



ShelfLife

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

November 2008



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Staff Recognition Dinner

The central annual event for members of the MLS Staff Association is the Staff Recognition Dinner. The 2008 edition is coming up on Saturday, November 15, from 6:30 to 9:30pm. The event will be held at The Centre, 4325 NW 50th.

It is at the Dinner every year that staff members are recognized for their years of service, and this year a special employee will receive his 5-year pin. We don't want to tip you to the surprise guest's identity, but his dinner will be a plate of Spotty Snacks. Say no more.

Here, also, the three winners of the annual Outstanding Service Awards are announced. This year's nominees are:

Barbara Beasley, WA
Greg Bennett, DN
Darrie Breathwit, SO
Donna Canfield, WA
Lisa Coker, Mat. Sel.
Gary Crouch, Maint.
Vickie Dixon, DN
Kim Edwards, DN
Daniel Fields, BE
Serina Garcia, MC
Katie Hatfield, MC
Josh Lewis, CT
David Mack, Maint.
Ngoc Nguyen, VI
Betty Scott, BO
Susan Stinson, SO
Ursula Ward, CAT
Glenn Webb, CH
Fariba Williams, MC

Employee's receiving pins for 2008 are:

Date of Hire	Years	Name
1/21/2003	5	Kelley E. Hoffman
2/3/2003	5	Cheryll R. Smith
3/17/2003	5	Simona Long
5/18/2003	5	Mary J. Sholly
5/29/2003	5	Mary Ann Huggins
7/21/2003	5	Maria E. Watkins
9/2/2003	5	Emily R. Williams
9/16/2003	5	Burton Thurmond
9/29/2003	5	Teresa R. Matthews
11/10/2003	5	Lisa Dawn Coker
11/24/2003	5	Linda A. Elston
11/24/2003	5	Linda Lee Hyams
11/24/2003	5	Alicia M. Ruzyski
11/24/2003	5	Andrew R. Tolly
12/7/2003	5	Angela K. Rupel
1/26/1998	10	Victoria E. Dixon
1/26/1998	10	Timothy D. Fisher
1/27/1998	10	Kathy L. Fritsch
1/26/1998	10	Buddy Johnson
1/5/1998	10	Denise A. Lukes
1/26/1998	10	Lisa L. Walker
5/26/1998	10	Gene E. Chappell
8/10/1998	10	Frederick R. Wilson
10/6/1998	10	Joyce L. Tallant
10/22/1998	10	Linda J. Holmberg
11/23/1998	10	Lois W. McKenna
1/18/1993	15	James Nimmo, Jr.
3/22/1993	15	Beverly K. Phillips
8/30/1993	15	Julia Ann Ballou
8/30/1993	15	Galen R. Kurth
10/4/1993	15	Regina D. Kirkham
10/18/1993	15	Cecil L. Peaden
3/17/1988	20	Tracy C. Stone
6/7/1983	25	Sheila D. Fixel
9/18/1978	30	Susie L. Beasley
10/1/1978	30	Ruby J. Soutiere
6/21/1973	35	Cheryl A. Mann
6/1/1968	40	Conrad J. Doty

—What We Do: *Library Mascot*



Mascots are branding devices; they're ways companies or institutions can reach out to children. But most of all, they're fun.

OU has the Sooner Schooner; OSU has Pistol Pete. The Metropolitan Library System has **Spoticus**, the Library Dalmatian. Spotty sat down with us recently to discuss being a mascot.

"Originally I thought about becoming a fire

fighter," Spoticus said. "It's traditional in my family, but there was something that drew me to library work. I think it was the opportunity to work with children. Whenever kids see me at an event, they run up to me to give me a hug, or scratch my tummy, or throw a stick for me to fetch."

And sometimes, although he's not happy about it, they even pull his tail.

Spotty's personal appearances have increased greatly since his hire in 2003. Now he's a hit at Summer at the Library parties, the governor's SeptemberFest get-togethers, and any time he's called upon to represent the library system.

"I just marched in the Ghouls Gone Wild Halloween parade. Man, that was a tough gig. Do you know how many

fire hydrants we passed? Next day, I was drained. Of energy, I mean."

What are Spotty's plans for his future with MLS?

"I really like being the face of MLS and I want to help with all the advertising I can. The Marketing and Communications Dept., where I work, recently went shopping for me and bought a beautiful Louis Vuitton collar. Very chic, but it's just not me, you know? I think I'll give it to that Bentin guy in the office. His wardrobe could use an upgrade."

Library Ghouls Gone Wild

Here's a follow-up to last month's story about library employees joining in the fun and representing MLS in the Oklahoma Gazette's 2nd Annual Halloween parade.

"We had a great time," said participant **Lisa Wood**, Children's Services Coordinator. "We tricked up library carts with tombstones on them, and (DN librarian) **Kim Edwards** was a kind of Bookenstein, with a book sticking out of the side of her neck like the Frankenstein monster's bolts."

Thousands of people lined the parade route and the MLS Merry Pranksters ran out of candy to toss to the kids after a single block. Viewers were packed close together for the entire distance of the parade.

"I tell you who you should have seen," Lisa added. "(DN Associate Library)

Wendy Gabrielson, who went to the Belle Isle Library's Horror Makeup class taught by a makeup artist at University of Central Oklahoma. She looked great!"

Also shambling along like arthritic zombies were **Emily Williams** (OUT), **John Hilbert**, (SO) **Jerod Gerfen** (OUT), **Angela Hill** (CH), **Teresa Mathews** (ED), and **Kim Ventrella** (RE). And **Linda Hyams**, as Spoticus.

Sounds ghastly—but we mean that in a good way.



From left to right: Emily Williams, Teresa Mathews, John Hilbert, Angela Hill, Kim Edwards, Kim Ventrella, Jerod Gerfen, and Spoticus (Linda Hyams.)



STAFF PROFILE



Fingerprints

Ajax Delvecki—Is a part time associate librarian at the Downtown Library. He attends Oklahoma State University which takes up most of his time. Ajax plans on soon entering library school at OU.

Working at the library he says, "Every day is different—the customers, the co-workers. I really like fielding calls from other libraries or supplying an educated opinion for a stranger on the phone."

During his free time he tours around in his car and reads travel books (but not at the same time.)

The last book he read 'for fun' Ajax said, was, "a massive memoir about The Roxy (the first punk club) in London."

He's an ardent fan of the Tornado Alley Roller Girls and wants everyone to know that "No, actually, this is not my natural haircolor!"



Lending Library Review: Credibility: How Leaders Gain and Lose It, Why People Demand It

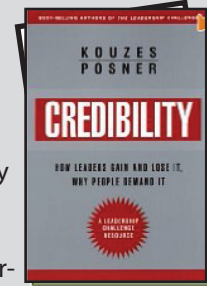
by James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner

You don't have to be a member of the MLS Leadership class to be on the road to effective leadership. The first step is proving your credibility.

Authors Kouzes and Posner believe that if the people you deal with don't feel that they can believe you, they'll never think that they can believe anything you tell them. They place honesty, competence and a talent to inspire, which they call "a set of values that can be learned," at the heart of effective leadership. They see more authority for customer contact personnel as a key trend of the future, and offer evidence that the "now-outdated omnipotent-boss system" should be replaced.

"Leadership," they write, "is personal. It's not about the corporation, the community, or the country. It's about you. If people don't believe in the messenger, they won't believe the message. And if it's about you, then it's about your beliefs, your values, your principles."

One reviewer wrote: "If you are a parent, spouse, manager, or deal with people in any way, this book will help you analyze how you do it, what they expect, and how you can fulfill their expectations and yours and have them think you are wonderful."



Summer Reading Survey

We know, no one wants to start thinking about Summer at the Library when winter at the library hasn't even begun yet. It's a dirty job, but someone has to do it and researcher **Stuart Williamson** is the guy. Stu needs your comments on the 2008 SatL training material in order to improve it for 2009.

Even if your role in Summer at the Library is a small one, please take a look at and respond to the survey Stuart put together to gather information. You can find it at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=HenY_2bht-nP_2ftXT_2f0W89OrKA_3d_3d

Thanks for your help.

Living United

The Basket Lottery and Who Won What

Last year, MLS raised a little more than \$14,000 for the United Way. That was not only the result of the 2007 United Way campaign; it was also the beginning of the 2008 edition. It was a challenge, a total to be bested.

Chairs of the 2008 UW drive were Volunteer Co-ordinator **Heidi Port** and Marketing and Communications Manager **Kim Terry**. They put together a team and set a new goal for this year. The United Way Committee reached that goal and raised \$16,000 in 2008.

Pledges always form the largest piece of the UW pie, a pie that just keeps growing from year to year, but in 2008 the Basket Raffle took in more money than expected. 967 tickets

were purchased at a dollar each, each ticket good for one chance to win a basket. In case you haven't seen the complete raffle results, here's a breakdown of the winners:



DN Chocolate Lover's Basket- won by Jean Wilburn, BI



Belle Isle Halloween Basket- won by Susan Stinson, SO



Hum Res Money Tree- won by Rosemary Stafford, VI



Bus Ofc Coffee Break Basket- won by Gerald Hickman, LO



ED Dog Lover's Basket- won by Stu Williamson, PLA



Jessica Viner, DN Circ, Beginner Vampire Basket!- won by Teresa Matthews, ED



Materials Selection Chocolate Basket- won by Karen Litteral, WA



Cataloging Cat Shopping List Basket- won by Sandy Gonzaga, TP



Harrah Break Time Basket- won by Mary Ann Johnson, ED



MAC Halloween Caldron of Horror Basket- won by Kathy Dunn, VI



Outreach Green Basket- won by Lisa Wood, OUT

Continued on next page

A Fundraiser at Capitol Hill

Cataloging sent along this description of a fundraiser at Capitol Hill:

"The morning of Oct. 2 broke with feverish activity, as **Ursula Ward** arranged salads, tables and chairs to her liking. The day of Bedlam was at hand: a fundraiser for the United Way, as well as a luncheon for staff from Capitol Hill Library, Technical Processing, Cataloging and Maintenance.

"Ursula's forehead broke out in droplets of sweat shaped like tiny OU and OSU helmets as she did her magic. Orange and red tablecloths graced the tables. A variety of salads ranging from chicken to taco sat at the ready. From the CD player came the sound of both school's fight songs. In all, \$69 was raised as part of the United Way campaign. OU was the clear winner, with \$57 put into the OU helmet, and \$12 thrown into the OSU helmet. An exhausted but exhilarated Ursula sent a shout-out to the many volunteers who had helped to make the event so successful."

Our United Way Committee 2008

And finally, here's a tip of the hat to the rest of the MLS United Way Committee, 2008:



Project Managers and their responsibilities:

Front row left to right:

1. **Nicole Bungert** – Bake Sale
2. **Kim Terry - Co-chair**
3. **Mary Sholly** – Basket Raffle
4. **Fariba Williams** – Prize Team
5. **Heidi Port - Co-chair**

Back row, left to right:

- B1. **Candace McDaniel** – Bake Sale and Silent Auction
- B2. **Julie Ballou** – Basket Raffle, Tailgate Bedlam Party
- B3. **Francie Pendleton** – Bake Sale
- B4. **Betty Scott** – Honor/Memorial Donations, \$ at FOCUS
- B5. **Linda Hyams** – Basket Raffle
- Ursula Ward** – (not pictured) Prize Team

Thanks for all your good work for a good cause.

More Baskets & Winners!



Dev/Vol Svc Movie Mania Basket- won by Sylvia Lawson, BO



ILL Halloween Gift Basket- won by Ernestine Clark, DEV



SO Fiesta Basket- won by Cheryl Mann, Circ Control



MWC Spa Basket(red bow)- won by Dennyvetta Davis, LO



Outreach Serenity Basket- won by Carol Gilbert, DEV



Security Staff, DN, Car Care Basket- won by Linda Morphis, MC

Belle Isle Library Hosts First Graders' Visit



Monroe Elementary School first graders (75 of them) visited the Belle Isle Library on Oct. 21 to get a library card, hear a story and check out a book.

Debbie Robertus, Assistant Manager of LO, said the school's first graders have walked over every year for the past six years.

"It is rather exciting because the fire truck from the station on 50th comes over and stops traffic on NW Expressway to allow the children to cross safely, both on the way to and from the library," said Debbie. The photo shows some of the children crossing NW Expressway after they received their card and books.

The kids are so well-mannered while at the library, Debbie said, that they had to brag on them.

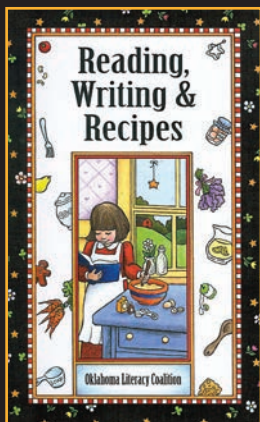
Cookbooks For Literacy

The Oklahoma Literacy Coalition offers support in the ongoing effort to help all Oklahomans learn to read.

"We have published a cookbook to help fund these efforts in a small way," said **Anita Roesler**, chairman of the cookbook committee who has copies ready for you to purchase for \$10.

Anita says "These are really good cookbooks with a total of 450 recipes plus all kinds of cooking tips and hints."

Contact Anita in Outreach Services at 606-3835 to purchase your copy.



• MYSTERY PERSON •

Here are the clues to this month's mystery person.

Fave Music:	Classic Rock
Fave Sports:	Golf
Fave Vacation(s):	Beaches, Mountains, Cities, Anywhere!
Fave Movie:	<i>Casablanca</i>
Fave Food:	Mexican, Italian or French Cuisine
Fave Season:	Autumn
Fave Hobby:	Reading and watching movies
Family:	Sister and two beautiful nieces
Fave Pets:	4 sweet kitties
Special Skills:	Getting in the slowest line at the grocery store.

What profession would you be in if you were not working in the library? *Bookseller and/or travel writer*

What do you want to do or accomplish before you die? *Travel around the world.*

Answer on page 7.

Bestselling Oklahoma Author Dies

Many MLSers read mystery and crime stories for pleasure, proving once and for all the truth of historian Philip Guedalla's assertion that "The detective story is the normal recreation of noble minds."

Many of those noble minds will be saddened to learn of the recent death of bestselling mystery writer Tony Hillerman. Hillerman died on Sunday, October 26, of pulmonary failure at the age of 83.

The author was a special favorite of Oklahomans as he was born on May 27, 1925, in Sacred Heart, OK, population 50. His parents were farmers who also ran a small store. The teacher at Sacred Heart's one-room school house was rumored to be a member of the Ku Klux Klan, so Hillerman's parents sent him and his brother, Barney, to St. Mary's Academy, a school for Potawatomie Indian girls near Asher, OK.

The MLS catalog lists 73 items authored or edited by Tony Hillerman.





MYSTERY PERSON IS:

**Katrina Prince,
Manager of
LO, Del City.**

HELLO TO

Darin Smith.....	Page, DN
Kristin Hill	Mat. Serv. Div, Tech., CAT
Cindy Frazier	Page, WA
Myra Dover	Page, CH
Susan Curtiss.....	Page, DN
Kerbie Addis	Page, ED
Michael Owens.....	Manager of LO I, RE
Mackenzie Stephens	Page, LU
Leondrea Gates	Page, DC
Steven Glover.....	Page, SO
Candace Turner	Tech. Asst., MC
Kathy Sheesley	Page, NP
Stefan Warner	Page, HR
Nate Casteel	Page, DC
Rainna Okapal	Circ Clerk, BI
Tulin LaFollette(rehire).....	Page, HR

GOODBYE TO

Parker Mullins	Page, ED
Casey Beach.....	Page, DN
Beth Fischer	Page, CT
Davis Peck	Page, SO
Kelly Argo	Circ Clerk, BI
Juanita Mendoza	Tech. Proc., TP
James Sanders.....	Tech. Asst., BI

PROMOTION

Julie Ballou.....	From Mat. Sel., MSL, to Mangager of LO II, DN
Diane Rice	From Tech., Asst. to Librarian, VI

TRANSFER

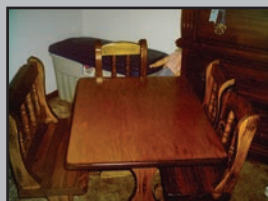
Joanie Porter	From temp Mgr. of LO I to Librarian, RE
Deborah Willis.....	From Librarian, MC, to Librarian, DN



MARKETPLACE

Child's Table & Chairs for Sale

Wooden children's table with
(3) chairs and (1) bench seat.
This set is "solid" dark wood.
Price asked is \$80. OBO. Call
Lisa Walker, 606-3792.



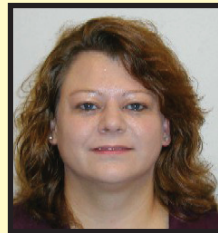
Darin Smith



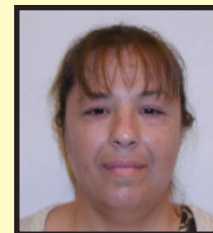
Kristin Hill



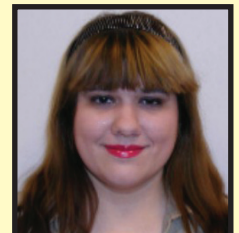
Cindy Frazier



Myra Dover



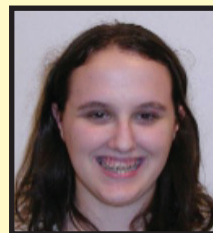
Susan Curtiss



Kerbie Addis



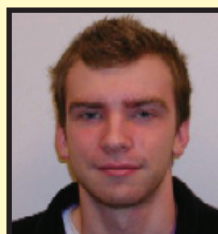
Michael Owens



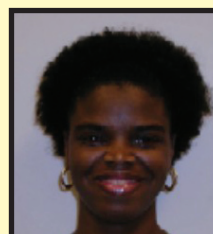
Mackenzie Stephens



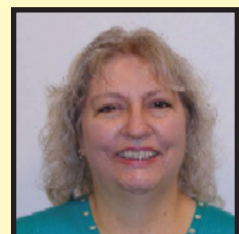
Leondrea Gates



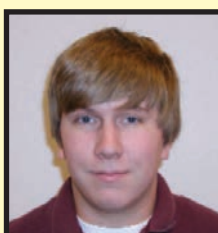
Steven Glover



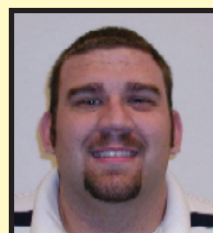
Candace Turner



Kathy Sheesley



Stefan Warner



Nate Casteel



Rainna Okapal



Employee's November Date-of-Hire

DANA L. MORROW	1/5/1979
RANDY E. WAYLAND	11/16/1982
DENYVETTA DAVIS	11/22/1982
JOYCE MCCAULEY-JOHNSON	11/1/1984
PERRY A. WILSON	11/16/1984
PAULINE RODRIGUEZ-ATKINS	11/4/1985
DEANNA L. BIDDLE	11/3/1986
J. PRESTON BELL	11/25/1986
SALLY K. PHILLIPS	11/21/1995
DEBRA K. JACKSON	11/4/1996
LOIS W. MCKENNA	11/23/1998
KELLEY L. RIHA	11/13/2000
DARRIE J. BREATHWIT	11/20/2000
ELIZABETH ANN KESSLER	11/20/2000
MARY L. STEPHENS	11/27/2000
DAVID WILLIAM FRENCH	11/15/2001
CHERYL ANN COLEMAN	11/4/2002
JOHN C. R. UTLEY	11/4/2002
SERINA L. GARCIA	11/26/2002
LISA DAWN COKER	11/10/2003
LINDA A. ELSTON	11/24/2003
PETER L. ROBERSON	11/24/2003
LINDA LEE HYAMS	11/24/2003
ALICIA M. RUZYCKI	11/24/2003
ANDREW R. TOLLY	11/24/2003
MARYL BAIRD	11/1/2004
JOSHUA H. GERNER	11/22/2004
STACEY MARIE O'NEIL	11/23/2004
FARIBA WILLIAMS	11/7/2005
SALLY A. GRAY	11/7/2005
AARON J. STEWART	11/21/2005
LOIS F. CROSS	11/28/2005
DEVON D. MCDANIEL	11/28/2005
BREANNE L. FORD	11/8/2006
RENÉE M. LAUNEY	11/27/2006
KAELI M. DUNN	11/5/2007
BRANDON M. ROSE	11/5/2007
ALESA MARIE CLYMER	11/20/2007
KAYLAH SHANEE MCNEAL	11/26/2007
CAROL C. COOK	11/26/2007

November Birthdays

SELMA ZUHDI	11/1
PENELOPE GREER BIRD	11/4
KELLEY L. RIHA	11/4
TARA R. HARP-BROWN	11/4
LINDA J. HOLMBERG	11/5
CHERYLL R. SMITH	11/7
LOVINIA M. NICHOLS	11/10
BETTY HEPLER SCOTT	11/11
MARGARET J. COLLINS	11/11
FELICIA ANN HAYES	11/11
MATTHEW E. EVANS	11/11
SHARON DAVIS JORSKI	11/12
RANDY L. KNUTSON	11/13
ROY S. BALLOU	11/13
STACY G. SCHRANK	11/13
SHANELLE J. JACKSON	11/14
NICOLE DAWN CHANEY	11/14
DENISE D. RYAN	11/15
DONNA L. MORRIS	11/16
TERI L. REDENBAUGH	11/16
LISA K. BRADLEY	11/19
ELIZABETH HOLSHOUSER	11/22
CLAUDIA WEBER WAGNER	11/22
ERIC PEDER KNUDSEN	11/22
DESTAVIE S. ELLIS	11/25
PHYLLIS A. DAVIDSON	11/26
LISA DAWN COKER	11/27
DEANNA L. BIDDLE	11/29
DAN W. HOLMAN	11/30
J. PRESTON BELL	11/30
RACHEL A. HUDSON	11/30



Employee's December Date-of-Hire

DOUGLAS G. BENTIN	12/26/1985
ROSEMARY G. RYDEN	12/3/1996
EDWARD MARAND	12/1/1997
JOAN G. KENDALL	12/20/1999
AMY UPCHURCH	12/29/1999
SHARON THOMPSON	12/11/2000
DIANE RICE	12/23/2002
ANGELA K. RUPEL	12/7/2003
REGINALD WALKER	12/30/2004
JOSHUA LEWIS	12/4/2006
ALLEGRA D. SEALS	12/18/2006
DENNIS D. DELANO	12/3/2007
GRANT E. YOKLEY	12/5/2007
EDDIE H. WATTS	12/17/2007
GARY W. CROUCH	12/17/2007
SHARON L. YOUNG	12/17/2007
SHELLEY D. ASHMON	12/18/2007

December Birthdays

C. GEORGE NIEBANK, III	12/1
CAROL OVERTON	12/1
CHRIS CARROLL	12/1
EMILY K. GREEN	12/2
KIMBERLY RICKEY	12/2
ABE SIAVASHI	12/3
JENNIFER IRENE JONES	12/5
KIMBERLY VENTRELLA	12/5
AMY LAMINSKY	12/6
CHARLEEN K. MILLER	12/6
JONITA WHITE	12/7
DEB MONTGOMERY	12/9
VICTORIA E. DIXON	12/10
JAIME HACKWORTH	12/11
ALEXIS JOANN AUSTIN	12/12
ALICIA M. RUZYCKI	12/12
FAYE HORN	12/12
CINDY J. FRAZIER	12/13
SANDRA J. GONZAGA	12/14
LORETTA G. FRANTZ	12/15
BARBARA J. WILLIAMS	12/17
JENNIFER L. CANHAM	12/18
ROSEMARY A. CZARSKI	12/18
SUSAN K. BECKETT	12/20
KRISTIE K. KECK	12/21
REGINALD WALKER	12/21
DOUGLAS G. BENTIN	12/22
JENNIFER ADKISSON	12/22
ISABEL OLIVERA	12/22
TERI LYNN WOOLEY	12/22
TIMOTHY HAMMOND	12/22
JESSIE C. BISHOP	12/24
ANGELA OXTOBY	12/27
MARY E. TAYLOR	12/27
SUSAN CURTISS	12/27
KIMBERLY A. EDWARDS	12/28
PHILLIP E. TOLBERT	12/28
RAINNA L. OKAPAL	12/30
VERONICA ESCOBAR	12/30
ANDREA GESELL	12/31