

ShelfLife

Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

FEB. & MARCH 2002

'Read About It' Says "Thanks" To Staff Volunteers

B.J. Williams, host of the MLS TV show 'Read About It,' also hosted a luncheon for Read-About-It-regulars, Thursday, Dec. 13 at Jamil's Steak House.

The luncheon was a thank you from B.J. and the PR office for all the support and help staff have given the program over the years.

Any staff interested in reviewing a book please contact B.J. at 231-8643 to discuss.

"If you have a favorite book, this is your invitation to share with other staff and the public. We heartily welcome new reviewers!"

Staff unable to attend the luncheon were: Ronna Davis, Jacquie Taylor, Derek Cash and Rosemary Czarski.

1.



1. Seated left to right is Susie Beasley, Heidi Johnson, and B.J. Williams.

2. Seated left to right is Janet Brooks, Pauline Rodriguez and Ursula Ward.

3. From left to right is Doug Bentin and Jack Kinzie.

2.



3.



'Read About It' continued



From left to right, Evelyn Davis and Shellie Zeigler-Hill.



From left to right is Fran Harbert and Ruby Soutiere.

"I enjoy sharing my passion for the arts I love with other people, and READ ABOUT IT gives me a chance to do that when I discuss books on film, music and literature. If being on television made me look slimmer instead of heavier, this would be the perfect gig." -**Doug Bentin**



From left to right, Frank Ray and Scott Carter.



From left to right, Norm Maas and Phil Tolbert.



From left to right is Kelley Riha and Clyde Martin.

People

Automation: *Singlehandedly Solving the System's Stacks of Stray Sheets Smoothly*



When the Metropolitan Library System began offering Internet usage for the public in 1996, we first filed the Internet Agreement forms in a banker's box.

When that box was outgrown, we then filed the forms on the shelves behind the Circulation Control desk, later adding a large filing cabinet.

Now that we have more than 63,000 Internet Agreements on file, with more being added daily, we once more have a need for additional space. The solution was to scan the forms and save them to a CD.

The libraries have all played a part in ensuring that the scanning has gone well. They have taken extra care to see that the printing on the forms is dark and legible and that the forms are in good condition for scanning (many, many thanks!). The CD in the picture has approximately 7,300 Internet Agreements on it!

We have also begun scanning the library card applications. This will allow us to have a permanent record of all Internet Agreements and Library Card Applications.

ShelfLife

Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

ShelfLife, the official newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System, is published electronically each month by the **Public Relations Division**.

Written and graphic contributions are welcomed. Please forward all comments to: Nancy Lytle, editor.

Nancy Lytle
Editor

Wanda Scott
Graphic Design

For more information contact: Public Information at **405.231.8618**.

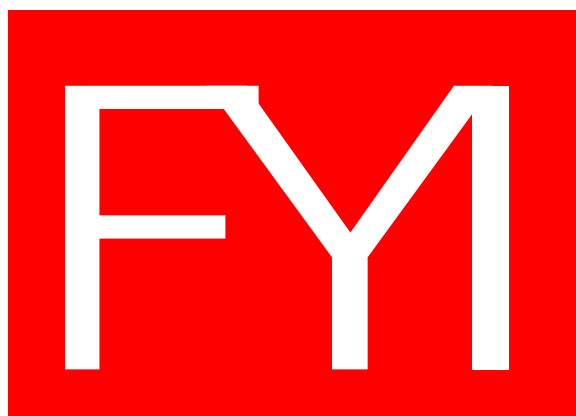
For March Shelflife

Do you have a favorite Short Story?

In March we will list your all-time favorite short story or stories.

So get ready to list your favorites and send them in. Deadline is March 8.

E-mail your suggestions to:
nlytle@mls.lib.ok.us.



February Anniversaries

Katherine Y. Williams	2/21/00
Amelia E. Young	2/9/00
Deborah Ann Kelley	2/1/97
Roy S. Ballou	2/8/99
Judy Walden	2/1/77
Kathryn M. Dunn	2/19/01
Teri L. Redenbaugh	2/16/01
Gwenda L. Dobbs	2/10/01
Reginald Walker	2/5/01
Shahin S. Asghari	2/16/99
Ric E. Rea	2/16/82
Carol S. Hunter	2/19/01
Susan M. Monroe	2/12/96
George M. Marshall	2/15/99
Sarah J. Kellum	2/14/94
Maryam Salamat	2/3/99
Wanda D. Scott	2/7/90
Denesa C. Yost	2/28/86
Susan K. Beckett	2/7/00
Darlene S. Browers	2/12/96

February Anniversaries continued

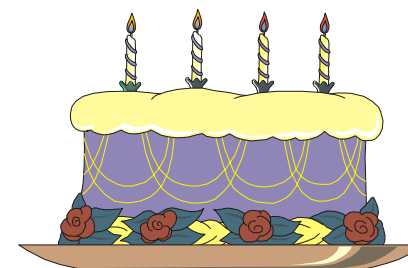
Charlotte Overton	2/5/01
Jason E. Evans	2/1/96
Lori Kane	2/16/98
Linda Jameson	2/26/90
Nathan K. Leonard	2/15/99
Irma Lozano	2/7/00
Sheldon L. Moglia	2/1/00

Welcome To

Jennifer Atkisson	Page, VI
Virginia Pattinson	Tech Asst., SO
Lydell Barton	Tech Asst., RE
Sharon Bish	Librarian, DN
Kalyani Chekuri	Librarian, RE
Ken Schuttlenhelm	Page, VI
James Williams	Page, CH
Laura McMurtry	TechAsst.,WA
Leah Zachary	Page, WA
Tierra Young	Page, BI
Jana Eaton	Proj. Spc., OUT
Stephany Wilson	Page, BE
David French	Librarian, BI

Moved

Debra Jackson	From Planning to Public Services
Marilyn Hudson	From RE to OUT Lib. Spc.
Traci Jinkens	From BO to PLAN, Admin. Sec.



February Birthdays

Frank C. Ray	2/01
Sally C. Epp	2/02
Joanne Schneider	2/03
Mary J. Patton	2/04
Lee Mata	2/06
Laura Fiester	2/09
Karen L. Litteral	2/09
Ann L. Meeks	2/09
Lydell R. Barion	2/10
Bruce D. Davis	2/13
Linda K. Birchett	2/13
Robert A. Hurst	2/15
Peggy M. Long	2/18
Eric G. King	2/18
Carol S. Hunter	2/18
Erica Laree' Burton	2/18
Kathleen Laugherman	2/20
Deborah J. Willis	2/20
Daniel E. Fields	2/20
Gene E. Chappell	2/22
Larry G. Johnson	2/24
Ernestine F. Clark	2/28

People

From Southern Oaks

Smith auditions for band

Chris Smith, a page here at SO, is shown in the picture of the Friday entertainment section of the *Daily Oklahoman*, Jan. 25.

He recently auditioned for the band Limp Bizkit. They are doing a 23-city-search to replace one of their guitarists who recently left the band.

After the tour, the winners from each stop will audition again to see who will join the band.

There is also a chance that Chris could get his own recording contract with the band's label Flawless Records.

- Randy Wayland



Penn Square Mall Kid's Club Festival

Saturday was the first Penn Square Mall Kid's Club Festival, and it was a great success!

We had 212 people sit and listen to stories (118 children and 94 parents), and we had 56 new library card applicants!

Thanks to all of our staff event volunteers who helped make our day so great; we couldn't have done it without you!

And a special thanks to Belle Isle for letting us process the applications at your library!

Once again, great job MLS staff!

- Heidi Daniel (Outreach)
- Heidi Port (Volunteer Services)



With Deepest Sympathy

To Joe Poe, DN security, whose mother died Jan. 14.

Sympathy also to Abe Etjehadi, ED, whose nephew died in January.

And to Randy Wilson, MTC, whose grandmother died Feb. 11.

Sympathy also to Eva Peteet's whose grandmother died in February.

And to LaVetta Dent whose father died Feb. 15.

And to Randy Wayland, whose father-in-law died Friday, Feb. 15.

Midwest City Library Hosts Beach Party Lock-In, Sleepover

Midwest City Library hosted a Beach Party Lock-In January 25-26.

Nineteen kids participated between the ages of 10 to 15 years.

"We had some older kids who did not fall asleep at all and sat up all night talking."

We gave parents the option of picking their kids up at 10 p.m. if they didn't want them to spend the whole night. But when one mother showed up at 10 p.m., the kids talked her into letting them stay all night - but not before they showed her how well they could limbo.

We had a great time, but Kristin Epperson, Heidi Daniel and I were very tired the next day.

-Christine Dettlaff

The festive lock-in included craft time, beach ball volleyball, pizza, reading time, beach blanket bingo, limbo, bedtime snack, a video and more reading time.



Limbo anyone?

Beach ball volleyball - without the sand!



Beach blanket bingo - without the wind!



Sand art artists are having too much fun.

People

Staff Association Views and Reviews

The SA Executive Council was also a victim of the Oklahoma Ice Storm in January. We were postponed a week, because the libraries were closed on the scheduled day of our meeting. So the new year started off a little slow, but your representatives did meet at Belle Isle on Feb 7.

Plans were initiated for our involvement in the MS Walk to be held in April. Our SA Council will sponsor a rest stop for the walkers. We'll be looking for helpers so keep it in mind.

One of the responsibilities of your SA Executive Council is to have a representative attend commission meetings, pension board meetings, long range planning meetings and other types of meetings where decisions are made that affect the whole system and its employees. This is happening, and reports are made to the whole executive council. Then your reps can bring information back to the staff on each site. It is hoped this adds to the staff understanding of

things that affect their work environment. Feel free to ask your reps questions. We'll share what we know and then search for answers where needed.

Conversations are continuing with the administration about the concerns you have expressed. Here are some thoughts about some of those concerns.

1. Health care is a national concern as well as one we have here. Our system has some good health care coverage and is searching for ways of keeping it. Keeping it at a reasonable cost is always a vital concern.

2. Our wages are an important part of our staff, and we are looking at ways to help them be fairly compensated.

3. Our pension plan affects all of us. Decisions made there will ultimately touch each of us. We are fortunate in our system to have a defined benefit retirement plan. The library system, rather than the individual employee, bears the risk involved in fluctuating investment returns. Anne Hsieh, MLS director of finance, is always available to answer questions. She states our plan was funded at 127% on July 1, 2002.

This means that our plan had more than enough to cover any benefits due at that time. We will follow the developments there.

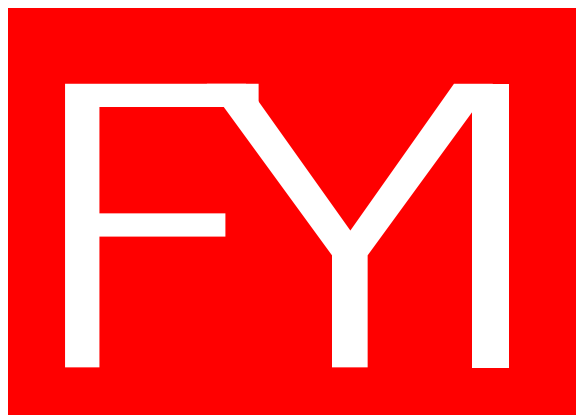
4. Ways of continuing a Staff Development Day that provides helpful employee training is discussed.

This list is not all inclusive but hopefully lets you know that your Staff Association is involved on your behalf.

Our SA Executive Council meetings are scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on the Thursday following each Commission meeting and are at the same locations as the Commission Meetings. At this time Norm Maas, MLS Director, will meet with the council for roundtable discussions on March 28 and September 5. All staff are welcome at any of our meetings.

Plans for our annual Staff Association Meeting have begun. Committees were formed, and soon you'll be hearing more about this event.

-Darlene Browsers, Staff Association Executive Council Chairperson.



March Birthdays

MEGAN C. MOORE	3/01
EDWARD MARAND	3/05
SARAH J. KELLUM	3/06
MARJORIE DUPREE	3/06
PATSY A. GLOVER	3/08
KARENE E. MITCHELL	3/08
NANCY J. LYTLE	3/09
JULIA A. MOCK	3/09
CHARLES S. ISAACS	3/12
AIMEE N. HOUSE	3/12
DEREK J. CASH	3/13
KRISTA M. RUSSELL	3/13
JUANITA M. MENDOZA	3/14
REX H. WYCHERLEY	3/14
MARGARET F. REEVES	3/15
ROBERT M. FERGUSON	3/15
MELISSA CUNNINGHAM	3/15
IRMA LOZANO	3/15
AWNALEE	3/17

March Birthdays continued

STEVE V. PALMER	3/18
AMY K BROWN	3/19
BARBARA L. MCDANIEL	3/21
MARIAN JANE LECRONE	3/22
RUSSELL L. PIERCE	3/22
NICHOLAS T. WURTZ	3/22
EBRAHIM EJTEHADI	3/23
SHAHIN S. ASGHARI	3/25
KIM L. COBB	3/26
PAMELA S. BUCHANAN	3/27
MARY L. STEPHENS	3/27
SHEILA D. FIXEL	3/31
JANA C. HAUSBURG	3/31

March Anniversaries

DARCUS D. SMITH	3/28/86
KIMBERLY L. WADE	3/31/86
HELEN F. HARRELL	3/2/87
CHRISTIE J. REICHEL	3/16/87
DENISE A. COURTS	3/16/87
JILL L. VESSELS	3/19/87
JOE J. POE	3/21/87
MARY A. MAHAN	3/15/88
TRACY C. STONE	3/17/88
MARY L. STRASNER	3/6/89
MARK A. TULL	3/26/90
CHRISTINA D. LONG	3/6/91
BARBARA M. NAMMINGA	3/8/93
BEVERLY K. PHILLIPS	3/22/93
HECTOR L. MATA	3/15/94

March Anniversaries continued

BARBEE STUEVE	3/1/95
DEBRA O. SPINDLE	3/25/96
MICHAELA. BAUGHMAN	3/22/99
JAN M. REYNOLDS	3/6/00
KAREN K. KWETEY	3/21/00
MARGARET J. COLLINS	3/27/00
KATHY S. MARQUIS	3/5/01
CAROL L. ROBBINS	3/5/01
JANICE L. SAN NICOLAS	3/5/01
SUSAN D. PALMER	3/5/01
EBONY J. WERYACKWE	3/12/01
TREMAINE M. TRUITT	3/14/01
NICHOLAS T. WURTZ	3/26/01
VINCENT D. ARMIJO	3/26/01

Goodbye

Lisa LeFlore	Page, VI
Rashad Khan	Page, WA
Gwen Dobbs	Asst. Lib. Mgr., MWC
Carol Robbins	Page, ED
Sheryl James	Page, CH
Jane Carvajal	Training & Measurement, PLA
Kay Bostic	Permanent Med Disability
Laura Parker	Page, WA
Aubrey Mercado	Page, ED
Beatrice Lambe	Circ. Clerk, MWC
Karen Kwetey	Page, BE
Christine Kitchen	Page, WA