



ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

July 2008

The Warren and the IT Dept.

Many of us have said that we'd like to take in a movie at the new Warren Theatre in Moore, with its plush seating and food delivered right to you while you watch the movie. Most of us don't get that kind of service even at home, where our requests for a sandwich and a soda are answered by yelps of "Get it yourself!"

But recently the IT staff was treated to an evening at the Warren as a reward for a job well done. The job? The conversion to the new MLS RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) system in record time. A project that was originally hoped to be completed by the end of the year was finished in record time, and as a show of appreciation Deputy Executive Director/Technology **Jimmy Welch** and Director of Information Technology **Anne Fischer** treated their crew to a night at the movies.

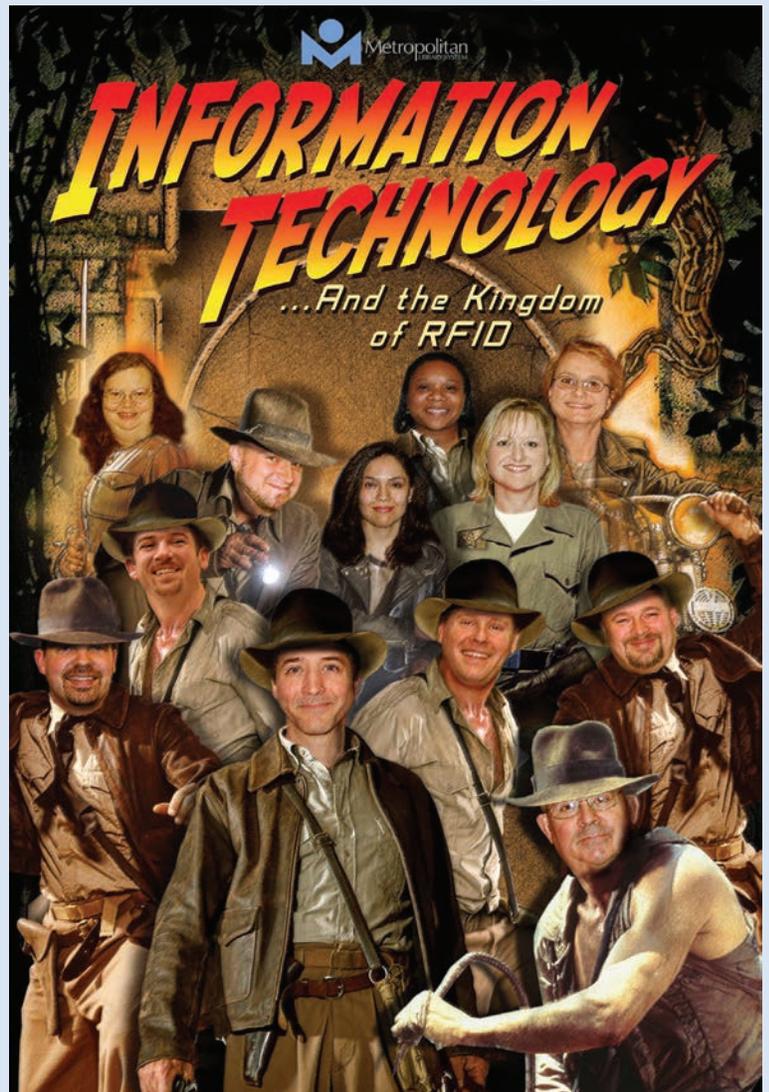
"Everyone from the IT department went," said IT Manager **John Wood**, "with

the exception of **Matt [Cotter]** and Jimmy, who were both unable to go.

We went on a Saturday evening as we wanted to make sure that as many as possible could go to celebrate the completion of the RFID project. We all voted and decided that we would like to see *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*.

"We all enjoyed the movie and it was a neat experience to be able to eat a meal while watching a movie in the theater as well. The whole event was Anne and Jimmy's treat."

ShelfLife would like to tip its hat also to the IT team for the remarkable rate at which they finished installing RFID.



Poster designed by **Rick George**, Graphic Designer.

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Found in Translation

This may come as a surprise—The New Testament is only the 13th most translated book/author in the world. It occupies a spot on the list between Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm at 11th and 12th places, and Mark Twain at 14th.

The list of the top 50 books/authors in worldwide translation can be found at

<http://databases.unesco.org/xtrans/stat/xTransStat.a?VL1=A&top=50&lg=0>.

In last place are Charles Perrault and more fairy tales. It's no surprise that Marx (32), Lenin (4) and Engels (39) all make the list. American popular writing is represented by Danielle Steel (8), Stephen King (10), R.L. Stine (28), Nora Roberts (29), Sidney Sheldon (34), Robert Ludlum

(42) and Mary Higgins Clark (48.)

Okay, you ask, where's the Big Guy, William Shakespeare? You're thinking numero uno, right? Uh-uh. Shakespeare is 5th.

Let's countdown the top five.

Shakespeare, in 5th place - Lenin in 4th - Jules Verne in 3rd - Agatha Christie in 2nd —and the most translated book/author in the world is . . .

The books and comics produced by Walt Disney Productions.

Note that the list includes the top 50 only. We suspect that ShelfLife would place at 51.

Venue

Here's a repeat of an e-mail from Marketing and Communications Manager Kim Terry, just in case you missed it.

"The Oklahoma Gazette's parent company has a new publication called *Venue* coming out soon. All of our libraries will be listed in the directory.

"Because of this, some of their eager advertising sales reps didn't realize we were all one system, and may soon be calling you to purchase advertising space in the publication. Please just give them my name and number (606-3750). I have to go through my main rep, Sandra, to purchase anything in their publications (she's the one who alerted me to this and we're trying to stop it before they start banging on your doors!)

"I'm keeping my fingers crossed that we caught this before they start bugging you!"

A Writer in the Library

For most people libraries still mean books, so what could be more "library" for us than an MLS staffer who writes a book? Congratulations to Cataloging's own **Jana Hausburg**, who can now add something new to her list of accomplishments . . . author.

It Wasn't Much: Ten True Tales of Oklahoma Heroes is Jana's first book of juvenile non-fiction.

"*It Wasn't Much*," said Cataloging technician **Jill Vessels**, "is a collection of short biographies which highlight the incredible, real-life adventure of a few heroic Oklahomans who found the strength within themselves to make sacrifices to help others and to achieve a greater common good."

When ShelfLife asked Jana what she had to say about the new experience of being a published author, she said, "Other than, 'It's a dream come true,' just 'Buy my book!'"

Jana worked closely with Downtown librarian **Buddy Johnson**, who published the book. His new publishing imprint is Forty-Sixth Star Press.

"Buddy and I," Jana said, "believe that Oklahoma has so much more to offer than biographies of Will Rogers, Jim Thorpe, Woody

Guthrie and Wiley Post. Those men were amazing, but there are other Oklahoma gems: Rufino Rodrigues and his mad dash to save the lives of his fellow miners, Rosemary Hogan, who worked tirelessly to help the prisoners of Bataan survive through terrible conditions, and Paul Henry Carr, who had to literally be pried away from the gun turret he was operating during a World War II ocean battle.

"As far as Oklahoma history goes, there's not much out there for kids and we saw a niche just waiting to be filled. And we've got other books planned for the series (Oklahoma Portraits). Right now, a book on Oklahoma's civil rights leaders is in the works."

Jill Vessels reported that "Jana's next book may be a tell-all biography titled: *Every Book Has a Spine: My Life Coming Apart at the Seams*."

The bib number to reserve *It Wasn't Much* is 0737/8383. Check it out. Then you can buy some copies for the children in your life.





Got PR? Just Ask!

Do you ever wonder why some libraries get their programs high-lighted in the newspaper more than others do? There's a good chance that those who are getting the ink make it a point to request press releases from the Pros From Dover in the Marketing Dept.

We make it a point to glance over the Calendar of Events each month and pick some likely-looking programs to publicize, but we welcome requests from program planners and other staff for special attention. He'll be embarrassed that he's being singled out, but **Sam Weehunt**, DC, pretty regularly asks for press releases for the events he plans, and we're always glad to help him out.

The process is easy enough. Just e-mail a request to **Doug Bentin**. Please send him the basic information—who, what, when, where, etc. You can either send along a short quote, like a written "sound bite," or he'll make something up.

That's all there is to it. If the press release is all you're asking for, you don't need a Project Request Form.

We're here to help you get as big a return for your programming work as possible, so start sending those requests our way.



• MYSTERY PERSON •

Another mystery person to identify.

Here are the clues of this person's favorites:

- Fave Music:** Southern Gospel
- Fave Sports:** Tennis, golf, football
- Fave Vacation(s):** Hawaii
- Fave Movie:** *A Walk in the Clouds*
- Fave TV Show:** Right now— Extreme Makeover: Home Edition
- Fave Food:** Mexican
- Fave Season:** Any time it's warm
- Fave Hobby:** Playing, watching sports
- Fave Food:** Mexican, steak and chocolate
- Fave Pets:** Cats

Answer on page 6.



Fingerprints STAFF PROFILE

Mary Daugherty—Mary began working for MLS at the CH library in 1975 as the only circ clerk under then manager **Donna Morris!** She left MLS in 1977 to have her first child, the came back in 1996 to work at Bethany when her second child was a senior in high school.

Her family include her husband, whom she will celebrate 35 years of marriage, one son who starts law school in the fall, and another son, who is married and has

a three-year-old. This son just received his doctorate and will start a new position as physics professor in the fall.

Reading, baking, shopping/ and playing with her "cutest, smartest, most adorable ever granddaughter," are some of her hobbies.

Mary says after working for MLS for 12 years she has come to know many wonderful customers and some have "become good friends."



Mary says she feels "fortunate to work for a manager and library system that have been so understanding and accommodating during" her recent surgery and family emergencies.

As her favorite part of working for the library, Mary puts into practice the #11-15 service principles (putting a personal touch on service) by aiming to "make someone's day better."



Dear Donna...



Lending Library Review:

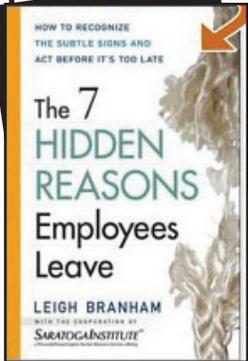
The 7 Hidden Reasons Employees Leave: How to Recognize the Subtle Signs and Act Before It's Too Late

by Leigh Branham

Why do people leave their jobs? Surprisingly, while money has a lot to do with it, money isn't everything—in fact, it's frequently not the main thing. But what may be even worse than losing good employees is keeping them after they've disengaged and lost interest in their jobs. Branham's book discusses both problems.

The author also addresses changing employee expectations, comparing the "old contract" with a "new contract" and looking at the differences between what is expected by today's workers and how this has changed over time. Finally, the book looks at some of the ways in which

a "mismatch" between the job and the person can occur, and examines leadership failures around coaching, feedback, value, recognition, trust, confidence in leadership, and a lack of a career development opportunities.



A Q & A With Donna!

From Executive Director Donna Morris

Q. How will the falling economy affect MLS? Will we feel the pinch in any way besides the cost of gasoline? If so, what can we do about it?

A. The falling economy affects everyone and MLS may see its effects in a variety of ways. Financially, this year we have already received word from the county that they expect assessed values on property to be somewhat lower and were estimating the county budget at an increase of 3.7% which is down from the past several years. Accordingly we reduced our anticipated revenue to an increase of 3.7%.

Gas prices will increase the cost of doing business for our maintenance department and may also be a factor in increased heating and cooling costs for all of our libraries. We could see more usage in our libraries as gas and food prices continue to climb and people have less money to spend on "extra" items such as the purchase of books. That might mean they would use the library more to borrow rather than buy.

Construction costs go up with the increase in gas and that could be a factor in the two library projects that are expected to be underway in a couple of months.

What can we do? Continue to be good stewards of the taxpayers dollars and provide our customers with excellent service. They may need their libraries more than ever in the coming year and we want to step up to the plate when needed.

Anita Roesler Makes It to the Ryman

Anita Roesler, Outreach, had a unique experience while on vacation in Tennessee.

Here's her story.

While on vacation, we (Anita and her husband) visited the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, TN, original home of the Grand Ole Opry. During tours, they had a photographer taking pictures of each tour-



ist standing at the microphone (it wasn't on).

Well, when it was my turn, I decided to yodel—I wasn't about to miss a chance to sing on the stage at the Ryman!

There were about 150-160 people touring at this time and

the auditorium got very quiet as people quit talking when I started. When I was finished, they applauded.

The acoustics in that place are amazing. The people in the back of the balcony could hear me even without a mic. When I told my kids and mom and mentioned that I was the only tourist who sang during their photo op, they replied—well that's no surprise! (Do they know me or what?!)

Check one thing off my "bucket list"!



Just Say It – The Business of Jargon

A little jargon never hurt anyone. Even libraries are full of it. I wish I had a dollar for every time someone's said to me, "Circulate' means 'check out'? Then why don't you just say 'check out'?"

But you can overdo anything, and the world of business right now is adding some colorful expressions to the collection of English language euphemisms. Here, from the BBC, are a few dandies. For more, check the article "50 Office-Speak Phrases You Love to Hate" at:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/magazine/7457287.stm

"My employers recently informed staff that we are no longer allowed to use the phrase 'brain storm' because it might have negative connotations associated with fits.

We must now take 'idea showers.' I think that says it all really."

Anonymous, England

"The one that really gets me is 'pre-plan' - there is no such thing. Either you plan or you don't. The new one which has got my goat is 'conversate,' widely used to describe a conversation."

Malcolm, Houston

"At my old company (a US multinational), anyone involved with a particular product was encouraged to be a 'product

evangelist.' And software users these days, so we hear, want to be 'platform atheists' so that their computers will run programs from any manufacturer."

Philip Lattimore, Thailand

"I once had a boss who said, 'You can't have your cake and eat it, so you have to face the music.' It was in that moment I knew I had to resign before somebody got badly hurt by a pencil."

Tim, Durban



WAY TO GO!

More graduation congratulations!

Slip-ups happen, even with the highly trained and supremely gifted ShelfLife team, and last month some names slipped from our list of recent graduates.

Katrina Prince wants to congratulate **Eric Knudsen**, a new page at BE, on his graduation from Bethany High School on May 9.

Jo Nita White tips her hat to Harrah pages **April Zimmermann** and **Paige Nifong** who graduated as Valedictorian and Salutatorian from Harrah High. April will attend St. Gregory's and Paige is off to OU in the fall. ShelfLife sends its best to Eric, April and Paige, and wishes them all the best.

Conrad Doty Celebrates 40 Years

It's hard to keep doing the same thing for 40 years, but the Bethany Library celebrated on June 12th the 40th work anniversary of **Conrad Doty**. Conrad has been the half-time custodian at BE since 1968, three years after the library opened.

"Conrad reached the milestone on June 1st," said Bethany MLO **Katrina Prince**. "We decided that we would surprise him with a little reception.

"Conrad was very pleased and surprised with the reception. He received well wishes from staff at other locations. The decorations

provided by **Sharon Nolan** were very festive. Refreshments were served. We gave Conrad a VISA gift card to use as he pleases."

Bethany staff wore the T-shirts they received at the library's 40th birthday party in 2005, with the words "40 years at the Bethany Library" written on them. "We felt they were appropriate since they describe Conrad's tenure," Katrina said.

"We always know that someone will be here before we arrive in the morning. It is very comforting to not enter

an empty building. He is the most dependable worker that I have ever known."

ShelfLife sends its congratulations to Conrad Doty, too. Well done!



HELLO TO

James Thatcher Proj. Spc., OUT
 Micah Cain Youth Asst., OUT
 Dylan Jackson Youth Asst., OUT
 Marian McPherson Youth Asst., OUT
 Carey Nash Youth Asst., OUT
 Kiara Calip Page, RE
 Victoria Davis Tech. Asst., MC
 Andrea Gesell Page, MC
 Kristie Keck Page, DN
 Kirsten Walker Tech. Asst., MC
 Tara Harp-Brown Proj. Spc., OUT
 Hien Chau Page, MC
 Warren Anderson Page, RE
 Lance Le Youth Asst., OUT
 Sarah Hawk Page, WA

GOODBYE TO

Minoo Dolatabati Page, ED
 Logan Riggs Page, MC
 Gene Chappell Page, VI
 Cory Mize Page, DN
 Miranda Gutierrez Page, SO
 Christy O'Brien Data Entry Tech, TP

PROMOTION

Kevin Sendall Page to Circ Clerk, CT

SYMPATHY

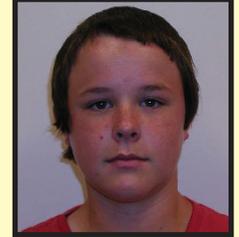
To Lisa Coker, Mat. Sel., whose mother-in-law died in June .



James Thatcher



Micah Cain



Dylan Jackson



Marian McPherson



Carey Nash



Kiara Calip



Victoria Davis



Andrea Gesell



Kristie Keck



Kirsten Walker



Tara Harp-Brown



Hien Chau



Warren Anderson



Lance Le



Sarah Hawk



Employee's Date-of-Hire for July

JANET E. BROOKS	7/1/1980
URSULA A. WARD	7/1/1982
RONNA C. DAVIS	7/19/1982
FRANCES V. HARBERT	7/8/1985
ANITA F. ROESLER	7/28/1985
KAREN R. BRAY	7/7/1986
DAVID L. MACK	7/2/1990
ANGELA M. PAELTZ	7/15/1992
PAT WHISENHUNT	7/25/1994
MARY L. DAUGHERITY	7/28/1994
DAGMAR M. PEERY	7/7/1997
CAROL MOODY	7/28/1997
PAULA A. HANNAPEL	7/26/1999
KIMBERLY A. RICKEY	7/10/2000
RUSSELL L. PIERCE	7/17/2000
JOHN LEROY HILBERT	7/16/2001
LISA M. WOOD	7/16/2001
MARIA E. WATKINS	7/21/2003
REAGAN KLOIBER	7/6/2004
AARON G. KILLOUGH	7/18/2005
ROSE ANNE KIRBY	7/6/2006
KAYHAN N. YAZDANI	7/17/2006
MICHELLE HINDMAN	7/17/2006
APRIL ZIMMERMAN	7/17/2006
SHIRLEY ANN WOLF	7/18/2006
RACHEL A. HUDSON	7/31/2006
BRYAN SMYTHE	7/3/2007
STEVEN J. STREETMAN	7/7/2007
TIMOTHY HAMMOND	7/30/2007
RONALD HARRISON	7/30/2007
RICK SAMUEL GEORGE	7/30/2007
RAMINA GOLSHANI	7/30/2007

July Birthdays

SAISRI MCCORMICK	7/1
LOIS W. MCKENNA	7/2
SIMONA LONG	7/7
BEVERLY CUNNINGHAM	7/8
NATHAN I. CLYMER	7/8
CYNTHIA SELINGER	7/9
DOYLE K. WILCOX	7/10
ELIZABETH KESSLER	7/10
SUZETTE FELTON	7/11
ALMA LOUISE BROWN	7/12
CAROL C. COOK	7/13
AARON J. STEWART	7/13
LINDA M. WILLIAMS	7/14
DENISE MORGAN	7/14
KELLEY E. HOFFMAN	7/15
KIMBERLY ANN TERRY	7/16
DENISE A. COURTS	7/19
JEFFREY E. FREDERICKS	7/20
ROBERT L. WRIGHT	7/20
HARRY DUJ HOANG	7/21
CORY MIZE	7/22
ERIKA M. SALINAS	7/22
MICHELLE HINDMAN	7/23
LENA C. LOPER	7/23
SHIRLEY J. HENDERSON	7/23
DIANE RICE	7/24
JANET E. BROOKS	7/24
ROSE ANNE KIRBY	7/26
GLORIA J. TURNER	7/26
DENYVETTA DAVIS	7/26
JEANIE LYNN AUSTIN	7/27
DENESA C. BENNETT	7/28



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
QUEITA HARVEY	8/21/1991
KELLY M. DALRYMPLE	8/26/1991
GALEN R KURTH	8/30/1993
JULIA ANN BALLOU	8/30/1993
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
KEVIN D. COLWELL	8/30/2004
BARBARA M. PARR	8/1/2005
KELLIE J. BRADFORD	8/1/2005
ANGELA L. HILL	8/2/2005
TERRIE THOMAS	8/8/2005
VIVIAN STEVENSON	8/15/2005
ELIZABETH WILSON	8/14/2006
STORMY DAWN LEE	8/28/2006
JOE HARLEY SHELTON	8/1/2007
STANLEY A. TAUCER	8/13/2007
ERIKA M. SALINAS	8/13/2007
KELLY D. ARGO	8/13/2007
JAIME HACKWORTH	8/27/2007
JENNIFER NGUYEN	8/27/2007
CLAUDIA WAGNER	8/29/2007
TRAVIS REID HOWELL	8/29/2007

August Birthdays

BARBARA A. JOHNSON	8/1	CRYSTAL DAWN ROPER	8/22
LYNDA G. TONEY BAHR	8/1	BRANDON M. ROSE	8/22
DEBORAH AUSTIN-MUNDEN	8/2	JESSICA Y. LITTLE	8/23
BRENDA STOCKTON-HISS	8/3	EVELYN CAROL GILBERT	8/24
JAMES E. NIMMO, JR	8/3	KARMEN QUEITA HARVEY	8/25
CAROL L. PROVINE	8/3	LINDA LEE HYAMS	8/25
LANDON D. HOLMAN	8/3	THUY THI MAI NGUYEN	8/25
CHESTER KINZIE, JR	8/4	STEVEN J. STREETMAN	8/26
DAGMAR M. PEERY	8/4	BRITTANY MARIE BARBER	8/27
JILL L. VESSELS	8/4	GABRIELA EILINE ACOSTA	8/27
JONATHAN I. TOLLE	8/4	ANN G. ALIOTTA	8/28
SHARON A. NOLAN	8/5	VIVIAN A. STEVENSON	8/28
RACHEL B. SMOOT	8/5	LOIS F. CROSS	8/29
KATRINA B. PRINCE	8/6	TIMOTHY D. FISHER	8/29
RICK SAMUEL GEORGE	8/6	DARREN D. COOK	8/29
REGINA M. WOLFINGER	8/7	TERESA GOGGINS	8/29
KELLY M. DALRYMPLE	8/7	ELIZABETH WILSON	8/29
SAMUEL V. RICHARDS	8/7	JOYCE A. HELMS	8/30
ANNA N. TODD	8/7	WENDY J. GABRIELSON	8/30
KATHY L. FRITSCH	8/8	BETH K. STEELMAN	8/31
JOYCE MCCAULEY-JOHNSON	8/9	BRENDA ANN HAMMONS	8/31
LINDA A. ELSTON	8/9	KAY L. BAUMAN	8/31
ANGELA L. HILL	8/9	JONATHAN E. WILLIS JR	8/31
KATHRYN M. DUNN	8/9		
JOSHUA H. GERNER	8/9		
JONATHAN SHIRLEY	8/9		
JONITA NORMORE	8/10		
JAMES B. GORDON	8/12		
FRANCIE L. PENDLETON	8/13		
SYLVIA A. LAWSON	8/13		
ANITA F. ROESLER	8/13		
ERICA Y. RUTLAND	8/13		
LAURA MCMURTRY	8/13		
LINDA J. JAMESON	8/14		
JOE HARLEY SHELTON	8/15		
SUSIE L. BEASLEY	8/18		
GARY W. CROUCH	8/20		
VAN R. BIELSTEIN	8/21		
JEAN M. WILBURN	8/22		