

ShelfLife

Staff Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

September 2006

Two New Members Join Library Commission

The August Commission meeting welcomed two new commission members:

Lee Alan Leslie and **Ralph Bullard**.

Mr. Leslie was appointed by the city of Midwest City to replace Commissioner Pamela Pung. He is a long time member of the Midwest City Library advisory board and worked on the building committee that planned the **Midwest City Library**.



Lee Alan Leslie

Mr. Bullard, past headmaster of the Christian Heritage Academy in Del City, has been appointed by the board of the County Commissioners to replace Alyne Strube. Mr. Bullard will be the at-large member.

"We send our best to Pamela and Alyne as they end their service to the commission and the library," said **Donna Morris**, MLS Executive Director.



Ralph Bullard

"Both have been outstanding commission members and representatives of the

library. We will miss them very much and wish them well in the future. And we're looking forward to working with Ralph and Lee. I know they'll have a lot to bring to their new roles as commission members."

Lisa Wood Awarded a Scholarship

There's nothing ShelfLife enjoys more than congratulating a member of the MLS staff on work well done. This time, we're tipping our hat to **Lisa Wood of The Village Library** as she is the recipient of the first *Choctaw Library Guild, Inc. Berniece M. Young Scholarship* award. Lisa will be graduating from OU in the Spring of 2007 with a Masters Degree in Library and Information Studies.



Lisa Wood and Margaret Mueller

Margaret Mueller, President of *The Choctaw Library Guild*, said that the \$1,000 scholarship is named for the late Berniece M. Young, whose gift of funds to The Guild made the

award possible. This is the first year the scholarship has been offered, but plans are to make this an annual scholarship opportunity.

"The scholarship," Mueller added, "will go to somebody doing post-graduate work and has a background in library science or business. We were fortunate that Lisa fit the requirements perfectly for our first scholarship."

Lisa is specializing in services geared toward youth and plans to remain with MLS after graduation. "I love my job as a children's librarian. I truly have never had a better job. I very much appreciate the generosity of The Choctaw Library Guild," Lisa said.

"Assisting students with their tuition in the form of this scholarship makes it easier to concentrate on the schoolwork rather than the school bills. Working full time and going to school full time is not easy, and with this scholarship, the Guild is helping me and any future recipients."

In this issue:

New Commission MembersPage 1
ScholarshipPage 1
New Magazine FormatPage 2
Hawaiian Shirt Day.....Page 2

Engineers w/o BordersPage 3
Septemberfest.....Page 3
Life Goes On at MCPage 3
Focus (Hey Little Buddies)Page 4

All Together NowPage 4
Summer at the Library Stats.....Page 5
Friends Grants.....Page 5
Employee Information.....Pages 6 & 7



News ... People ... News ...

New MLS Calendar/Magazine Format —Coming Soon

When November rolls around, keep your eye out for the new MLS Calendar of Events/Magazine. MaC will be combining its two publications—the monthly Calendar and the quarterly magazine—into one monthly calendar that will include the magazine's most popular features.

Last winter, we included a survey in two issues to gather opinions and comments from the actual readers. MaC is developing the new Magazine/Calendar based on these responses. The magazine's 'Happenings' section, which spotlights some of MLS' programming events, will continue to be included, as well as the usual reviews written exclusively for MLS by staff members and guest reviewers. One of the most popular features of the magazine will still be incorporated— DN librarian **Buddy**



Johnson's Oklahoma Images feature, which tells readers a little about an Oklahoma location of particular interest.

"Even though the big changes to the magazine/calendar aren't going to take place until November, we're still going to do a combination magazine/calendar for October," said **Kim Terry**, MaC manager. "We just haven't finalized what the look will be, so the October issue will just be a merge of the existing 'Cal-en-dar' and the Metro Library magazine. You'll notice the big changes in November. Look for a new name and new calendar format."

Let MaC know what you think of it. Send comments on Happenings and the calendar to **Nancy Lytle**, and compliments on the reviews and Oklahoma Images to **Doug Bentin**. (Or just general raves about it to Kim.)



Walk For Freedom on September 11th

Remember the Victims, honor our veterans, and support our men and women in uniform.

On this 5th anniversary of the attacks on Sept. 11, join your fellow Americans for a 1.2. mile walk in Downtown OKC.

5:30 p.m.

Starting Point: Oklahoma City National Memorial

Ending Point: AT & T Bricktown Ballpark East Parking Lot

Free musical tribute concert featuring The Great Divide & Luke Stricklin at the conclusion of the walk.

Second Annual

HAWAIIAN SHIRT DAY

School is back in session and football is here, the air is getting cooler... what does that mean to us? Time for the second annual Hawaiian Shirt Day! (Yes *Doug*, we have an official day just for you.)

Friday, September 22 is the official first day of Fall, so let's celebrate (or mourn) the end of summer by wearing your favorite Hawaiian shirt.

And of course Hawaiian shirts look great with jeans, so wear it in place of your MLS shirt that day.

SEPTEMBER 22
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!





Engineers Without Borders

It's easy to be proud of your son when he's been selected to go to a foreign country to help the local people develop a system of delivering fresh water to 118 homes in a village—but it's just as easy to worry about him when the country he's visiting has a history of civil and military unrest.



Josh Wyrick, looking for nitrates in Oregon waters.

That's the dilemma **Betty Scott** in the **Business Office** faced with the announcement that her son, Dr. Joshua Wyrick, a civil and environmental engineer, was chosen along with another Rowan University professor and five students to go to Caserio El Amaton in El Salvador with Engineers

Without Borders. The team must locate a water source and build a well within the community, study well capacity and water quality, create technical plans for a pump, supply network and water storage facilities, and design a distribution network and home water connections.

"We were a little nervous about it," Betty said, "but those people have to have clean water and we were proud that Josh was willing to help them get it."

All of us in the extended MLS family can take pride in Betty for raising a kid who's willing to take chances to help out folks in need.

Septemberfest Is Upon Us

Don't know what to do on Saturday, Sept. 9? Why not include the 2006 edition of Septemberfest?

This year will mark the event's 10th Anniversary, and once again it will be located on the grounds of the Governor's Mansion.

"We'll be located just off the Mansion's west entrance where festival goers enter for the Mansion tour," said **Kelley Riha**, Outreach's Community Information Coordinator.

"Joining the Outreach staff to read aloud will be Toby Tobin of Lucky Penny Players and OKC Parks and Recreation DWe Williams of Rhythmically Speaking, and new this year, Dennis Zotigh who is a Native



American storyteller." Be sure to look for **Spoticus**, who will again be making an appearance through the good graces of **Human Resources Specialist Linda Hyams**.

MLS has been part of Septemberfest since its inception in 1996.

As always, our goals at this widely-attended event include: reading to children as entertainment, modeling reading behavior for parents, and disseminating MLS information.

It's an all-day, come-and-go event.

Life Goes On, Beautifully, at MC

Susan Monroe, of the MC Library, and her husband Lyn are among the special ones. They spend a lot of their spare time cutting, weeding, trimming and watering the garden at MC.

"This is the second year we've worked on it," said Lyn. "We started with three flower beds, then discovered more beds which had been neglected. We have adopted a total of 12 beds this year. There are five more which I plan to include next year. I am committed to this project as long as I am able."

Susan says that the project is Lyn's. "He now works as an emergency room nurse, but his first love is working outdoors with plants. He has worked both for the city of Oklahoma City and the University of Oklahoma as a gardener. He did the landscaping around the Museum of Natural History at University of Oklahoma which is composed of plants native to the state of Oklahoma."

Why does Lyn do it? "In 1961, in boy scouts, I learned that one should leave a campsite better than one found it. Recycling and caring for the environment by planting, etc. are all a part of leaving my 'campsite' better than I found it."

Susan is obviously proud of her husband and his good work for the environment.

"Several of Lyn's close friends have nicknamed him Johnny Appleseed. It warms my heart when my fellow employees express their appreciation. Thank you for recognizing my husband's hard work."

"My offspring will live, at best, 100 years," Lyn said. "My ginkgo trees that I plant will live 1000 years or more. While humans pollute, the plants replenish."



Hey, Little Buddies

Visit the third floor of the DN Library and you'll hear a strange melody drifting



through the halls and hidden passageways. Okay, there are no hidden passageways, but getting carried away is easy while listening to those haunting lyrics.

They come from the general direction of the **Planning** office. They have to do with FOCUS! 2006. Wait, there they go again. Can you hear them?

Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale,
A tale of a fruitful trip
That's starting from this Metro port
Aboard this FOCUS! ship.

The mate is a mighty trainin' man,
The speakers smart and hip.
The Metro crew sets sail this day
For a multi-session trip.
(A multi-session trip.)

The keynote address will start us right
With words that make us think—
If not for growth, that steers the course,
The FOCUS! Ship would sink.
(The FOCUS! Ship would sink.)



friends,
Here on MLS Isle!

The ship sets sail on
October 9 on
Meridian Ave.
With breakfast, a
lunch buffet,
Prizes, and lots of booths,
Colleagues, and all your

Prepare to hoist anchor on Monday, Oct.
9, with the rest of the MLS crew at the
Clarion Meridian Convention Center, from
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Won't you let us take you on a See Cruise?
Have your passport ready!



All Together Now . . .

ED librarians **Ronna Davis** and **Carol**

Hunter are so happy to have made it through another Summer at the Library with their wits still intact (contrary opinions from the rest of ED staff should be sent directly to **Karen Bays** and not to

ShelfLife), they've been singing this song. Ronna wrote the lyrics to the tune of Gloria Gaynor's disco classic "I Will Survive."



Once we had our jobs, roughly 8 to 5.

*We helped our customers one to one, it really made us thrive—
And then summer reading started, the kids poured in the door,
They made a noise like thunder and they covered up the floor.*

*We have survived, we have survived. Summer Reading's over and we all are still alive.
Are we the best? Don't make us laugh.*

*We have the largest numbers in the OKC northwest —
And then the books—oh me oh my!*

Oh how they checked out, off the shelves they did fly.

*There were readers, there were tweens, DVD's and magazines,
But they returned -- They returned Oh yeah!*

*Now we can walk, walk out the door
Knowing that this work is done just like the year before.*

*We've worked real hard, but we're not cryin' —
We're glad that we made it to July twenty-nii-un,
Oh yeah!*

Bravo, Ronna!



Another Smash Hit *Summer at the Library*

Summer at the Library continues to be MLS' big moment each year. If we were the Statue of Liberty, Summer at the Library would be the torch we held aloft.

And every summer, the torch glows brighter. In 2005, 12,808 kids signed up for the program.

In 2006, a record number 14,392 came on board. And what's even better is that MLS saw a 39 percent increase in "finishers" —those who completed Goal 1.

"The numbers for the teen program are still strong," said Young Adult Services Coordinator **Emily Williams**. "BI, CH, CT, DC, ED, SO, WA, HR, and JN all had increases in teen sign-up from last year, and system-wide we

had 3,072 teens join us." Better yet, nearly half of them—1,393—completed Goal 1.

Kristin Smith, MLS Children's Services Coordinator, joins Emily in thanking every MLS employee for all the hard work that goes into Summer at the Library each year. "Summer at the Library is truly a team effort," she added, "and everyone did a great job!"



Friends of the Library Grant Winners Announced



Our friends with **The Friends of the Metropolitan Library System** have awarded grants to the MLS totaling \$182,032, pushing the total amount of grant money awarded to the library system over the past 25 years to \$2,108,315.

The amount is simply staggering and we at ShelfLife know we speak for everyone in the MLS family when we send a heart-felt Thanks to FOL president Joe McReynolds and the entire FOL membership.

Here's a list of the things FOL grants are helping us pay for in FY 2006-07.

- 2006 Staff Recognition
 - 2006 Volunteer Recognition
 - Summer at the Library
 - L.I.F.E.
 - Author visits to libraries
 - System-wide programming for adults
 - Our World
 - Looking at Jazz
 - Oklahoma Voices
 - System-wide programming equipment
 - Library enhancements at CH
 - Support for Literary Voices
 - Truck tool boxes
- AND
- a whopping **100 grand** for the new Service Center.

Twinkies Cake

As **Ruby Soutiere** and **Julie Ballou**, both of MSL, were preparing for their recent cookbook spots on *Read About It*, they found a cookbook called *The Twinkies Cookbook*.

Marilyn Backus, MSL, decided to try to make the "Twinkie Wedding Cake" as a prop for the TV segment.

But, according to Marilyn, it's a lot harder to wrap 27 individual

Twinkies in fondant (took hours!) and to assemble them in tiers than one would think.

"The fun part was decorating the assembled and covered cakes with ribbons and flowers cut from fondant," she said. So unless someone is going for the kitch appeal of the Twinkies, she recommends sticking with a "normal" wedding cake! And a no warning label should be attached to the recipe: Recommended only for the very patient or for those with an

enormous sweet tooth for Twinkies.



People

HELLO TO & RE-HIRES

Leslie Michelle Hindman Page, MC
 Kayhan Yazdani Page, CH
 April Zimmerman Page, HAR
 Catherine Wade Page, MC
 Shirley Wolf Circ Clerk, ED
 Rachel Hudson Page, ED
 Kathryn Brennan(no photo) Page, ED
 Shantel Love Page, DN
 Sharon Jane Taylor Librarian, LO
 Erica Rutland Assoc. Librarian, WA



Michelle Hindman



Kayhan Yazdani



April Zimmerman



Catherine Wade



Shirley Wolf



Rachel Hudson



Shantel Love



Jane Taylor



Erica Rutland

GOODBYE TO

Denise ReyesPage, WA
 Veronica Moore Page, CT
 Sharon NelsonPage, WA
 Gojie Luster Page, CT
 Kellie BertramPage, ED
 Jeanelle EcholsCirc Clerk, WA
 Pamela WiserCirc Clerk, WA

mew, mew, mew, meow! (that's kitten talk for "Let's Play!")

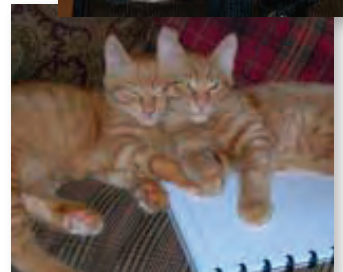
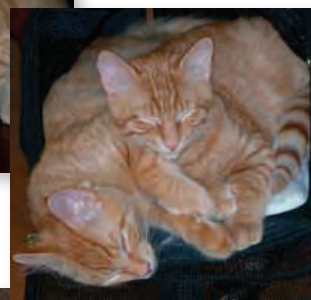
Have you been thinking about getting a new kitty or two? Well, look no further because I have the perfect kittens for you.

A little older than 3 months, already neutered and ready to play are "Simba (aka Simmie)" and "Moxie (aka Mr. Mox)."

They are oh so close and love

to play. Mr. Mox (medium length hair) is absolutely perfect and Simmie (short hair) just melts when you hold and pet him (and what a loud motor he has!).

They're still kittens, so they can be a little rambunctious. But I've pretty much stopped them from clawing on the furniture -- they love their scratching post and hate sprayed water (although Mr. Mox loves to play in the bathroom sink...go figure..). If interested, I have more pics and stories to share. I'm looking for a loving home before



Petsmart's adoption cages (they are part of Miss Kitty's Rescue Shelter; I'm just their proud foster mom.)

-Kim Terry, Mac, x3750



Sept. Birthdays

MARY L. STRASNER 9/1
TERESA R. MATTHEWS 9/1
DANIELLE D. WALKER 9/2
KIM ELLEN MACARTY 9/2
DEBORAH FAITH LEAL 9/2
AJAX S. C. DELVECKI 9/3
KATHRYN A. WILLIAMS 9/4
DARRIE J. BREATHWIT 9/6
PERRY A. WILSON 9/6
ELIZABETH SCHROEDER 9/8
JACQULYN J. TAYLOR 9/8
BURTON D. THURMOND 9/9
TULIN R. LAFOLLETTE 9/10
LANNY B. MYERS 9/11
PRISCILLA M. DOSS 9/12
CANDACE L. MCDANIEL 9/13
BARBARA JEAN O'DELL 9/13
CHERYL E. PERNELL 9/14
KENDRA M. WILLIAMS 9/14
VINCENT D. ARMIJO 9/14
RUBY J. SOUTIERE 9/15
KIMBERLY L. WADE 9/17
SAM G. HALE III 9/17
ROSEMARY G. RYDEN 9/19
ANGELA M. PAELTZ 9/19
LIANA C. MICH 9/22
TINDLE J. ARNOLD 9/26
JANA L. EATMON 9/26
JEANELLE M. ECHOLS 9/27
KAREN R. BRAY 9/27
DEBRA K. JACKSON 9/27
MARY ANN HUGGINS 9/27
KAREN L. MARRIOTT 9/28
JOYCELIN KAY CARINDER 9/29
MARYGRACE BERKOWITZ 9/30
ELIZABETH ANN SCOTT 9/30
DAVID WILLIAM FRENCH 9/30

Sept. Anniversaries

MARY J. PATTON 9/1/1971
KAREN L. MARRIOTT 9/6/1977
SUSIE L. BEASLEY 9/18/1978
FAYE HORN 9/10/1979
JO NITA WHITE 9/25/1981
PAMELA L. BRANDT 9/1/1982
ROSEMARY A. CZARSKI 9/13/1982
ALMA LOUISE BROWN 9/16/1982
KAY L. BAUMAN 9/27/1982
RUTH M. BUTLER 9/17/1984
PAMELA S. BUCHANAN 9/10/1985
NINA M. GINSTERBLUM 9/5/1989
SUSAN E. RYAN 9/13/1989
SHIRLEY J. HENDERSON 9/3/1991
CHESTER KINZIE, JR. 9/6/1994
JANA C. HAUSBURG 9/11/1995
DEBBIE E. ROBERTUS 9/11/1995
ANN L. MEEKS 9/11/1995
CRYSTAL L. SUPPES 9/25/1995
JOYCE A. HELMS 9/24/1996
MARCIA J. FINDEISS 9/20/1997
MARY E. TAYLOR 9/16/1999
JONATHAN D. ST.AUBIN 9/5/2000
LINDA A. FELTON 9/18/2000
ANGELA K. SANDERS 9/5/2001
D. DIANE SHARP 9/17/2001
SHARON GAYE MAY 9/2/2002
ELIZABETH M. NEWLAND 9/10/2002
THOMAS P. GALLAGHER 9/16/2002
MATTHEW E. EVANS 9/17/2002
VAN R. BIELSTEIN 9/17/2002
STUART H. WILLIAMSON 9/19/2002
EMILY R. WILLIAMS 9/2/2003
PRIYA M. DESAI 9/7/2003
BURTON D. THURMOND 9/16/2003
TERESA R. MATTHEWS 9/29/2003
MARY ANN JOHNSON 9/13/2004
CINDY S. FINNEGAN 9/13/2004
AJAX S. C. DELVECKI 9/17/2004
C. GEORGE NIEBANK, III 9/27/2004
JESSICA ANN PRIEBE 9/12/2005
LAUREN ASHTON ABRAM 9/14/2005
ELIZABETH D. HICKEY 9/17/2005
EMILY K. GREEN 9/19/2005

October Birthdays

SARAH JO LITRELL 10/1
SHELDON L. BEACH 10/1
LINDA A. TEMPLE 10/1
ANDREW R. TOLLY 10/2
REBECCA L. PETERS 10/3
LISA E. MYERS 10/4
KERRY STEWART HUBBS 10/5
JANET ENGSTRAND 10/5
VANESSA L. SNYDER 10/6
STACEY MARIE O'NEIL 10/6
KRISTIN KELLY BREWER 10/7
BARBARA K. BEASLEY 10/7
EVA F. PETEET 10/8
GEORGE M. MARSHALL 10/8
LAVETTA KINSEY DENT 10/9
SHARLOTT W. BROWN 10/11
CHERYL ANN COLEMAN 10/11
SHARON D. THOMPSON 10/14
JOSHUA H. WELLS 10/15
CASEY JO BEACH 10/15
FANNIE HARSHBARGER 10/16
CHRISTOPHER L. LARWIG 10/17
MARY R. MCELROY 10/18
RONDIA K. BANKS 10/18
TONDA FAME KELLY 10/19
MARYL BAIRD 10/19
PAULINE B. RODRIGUEZ 10/20
MARGARET ANGELES 10/20
RUTH M. BUTLER 10/23
KELLIE J. BRADFORD 10/25
DARLENE R. QUINN 10/26
HEIDI A. PORT 10/30
KRISTEN T. KEYSER 10/30
LINDA A. FELTON 10/30

October Anniversaries

JIMMY C. WELCH 10/22/70
FRANCIE L. PENDLETON 10/9/72
RUBY J. SOUTIERE 10/1/78
SHARON S. WENZL 10/7/81
STEVEN B. JENKINS 10/5/87
KAREN L. BAYS 10/2/92
REGINA D. KIRKHAM 10/4/93
CECIL L. PEADEN 10/18/93
JOANNE SCHNEIDER 10/24/94
DOROTHY E. DUNLAP 10/25/95
MARYGRACE BERKOWITZ 10/10/96
JOYCE L. TALLANT 10/6/98
LINDA J. HOLMBERG 10/22/98
ROBERT M. FERGUSON 10/2/99
RONDIA K. BANKS 10/4/99
LENA C. LOPER 10/5/99
MARYANN M. HEARD 10/18/99
LISA K. BRADLEY 10/22/99
KAREN A. LEHR 10/1/00
PATSY A. GLOVER 10/16/00
TODD S. OLBERDING 10/1/01
CHARLES S. ISAACS 10/1/01
CHRISTY M. O'BRIEN 10/9/01
RACHEL B. SMOOT 10/1/02
NICOLE E. CAMPBELL 10/1/02
SUSAN J HUTCHINS 10/7/02
CHERYL E. CHERRY 10/21/02
MELISSA K. WEATHERS 10/28/02
THUY THI MAI NGUYEN 10/30/02
CANDELARIA NUNEZ 10/28/03
ROSEMARY STAFFORD 10/4/04
SHELDON L. BEACH 10/5/04
JESSICA Y. LITTLE 10/12/04
REBECCA L. PETERS 10/12/04
WENDY J. GABRIELSON 10/13/04
ERICA Y. RUTLAND 10/21/04
LAURA PARKER 10/25/04
KRISTIN KELLY BREWER 10/2/04
PATRICIA RIVAS 10/26/04
KATHRYN F. HATFIELD 10/3/05
SARAH M. FRENCH 10/6/05
NICOLE E. BURESH 10/26/05
BENJAMIN B. JACOB 10/27/05
REBECCA JANE O'NEAL 10/31/05