

ShelfLife

Staff Newsletter of the Metropolitan Library System

August 2007

Library Commission Update

Since not all MLS staff can attend our commission meetings or access the commission reports on the internet as frequently as they would like, we thought it might be a good idea to give a periodic update of what's been going on with the commission.

Commission Member Appointments

Recently, Cynthia Trent (Del City) and Shirley Pritchett (Warr Acres) resigned as commission members. MLS still hasn't received word as to their replacements.

Judy Smith was reappointed for her first three year term as the Village representative. She was previously appointed to fill the unexpired term of **Peggy Winters**.

We have several newly appointed commission members due to the recently passed House Bill 2192. This bill mandates that a commission member be appointed from every town in the county where a library is located (within counties of a population of 600,000 or more).

Newly appointed members are:


Glenda Choate, representative for Jones, effective July 31- serving a three year term.

Margaret Graham, representative for Luther, effective July 31- serving a three year term.

Alyne Strube, representative for Choctaw. Strube served on the Commission previously as the at-large member appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

As for the OKC appointments:

- **Dr. Ann Caine**, reappointed, term expiring 07/31/09
- **Penny McCaleb**, reappointed, term expiring 07/31/08
- **Marguerite Ross**, reappointed, term expiring 07/31/08
- **Carolyn Cornelius**, reappointed, term expiring 07/31/10

We expect the other appointments and reappointments for OKC to be announced soon. 

Appraisal Process to be "Appraised"

At its July meeting, the Commission approved the bid of Right Management of Houston, TX, to develop a new Performance Appraisal System. Right Management is an international career transition and human resources consulting firm with client companies in over 300 global locations.

Primary goals of the project are to improve on the potential for individual managers to interpret the rating scales, and to improve on the lack of standardization in accountability for all employees performing the same job across managers and across locations.

"Re-evaluating how to make job appraisals is something companies do every few years," said MLS Employment Manager Roy Ballou. "The Commission asked us to look into this about a year and a half ago and it's taken this long to find a company that is a good fit for MLS."

Right Management will be looking to see how we do appraisals now, and they'll be taking suggestions about how we can improve. Representatives will be interviewing MLS staff for information and suggestions.

"They'll be looking for what they call 'Subject Matter Experts,'" Roy said. "These will be different staff members depending on job classification. For

See Appraisals, page 3

HOO-RAH! Pat on the Back

Congrats to the staff at **BI, BE, ED, RE** and **LU**!! The staff of ShelfLife is "checking you out" because you had GREAT GAINS in your juvenile circulation numbers over the same month last year (June 2006 vs. June 2007)!!!

And for you at **ED, SO, WA, LU** and **WR** -- Woo Hoo! We've singled you out because we think that you had great

WAY TO GO!

increases in Adult Circulation over the previous year in June!!

Who can forget about computer usage??? Not the staff of ShelfLife. **DC, HR, JN, LU, WR** --- 0010 10 001100101!! (That's computer-language for "Wow! Your computer usage was way up over last June!!")

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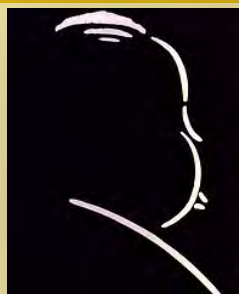
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News ... People ... News ...

NEW FEATURE ALERT



MYSTERY PERSON

Can YOU solve the identity of this mystery staff person?

Watch each month for a different person to identify.

Here are the clues for this person's favorites:

- Fav Sport to Watch:** High school football
Fav Movie: *Pirate's of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl*
Fav Music: Likes anything, except Jazz and Opera
Fav Music Group: The Beatles
Fav President: Abraham Lincoln
Fav TV Show: High end: Seinfeld,
Low end: Reno 911
Fav Food: Hamburgers
Fav Season: Summer
Fav Hobbie: Restoring a Wooden Boat
Fav Book(s): *Death by Black Hole*,
by Neil deGrasse Tyson
The Elegant Universe, by Brian Greene
A Short History of Nearly Everything,
by Bill Bryson
Fav Vacation: First two years of college
Wants to do before he dies: Learn Spanish

See answer on page 7

Who Knows???

We need your help. We're looking for common questions that you frequently get from customers.

Computer signup? Selection of materials? Food or drink in the libraries? Safety tips for parents? Stuff like that. {These are just questions to get your brain thinking.}

Tell us your question(s). Just email Kim Terry at kterry@metrolibrary.org.

2006: Top Year for MLS

You guys are fantastic!!!

Because of your giving, MLS gained the largest percentage of all non-profit gifts for the United Way of Central

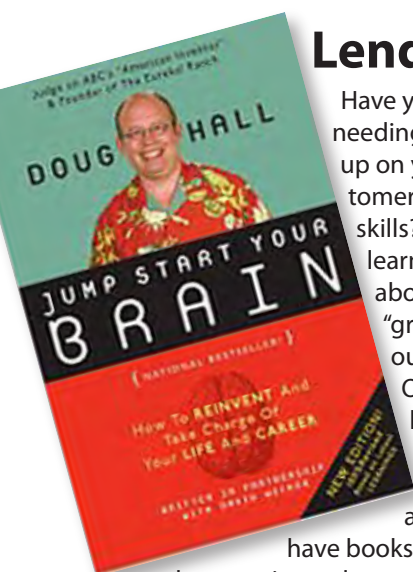
Oklahoma this past year!! We were also the SECOND LARGEST contributor of all non-profits for UWCO! Wow!

And be on the look-out for United Way, coming in September. **Heidi Port** and her committee are thinking up some great games and prizes for the United Way campaign.

See next month's ShelfLife for a list of daily fun and games!



Lending Library Review: *How to Jumpstart Your Brain*



Have you been needing to brush up on your Customer Service skills? How about learning more about the "graying" of our society? Or do you have trouble dealing with a foreign accent? We have books that address these topics and more! Just go to

the Resources section of the intranet and check out the titles by clicking on "Planning Lending Library".

Check out this book soon by emailing planning!
How to Jumpstart your Brain by Doug Hall and David Wecker

Excerpts of a review from Publishers Weekly:
The techniques for jump-starting your brain are wacky as presented here by freelancer Wecker and Hall, founder of the Richard Saunders International Eureka! Mansion in Cincinnati, Ohio, home of the Eureka! Stimulus Response learning system, which taps into your B.O.S., or Brain Operating System. (If you're won-

dering why a guy named Hall would call his school Richard Saunders? it was Benjamin Franklin's pen name). Frequently quoting Franklin and Hall's five-year-old daughter Kristyn, the authors set about turning readers into Trained Brains. They suggest you become adventurous ("Have dinner at the fourteenth restaurant listed in the yellow pages"), believe in magic, analyze yourself (do you see yourself as sophisticated? boring?) and relax your dressing style ("Wearing a tie to a Eureka! Stimulus Response effort is a hanging offense").



Appraisals

Continued from Page 1

example, to work on appraisals for circ clerks, they'll talk to several circ clerks at different locations."

No date has been set yet to begin. The contracts are still being finalized, but HUM has sent Right Management copies of our current appraisal forms so they can review how we do it now.

"We want to streamline the process and make sure that employees know what they need to do in order to improve job performance," Roy added.

DID YOU KNOW



Programmers who enter programs into the mlsEvents Webcalendar, can add new clip-art type graphics to their online entry just by e-mailing **Teresa Goggins**, webmaster, or **Kellie Bradford**, Planning Assistant. They can find something usually within 8 hours!



Fingerprints Staff Profile



Sam Richards—he's someone you can count on to get things done, he's enthusiastic, a hard worker, is very well-liked by his teens, and by staff. That's what manager of LO **Deb Willis** said about Sam Richards. Sam, who began working at MLS last October after working for the Denver Public Library for two years, is a young adult librarian at the Midwest City Library.

Reading (latest is *The Golden Compass*), video gaming (World of War Craft online, when he has time), and travel are among Sam's hobbies. In September he's traveling to Rome with his wife Kathleen who is delivering art work there for the Fred Jones Jr. Museum.

To work with teens, Sam says, you have to find a common ground —like video games and books they enjoy reading. And on July 30, Sam will bond with teens in another way —he will shave his head, (the teens will help him) meeting an agreement he made with his teen volunteers —if they signed up 300 (or 10 to 15 percent over last year's sign-up) more kids for 2007 Summer at the Library. They signed up 360.

And on July 30 Sam goes under the shaver. "I trust my kids (teens) a lot, but not with a razor blade!" said Sam.

Male Bonding

With all the brouhaha surrounding the End of Civilization As We Know It (aka the publication of the final Harry Potter book), it may have slipped by you that the holders of the James Bond copyright selected literary novelist Sebastian Faulks to write a new Bond novel.

And almost assuredly you missed a story in the TimesOnline about some techno-wizards in England using a technique called "prototyping" to

combine photos of the seven actors original Bond author Ian Fleming suggested to play the world's most famous spy in the first Bond film.

Take a look at the prototyped picture to see the face Fleming had in mind.

You may need either an interest in film history or the assistance of the Internet Movie Database to recognize the seven—Cary Grant, David Niven, James Mason, Patrick

James Bond fans.. read on!

McGoohan, Rex Harrison, Richard Burton and Stewart Granger—but adding up their features and dividing by seven gives you the face of Bond. James Bond.



James Bond prototype

by seven gives you the face of Bond. James Bond.



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

Harry Potter and the Premature Spoiler-not here!

You may have heard that Scholastic Press is suing the *Baltimore Sun* and the *New York Times* for breaking an embargo and publishing reviews of the new and final Harry Potter novel before the book was officially released at 12:01 am on July 21.

But did you know that even MLS' Materials Selection department was being watched by Scholastic's Potter Patrol?

"Janet (Brooks) and I both had to sign agreements that no one here would read the book before it went into the bookstores," said Materials Selector **Julie Ballou**. Julie selects books on tape and CD; Janet selects children's books.

"If we let anyone see or listen to the book before publication, we'd be put on a list and I guess the next time a big book was due to come out, we'd have to wait until it was actually being sold before we could receive it for processing."

The first Potter book had an initial print run of 1,000 copies. This new one saw 12

million copies out on July 21.

As of 3:45 pm on July 21, we had had 997 reserves placed on the book and 339 reserves on the recording of the book on CD. Janet and Julie had already had to place

orders for more copies of each, increasing the book order from 208 to 320 copies, and the CD order from 63 to 86.

Makes you wish you'd taken that creative writing class in school, doesn't it?



Now's Your Chance

Ask Donna!

Do you ever wish you had the chance to have a good ol' sit-down chat with Executive Director **Donna Morris**, just to find out if any of those rumors you've been hearing are true? (Note: most of them aren't.)

ShelfLife is giving you the chance to do just that, almost. If you have any questions for Donna, just send them our way via e-mail to dbentin@metrolibrary.org or, if you prefer that we not know who's asking, route them to us. We will pass them along to Donna. Please keep all correspondence in good taste—this is a work-related project.

We're primarily looking for questions on topics that would be of general interest to a large percentage of the staff.

The Words for the Day Are

In the mystery novel *Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?* everyone in town uses the word "tossed" when talking about a room that's been searched messily.

(as in "Someone broke into my bedroom and tossed it.") Every profession has its own jargon, including burglary.

Here are a couple of words from the world of publishing with which you may

"Traditionally the terms recto and verso are used for the front and back of a papyrus . . .

not be familiar despite the fact that they are the names of two very common things.

Do you know what the front side of a printed sheet of paper, which would be the right-hand page of an open book, is called? How about the back side, or the page on

the left? Formally—very formally—the front side is the recto and the back side is the verso. We always thought that the page with the copyright information was

the verso, but no, verso is any page on the left side of the book.

"Traditionally the terms recto and verso are used for the front and back of a papyrus when it is used in the regular manner... Egyptologists in general adhere to the use of recto and verso." T. G. H. James, *Pharaoh's People* (2007)

Impress your friends if, unlike people who write smart-alecky pieces for newsletters, you have any.

People

HELLO TO

Ha Tran	Youth Asst., OUT
Anne Motley	Page, CT
Elizabeth Fischer	Page, CT
Miranda Gutierrez	Page, SO
Bryan Smythe	Security Officer, DN

PROMOTION

Harry Hoang	From Tech Asst., BI, to Librarian, DN
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TRANSFER

Darlene Browsers	From Full Time Librarian, to Half Time, DN
Nick Pittman	From Part Time, Security Officer, to Half Time, DN

GOODBYE TO

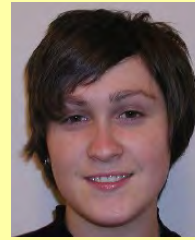
Bobbie Brewer	Circ Clerk, CT
Mike Ferguson	Security Officer, DN
Deborah Martinez-Thompson	Computer Operator, IT
Laura Parker	Page, ED
Rosa Cantu	Circ Clerk, WA
Rebecca Prince	Page, DC

SYMPATHY

To Ursula Ward, Documents Cataloger, whose mother, Martine Ward, passed away July 4.
Sympathy also to Kay Bauman, LO, whose grandmother died July 24.



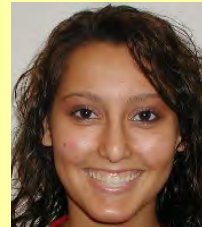
Ha Tran



Anne Motley



Elizabeth Fischer



Miranda Gutierrez



Bryan Smythe

CONGRATULATIONS

To Del City Manager Melissa Weathers and her husband, Bruce on the birth of their son, Noah Weathers, born July 11.

Congrats also to Frank Ray, Bus. Ofc., whose daughter Jennifer Keenum had a baby girl Feb. 26.

MARKETPLACE

WANTED: Used Clothes Dryer that works! Or name of appliance repair man!! call or email Kim Terry in MaC (x3750).

August Birthdays

BARBARA A. JOHNSON	8/1	◇	ANGELA L. HILL	8/9	◇	JESSICA Y. LITTLE	8/23
LYNDA G. TONEY BAHR	8/1	◇	JOYCE MCAULEY-JOHNSON	8/9	◇	LINDA LEE HYAMS	8/25
CAROL L. PROVINE	8/3	◇	JONATHAN SHIRLEY	8/9	◇	PAMELA K. KOSTED	8/25
LONDON D. HOLMAN	8/3	◇	JOSHUA H. GERNER	8/9	◇	KARMEN QUEITA HARVEY	8/25
BRENDA STOCKTON-HISS	8/3	◇	JONITA NORMORE	8/10	◇	THUY THI MAI NGUYEN	8/25
JAMES E. NIMMO, JR	8/3	◇	KAREN A. LEHR	8/11	◇	BRITTANY MARIE BARBER	8/27
DAGMAR M. PEERY	8/4	◇	JAMES B. GORDON	8/12	◇	ANN G. ALIOTTA	8/28
JILL L. VESSELS	8/4	◇	SYLVIA A. LAWSON	8/13	◇	VIVIAN A. STEVENSON	8/28
CHESTER KINZIE, JR.	8/4	◇	ANITA F. ROESLER	8/13	◇	TIMOTHY D. FISHER	8/29
RACHEL B. SMOOT	8/5	◇	FRANCIE L. PENDLETON	8/13	◇	LOIS F. CROSS	8/29
NIKKIE LEANN BUFFORD	8/5	◇	LAURA MCMURTRY	8/13	◇	ELIZABETH WILSON	8/29
SHARON A. NOLAN	8/5	◇	ERICA Y. RUTLAND	8/13	◇	TERESA GOGGINS	8/29
KATRINA B. PRINCE	8/6	◇	MARYANN M. HEARD	8/14	◇	JESSICA HANLAN-PROCHAZKA	8/29
REGINA M. WOLFINGER	8/7	◇	ALICE CARMEN MADDOX	8/14	◇	JOHN W. ELLIS-ETCHISON	8/30
ANNA N. TODD	8/7	◇	LINDA J. JAMESON	8/14	◇	JOYCE A. HELMS	8/30
KELLY M. DALRYMPLE	8/7	◇	BOBBIE KAY BREWER	8/15	◇	WENDY J. GABRIELSON	8/30
SAMUEL V. RICHARDS	8/7	◇	SUSIE L. BEASLEY	8/18	◇	KAY L. BAUMAN	8/31
KATHY L. FRITSCH	8/8	◇	VAN R. BIELSTEIN	8/21	◇	BETH K. STEELMAN	8/31
LINDA A. ELSTON	8/9	◇	CRYSTAL DAWN ROPER	8/22	◇	JONATHAN E. WILLIS JR.	8/31
KATHRYN M. DUNN	8/9	◇	JEAN M. WILBURN	8/22	◇	BRENDA ANN HAMMONS	8/31

Employee's Date-of-Hire for August

PRISCILLA M. DOSS	8/1/1972
CHERYL E. PERNELL	8/1/1979
PHILLIP E. TOLBERT	8/9/1982
SHARON L. MAINE	8/17/1982
BARBARA K. BEASLEY	8/1/1984
SHARON A. NOLAN	8/29/1989
KARMEN QUEITA HARVEY	8/21/1991
KELLY M. DALRYMPLE	8/26/1991
GALEN R. KURTH	8/30/1993
JULIA ANN BALLOU	8/30/1993
JACQULYN J. TAYLOR	8/29/1994
DEBORAH J. WILLIS	8/31/1996
KAREN L. LITTERAL	8/31/1996
KATHLEEN LAUGERMAN	8/4/1997
GLENN E. WEBB JR	8/25/1997
FREDERICK R. WILSON	8/10/1998
JANET E. BOWEN	8/25/1999
STEPHANIE D. GERLING	8/14/2000
SAISRI MCCORMICK	8/21/2000
DAVID L. CALHOUN	8/1/2001
KIM L. COBB	8/9/2001
JOHN D. WOOD	8/27/2001
FANNIE HARSHBARGER	8/10/2002
SHARON DAVIS JORSKI	8/10/2002
GERALD W. HICKMAN	8/10/2002
BARBARA A. JOHNSON	8/19/2002
NGOC KIM NGUYEN	8/3/2004
WIMFORD MARTIN	8/16/2004
KEVIN D. COLWELL	8/30/2004
BARBARA M. PARR	8/1/2005
SAM G. HALE III	8/1/2005
KELLIE J. BRADFORD	8/1/2005
ANGELA L. HILL	8/2/2005
TERRIE LUCILLE THOMAS	8/8/2005
VIVIAN A. STEVENSON	8/15/2005
ELIZABETH WILSON	8/14/2006
STORMY DAWN LEE	8/28/2006

September 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
MEGAN MICHELLE ADKINS	9/3
KATHRYN A. WILLIAMS	9/4
RIKKI D. MARTIN	9/5
DARRIE J. BREATHWIT	9/6
PERRY A. WILSON	9/6
JACQULYN J. TAYLOR	9/8
BURTON D. THURMOND	9/9
JUSTIN L. MAGDELLINI	9/9
TULIN R. LAFOLLETTE	9/10
JAMELLE KEERON NAFF	9/10
MINOO DOLATABADI	9/11
LANNY B. MYERS	9/11
PRISCILLA M. DOSS	9/12
CANDACE LEE MCDANIEL	9/13
BARBARA JEAN O'DELL	9/13
CHERYL E. PERNELL	9/14
KENDRA 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
SHIRLEY ANN WOLF	9/21
LIANA C. MICH	9/22
TINDLE J. ARNOLD	9/26
KAREN R. BRAY	9/27
DEBRA K. JACKSON	9/27
KAREN L. MARRIOTT	9/28
JOYCELIN KAY CARINDER	9/29
DAVID WILLIAM FRENCH	9/30

Employee's Date-of-Hire for September

MARY J. PATTON	9/1/1971
KAREN L. MARRIOTT	9/6/1977
SUSIE L. BEASLEY	9/18/1978
FAYE HORN	9/10/1979
JONITA WHITE	9/25/1981
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
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
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
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
BURTON D. THURMOND	9/16/2003
TERESA R. MATTHEWS	9/29/2003
MARY ANN JOHNSON	9/13/2004
AJAX S. C. DELVECKI	9/17/2004
C. GEORGE NIEBANK, III	9/27/2004
LAUREN ASHTON ABRAM	9/14/2005
EMILY K. GREEN	9/19/2005
CHRISTOPHER CARL CADE	9/11/2006
PENELOPE GREER BIRD	9/11/2006
JAMES R. SANDERS	9/11/2006
MATILDE ISABEL OLIVERA	9/18/2006
NICOLE DAWN CHANEY	9/26/2006
BRITTANY MARIE BARBER	9/28/2006

Mystery Person Is:

Lloyd Lovely,
Deputy Director
of Finance and
Support

Libraries Have Been Everywhere

Todd Olberding, our Director of Construction Management, sent us notice of something on a Web site we think everyone in the MLS family will enjoy. The address is: <http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/weve-been-everywhere>

"It's a three minute history of the library," Todd said, accompanied by the one and only Johnny Cash. Take a look and you'll know that libraries have been everywhere, man.