August 2013

STAFF NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

MLS Staff Volunteers Rock Heartwalk

INSIDE



Birthdays & lire Dates

Well, you guys did it again. Several MLS Heartwalk Team Captains attended the American Heart Association's Heartwalk prize luncheon and not only did they have a great time celebrating over a million dollars raised this year, they were on hand to pick up some awards.

"We rocked the Heartwalk with 320 participants all wearing t-shirts designed by **Rick** George (MaC) and sponsored in part by myIPGI" said Heidi Port, "The rest of the walkers took note, because we not only looked fantastic during the walk, the t-shirt won best design for Heartwalk 2013! Way to go, Rick!

"Also, the Metropolitan Library System received the distinction of being a Gold Level Fit-Friendly Company. As one of only 16 companies to be honored as Fit Friendly, we should be really proud of the Wellness benefits we receive as employees and the hard work of our HUM Staff. You can view our award in the HUM Office next time vou're Downtown.

"As far as personal achievers go, **Tim** Daubenspeck was a 2013 Top Heartwalker and received a medal for personally raising over \$1,000.00! Attaboy, Tim!

"Together, the MLS Staff Volunteers raised a total of \$7,750.00 for the American Heart Association. What an honor to work with people who go above and beyond to make a difference in their community and show our rockin' MLS spirit!"

And that just about says it all.





Things Librarians Love

Downtown Library Circ Clerk **Chelsi House** recently sent out an email directing readers to a BuzzFeed article about the 30 things that librarians love.

The list has some amusing statements:

- #14 "Being territorial about your cart."
- #15 "...and customizing it."
- #16 "And book cart drill teams."

Other favorites are #19, "Being a better search engine than Google." and #30, "Defying Librarian Stereotypes, including probably some of the things on this list."

It's an amusing piece and if you haven't seen is already, take a look:

http://www.buzzfeed.com/jessicamisener/things-librarians-love

#10. Scaring your co-workers in the stacks.



Lending Library: *The Laughing Librarian: A History of American Library Humor*



By Jeanette C. Smith

In the public imagination, librarians are frequently seen as the perennial old maids (of both sexes), the Dudgeon Masters in a game customers will always lose if they raise their voices.

If we're often the butt of the joke, we can also be the merry pranksters who tell the joke. We can be funny. Really.

Here's the book that proves it. "The spectrum of library humor from sources inside and outside the profession ranges from the subtle wit of the New Yorker to the satire of Mad. This examination of American library humor over the past 200 years covers a wide range of topics and spans the continuum between light and dark, from parodies to portrayals of libraries and their staffs as objects of fear. It illuminates different types of librarians–the collector*, the organization person, the keeper, the change agent--and explores stereotypes like the shushing little old lady with a bun, the male scholar-librarian, the library superhero, and the anti-stereotype of the sexy librarian**. Profiles of the most prominent library humorists round out this lively study."

Author Jeanette C. Smith received the first-ever Edmund Lester Pearson Library Humor Award for a cautionary essay on the hazards of reading and driving. She has been a librarian since 1973 and a collector of library humor for almost as long. She lives in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

This is a book you'll definitely want to check out to read. It costs \$50. No joke.

*I don't want to mention any names because I hate myself already, but a particular writer of ShelfLife articles lives up to this definition perfectly.

**One of the 30 Things That Librarians Love is the idea of the sexy librarian. I won't bother to find an illustration because it'll just get cut before publication anyway, but you can find a reasonably acceptable example in the website listed under the article at left.



Editor's note: Whatever, Doug ;)

It's on the Intranet

How often do you go into the MLS Intranet to see what's going on in the system? You can find all kinds of reports there, as well as commentary from staff on a variety of subjects. It's not all just Calendar of Events.

For instance, recently Materials Selection posted some information that you might want to pass on to a customer with interest in how our collection of material grows. For instance, when you check out the report you'll see that during the month of June, Mat. Sel. selected 5,134 titles contributing to a monthly total of 33,273 items. That ended the fiscal year with 41,560 titles and 263,504 additional items. If you explain to a customer that s/he can always suggest titles for purchase, you can point out that MSL received 1,247 suggestions in June for stuff to buy, and that they closed out the year with 16,442 suggestions.

You can also point out that these numbers are increasing. In FY12, 25,529 new titles were cataloged, 1,746 of these being eMedia, and in FY13, 32,153 new titles went through cataloging, 8,594 being media.

This is just a smidgen of the data made available in the Mat. Sel. report, and that is just one report out of many on the Intranet. You should get into the habit of taking a look.



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

Fave Music:	Everything from Mozart to Black Sabbath
Fave Book:	<i>Letter to My Daughter,</i> by Maya Angelou
Fave Movie:	Soylent Green
Fave TV Show:	Portlandia
Fave Food:	Coconut milk ice cream
Fave Vacation:	Visiting the Rocky Mountains
Worst Vacation:	Motel 6, car transmission went out
Fave Season:	Spring
Fave Hobby:	Gardening
Family:	My awesome partner and lots of cats
Fave Pets:	Cats
Fave Social network:	Goodreads
Current repeat song on iPod: The Book I Read, by	
	Talking Heads
Special Skills:	Playing guitar for 19 years

What profession would you be in if you were not working at MLS? Probably (hint) working at the First Edition Café.

If you could witness any event past, present or future, what would it be? I want to see what 37 years in the future looks like, 2050... I'm interested to see how humanity will have progressed.

Answer on page 7





Risa White, "I have worked for MLS for a total of about two and a half years, first at ED as a half-time librarian, now at NW. I have worked or volunteered in libraries for four additional years outside of MLS."

Risa's spare time is taken up by "a little bit of everything - sewing, knitting, building with wood, home repair and remodeling, drawing and painting. I also enjoy learning new programming languages and playing with new (and old) technologies." Also in her spare time, "I have two children, a daughter who is 11 and entering junior high and a son who is 14 and entering high school. I have a boyfriend that I've been dating for two

wonderful years. I also have two grey tabby cats, Snuggles and Leo. Leo came from the NW library parking lot after being abandoned one night.

My favorite part of being a librarian is helping young people get excited about reading and finding new books they want to read."

Building a Reading City: **Reviewers Edition**

You read their reviews every month in *info* magazine. You hang on their every word. Admit it—you want to be them. Yes, I'm referring to our squad of MLS book reviewers. But of course, they don't review everything they read. Here are some titles they recommend, but decided for one reason or another not to review in *info*.



Phyllis Davidson, DN:

The Coroner's Lunch by Colin Cotterill–In 1972, Dr. Siri Paiboun, the national coroner of Laos, solves political murders with a little help from "the spirits."

Death of Yesterday by M. C. Beaton--In this 28th installment of the Scottish Highlands Sergeant Hamish Macbeth series, a young woman reports that her sketch book was stolen in a pub during a night of drinking, and then she turns up dead.

Linda Hyams: DN:

Olympia Snowe's *Fighting for Common Ground* 2013, didn't review it because I think politics are too controversial and everyone has an opinion. *The Everything Guide to Foraging*: Vickie Schufer: A great book with some really great information as I prepare for the zombie apocalypse.

Mrs. Mike, Benedict Freedman, a book I read when I was a teenager and found in system. It is a book that has been reprinted many times. It is the story of a pioneer woman who marries a Canadian Mountie and travels across the wilds of America. Although when I was a teen, I thought it was a true story, it apparently is a fictionalized account based on diaries. It was and still is a wonderful read that I didn't know the system had until I was discussing the book with **Buddy Johnson**. The first thing I noticed is that my recollection of what the story was about was a bit different than what I read now so many years later.

Christine Bassett, (BE)

Great Tales From English History: A Treasury of True Stories about the Extraordinary People -- Knights and Knaves, Rebels and Heroes, Queens and Commoners -- Who Made Britain Great by Robert Lacey.

This is eminently readable and highly entertaining, presenting a new perspective on people and historical facts in easily digestible short chapters. **Doug Bentin**, (MaC) : Just finished a collection of stories reprinted from the comic book *Crime Does Not Pay*, one of the most infamous titles from the 1940s-50s era. One of the editors, Bob Wood, proved that crime doesn't pay when he murdered his girlfriend, spent time in prison, and then was murdered by thugs when he got out. The book's not in system, alas.

Jana Hausburg (CH)

Okay, I just finished reading *Anna Karenina*, by Leo Tolstoy. I don't review classics because, well, they're classics, and most people have already read them for a college assignment or whatnot (although I saw a study recently that listed the top 20 books people pretend to have read, and Anna Karenina is #9) http://bookriot. com/2013/07/17/top-20-books-you-pretend-tohave-read/?doing_wp_cron=1374847231.9786 279201507568359375

But if you are looking for a tragic love story, you won't want to miss this 900+ page epic: unhappily married woman meets handsome military officer and has a scandalous affair which ends in her decapitation by train.

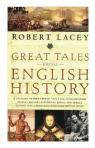
Sally McCurry (DC)

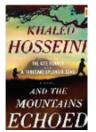
I'm currently reading And the Mountains Echoed by Khaled Hosseini. Set in Afghanistan, this is a rare book that reveals every human weakness (I counted) and offers such sweet redemption. Just finished Only The Bird Saviors by Will Cobb, a dystopian story in the dust storm beset Colorado and peopled with illegal immigrants in shantytowns, Morman survivalists, a grieving ornithologist, an unwed mother and child, and make it all about the redemptive power of forgiveness and acceptance, all while counting birds...

Immobility by Brian Evenson (shudder), an existential dystopian book, *Immobility* made me doubt my perceptions of reality as Sartre's *Being and Nothingness* never could.

In the After is another dystopia inhabited by zombies, ho-hum...









Bethany Library Readers Love Their Free Books

Daniel Fields shared two photos from Bethany's Summer at the Library program. "Two children who are among the more than 700 children and teens who have received a free book at Bethany, thanks to the generosity of the Sonic Drive-ins. Sage Anderson, age 11, liked *Star Wars*. Acacia Thomas, age 6, chose *Llama, Llama Mad at Momma*. Acacia reads for me from time to time and is an amazing reader!"



Acacia Thomas, age 6.

Sage Anderson, age 11.

You Got Talent? Prove It!



You come to work every day (well, it seems like every day) and you never have any idea of the hidden talents that exist all around you. Sure, you know that you have a remarkable facility for charming our feathered friends out of the trees with your astonishing repertoire of bird calls, but do you ever wonder what talents are held by the people you work with?

Soon you'll have the opportunity to be dazzled by MLS staff talent at

the Sept. 13 Staff Talent Show. It's the annual Staff Association Meeting, held this year in the Atrium of the Downtown Library.

As the official announcement put it:

"Calling all musicians, poets, artists, singers, comics, rappers, dancers, thespians, jugglers, magicians, impressionists and

all other talented people! Have you been looking for the perfect venue to showcase your talents to your fellow MLS staff? Well, look no further!

For our 2013 annual meeting, the Staff Association will be holding an 'open mic night' and wants YOU to share your talents with the rest of the staff. The evening's festivities will also include food and beverages."

It's free for performers and SA members; friends and relatives can purchase tickets for five bucks a pop. There'll be an RSVP form on the Intranet you'll need to fill out, but come on, if you can balance a computer monitor on the tip of your nose while riding a unicycle, you can fill out an online form.

Still Time to Apply for Lee B. Brawner Scholarship

You may have seen the recent announcement from HUM informing staff that the applications for the Lee B. Brawner Scholarship will be accepted through August 9.

Okay, but do you know what this scholarship is?

It's for full-time employees who have successfully completed the six month performance appraisal period prior to the beginning of the fall semester. You can apply for a reimbursement of up to \$150 per undergraduate credit hour or up to \$200 per graduate credit hour for a maximum of 18 credit hours per fiscal year--for tuition, books/materials and fees—for courses leading to an approved degree. The course work must relate to their present position or that prepare them for a promotional opportunity with the library system. The study and course work must be completed on the employee's own time although their supervisors have the discretion to "flex" the employee's regular work schedule to help accommodate the course work.

Hey, it's a little extra cash to put toward something that's good for you and you want to do anyway. Where's the downside? Details of the scholarship program and application forms are available on the INTRANET under Human Resources > Benefits > Scholarships.

Please contact **Elizabeth Kessler** at 606-3746 if you have any questions.

The ShelfLife Quiz:

Poisoned Pens

If you're like me, and I know you are, you look forward every year to August, specifically August 4, the anniversary of America's most intriguing murder case. 'Twas on that date in 1892 that someone took an axe to Andrew Borden and his second wife, Abby, and left them slightly the worse for wear. Did daughter Lizzie do it? She was acquitted, but doubt endures.

Real life murder cases have provided the inspiration for tales and novels since Edgar Allan Poe (who else?) created the murderous roman a clef in 1842. See if you can match the case with the story or novel suggested by it.

The Cases:

- 1. The serial killer was Williams Heirens, "The Lipstick Killer," who left a message at the scene of one of his murders: "for heaven's sake catch me before I kill more".
- 2. The O.J. Simpson case was behind this novel by a writer well-known for his connection to crime.
- 3. This exhaustive novel on the life and crimes of Gary Gilmore won the Pulitzer Prize.
- 4. The murder of bridge expert Joseph Elwell has faded from memory, as has this first novel in a once-famous series of detective stories.
- 5. Perhaps the most famous novel-based-on-true crime of them all, inspired by the bizarre crimes of "The Butcher of Plainfield" WI.
- 6. Partially based on the mysterious death of call girl Starr Faithful in 1931.

- 7. The author of this novel studied the Chester Gillette/Grace Brown murder for almost 20 years before beginning to write. Even Woody Allen used plot material from this one.
- 8. This huge bestseller from 1958 was written by the defense attorney in the trial of the crime the novel was based on. He later became a judge on the Michigan Supreme Court.
- 9. Another bestseller, this one used elements from the murder of small time hood Johnny Stompanato, at the time the boyfriend of movie star Lana Turner.
- 10. The ground zero of fact-based murder fiction, suggested by the disappearance and murder of Mary Rogers, "the beautiful cigar girl," in 1841.

The Choices

- A. Butterfield 8, by John O'Hara
- B. Anatomy of a Murder, by Robert Travers
- C. Dying in the Postwar World, by Max Allan Collins
- D. The Executioner's Song, by Norman Mailer
- E. An American Tragedy, by Theodore Dreiser
- F. The Mystery of Marie Roget, by Edgar Allan Poe
- G. Another City, Not My Own, by Dominick Dunne
- H. The Benson Murder Case, by S.S. Van Dine
- I. Where Love Has Gone, by Harold Robbins
- J. Psycho, by Robert Bloch

HELLO TO

Paris Johnson	Library A
Christian LeFlore	Comp. Op
Margo Moore	Circ Clerk
Tim Spindle	Virtual Lil
Luke Boughan	Library A
Colton Wyman	Library A

.ibrary Aide, WA Comp. Operator, IT Circ Clerk, ED /irtual Librarian, PLA .ibrary Aide, NW .ibrary Aide, NW

RETIRED

Jimmy Welch

Deputy Executive Director/Technology, IT

GOODBYE

Casey Pattillo	Library Aide, NW
Stephanie Sells	Library Aide, CH
Alisa Baez	Development. Assoc., DEV
Wendy Gabrielson	Librarian, DN
Mackenzie Cobb	Librarian, NW
Cory Perschbacher	Library Aide, WA

SYMPATHY

Lisa Walker, BO, whose father Don Thomas died July 12.

David Morand, BE, whose mother died in July.

Larinda Crossland, whose husband died in July.



Donna Morris presents Lori Piccolo and Kelley Hoffman with Gold-Fit Friendly Company award.



Paris Johnson



Christian LeFlore



Margo Moore



Tim Spindle



Luke Boughan



Colton Wyman



 The ShelfLife Quiz:

 Answers

 1. C
 5. J
 9. I

 2. G
 6. A
 10. F

 3. D
 7. E

 4. H
 8. B

August Bulletin Board

August Birthdays

BARBARA JOHNSON	8/1
LYNDA BAHR	8/1
ANDREA EMMONS	8/1
NAJAH HYLTON	8/1
DEBORAH	
AUSTIN-MUNDEN	8/2
CHRIS KENNEDY	8/2
AVERI LEE	8/2
JAMES NIMMO	8/3
CAROL PROVINE	8/3
LANDON HOLMAN	8/3
MARLENE SMITH	8/3
DAGMAR PEERY	8/4
JILL VESSELS	8/4
JONATHAN TOLLE	8/4
ANA ROMERO	8/4
SHARON NOLAN	8/5
LESSA	
KELLER-KENTON	8/5
KATRINA PRINCE	8/6
RICK GEORGE	8/6
MORRIS CRISP	8/6
ERIKA ONARSEE	8/6
REGINA WOLFINGER	8/7
KELLY DALRYMPLE	8/7
ANNA TODD	8/7
KATHY FRITSCH	8/8
LINDA ELSTON	8/9
ANGELA HILL	8/9
LENA KHADER	8/9
NITA NORMORE	8/10
ALMA DUNN	8/10
VICKEY SCRIVNER	8/11
JAMES GORDON	8/12
FRANCIE PENDLETON	8/13
SYLVIA LAWSON	8/13
ANITA ROESLER	8/13

PATRICIA MORGAN	8/13
LAURA MCMURTRY	8/13
LINDA JAMESON	8/14
DOCHELLE WHITLEY	8/14
JEFFERY CAMPBELL	8/14
JOEY SHELTON	8/15
DANIEL WEAVER	8/16
ANDREW PATTON	8/16
SHAINA WELLS	8/17
SUSIE BEASLEY	8/18
VAN BIELSTEIN	8/21
BETHANY MAGLEY	8/21
JEAN WILBURN	8/22
CRYSTAL EASLEY	8/22
BRANDON ROSE	8/22
JESSICA LITTLE	8/23
CYNTHIA MARTIN	8/24
LINDA HYAMS	8/25
L. J. BLAIR	8/25
MELISSA WALKUP	8/27
BRITTANY BARBER	8/27
ANN ALIOTTA	8/28
MELISSA FITZGERALD	8/28
LOIS CROSS	8/29
TIM FISHER	8/29
TERESA GOGGINS	8/29
SAMANTHA MURDOCH	K8/29
MELODY MORGAN	8/30
WENDY GABRIELSON	8/30
BETH STEELMAN	8/31
KAY BAUMAN	8/31
JONATHAN WILLIS	8/31
ALBERT BROWN	8/31

Employee's August Date-of-Hire

PRISCILLA DOSS	8/1/1972
CHERYL PERNELL	8/1/1979
PHILLIP TOLBERT	8/9/1982
SHARON MAINE	8/17/1982
BARBARA BEASLEY	8/1/1984
SHARON NOLAN	8/29/1989
KELLY DALRYMPLE	8/26/1991
GALEN KURTH	8/30/1993
JULIA BALLOU	8/30/1993
KAREN LITTERAL	8/31/1996
GLENN WEBB	8/25/1997
JANET BOWEN	8/25/1999
STEPHANIE GERLING	8/14/2000
DAVID CALHOUN	8/1/2001
KIM COBB	8/9/2001
JOHN WOOD	8/27/2001
FANNIE HARSHBARGER	8/10/2002
SHARON JORSKI	8/10/2002
GERALD HICKMAN	8/10/2002
BARBARA JOHNSON	8/10/2002 8/19/2002
NGOC NGUYEN	8/19/2002 8/3/2004
KEVIN COLWELL	
	8/30/2004
BARBARA PARR	8/1/2005
ANGELA HILL	8/2/2005
TERRIE THOMAS	8/8/2005
JOEY SHELTON	8/1/2007
LINDSAY EGLE	8/7/2007
STAN TAUCER	8/13/2007
ERIKA SALINAS	8/13/2007
JAIME HACKWORTH	8/27/2007
TRAVIS HOWELL	8/29/2007
VANESSA SPAETH	8/12/2008
JR DAY	8/10/2009
RANDY MYSTER	8/11/2009
KRISTEN GADLIN	8/12/2009
ALMA DUNN	8/2/2010
JON ROLLMAN	8/2/2010
LUISA MATTHYNSSENS	8/2/2010
MARY LONG	8/9/2010
GERALD RILEY	8/27/2010
ALEX HINTON	8/30/2010
JENNY BODENHAMER	8/22/2011
ALICE FIELDING	8/22/2011
CINDY REVELS-NIGG	8/22/2011
BETSY BROWN	8/25/2011
JOSHUA JORDAN	8/13/2012
BRITTANY SCHEIN	8/20/2012
GARY STOTLER	8/23/2012

September Bulletin Board



September Birthdays

MARY STRASNER	9/1
TERESA MATTHEWS	9/1
JOHN RAHHAL	9/2
DANIELLE WALKER	9/2
STEPHEN GO	9/3
AJAX DELVECKI	9/3
GERALD RILEY	9/6
PERRY WILSON	9/6
DARRIE BREATHWIT	9/6
JUDITH BATES-NEWBERRY	9/6
DUANE THURMOND	9/9
DIANE SARANTAKOS	9/9
KARA FRIED	9/9
TULIN LAFOLLETTE	9/10
LANNY MYERS	9/11
PRISCILLA DOSS	9/12
DAVID GROW	9/12
MARY SCHAEFER	9/12
CANDACE MCDANIEL	9/13
SAMUEL JOHNSON	9/13
LENARD WARD	9/13
BRITTANY SCHEIN	9/13
CHERYL PERNELL	9/14
VINCENT ARMIJO	9/14
KENDRA WILLIAMS	9/14
TRAVIS HOWELL	9/14
RUBY SOUTIERE	9/15
ELAINE PAGE	9/15
MOLLY GILES	9/16
PARIS JOHNSON	9/16
DEREK DAVIS	9/17
MELODY KELLOGG	9/18
SUSAN URBAN	9/18
ANGELA PAELTZ	9/19
ROSEMARY RYDEN	9/19
BRANDON JOHNSTON	9/20
GERALDINE ADAMS	9/21
LEAH QUARVE	9/21
ANDREW SOLIVEN	9/22
SHANNON RICE	9/24

ANGELA WILEY	9/26
TINDLE ARNOLD	9/26
DEBRA JACKSON	9/27
TAYLOR HORN	9/27
KAREN MARRIOTT	9/28
MEGAN HUGGINS	9/28
VANESSA SPAETH	9/28
LAURA VANWINKLE	9/29
SUSAN BURT	9/30
DAVID FRENCH	9/30
AMY WADE	9/30
GWYNETH WEATHERS	9/30

Employee's September Date-of-Hire

KAREN MARRIOTT 9/6/1977 SUSIE BEASLEY 9/18/1978 FAYE HORN 9/10/1979 JO NITA WHITE 9/25/1981 ALMA BROWN 9/16/1982 KAY BAUMAN 9/27/1982 PAMELA BUCHANAN 9/10/1985 SUSAN RYAN 9/13/1989 SHIRLEY HENDERSON 9/3/1991 JANA HAUSBURG 9/11/1995 DEBBIE ROBERTUS 9/11/1995 ANN MEEKS 9/11/1995 CRYSTAL SUPPES 9/25/1995 MARY TAYLOR 9/16/1999 LINDA WILLIAMS 9/7/2000 DIANE SHARP 9/17/2001 THOMAS GALLAGHER 9/16/2002 MATTHEW EVANS 9/17/2002 VAN BIELSTEIN 9/17/2002

Employee's September Date-of-Hire *Continued*

EMILY WILLIAMS 9/2/2003 **BURTON THURMOND** 9/16/2003 TERESA MATTHEWS 9/29/2003 MARY IOHNSON 9/13/2004 CORY NIEBANK 9/27/2004 CHRISTOPHER CADE 9/11/2006 BRITTANY BARBER 9/28/2006 CAROL ROBERTS 9/24/2007 **ROBIN SAGEL** 9/9/2008 **IENNIFER IONES** 9/9/2008 DARIN SMITH 9/17/2008 KRISTIN HILL 9/22/2008 MYRA DOVER 9/25/2008 DEREK DAVIS 9/7/2010 ALBERT BROWN 9/7/2010 **IOHN RAHHAL** 9/7/2010 LARINDA CROSSLAND 9/7/2010 DAVID MORAND 9/8/2010 DUSTIN CHANDLER 9/20/2010 SARA NORIEGA 9/21/2010 BRETTE HOLLY 9/19/2011 CARLA CORMACK 9/19/2011 KARIN DAUGHERTY 9/19/2011 LIGEIA CHAMPION 9/20/2011 FARRAH BUTLER 9/22/2011 SHEILAH WISER 9/22/2011 PHYLLIS EAGLE 9/4/2012 MEAGHAN HUNT-WILSON 9/17/2012 KATHERINE ETZKORN 9/17/2012 ERIC ROTHWELL 9/17/2012