

ShelfLife

Staff Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

December 2006

Outstanding Service Awards Congratulations to:



Jennifer Adkisson



Buddy Johnson



Tonda Kelley

ShelfLife would like to join the chorus of congratulations for the winners of the Outstanding Service Award at the recent Staff Recognition event. We send a tip of the hat and a request for a small but long term loan to:

Jennifer Adkisson
Circ Clerk at The Village

Buddy Johnson
Librarian at Downtown

Tonda Kelly
Page at Edmond

And did you know that the party pics from the Annual Staff Recognition event are available for perusal on the Internet? Here's how you access them:

1. Go to this website:
WWW.PICTURETHISPHOTO.COM
2. Click on VIEW PROOFS
3. Type in the password BOOKS

And there you are.

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

Staff Recognition 2006

Party With the Stars



25 Years of Service: Anne Fischer, IT, and JoNita White, Harrah.



20 Years of Service: Deanna Biddle, BI, Karen Bray, MTC, and Denesa Yost, WA.

On the evening of Saturday, Nov. 4, MLS employees gathered at The Centre to honor library employees year's of service and to give the outstanding service awards to three deserving staff members.

The evening's theme was *Party With the Stars - Oscar Night*. A thank you goes to Human Resources for identifying photos of employees.



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

Staff Recognition 2006

Party With the Stars



15 Years of Service: Shirley Henderson, MC, Kelley Dalrymple, and Julie Schofield, SO.



10 Years of Service: Deborah Willis, MC, Rosemary Ryden, BE, Susan Monroe, MC, Darlene Browsers, DN, Joyce Helms, LO, Mary-Grace Berkowitz, CAT, and Karen Litteral, WA.



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

Staff Recognition 2006

Party With the Stars



5 Years of Service: Juanita Mendoza, TP, Teresa Goggins, PLA, Steven Isaacs, IT, Mary McElroy, BI, Lisa Wood, OUT, John Wood, IT, Christy O'Brien, Bus Ofc., Carol Hunter, ED, Diane Sharp, ED, Teri Redenbaugh, DC, and John Hilbert, SO.

MLS Dress Code Updated

It's here and it's ready to be read. It's the re-vamped, fashion-conscious version of the MLS Dress Code.

Check it out online in the Policies and Procedures database. It's short and easy to follow, with examples of do's and don'ts so there is less chance that confusion will arise.

"We've been working on it for quite a while now," said MLS Marketing Manager Kim Terry, "and have asked lot's of people to take a look at it.

"The main thing is, we wanted to bring

it up to date and make sure it was in line with fashion trends while still maintaining a professional image."

So if you worry about turning into Marian the Librarian, take a look at the new Dress Code and find out what an acceptable, professional look is for MLS.





Page-Nation...The Life of a Page

You remember the children's song that begins, "The wheels on the bus go 'round and 'round..." Without the wheels, the bus sits in one place, like an obsolete bookmobile.

For every MLS library, the wheels are the Pages. These are the folks who arrive at work long before the doors open. If they weren't on hand to keep the flow of books and other library media flowing, the doors might not open at all.

"These are the staff who get it done," said DN librarian **Tracy Stone**. "They get here early and start pulling books off the shelves to fill reserves, then they fill and route the reserves, and when the books come back again, they are the ones who put them back on the shelves for the next customer."



They stay busy and many of them are in constant motion, pushing trucks from Mystery to Science Fiction, and then over to mainstream Fiction. There's time to have fun, but they want to get as much done as possible before the customers enter the building at 9 a.m.

"Our jobs vary," said DN page **Tom Gallagher**, "but I stay pretty busy in the shelves. Right now, we've had a large incoming of books, probably because of the Thanksgiving holiday. Somedays it's not so busy."

As he talks, he moves his truck down the row of novels.

"I like mostly working with books because I'm a book junky. Besides, I've been trained to help out at the Circ Desk but it's been so long since I did it, I'd probably have to be re-trained if they asked me to do it."

"I've worked in the library for years but I always manage to find something on

the shelves I've never seen before. One of the things that's fun is coming across a book I haven't read since high school, and taking it home to re-read and finding out how my perception of it has changed."

As we were talking, a member of the Ad Team passed by and added a comment and chatted with Tom. "I can vouch for the Pages. They do good work and they do it cheerfully."



With any luck, the wheels of this bus will never fall off. If they do, we're all coming to a screeching halt.

Dale Carnegie Outstanding Performance Award —Congratulations Traci Jinkens!

ShelfLife congratulates **Traci Jinkens**, MLS Development Specialist, for her recent win of a Dale Carnegie Outstanding Performance Award.

Traci has been taking a class from Dale Carnegie Training and on Oct. 31, 2006, was voted the award by the members of her class. The award reads in part:

"Traci Jinkens has distinguished herself

and her company by joining the select group of award winners. This recognition was earned because of a determination and a strong desire for self-improvement."

"You have reason to be proud of this individual,"



wrote Ron Moore, President of Dale Carnegie Training, "as awards in [these courses] do not come easily."

Our thanks to **Ernestine Clark** for bringing this to our attention.



Leave or No Leave

Human Resources is the final arbiter of whether or not an episode of staff illness makes the staff member eligible for unpaid FMLA sick leave, but part-time staffers need to know that they might be able to use FMLS leave if they meet certain requirements.

"Sometimes Supervisors and staff think that part-time employees



are exempt from FMLA leave and this is not always the case," said MLS Benefits Specialist **Denise Courts**. "Everyone is eligible for unpaid FMLA leave, whether they earn other leave or not, if they qualify according to the following standards:

— have worked for the employer for at least 12 months

— have worked at least 1,250 hours during the 12 months prior to the start of the FMLA leave

"If a Supervisor's not sure if an employee qualifies, s/he can always call me or **Kelley Hoffman** and we can check eligibility. If any employee is going to be away from work more than three days for him/herself, child, spouse, or parent, it is a good rule of thumb to call us to determine eligibility."

Denise can be reached by calling 606-3742.



Looking Down on Creation

Pete Roberson is the Maintenance Tech at the Downtown Library. He's tall—6'5". He's tall, that is, unless he's standing next to his son, P.J. Then he's not so tall.

P.J. is a member of the "Seven-Foot Club." He's 7' even.

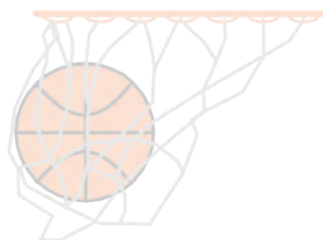
"He's 16 years old," his dad told us, "and a junior at Heritage Hall. And yes, he plays basketball and he's getting better all the time."

"Oklahoma Tipoff" wrote of P.J., "Look for big things from Roberson, who will be a major force in the middle after averaging more than eight blocks a game this summer."

He got the height from his dad, but not the skill to play the game.

"Naw, I don't play basketball, but he likes it. He hasn't gotten any scholarship offers yet, but he has gotten letters of interest from Cornell, TCU, Wichita State, Bucknell and four or five other colleges. He likes O-State and would go there if he could."

ShelfLife wishes P.J. the best of luck. We'll let you know if any other staff members is related to a member of the Seven-Foot Club, but it'll be a tall order.



An MLS Tip of the Hat

Next time you see or speak with someone from Human Resources, please make sure you thank him or her for doing what needed to be done in order to secure a 4% COL raise next year for the MLS staff.

HUM looks out for us in ways we never hear



about, so it would be nice if they heard from us. Thanks, guys. We appreciate you.



Out of the Mouths of Babes

Many of us have just spent a long weekend with our families and those of us who are reading this have lived to tell the tale. We say every year that next time we'll find an excuse for avoiding everyone—I rejoiced the year I broke my wrist and decided to stay home. Perhaps if we paid attention to the youngest kids at the party, who are the ones who really seem to know what's what, we'd learn something.



Here is something a staff member sent to us. Glean what wisdom from it you can.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED

—No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.

—When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.

—If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.

—Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.

—You can't trust dogs to watch your food.

—Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.

—Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.

—You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.

—Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.

—The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.

Periodically Yours

Still looking for holiday gifts? How about something to read? Something to read that keeps on coming all year long?

Don't forget that gift and personal magazines subscriptions are still available—through Jan. 2, 2007—from our friends at Ebsco / Vulcan. Most of the subscriptions are 50% off the regular subscription price, and that is always less than the cost at the newsstand. This is an outstanding opportunity to re-sub to some of your favorite mags, and try out some new ones as well.

Susan Ryan, MLS Materials Selector, sent out an email with the list of magazines available through this offer. If you didn't get to see it, ask if it is still in someone's email file at your location.



People

HELLO TO

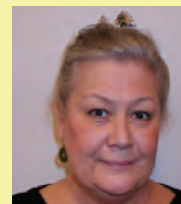
Jerod Gerfen.....	Outreach Asst., OUT
Sandra Gonzaga.....	Circ Clerk, ED
Brenda Stockton-Hiss.....	Tech. Asst., BI
Li "Lily" Wang	Tech. Asst., MC
Harry Hoang.....	Tech. Asst., BI
Jonathan Shirley	Page, WA
Samuel Richards	Assoc. Librarian, MC
Breanne Ford.....	Page, BE



Jerod Gerfen



Sandra Gonzaga



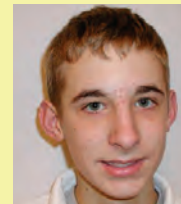
Brenda Stockton-Hiss



Li "Lily" Wang



Harry Hoang



Jonathan Shirley



Samuel Richards



Breanne Ford

PROMOTIONS

John Utley.....From IT Tech II, to Computer Operations Supervisor, IT

TRANSFER

Cheryll Smith	From Assoc. Librarian., MC to SO
Mary Sholly	From Circ Clerk 1/2 Time, to Full Time, WA
Melissa O'Neil	From Librarian, PT Time, LO, to Full Time, VI

GOODBYE TO

Hollie Hire.....	Page, BE
Kristin Keyser.....	Page, ED
Aaron White.....	Page, DC
Josh Montgomery	Circ Clerk, SO
Sandra Effinger.....	Page, DC
Elizabeth Hickey.....	Circ Clerk, SO
Elizabeth Scott.....	Page, DC
Joshua Wells	Circ Clerk, SO
Sharon Montley.....	Page, DC
Ray Lira	Page, DC
Michelle Porter	Circ Clerk, SO
Elizabeth Scott.....	Page, DC
Nicole Campbell	Circ Clerk, SO

CONGRATULATIONS

To **Josh Schell**, VI, and Misty Schell, whose son Jackson Samuel was born Nov. 6, six pounds and nine ounces.

Congratulations also to **Teresa Goggins**, PLA, and Monray Goggins, whose son Joshua was born Sept. 5.

And congrats also to **Carol Moody**, VI, whose great grandson, Van Rhett Moody, was born Oct. 23. His parents, grandparents and great grandparents all live in Oklahoma City, Carol says.

Congrats also to **Denyvetta Davis** who was elected to the Executive Board of BCALA.

SYMPATHY

To **Angie Paeltz**, Luther, whose daughter Kay Geiman, passed away. Angie's daughter lived in Kansas.

December Birthdays

GEORGE NIEBANK, III	12/1
CHRISTOPHER CARROLL	12/1
EMILY K. GREEN	12/2
KIMBERLY A. RICKEY	12/2
ABOLGHADEM SIAVASHI	12/3
MEGAN E. SMITH	12/3
MARY A. MAHAN	12/5
CHARLEEN K. MILLER	12/6
JO NITA WHITE	12/7
SHARON B. MOTLEY	12/8
DEBORAH MONTGOMERY	12/9
VICTORIA DIXON	12/10
LAUREN ASHTON ABRAM	12/11
ALICIA M. RUZYCKI	12/12
TRACI N. JINKENS	12/12
FAYE HORN	12/12
LORETTA G. FRANTZ	12/15
B. J. WILLIAMS	12/17
ROSEMARY A. CZARSKI	12/18
MARILYN CONLEY	12/20
SUSAN K. BECKETT	12/20
REGINALD WALKER	12/21
TERI LYNN WOOLEY	12/22
JENNIFER ADKISSON	12/22
ANGELA K. SANDERS	12/22
MATILDE ISABEL OLIVERA	12/22
DOUGLAS G. BENTIN	12/22
SHARON S. WENZL	12/23
JESSIE C. BISHOP	12/24
MARY E. TAYLOR	12/27
KIMBERLY A. EDWARDS	12/28
PHILLIP E. TOLBERT	12/28
VERONICA BERNAL	12/30

Employee's Date-of-Hire for December

DARLENE R. QUINN	12/4/79
SHARLOTT BROWN	12/2/80
DOUGLAS G. BENTIN	12/26/85
LOUISA M. SMITH	12/13/88
ROSEMARY G. RYDEN	12/3/96
EDWARD AHAD MARAND	12/1/97
JOSHUA N. SCHELL	12/12/97
JOAN G. KENDALL	12/20/99
SHARON D. THOMPSON	12/11/00
GAIL GARLOCH	12/26/00
DIANE RICE	12/23/02
KRISTEN T. KEYSER	12/26/02
ANGELA K. RUPEL	12/7/03
REGINALD WALKER	12/30/04
RICHARD ANTONISSE	12/12/05
MELISSA S. O'NEIL	12/12/05
PAIGE ALLYSON NIFONG	12/19/05
BARBARA JEAN O'DELL	12/19/05



January Birthdays

LAURIE F. MACK-CLARK	1/2
FRANCES K. SAMARIPA	1/3
RANDY E. WAYLAND	1/4
URSULA A. WARD	1/5
BRADLEY S. MCCOY	1/5
RENA M. GIBSON	1/6
SALLY K. PHILLIPS	1/7
DENISE A. LUKES	1/7
CAROL MOODY	1/8
CECIL L. PEADEN	1/9
LI WANG	1/10
PAT WHISENHUNT	1/10
PETER L. ROBERSON	1/12
RICH ANTONISSE	1/14
JONATHAN ST.AUBIN	1/14
STEVEN B. JENKINS	1/14
MARCIA J. FINDEISS	1/14
TODD S. OLBERDING	1/18
BEVERLY K. PHILLIPS	1/18
RONNA C. DAVIS	1/19
JOE J. POE	1/19
HELEN J SHELTON	1/19
GLENN E. WEBB JR	1/19
EVELYN K. DAVIS	1/20
JOHN LEROY HILBERT	1/21
DANA M. PHILLIPS	1/21
NICOLE E. BURESH	1/21
JESSICA ANN PRIEBE	1/21
KATHY S. MARQUIS	1/22
NGOC KIM NGUYEN	1/24
JOAN G. KENDALL	1/26
SUSAN M. MONROE	1/30
CHESTER L. LOVELY	1/31

Employee's Date-of-Hire for January

CAROL PROVINCE	1/6/1975	CHRISTINE R. BASSETT	1/25/1999	BETH K. STEELMAN	1/18/2005
KATRINA B. PRINCE	1/6/1985	BOBBIE KAY BREWER	1/11/2001	CASEY JO BEACH	1/31/2005
NANCY J. LYTLE	1/22/1985	TIMOTHY D. HANNA	1/16/2001	DEBORAH FAITH LEAL	1/31/2005
ELIZABETH HOLSHOUSER	1/21/1987	JENNIFER ADKISSON	1/7/2002	JONATHAN E. WILLIS JR.	1/4/2006
SYLVIA A. LAWSON	1/24/1989	SHARON G. BISH	1/7/2002	JONITA NORMORE	1/4/2006
ERIC G. KING	1/9/1990	LAURA MCMURTRY	1/23/2002	REAGAN D. BOCKHOLD	1/4/2006
JAMES E. NIMMO, JR	1/18/1993	LAQUETA L. LEWIS	1/29/2002	LYNDA G. TONEY BAHR	1/4/2006
LOVINIA M. NICHOLS	1/5/1994	KELLEY E. HOFFMAN	1/21/2003	JESSICA LEIGH MICHAEL	1/6/2006
GREGORY W. BENNETT	1/21/1997	CHESTER L. LOVELY	1/12/2004	ELIZABETH SCHROEDER	1/30/2006
DENISE A. LUKES	1/5/1998	RYAN BLAINE TAYLOR	1/20/2004	LIANA C. MICH	1/30/2006
TIMOTHY D. FISHER	1/26/1998	PATRICK D. WILLIAMS	1/20/2004	MARIA LUISA REYES	1/30/2006
BUDDY G. JOHNSON	1/26/1998	SHARON JANE TAYLOR	1/27/2004	MARK DANIEL VANCE	1/30/2006
LISA L. WALKER	1/26/1998	KIM ELLEN MACARTY	1/1/2005	JOHN ELLIS-ETCHISON	1/30/2006
VICTORIA E. DIXON	1/26/1998	SAMUEL G. WEEHUNT	1/3/2005	ANNA N. TODD	1/31/2006
KATHY L. FRITSCH	1/27/1998				