-1

Pages: 304

Price: 75.00

Theodore Lilienthal was a noted New Orleans photographer during the mid-to-late 1800s. *New Orleans 1867* by Gary A. Van Zante offers readers 126 photographs from *La Nouvelle Orleans et ses Environs*, a series of photographs taken in 1867 comprising the first municipally-sponsored photographic survey of an American city. Only 126 of the original 150 images have survived, but *New Orleans 1867* organizes them into a comprehensive whole.

Few images exist for New Orleans in 1867 that offer viewers such wonderfully diverse aspects of the city. There are images of mansions, churches, businesses, and other historic buildings, as well as asylums, factories, stables, cemeteries, steamboats and scenes of everyday life. It is a glimpse of New Orleans after the Civil War and during Reconstruction seen through the lens of Theodore Lilienthal. While this is the bulk of *New Orleans 1867*, Van Zante has also included maps and images by additional photographers to aid the narrative of other chapters.

In the Introduction, *Our City Taken*, the author discusses New Orleans right after the war to 1867, providing a compelling narrative of how the city and people were beginning to recover. We are introduced to Lilienthal's photogra-

phy, and the proposal and eventual compilation and exhibition of *La Nouvelle Orleans et ses Environs* at the World Exposition in Paris in 1867.

Theodore Lilienthal (1829-1894): A "Practical Photographer," gives the reader a biography of the photographer, as well as images of Lilienthal, his residence, studio, and the dark-room wagon he used to process his images.

New Orleans in 1867, the bulk of the book, includes the black and white images from *La Nouvelle Orleans et ses Environs*.

Van Zante has divided the images into *environs* such as *The Batture*; *The Second District: The Vieux Carre, Canal Street, and Tremé*; *Lake Pontchartrain, the Bayou St. John and Metairie Ridge*; *The First District: The Colonial Faubourg St. Mary; Tivoli Circle to the Fourth District and the Upper Faubourgs*; and *The West Bank and Down-*

river. The subject of each image is described in detail.

To Scan the Crescent City Broadly offers panoramic views of New Orleans. *New Orleans in Miniature* is a display of Lilienthal's stereo photography. Another chapter offers readers a Chronology of Lilienthal's Studio Locations from 1854 to 1894. An Appendix of Sources, a Bibliographic Essay and an Index complete the volume.

New Orleans 1867 by Gary A. Van Zante is a well-written and well-documented exploration of the photography of Theodore Lilienthal, whose work captured the heart of New Orleans in 1867. This resource will be a welcome edition to any library's collection on photographers and photography.

Charlene Bonnette is a Reference Librarian in the Louisiana Section of the State Library of Louisiana.



Governor Bobby Jindal congratulates the Assumption Parish Library on their 40th anniversary as a parish library at a town hall meeting in Napoleonville. Pictured are, (l-r) Dr. Teri Maggio, Director, Jindal and Mr. Kelly Blanchard, Library Board Chairperson.



The Calcasieu Parish Library recently restored the Lynda Carlberg Memorial Garden. The Garden was dedicated in 1998 in memory of Lynda Mills Carlberg, who served as Director of the Calcasieu Parish Public Library from 1978 to 1997. The centerpiece sculpture is an aluminum stele by Arthur Silverman of New Orleans. The new landscaping was accomplished through a partnership including the Calcasieu Parish Public Library, the Friends of the Library, and the Lake Charles Garden Club.



Seated from left are Sarah LeBlanc of the LC Garden Club, and Joyce Buttross, Vice President of the Library Board of Trustees and inspiration for the project. Standing, left to right are Brenda Vice, Facilities Management employee, who facilitated the project, Shirley Broussard and Linda Finley of the LC Garden Club, and Mike Napolitano, Facilities Management employee who also facilitated the project.