

***Remembering Charles Beard
1940 – 2004***

Charles Beard, beloved member of SELA and a pillar of leadership in the association for decades, passed away on June 2, 2004. Several days before his passing, a retirement party was held for Charles at the State University of West Georgia. The tributes on the following pages were written by close colleagues both for this occasion and upon the news of his death. The Southeastern Library Association dedicates this issue to the memory of Charles E. Beard. A full obituary can be found later in this issue.

Charles E. Beard

1940 - 2004

Director of Libraries

State University of West Georgia

Carrollton, Georgia

Charles E. Beard died at the Emory University Hospital in Atlanta on June 2, 2004. He had been in poor health for a number of months and was scheduled to retire on June 30th after 26 years as the Director of Libraries at the State University of West Georgia in Carrollton. A retirement celebration was held for him on the 28th of May, put on by the library staff and the university. Charles was unable to attend, but the program and speakers were video taped for him, which he enjoyed hearing about later in the hospital.

The contribution which Charles Beard made over the years for all types of libraries is unique and outstanding, from running an exemplary library at SUWG to being one of the founders and continuing 'godfathers' of GALILEO to practicing what he preached in the arena of intellectual freedom to supporting actively library needs, both academic and public, in the halls of Congress and the halls of the state legislature to heading up ACRL conferences to terms as president of SELA and GLA (two terms) to countless other acts of supporting library associations and librariesand supporting his many friends, in and out of libraries. He was truly a giant among us, we are grateful for his presence and his friendship, and truly he will be missed.

Funeral services were held in the First Baptist Church of Scottsboro, Alabama on June 5, 2004. It was this beautiful Alabama country side from which Charles Beard came and which nurtured his life and values, and it was to there he was returned. Memorials may be made to The Charles E. Beard Endowment for the Ingram Library, State University of West Georgia, 1601 Maple Street, Carrollton, Georgia, 30918.

--Dr. Leland M. Park, Library Director
Davidson College, Davidson, NC

A sample of remarks made by colleagues on the occasion of
Charles Beard's Retirement Party
The Alumni House, State University of West Georgia
Friday, May 28, 2004

It is difficult to summarize the career of someone in just two or three minutes. Charles certainly makes that very difficult. Since I am the first library speaker, I felt a little pressure about setting the tone. Should I make you laugh or make you cry or make you think? While I was considering my approach, I consulted a book of quotations. That's always a good way to start. I started paging through the volume with "A." I saw a quote by Aristotle. No, that was not Charles. I paged faster and paused in the "Cs." Churchill said a lot of clever and interesting things. I drew the analogy that Charles was an articulate leader like Winston Churchill, and looked more closely for a quote. But, then I thought, "No, the accents are not right!" But then it struck me: Churchill was a great statesman and Charles is a statesman. Others will say Charles is a leader. He is. Others will tell you humorous incidents in his life. There were probably many. Others will comment on his wit and his charm. But, I want you to consider one thing: Charles is a statesman. This is his unique quality that made him so effective to the Georgia Library Association and all the other organizations that he served. Thank you, Charles, for all you have done. May you have a happy and well-deserved retirement.

--Dr. George R. Gaumont, University Librarian, Valdosta State University
President, Georgia Library Association



I've known Charles since he had red hair. We first met when we were serving on a SELA conference committee together more than twenty years ago when I was working in Alabama. Charles has contributed to the Southeastern Library Association at extraordinary levels during his many years of active service -- including a biennium as president. Many of us owe him a personal debt of gratitude. For example, from the time we worked together on the SELA committee Charles served as one of my mentors and was the person who helped me get my first assignment to a LAMA committee. I doubt that I would be representing Georgia on ALA Council without Charles' help and inspiration. Many other SELA members can tell similar stories of how he helped them in their careers. He did a great deal to make the Southeastern Library Association what it is today.

There isn't time to share the many messages I received from ALA when I shared the fact that Charles is retiring. One was particularly exciting. Susan DiMattia, editor of *Library Hotline*, wrote: "Charles is one of my all-time favorite ALAers, so I'll certainly send a personal note, but I'd like to put something in *Library Hotline* as well." After I sent her the information she requested about Charles, she sent a note saying she hoped she could do him credit. That issue of *Library Hotline* is something to which we can all look forward with anticipation.

We offer all best wishes to our legendary friend and colleague upon his retirement! Thanks, Charles!

--Ann Hamilton,
President, The Southeastern Library Association
Georgia Library Association councilor to ALA



I am very happy to be here to celebrate Charles Beard's career in and for libraries. Ann mentioned that Charles had red hair when she first knew him. When I met Charles his hair was already gray. I thought he was born that way. I was lucky enough to meet Charles early in my career and later in his so that I was able to have Charles as an advisor and mentor. That is what I will talk to you about today, "What I learned from Charles Beard." Although I think everyone who is here today would tell you that they learned from him too. One of the very first things that I learned from Charles, as a brand new library director, was the difference between whining and advocating. I have to give Ralph Russell partial credit for this because I learned from Ralph that I was whining in the first place. But the difference, Charles taught me,

is preparation, persistence and taking action. Charles' passion for libraries, his clear focus, and his sense of purpose have been felt throughout the library world. As the years have gone on, I have developed a way to "channel Charles" in the tough times. His words will come to me when I cannot find the words to say myself to advocate for a library. I can hear his voice so clearly in those times in the back of my head.

On the other hand, when I am asked to run for an office or pick up a responsibility, Charles' voice is there too to encourage me to be a good representative of libraries. Sometimes those are the times that I wish Charles had not had such a clear focus, sense of purpose and dedication to service. Sometimes I wish I could not hear his voice so clearly in those times. It is not easy to attempt to follow in his footsteps. Charles' passion was very strong. Charles' passion for libraries, the people who work in libraries and the people that use libraries will be remembered. He has planted seeds of advocacy across the nation in person after person. Each of us will remember Charles in our own special way but I know that I will be just one more librarian who will be very grateful to Charles Beard for that passion.

--Debbie Holmes, Director, Floyd College Library
Rome, Georgia



Charles has been such a good colleague and friend that it is hard to know where to begin these remarks. Of the many things that come to mind...

First, Charles is a great and good advocate for libraries, and for building the advocacy skills and effectiveness of librarians. Long after we all are gone, his legacy of effective advocacy programs will continue to build strong library support and therefore strong libraries. How many of us can look at our contributions to our professions and see the same long-term impact on the future of libraries?

Second, Charles always uses his charm and powers of persuasion to great effect. You may have seen Charles hovering around the raffle tables for the Hubbard Scholarship, waiting to charm one and all into buying raffle tickets for this worthy cause. I would meet him there every year. Without even realizing it, I found myself buying just a few more tickets, and then a few more. Under the influence of Charles' enthusiasm and sweet talk I would start buying a dozen raffle tickets, then a dozen more, then more. After being in Georgia I am up to an annual purchase of about 100 tickets, all because Charles admires the prizes, talks about the value of the scholarship program, and looks into my eyes to assure me that THIS is my year.... Of course, I have never won a single thing, but Charles' optimism makes victory seem possible.

Third, Charles did good work on the SOLINET Board of Directors. In addition to his Board work in service to library cooperation, he also took responsibility for ordering the wine at the SOLINET Board dinners. Charles knows his wine. He became known for ordering a wine from France, "Fat Bastard". We were fascinated that he ordered this wine because he was neither fat nor a....well. Evidently the name means something else in France.

These three things sum up my view of Charles: permanent contributions to the library profession, charm in aid of a good cause, and gracious entertaining. Thank you, Charles.

--Kate Nevins
Executive Director, SOLINET



I am really sorry that Charles and I are missing this party, but I am happy to have the opportunity to share in this experience. The first time I met Charles Beard was at a RACL (Regents' Advisory Committee on Libraries) meeting in the Spring of 1987. He had on shorts over a swimsuit and was talking about getting a bridge game together. I was told by another library director that he was someone I should get to know. I thought "I don't know about this". Here we are at a professional meeting and he's got on shorts and

talking about bridge games! I didn't see directors in shorts when I was in Virginia. Then at the next meeting (as well as subsequent meetings), Charles brought the party!!! He invited everyone to his room (or suite if he could talk the hotel staff into providing it at the same rate!!). He would bring after-dinner drinks and little cordial glasses! Other times he was dressed in a **VERY** spiffy manner. What I learned was that Charles wasn't just a party animal, he was about relationship building. This relationship building has meant so much to the successes that we have had as a library community in Georgia. So I decided that I had to learn from Charles.

I don't recall ever being in a meeting where we were discussing providing services that he didn't say "Now y'all we have to look out for everyone". Depending on the discussion, that meant look out for the smaller libraries that may not have as many resources or look out for the public libraries or the technical college libraries that may have different needs. He also set the tone for resource sharing by letting everyone know that West Georgia's Library served the community and about his own experiences on the Reference Desk. He wanted access to information for all of Georgia's citizens and wasn't afraid to tell anyone who would listen about that. It earned both recognition and respect from legislators on the state and national level. One congressman said to me "oh yeah that's what the guy from Carrollton told us". Another said to me "the librarian from West GA came to see me." And I recently saw library supporter and former Congressman Newt Gingrich in the Norfolk airport and asked if he knew that Charles was retiring. He said "Charlie Beard is such a good guy". On *that* we agree!

Charles played so many roles and served on thousands of committees, but he helped write the original proposal that became GALILEO and is currently serving on the GALILEO Steering Committee. It truly wasn't about him, but how we serve students, how can we serve faculty, how can we serve our communities and improve the educational level of people in the state. And he wasn't afraid to brag on his staff or to admit they drove him crazy, but in a good way. His openness and support just contributed to everyone's comfort levels. But he also wasn't afraid to speak about problems or issues that needed resolving. He also wasn't opposed to tracking you down to solve a problem or get a question answered.

Charles likes to tease too. He would introduce me as the Queen of GALILEO. Well one day, I made the mistake of saying – "no not Queen. Queens are always getting their heads chopped off. I want to be Empress!!!" So not only does he call me Empress – he has told everyone else that too. Someone even delivered a tiara and scepter on his behalf!!! Charles is such a Southern gentleman he always kids me and tells me that I'm from that Southern school too and he always wants to know if I am setting the table with my grandmother's china. We both are from Alabama. But the big secret that isn't so secret is that we always seemed to meet up at the Marshall Field's in Chicago – getting Frango Mints!!

When I went to Paris for the first time I saw a lot of things, but I didn't really feel like I was in Paris until I saw the Eiffel Tower. That is what ALA meetings or other meetings were like. I would be there, but until I heard Charles Beard's special laugh in the convention center or in the exhibit hall as he talked with a colleague I never felt I was really there. He may have been at a distance and we didn't get to speak – we may have just waved, but it was ok, I was now at ALA or GLA. I guess it is because Charles embodies the best of our profession. Librarians interested in providing access to all, supporting colleagues of all types, tackling problems, advocating for resources to provide access or problem solutions, being a total gentleman and having a good time while doing it.

Even though *I'll* never be in a swimsuit at a professional meeting and I haven't yet learned to play bridge, I know that in our midst we will be constantly evoking his name with "now y'all know, if Charles was here, he would say 'we have to think about everyone'". We've learned so much from him. I guess I should say that first time I met Charles was at Sapelo Island (Georgia). Charles we love you. Take care. Hope to see you soon.

Merrill S. Penson
Executive Director for Library Services
Board of Regents
University System of Georgia



It is easier to describe someone in a five page essay than it is in a few words. Since there are many tributes today and none of us planned ahead to avoid overlap, I will try to distill the essence of Charles in a few words, an almost impossible task. I took for a guideline his name, Charles. So what is Charles? The **C** is for caring. Each and every one of us gathered today knows how much he has cared for all of us over the years. **H** is for helpful. He never knew the meaning of the word no and is always ready to help with what needs to be done. **A** stands for accepting of all. **R** is for reliable but also I have to add roguish. **L** is for loving and also his laugh. **E** stands for energetic; who else starts the day with so many stomach crunches and is still playing bridge waaaaay past midnight? **S** is for his special smile. These words for me describe the essence of Charles.

--Kathleen Imhoff, Executive Director
Lexington Public Library
Lexington, KY

Photos from the retirement party for Charles Beard are available at
<http://www.westga.edu/~library/charles/>

Message from the President



Whether you are new to the profession and/or the association or you have many years of library experience, there is something you can do to become more active in the Southeastern Library Association. Now that my biennium as president is more than half over, I'd like to use this column to encourage both membership recruitment and increased participation in the association at all levels.

Recruitment:

- Do you have a mentor whom you met via SELA?

If you do, encourage colleagues and friends to join so they may have the same opportunity.

- Do you need/want a mentor?

If you do, join SELA, and meet some of the many experienced librarians who contribute to SELA - one of the two largest regional organizations in the nation.

- Do you have fond memories of a conference in a city you might not have visited if not for attending a SELA biennial conference?

If you do, encourage colleagues and friends to join SELA so they will have a similar opportunity through attending the joint conference with NCLA in Charlotte in November 2004.

- Do you think it is important to attend programs given by presenters from other states and to network with librarians from other states without going to a national conference?

If you do, encourage friends and colleagues to join SELA so they will have that opportunity in Charlotte in 2004 and at future conferences.

- Do you know someone who would like to expand her/his resume through professional presentation experience?

If you do, encourage him/her to join SELA and start planning a presentation for an upcoming SELA conference.

If each member of SELA recruits one new member, we would double association membership!

Increased Participation:

- Do you have editing experience?

If so, apply to serve as the editor of *The Southeastern Librarian*.

- Do you have web experience that you'd like to expand?

If you do, let Judith Gibbons know you'd be interested in working with the SELA web site for the next biennium.

- Do you want to add professional section, round table or committee service to your resume?

If you do, let me know so that we can start preparing to appoint committees for the 2005-2006 biennium. There is a place for every interest through the sections, round tables, and committees that make up SELA.

If you would like more information about SELA, please see the web page at <http://sela.lib.ucf.edu/>.

--Ann Hamilton

A SPLENDID COMBINATION!

North Carolina Library Association Centennial Conference & Southeastern Library Association Biennial Conference

**Charlotte, North Carolina- November 9-13, 2004
Charlotte Convention Center/ Westin Charlotte Hotel**

This will be the first-ever joint conference of SELA and NCLA! Take this opportunity to join your colleagues in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the North Carolina Library Association. Add in the Charlotte experience -- the vibrant urban scene, the brand-new downtown trolley with a stop inside the new Convention Center, the "Heavenly Beds" of the new Westin Charlotte (at a \$99 conference rate!) -- not to mention great libraries, museums and galleries, shopping possibilities including a new Nordstrom's, and much, much more...

Included in the registration charges are admissions to these all-conference events:

- Vendor Reception in the Exhibit Area on November 10
- Reception at the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County on November 10
- " Presidents' Luncheon" Celebration on November 11
- Reception at the Levine Museum of the New South on November 11
- Dessert/Tea on November 12

For additional information and to register go to <http://sela.lib.ucf.edu/Conferences.htm> or www.nclaonline.org. If you are interested in planning a program or volunteering, please contact:

John Via, Forsyth County Public Library,
660 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
ph: 336-727-2556 fax: 336-727-2549 viaje@forsythlibrary.org

Call for Poster Sessions at the 2004 SELA/NCLA Conference

The SELA Poster Sessions Committee invites you to submit a poster session proposal for the SELA Biennial Conference to be held November 9-13, 2004, in Charlotte, NC.

Poster sessions are informal presentations of unique and trend-setting programs and activities carried out in academic, research, public, and/or special libraries. Potential presenters of poster sessions should contact the following for an application form for participation:

Jessica Buehring jbuehring@library.msstate.edu or
Elizabeth Urbanik urbanik@library.msstate.edu, SELA Poster Sessions Coordinators

Mitchell Memorial Library
Mississippi State University
P.O. Box 5408
Mississippi State, MS 39762-5408

Deadline for submissions is [August 20, 2004](#).

Stateside News

Alabama

Alabama Inaugurates History Web Portal

During the Alabama Library Association Centennial Conference in April 2004, Dr. Robert S. Martin, director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), introduced public access to AlabamaMosaic, a webportal for Alabama history. The project is sponsored by the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL), and made possible in part through a \$500,000 grant from IMLS. NAAL is assisting libraries, museums, archives, and other repositories to digitize materials from special collections that will enrich research in Alabama history topics. The portal, currently under development, can be found at <http://alabamamosaic.org/>. The search engine and digital file management system are part of Encompass provided by Endeavor, Inc.

Media Center Opens

The University of Alabama Libraries has opened a leading edge, digital media production center for students on the second floor of Gorgas Library. As an open resource for the University's students at large, the Lillie Florence Jones Sanford Media Resource and Design Center, also known as THE R&D, provides students with collaborative and interdisciplinary learning opportunities. The facility will feature computers, audio-visual hardware, software, and instruction, and will give students the experience of becoming producers and authors of multimedia content. Resources in THE R&D will allow students to work in graphic design, Web design, remote file transfer, page layout, video editing, DVD authoring, audio recording, musical composing, CD authoring, and file format conversions. For more information about THE R&D, contact Dickie Cox, Media Services Coordinator, University Libraries, rccox@bama.ua.edu. Online information is available at <http://www.lib.ua.edu/randd/>.

University of Alabama Receives Grant

The University of Alabama Libraries, in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, General Library System, has received a grant of \$226,653 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to digitize publishers' book bindings and develop a thesaurus and glossary of trade binding terminology. The three-year grant will permit the libraries to develop a digital encyclopedia documenting the history and artistry of decorative book bindings produced between 1815 and 1925. The Web-accessible database

produced through the grant will include up to 10,000 images of 19th century trade book bindings, including covers, spines, end papers, and title pages.

Arkansas

Encyclopedia Arkansas

An ambitious endeavor to produce The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture has been undertaken by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, a department of the Central Arkansas Library System. The encyclopedia will be a comprehensive reference tool available in multiple formats and will cover Arkansas history, politics, culture, folklore, and more. The online version will be introduced during a celebration of Arkansas Statehood Day on June 15, 2005. Soon to follow will be the CD/DVD version, complete with lesson plans and instructional materials for grades K-12. A two-volume print edition will be published in 2010. Updating of the online version will be continual. Several grants have contributed to the feasibility of the project.

Clinton Presidential Library to Open This Fall

The opening celebration of the Clinton Presidential Center will be held November 14-18, 2004. The Center is located on the banks of the Arkansas River in downtown Little Rock's River Market District. The Center will include a museum, an archival collection, and educational and research facilities. Adjacent to the Center will be the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service. The Clinton School will begin offering degrees in public service in the fall of 2004. The Presidential Center and the School of Public Service are both located within a thirty-acre park that will include a pavilion, an amphitheater, a children's playground, and walking/biking trails.

Watercolorists Exhibition Held

The 34th Annual Mid-Southern Watercolorists Exhibition was held April 3 - May 29, 2004, in the Showcase Arkansas Gallery of the Central Arkansas Library System's Cox Creative Center. The exhibit featured entries from Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee, and Texas. The Central Arkansas Library System's annual exhibition is coordinated by its history and archives division. The division's large permanent collection on Arkansas history and culture includes numerous holdings in the visual arts.

Florida

Anonymous Donors Give USF Medieval Manuscripts Worth \$4.5 Million

The University of South Florida Libraries has received a medieval manuscript collection as an estate gift, USF President Judy Genshaft announced at a benefit reception in February. Worth an estimated \$4.5 million, this collection of sacred writings documents the religious beliefs and practices of Christians, Muslims and Buddhists and provides an invaluable and often aesthetically beautiful record of humanity's quest for the divine. The collection is on display through Aug. 31 in the library's Special Collections Reading Room on the fourth floor. This exhibition is the second in the six-part series *Sacred Leaves*, which features selections from the gift collection. Faculty and students of the School of Art and Art History and the Tampa Library's Special Collections staff have collaborated to produce the display.

UCF Opens Rosen College of Hospitality Management Library

The University of Central Florida (UCF) Libraries opened the Rosen College of Hospitality Management Library on January 5, 2004. The 9,000 square foot branch is an integral component of the school's new, \$28 million campus located near International Drive and the Orange County Convention Center, in the heart of Central Florida's tourist and convention region. The library offers seating for 150, 24 public access computers, wireless laptops for checkout, a 25-seat instruction room, media workstations, group study rooms, an opening collection of 4,000 volumes (with capacity for 17,000), 80 print serial subscriptions onsite, and access to the entire UCF Libraries collection. The library will serve the research needs and interests of the Rosen School's 900 students and faculty, the greater UCF community, as well as providing an information resource for the hospitality industry in Central Florida. Staffing consists of two librarians, three support staff and six student assistants. The campus of the Rosen College of Hospitality Management was made possible



largely through a generous gift of Orlando

hotelier and UCF trustee Harris Rosen. For more information go to <http://www.library.ucf.edu/Rosen/>. Pictured above are left to right: Barry Baker, Director of UCF Libraries; Abraham Pizam, Dean of the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management; and Deborah Ebster, Head of the UCF Rosen Library. Dean Pizam is checking out the first book at the Rosen Library.

Library Wins Betty Davis Miller Award

The LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System was named winner of the Florida Library Association's 2004 Betty Davis Miller Award for *Baby Time: A Storytime Program for Infants and Caregivers*. The award recognizes outstanding direct library service to youth in Florida by a library or library organization. Developed in response to emerging trends in the library's traditional storytime programs, Baby Time targets babies and toddlers (0 – 2 ½ years) and their parents or caregivers. The Baby Time program aims to nurture a love of reading and language by using songs, music, finger rhymes, action rhymes, poems and short stories. Pictured below from left to right are Mary Jo Peltier, Public Services Manager; Maria Mena, Youth Services Coordinator; and Gary Crew, Youth Services



Librarian.

Georgia

Teens Win Poetry Contest

The Sequoyah Regional Library System held its first annual poetry-writing contest during April, the month designated by the Academy of American Poets as National Poetry Month. Over 90 poems were submitted by 70 teens, aged 13 to 18. Three judges--Harry Farrell, a former school principal, Patti Baker, a Cherokee County Board of Education member, and Linda Stetson, from the Georgia Public Library Service--

selected a winning poem in each of two age groups--13 to 15 years old and 16 to 18 years old, and an overall runner-up. The 1st place award in the 13-15-year old category was presented to Amanda Schroeder of Woodstock. The 1st place award in the 16-18 year old category was presented to Hannah Bobo of Holly Springs. Each 1st place winner received a \$100 savings bond from the Bank of North Georgia. Runner-up was awarded to Caleb Smith of Fairmount. The contest was open to all teens in Cherokee, Gilmer, and Pickens Counties and was conducted by Deborah Corrao and Jan Fogarty of the Youth Services Department.

Kentucky

KLA Update

The Kentucky Library Association (KLA) held a successful joint conference with the Kentucky School Media Association in October, 2003 at the Galt House in Louisville. Over 600 attended. New officers were installed during the business meeting. KLA Executive Board members for 2004 are:

Carol Nutter - President
Linda Kompanik - President-Elect
Candy Zaluski - Secretary
Sue Burch - Immediate Past President
Tom Underwood - Executive Secretary

With a current membership of 1,596, the association is strong and financially healthy. KLA has recently partnered with Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com to generate additional association revenue. The KLA home page has links to these companies and a percentage of the sales from orders placed through these links comes back to the state library association. This partnership is a result of the work of the Membership Committee during 2003 and 2004.

Louisiana

Louisiana Students Choose 2004 Young Readers' Choice Award Winner

Students across Louisiana have chosen *Petite Rouge: A Cajun Red Riding Hood* (Dial Books for Young Readers, 2001) as the winner of the 2004 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award. Authored by Mike Artell of Mandeville, the winning title garnered 3,434 votes from Louisiana third, fourth and fifth graders. The Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award is a reading enrichment program of the Center for the Book

in the State Library of Louisiana. A committee of school and public librarians chooses the 15 recent children's titles that comprise each year's YRCA ballot. The list offers young readers a well-balanced array of books in various genres, including fiction, nonfiction, folklore and poetry. *The Other Side*, by Jacqueline Woodson (Penguin USA, 2001), received 1,469 votes, making it the 2004 Honor Book. "Studies indicate that children who read for pleasure are more likely to excel at reading and succeed in school," noted State Librarian Thomas F. Jaques. "Teachers, librarians and parents recognize that the Young Readers' Choice Award program is an excellent way to encourage Louisiana students to read by enabling them to participate in selecting the winning book." More information about the Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award program, including a list of titles on the 2005 ballot, is available from the State Library web site at <http://www.state.lib.la.us/>.

Mississippi

"Mississippi Reads" *Girl In Hyacinth Blue* Mississippi Reads," a statewide reading project of the Mississippi Library Commission and the Mississippi Center for the Book, kicked off April 1, 2004. The program is designed to encourage Mississippians to read and discuss the same book during 2004. The selection complements The Glory of Baroque Dresden exhibit currently on display in Jackson. The selected book, *Girl in Hyacinth Blue*, by Susan Vreeland, shares the same historical theme and period and offers many opportunities for learning through history, art, and literature. Book discussions and programs relating to the theme will be held around the state. "Mississippi Reads" is a partnership between the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Mississippi Commission for International Cultural Exchange, Inc., Friends of Mississippi Libraries, Inc., and the Mississippi Library Commission. The mission of the Mississippi Center for the Book is to celebrate Mississippi's rich literary heritage through reading, writing and the books arts. The Center for the Book is an affiliate of the Library of Congress Center for the Book program.

Digital Desktop Comes to MSU

A unique collaboration between Mississippi State University and the Maryland-based National Agricultural Library is allowing Mississippi researchers easier and faster access to the most recent science-based agricultural information available. In a recent campus ceremony,

university President Charles Lee and NAL director Peter R. Young officially inaugurated the first-of-its-kind partnership between the Bethesda facility, the world's leading repository of agricultural materials, and MSU. Called DigiTop- or Digital Desktop- the service now being demonstrated at Mitchell Memorial Library provides full-text electronic access to resources in the agricultural sciences, as well as reference and article delivery services. The project also is testing the feasibility, costs and effectiveness of the system, with the goal of potentially expanding to other universities. For MSU agricultural researchers spread among Mississippi's 82 counties, the project will mean easy access to thousands of current journals and newspapers, said Vance Watson, MSU vice president for agriculture, forestry and veterinary medicine. The MSU Libraries already participates in the NAL's Agricultural Online Access, or AGRICOLA, which contains bibliographic records of materials acquired by NAL and cooperating institutions in agricultural and related sciences. The National Agricultural Library (<http://www.nal.usda.gov>) is part of the Agricultural Research Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's primary agency for scientific study. Pictured below: Dean of Libraries Frances Coleman assists President Charles Lee (second from left) with documents formalizing a new collaboration between Mississippi State and the National Agricultural Library. Looking on are NAL director Peter Young (second from right) and Vance Watson, the university's vice president for agriculture, forestry and veterinary medicine.



North Carolina

NCSU Libraries Receives ALA Award for Excellence in Reference Services

The North Carolina State University Libraries is the 2004 recipient of The Gale Group Award for Excellence in Reference and Adult Services awarded by the Reference and User Services

Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). The \$3,000 award and citation, donated by The Gale Group, recognizes a library or library system for developing an imaginative and unique library resource to meet users' reference needs. The NCSU Libraries won the award for the creation of the U.S. Congressional Bibliographies Web site. The database is freely available via the Internet. Users should go to the NCSU Libraries' Research Resources page www.lib.ncsu.edu/eresources/ and click on the link entitled "Congressional Bibliographies."

NCSU Librarians Receive Samuel Lazerow Fellowship

Karen M. Letarte and Jacqueline P. Samples, both Cataloging Department librarians at North Carolina State University, are the joint recipients of the 2004 Samuel Lazerow Fellowship, which includes an award of \$1,000 to support travel or writing. The fellowship, sponsored by Thomson Scientific and presented annually by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), fosters advances in collection development and technical services. In their fellowship application, Letarte and Samples presented a research proposal focused on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR). Their proposal was entitled "Looking at FRBR Through Users' Eyes: Toward Improved Catalog Displays for Electronic Serials."

South Carolina

University of South Carolina Acquires Unique Fitzgerald Collection

More than 2,000 manuscript pages of screenplays written by F. Scott Fitzgerald during 1937-1938, when he worked for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Hollywood, have been acquired by the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library. The collection, which comprises the largest single cache of Fitzgerald manuscripts ever offered for sale, was purchased with private funds for \$475,000. According to American novelist, John Jakes, "The acquisition is important to the teaching and study of Fitzgerald now and for decades to come. Understanding an author's process is fundamental to understanding his finished work, and that's especially true of the 'Hollywood Period,' much of which is still befogged in rumor and half-truth." The new collection will be called the Warner Brothers Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald Screenplays and

will become part of the University's Matthew J. And Arlyn Brucoli Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald, which is the most comprehensive collection of material about the author and his era. Dr. Brucoli was instrumental in negotiating the acquisition of the manuscripts for the library. The new collection will be made available to scholars for research and will be used in classes at the University.

New Exhibit Highlights Rare Books about Mexican History

A new exhibit at the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library displays illustrated books and maps about Mexico from the sixteenth century to the late nineteenth century. The exhibit documents the gradual process by which information about the cultures and history of pre-Columbian Mexico was described and publicized in Spain and in Mexico itself, as well as in rival European countries such as the Netherlands, Britain, and France, and in the United States. Most of the books on display have been in the USC library since the 1830s and 1840s. They are dramatic evidence of the intellectual ambitions of the original South Carolina College and of the worldwide range of the books that were purchased for its library. The oldest item on display is an engraving of Mexico City printed in 1565, from the Italian writer Ramusio's *Voyages*. Other early works include illustrations of Aztec customs by the German Theodor de Bry from 1594, and Dutch engraved maps from the seventeenth century by the Dutchmen De Laet and Montanus. Some of the most impressive volumes are from the early

nineteenth century such as Alexander von Humboldt's great folio *Vue des Cordelleres et Monuments des Peuples Indigene de l'Amerique* (Paris, 1810) and Lord Kingsborough's seven-volume *Antiquities of Mexico* (London, 1830), with its colored facsimiles of pre-Columbian illuminated manuscripts. The architecture of the pre-Columbian Aztec and Mayan cultures is represented both from Kingsborough's work and from the American J. L. Stephens's books about the Yucatan (1841 and 1843). For inquiries about the exhibit items, contact the Department of Rare Books & Special Collections, at (803) 777-8154.

Correction

Volume 52, No. 1, (Spring 2004) of *The Southeastern Librarian* contains two articles which did not recognize all authors. "Is There a Next for Reference Librarians" is co-authored by Linda Cox, Gail Stern Kwak, Abbie Landry and Fleming Thomas. "Results of a SELA Planning Survey is co-authored by Carol S. Brinkman, Diane Brown, Ravonne Green, Mary L. Smalls and Wil Weston.

The Southeastern Librarian Seeks New Editor

The Southeastern Library Association (SELA) seeks an experienced writer or editor to produce *The Southeastern Librarian (SELn)*, the official journal of the association. The quarterly publication seeks to publish articles, announcements, and news of professional interest to the library community in the southeast. Two newsletter-style issues serve as a vehicle for conducting Association business, and two issues include juried articles. Review of applications will continue until appointment is made. Applicants must make a two-year commitment and attend the SELA biennial conference and leadership meeting.

The editor will be responsible for soliciting manuscripts for feature articles and news of interest, receiving, approving and editing submissions. The editor will establish a close working relationship with and serve as liaison to the SELA Board and Committees. Serves as ex-officio member of the Executive Board. The incoming editor will assist with production of the Fall, 2004 and Winter 2004/2005 issues and will assume the full duties of editor with the Spring, 2005 issue. Applicants must be SELA members and have a strong overall knowledge of the association and its goals, have an interest in and knowledge of issues relevant to libraries, and a familiarity with current library literature. Applicants must have written and published articles and/or have editorial experience. Preferred applicants will have experience or familiarity with the technical and editorial issues associated with electronic and web publishing. Access to word-processing software and electronic mail is essential for the editor. The editor receives an honorarium of \$300 per issue. Applicants should send a resume and cover letter summarizing their editorial philosophy and at least two samples of published work or editorial activities to:

Judith Gibbons
Vice-President/President-Elect, Southeastern Library Association
Director, Field Services Division
Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
300 Coffee Tree Road; P.O. Box 537
Frankfort, KY 40602-0537
Voice: 502-564-8300, extension 271
E-Mail: judith.gibbons@ky.gov

The successful candidate will be asked to provide professional references. Questions may be directed to Ms. Gibbons or to Frank Allen, outgoing editor. Mr. Allen can be reached at fallen@mail.ucf.edu. Membership and general information about the Southeastern Library Association may be found at <http://sela.lib.ucf.edu/>.

Special Announcement

It is with sincere appreciation to everyone at SOLINET for their many years of assistance in providing SELA Administrative Services, that we announce that effective July 1 those services will be provided through a different company. The new address will be:

SELA Administrative Services
P.O. Box 950
Rex, GA 30273 770/961-3520
bobfox@mail.clayton.edu

It is important that everyone understand that we were in no way dissatisfied with the assistance we received from SOLINET. The reduced amount of income received from our last conference led the Budget Committee to take considerable reductions in the budget for the current biennium. Administrative Services had to be included in those reductions. We are particularly appreciative to Lauren Fallon and Robert Hulshof-Schmidt for assisting us in the transition. ---Ann Hamilton

People News

Dr. Linda B. Alexander of the School of Library and Information Science at University of South Florida in Tampa has been working on a "USF Collaborative For Children, Families and Communities Faculty Grant" this past year. The collaborative grant has involved working closely with Egypt Lake Elementary School in Hillsborough County (Tampa) to present a program for diversity for K-5th graders. Dr. Alexander, pictured below, received her MLS from East Carolina University in 1986 and her doctorate from the University of Louisville in 2000. She worked in North Carolina and Kentucky before coming to USF in 2001. She also teaches an online library science course at USF in Materials for Multicultural Populations.



Charles Edward Beard, 63, died June 2, 2004. At the time of his death he was Professor and Director of Libraries at the State University of West Georgia where he had served since 1978. He began his library career in 1964 as a branch librarian at Jacksonville Public Library. His career as an academic librarian began in 1966 at the University of Alabama Libraries where he was head of reference. He later served as director of library services at Judson College and as director of libraries at Georgia College. He served as a trustee of the Freedom to Read Foundation and was a national co-chair of the White House Conference on Library Information Services Task Force. As a member of the American Library Association, he served on both the Executive Board and the governing Council. He served as president of the Southeastern Library Association and the Georgia Library Association, and as editor of the *Georgia Librarian*. He also served as a member of the Executive Board of the Library Administration and Management Association. He served as chair of the Georgia Board for Certification of

Librarians and as a member of the Georgia Center for the Book Advisory Board. His honors included the Juanita Skelton Distinguished Service Award given by the Georgia Association for Instructional Technologies, and the Nix-Jones Distinguished Service Award and the Bob Richardson Distinguished Service Award, both given by the Georgia Library Association. He received the White House Conference on Library Information Services Task Force Service Award. In October 2003 the Georgia Library Associations Advocacy Award was renamed the Charles Beard Library Advocacy Award because of all his years of effective advocacy for funding and support of libraries. At the time of his death he was serving a co-chair of the ALA Advocacy Assembly. He was a beloved mentor and active leader in professional associations who inspired and motivated librarians of his generation and those that followed. At his retirement party on May 28, an audience of more than 100 was regaled with tales of his exploits to support funding for libraries and encourage professionals through state, regional, and national library associations.

Diane M. Brown has been appointed Deputy State Librarian at the State Library of Louisiana. Previously she served as director of library programs for the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) in Atlanta, Prior to joining SOLINET in 1991, Brown was head of technical services at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial System in Chattanooga, Tennessee from 1984 to 1991. She also served the Chattanooga library system as director of the Eastgate Branch Library from 1981 to 1984 and as reference librarian from 1977 to 1980. Brown is a 1973 magna cum laude graduate of the University of Tennessee with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. She received a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1981 and is active in national, regional and state library association activities. As Deputy State Librarian, Brown will oversee the operations of the State Library, which has an annual budget of \$9 million, under the direction of the State Librarian. She succeeds Michael R. "Mickey" McKann, who retired April 9 after 26 years at the State Library.

Teresa Burk has been appointed Research Services Archivist in the Special Collections and Archives of Emory University's General Libraries.

Teresa received her MLIS from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 2002 and a BA in Art History from Reed College. She served a 9-month Librarian Fellowship in Special Collections and Archives, and as Circulation and Reserves Desk Supervisor for five years, also at the General Libraries.

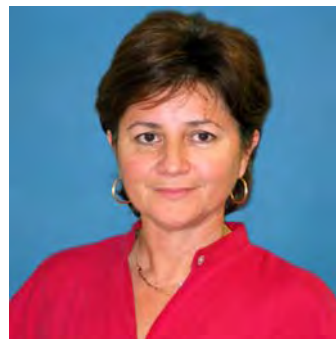
Merilyn Burke has been promoted to University Librarian at the University of South Florida Tampa Library.

Maria C. Gebhardt has been appointed Marketing Development Manager for the Broward County Libraries Division. She will manage all of the library system's public communication efforts, including print pieces, media relations, and the library website at www.broward.org/library. Maria, pictured below, has a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Marketing Management from Florida Atlantic University. She was most recently an Online and Interactive Marketing Consultant, aiding small businesses to maximize their online exposure. Maria, a native Floridian, has volunteered for several non-profit organizations in Fort Lauderdale, arranging special events, handling press relations and establishing websites.



Lucia M. Gonzalez, Assistant Section Manager of Youth Services in the Broward County Main Library, has been promoted to the position of Broward County Library Youth Services Coordinator. She replaces Marlene Lee, who retired in December after 20 years of service with Broward County Library. Gonzalez, pictured below, holds an MLS degree from the University of South Florida. She was formerly the children's outreach librarian for the Imagination Factory, a division of the Miami Dade Public Library system. During her tenure with the Miami Dade Public Library, Lucia worked at the Miami

Lakes and Hispanic Branch libraries, was the children's department manager at the West Kendall Regional Library, and programs coordinator for the Miami Dade Public Library System.



Jennifer Crawford Goodson is the new director of the Fort Smith, Arkansas, Public Library. Goodson succeeds Larry Larson, who recently retired after eighteen years as director. Ms. Goodson is a native of Fort Smith and worked as a page at the Fort Smith Public Library during high school and college. She has her undergraduate degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and an M.L.I.S. and Certificate of Advanced Study from the University of Oklahoma in Norman. She held several positions as a librarian in Oklahoma before returning to the Fort Smith Public Library in June 2002 as assistant director.

P. Toby Graham, director of the Digital Library of Georgia, based at the University of Georgia, received the 2004 Alabama Author Award for Non-fiction for "A Right to Read: Segregation and Civil Rights in Alabama's Public Libraries 1900-1965," the first book to examine public library segregation of libraries in the South. The book stems from Graham's dissertation at the University of Alabama. He earned his doctorate in 1998. As a dissertation, the study won four other awards, including two national citations: the Eugene Garfield Dissertation Award given by the Association of Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) and the Phyllis Dain Library History Dissertation Award given by the American Library Association's Library History Round Table. Graham used primary source material, including records of public library boards, to examine public library segregation from its origins in the late 19th century through its end during the tumultuous years of the 1960s

civil rights movement. Graham contends that, for librarians, the civil rights movement in their institutions represented a conflict of values that pitted their professional ethics against regional mores. He details how several librarians in Alabama took the dangerous course of opposing segregationists, sometimes with unsettling results.

Mark Greenberg, Ph.D. is the new Director of Special Collections for the University of South Florida Tampa Library. In addition to his new responsibilities, Dr. Greenberg is also the Director of the USF Florida Studies Center.

John Harrison, director of the University Libraries at the University of Arkansas from 1983 to 1998, died recently in Fayetteville. Harrison received his undergraduate degree in English in 1960 at Michigan State University and an A.M.L.S. in 1962 at the University of Michigan. He worked as a librarian at Harvard and Yale and taught library classes at Southern Connecticut State College. After assuming the library directorship at the University of Arkansas, Harrison oversaw the addition of 75,000 square feet to the main library, the installation of the Libraries' automated system, and the addition of electronic indexes and full text resources. An active supporter of the arts, Harrison introduced listening sessions of opera recordings at the library and arranged for rotating art exhibits that featured the work of university artists.

Larry Heilos was recently appointed Associate Director of the University of South Florida Tampa Library. Previously, Mr. Heilos was the library's Director of Special Collections.

Erwin Lester "Les" Inabinett, Director of the South Caroliniana Library from 1958-83 died April 26, 2004 at the age of 78. Mr. Inabinett was the library's second director, following in the footsteps of his mentor and the library's founder, Dr. Robert L. Meriwether. He worked as assistant director of the library from 1950-58 and was also on the staff of the Papers of John C. Calhoun project. Mr. Inabinett was a native of Charleston County, S.C. and a naval veteran of World War II. He held a B.A. in history from Pepperdine University.

A. Venable Lawson, director of the Division of Librarianship (later Division of Library and

Information Management) at Emory University from 1965-1988, died May 14 at his home in Atlanta. Lawson graduated from the University of Alabama in 1947 after serving in the U. S. Air Force for four years. He received his master's degree from the Division of Librarianship at Emory University in 1950. After a temporary part-time position at the Atlanta Public Library, he joined Harvard University Library as assistant librarian. In 1953, Lawson returned to Atlanta as head of reference service at the Atlanta Public Library and was promoted in 1957 to Coordinator for Public Service. He served as part-time instructor at the Atlanta University and Emory University library schools. In 1960, he accepted the position of assistant professor on the faculty of the library school at Florida State University, and in 1965 became Director of the Emory University Division of Librarianship. He received his doctorate in Library Service from Columbia University in 1969 and was appointed full professor at Emory. Among his notable honors, he was awarded the Emory Medal during Emory's 2002 alumni weekend in recognition of his outstanding service to the University, the Emory libraries, the library profession and the Druid Hills community of Atlanta during his more than fifty-year association with Emory. The Emory Medal is Emory University's highest recognition after the honorary degree.

Lea Leininger has joined Jackson Library at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro as Life Sciences Librarian. Lea, pictured below, comes from the University of Texas at Austin, where she received her MLIS in May 2003.



Naomi Nelson has been appointed Coordinator of Research Services in the Special Collections and Archives Division of Emory University's General Libraries. Previously, she served as the

Interim Head of Research Services, the Curator for Southern History, and the Director of the Special Collections and Archives Digital Archive at Emory. Prior to those positions, she was the Modern Political Collections Archivist at Emory. She received her Ph.D. and M.A. in History from Emory, her M.L.S. from the University of Pittsburgh and her A.B. from Duke University.

Dr. Derrie Perez, Interim Dean of the USF Library System, has been elected as President of the Florida Library Association. Her term will last through 2005. The theme of Dr. Perez's leadership in FLA will be "Common Threads: Libraries, Museums, Culture, Heritage." It is her vision to bring these institutions together with the common goal of preserving Florida's vibrant culture and history for future generations. Prior to joining USF, she was the Associate Vice President of Learning Resources Services for Hillsborough Community College. She holds a doctoral degree from Florida State University, M.L.S. from Louisiana State University and B.A. in English and Liberal Arts from Louisiana State University and in 1977 she was named to the International Library Science Honor Society, Beta Phi Mu. Dr. Perez has held leadership roles on many boards and task forces such as her service as President of the Tampa Bay Library Consortium, President of the Florida Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries, and Inaugural Chair of the Advisory Board and Executive Committee of the College Center for Library Automation. In 1995 she received the National Award for Program Development from the Community and Junior College Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries for her work at Hillsborough Community College.

Patricia Pettijohn of the University of South Florida Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute Library has been promoted to the rank of Assistant Librarian. Patricia is currently running a women's issues listserv, with a special focus on gender and trauma. For more information or to join, please contact her at ppettijohn@fmhi.usf.edu.

At its annual Holiday Luncheon held on Dec. 16th, 2003, the University of Memphis Association of Retirees (UMAR) presented the first TRACES Award to **Dr. Les Pourciau**, retired Director of Libraries at the U of M and an active

UMAR member. This award will hereafter be presented at the Holiday Luncheon in December of each year to a University of Memphis retiree "... to recognize ... a life of outstanding service and scholarship, and ... continuing effort to provide service and scholarship."

Elizabeth Russey has been appointed to the position of Manuscripts Processing Archivist in the Special Collections and Archives of Emory University's General Libraries. Prior to coming to Emory, she served for 18 months as project archivist in the Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary. Elizabeth was a graduate assistant at the National Trust for Historic Preservation Library and an intern at the National Archives and Records Administration. She has an MLS with archives administration and a M.A. in American history, both from the University of Maryland.

The NCSU Libraries' first metadata librarian, **Jacqueline P. Samples**, has been awarded a Digital Library Federation (DLF) Forum Fellowship for Librarians New to the Profession. She will receive up to \$1,000 to help defray the costs of attending the DLF Forum 2004. Samples, who received her Masters in Library and Information Science in 2002, joined the NCSU Libraries in April 2003. She has been honored by various organizations over the past few years. In 2001, the Iowa Library Association awarded her the Jack E. Tillson Scholarship. In 2003, she was inducted into the International Library and Information Studies Honor Society, Phi Beta Mu. More recently, she and NCSU librarian Karen M. Letarte were co-recipients of the 2004 Samuel Lazerow Fellowship, given by the Association of College and Research Libraries. The DLF is a consortium of libraries and related agencies that are pioneering in the use of electronic-information technologies to extend their collections and services.

Tanya Simons-Oparah, Outreach Services Director for Broward County Library, was recently inducted into the Broward County Women's Hall of Fame by the Broward County Women's History Coalition. The event honored Simons-Oparah for her work with the Sistrunk Historical Festival and her role in developing diversity programs for Broward County Library's Outreach Services. Simons-Oparah was honored along with ten other women. She has numerous

honors including two gubernatorial appointments to the Board of Directors of the Florida State Fair Authority, an appointment to the State Task Force of the Black Family, and the Literature Review Panel for the State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs. Simons-Oparah, pictured below, has also served as a Steering Committee Member for the National Women's Conference Center, and as a member of the Broward Center for the Performing Program Committee.



Rose Anne St. Romain, the Early Childhood Services Consultant for the State Library of Louisiana, has received three national honors for her book *Moon's Cloud Blanket*, a Louisiana Native American tale. The awards are: the Children's Choices for 2004, selected by the International Reading Association and the Children's Book Council; the 2004 Notable Social Studies Books for Young People; selected by the National Council for Social Studies and the Children's Book Council; and the 2004 Storytelling World Honor Award, selected by the Storytelling World Committee of 50 professional storytellers.

Tomaro Taylor was appointed Assistant Librarian at the University of South Florida Tampa Library. Ms. Taylor was the first recipient of the library's prestigious Dr. Henrietta M. Smith Residency, a two-year program for recent MLS graduates who are from underrepresented ethnic and minority populations.

Matt Torrence has received promotion to Assistant Librarian at the University of South Florida Tampa Library.

The Public Library Association, a division of the American Library Association, has awarded the Allie Beth Martin Award for 2004 to **Jean Trebbi**, retired Broward County Library employee and former Executive Director of the Florida Center for the Book. The award honors a librarian in a public library setting who has demonstrated an extraordinary range and depth of knowledge

about books or other library materials and possesses a distinguished ability to share that knowledge. Trebbi, pictured below, will receive a plaque and a \$3,000 honorarium at the American Library Association Conference this June in Orlando, Florida. For more than 25 years, Trebbi has played a pivotal role locally, statewide and nationally in bringing together readers and writers and promoting books, reading and libraries as Executive Director of Florida Center for the Book, which she founded in 1984. Trebbi, a book collector, has secured a significant collection of Mark Twain first editions, international alphabet books, and publications of the Works Progress Administration and the Federal Writers Project for the Bienes Center for the Literary Arts at the Broward County Main Library.



Dr. Sue Weaver has been appointed to the Board of Commissioners of the State Library of Louisiana. Weaver is the dean of University College at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches and a professor of education, where she teaches graduate courses in educational leadership. She also operates an academic program of certification in non-profit leadership, in conjunction with the American Humanics program at Louisiana State University in Shreveport. Weaver began her career as a high school English and speech teacher in Natchitoches after earning a B.A. degree in English education from NSU in 1966. She received an M.A. in speech in 1973 and an M.A. in English education in 1975. She continued her education at LSU in Baton Rouge, where she earned a Ph.D. in educational administration in 1993. After nearly two decades of teaching at the secondary and university levels, Weaver was elected to serve on the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board. She later served as assistant to the state Superintendent of Education. She returned to NSU in 1994 as the dean of the College of Education.

News from Around the Southeast

SOLINET Elects New Board, Officers, and OCLC Members Council Delegates for 2004-2005

At its Annual Membership Meeting in Atlanta in May, SOLINET member libraries elected the following:

Board of Directors

- Richard W. Meyer, Dean and Director of Libraries, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Patricia (Pat) W. Pickard, Director, Educational Media Department, DeKalb County School System, GA
- Carol Walker Jordan, Director of Everett Library, Queens University of Charlotte, NC
- David Paynter, Director, New Hanover County Public Library, NC
- James Nelson, State Librarian and Commissioner, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

Delegation to OCLC Members Council

- Janis Bandelin, Ph.D., Director of Libraries, Furman University, SC
- Janice R. Franklin, Ph.D., Director, University Library and Learning Resources Center, Alabama State University
- Loretta Parham, Director of University Library, Hampton University, VA

SOLINET Officers:

- Chair, Raymond Santiago, Director, Miami-Dade Public Library System, FL
- Vice Chair: John E. Ulmschneider, University Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries
- Treasurer: Pat Matthes, Director of Library Services, Mississippi University for Women
- Secretary: C. David Warren, Executive Director, Richland County Public Library, SC.

Winners of Fifth Annual SOLINET Outstanding Library Programs Awards

SOLINET's Outstanding Library Programs Awards recognize library accomplishments that illustrate the benefits of library collaboration, serve as models of effectiveness, and/or advance the development of innovative programs. In the fifth year of the awards program, a committee of judges from SOLINET member libraries selected the following, which were recognized May 7th at the SOLINET Annual Membership Meeting in Atlanta. All of this year's winners are public library programs.

Continuing Education and Staff Development

The Continuing Education and Staff Development award goes to St. Johns County (FL) Public Library System for their SJCPLS Staff Development Program, which features a Staff Development Day, a Library Intern Program, and a Library Leadership Retreat. Staff Development Day, held each December, is funded through the Drill Endowment Fund and offers training and topics selected by staff from different departments and branches of the system. The Library Intern Program is designed for paraprofessionals who are willing commit to earning an MLS within four years of starting the program. After earning the degree, the staff member is promoted to a Librarian I position. The Library Leadership Retreat, for professional librarians and paraprofessionals pursuing their master's degrees, is designed to cultivate leadership skills as a step toward ensuring that qualified people are available to fill management positions. Mary Jane Little is the Director of St. Johns County Public Library System.

Multitype Library Cooperation

In the Multitype Library Cooperation category, the winner is the Dancing Rabbit Library Consortium (DRLC). The DRLC was created in 2001 to improve service to 16 Northwest Mississippi counties. The consortium includes 11 public library systems, two community college libraries, and two university libraries that came together with the goal of maximizing resources and sharing them with as many citizens as possible. A card from any one of the member libraries allows citizens to borrow from all of the DRLC libraries. A collaborative discount-purchasing agreement and the reciprocal loan agreement provide expanded resources to the northwest area of the state. Other features of the Dancing Rabbit Library Consortium include staff development days and free online reference workshops by staff at one of the university libraries.

Preservation and Electronic Information

The Preservation and Electronic Information citation was awarded to the New Hanover County Public Library, Wilmington, NC, for Port City Architecture On-Line. The city of Wilmington boasts historic architecture as part of its heritage. The Historic Wilmington Foundation grants historic plaques to some 20 notable buildings per year, however this wealth of historical and architectural information has heretofore been largely inaccessible. The New Hanover County Public Library, in conjunction with the foundation and funded by a grant from NC ECHO, addressed the question of access by digitizing 385 photographs and 1,900 pages of research reports related to the buildings that have been granted a historic plaque. The online site will be updated twice a year to include the new honorees. In addition to pictures and reports, Port City Architecture On-Line also features links to maps and information on the people who lived in the historic houses. Beverly Tetterton, Special Collections Librarian of the New Hanover County Public Library, served as the creative director for the project, which has won the praise of historians, preservationists and genealogists.

Judges for 2004 were:

- Beth Doyle, Duke University, NC
- Mickey Ann Garcia, Norfolk Public Library, VA
- Deborah Hotchkiss, South Carolina State Library, Columbia
- Genevieve Owens, Williamsburg Regional Library, VA
- Kerry Ransel, Auburn University, AL
- Elsie Stephens Weatherington, Virginia State University, Petersburg.

ASERL Offers “Ask Librarian” Posters to Libraries Nationwide

The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries has developed three posters to promote the use of its cooperative virtual reference service, “Ask A Librarian,” and is making them available via free download to libraries across the country. Each of the posters carries the message, “When your deadline is near and you need help finding something . . . Go to your library’s website . . . Ask A Librarian.” Each is available at www.ask-a-librarian.org/press.cfm in a PDF format and in two different image sizes for printing by local libraries. ASERL launched the first-ever virtual reference service cooperatively staffed by research libraries across a region in early February. Staffed by reference personnel at 11 ASERL member libraries, the service is available 12 hours a day, 7 days a week. Participating libraries in ASERL’s Ask A Librarian service are College of William & Mary, VA; Florida State University; University of Alabama; University of Central Florida; University of Kentucky; University of Memphis, TN; University of Louisville, KY; University of Miami, FL; University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Virginia Commonwealth University; and Wake Forest University, NC.

Call for Book Reviews

The Southeastern Librarian (SELn) is accepting book reviews for publication in future issues. Guidelines are as follows:

- * Title needs to have been published within the past 2 years.
- * The work should have some connection to the Southern USA, either in the way of subject material or author affiliation.
- * Suggested length is 600-850 words.
- * Book review authors do not have to be members of SELA.

Reviews are accepted on a rolling basis. If an issue is full, we move the accepted review to the next available issue. Forward reviews as well as any questions to Frank R. Allen, SELn editor at fallen@mail.ucf.edu

Book Reviews

Johnston, Carolyn Ross. *Cherokee Women in Crisis: Trail of Tears, Civil War, and Allotment, 1838-1907.* Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2003. 227 p.

During 2004, the Classical Theater of Harlem opened a new production of a 2,400 year old play entitled, *The Trojan Women* by Euripides. The script adaptation contains words from women survivors of current day conflicts in Sierra Leone, Somalia and Iraq. The ancient and modern testimonies on the horrors of war and its aftermath blended seamlessly into one another.¹ Wars fought elsewhere in time or place are all the same for the women and children caught in them. Seldom are their tribulations given center stage save for this ancient, exceptional, and transcendent drama.

Recently, historian Carolyn Johnston placed Native American women at center stage in her examination of wars waged in the New World. The Cherokee women she studied bore three major, brutal assaults on their lives and culture. These were staggered campaigns to destroy, played out intermittently through two centuries unlike a single theatrical climax that ended the ten-year siege of Troy.

Author Carolyn Ross Johnston is a professor of history and American Studies at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. She examined the impact of three significant events in Cherokee history through the non rose-colored lens of gender. Like the Trojan women endurance is a part of their story. But how Cherokee women endured and eventually triumphed remained largely untold. By looking at the heretofore neglected history of female members of the nation who survived removal, the Civil War and allotment she added a new and more complex dimension. Her vast bibliography impresses scholars and laymen alike.

There is a necessary preface to these calamities. Cherokees lived in present day Georgia, North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Alabama. Alongside their men, Cherokee women lived contentedly in the Southeast. All spoke a language devoid of gender bias. Supernaturals worshipped were the Corn Mother, Sulu and Kana ti, the Lucky Hunter. In the matrilineal and matrilocal society of pre-contact times these women were sexually liberated, worked the land, owned property, deliberated on matters of war and peace and divorced husbands with ease. Yet white ministers viewing them for the first time labeled such practices as scandalous and sinful in their personal journals. Through the contact period, influential white missionaries in essence preached adoption of a patriarchal social system. A prosperous, Anglo European like upper class of mixed ancestry, due to intermarriage, began to emerge. For females, it favored domesticity, school attendance and church going over farming and conjuring. The adopted Anglo legal system pushed women outside the circles of decision making. Class and ancestry became the dividing lines between resisting, selectively

incorporating or totally accepting these more passive notions of female conduct. Johnston argues that repressed tension over contested gender roles finally erupted during periods of highest stress—removal, the Civil War and allotment. In other words, women did not comfortably or quickly accept the upset of their central role in Cherokee society.

A series of formal cessions of land to white settlers and gold seekers, begun as early as 1814, deprived the Cherokees of their homeland. The last ghastly chapter of land grabbing in the East occurred in defiance of a Supreme Court ruling. We know it as “The Trail of Tears.” During the harsh winter of 1838-1839, the U.S. Army rounded-up and force marched Cherokees to Oklahoma. Four thousand souls perished en route. During the walk west, women were often the most vulnerable population. Many of them were pregnant or nursing babies, while many others were raped. Yet with their men unarmed, powerless and demoralized, the women kept families together. Upon arrival in Oklahoma, their agricultural skills kept tribal members alive.

When Cherokee men went off to the Civil War, women resumed farming duties withstanding raids on livestock, robberies of precious household goods and rape. There were Cherokee women fighters, raiders and spies for both sides. Divided loyalties brought on factional fighting among women of the elites and the traditional non-slaveholding class.

Communal land holdings were reinstated once the Cherokees were west of the Mississippi. Disrupted clan and familial ties were patched back together. Then the allotment policy began the twentieth century onslaught on tribal sovereignty as railroads homesteaders and the discovery of oil on Indian land conspired to reduce much of the Cherokee land base in Oklahoma. Tribal members fought it with myriad stalling tactics, legal actions and reintroduction of traditional ceremonies for spiritual uplift.

Professor Johnston looked for more than a chronology of victimization that this trio of events certainly calls to mind. Her treatment restores dignity and agency to these “conquered” women who really never gave up. She examined the confusion and contentiousness among the sexes and social classes over gender roles. She looked at their collective strength, and sagacity over time. It all led to the present day re-emergence of powerful women symbolized most notably by the rise of Wilma Mankiller. From 1985 to 1995 she won tribal elections to serve as the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

1. Jefferson, Margo, “After the War, Before the Slavery, Steeping in Civilization’s Tatters,” *The New York Times*, April 7, 2004

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Hugh Ruppensburg, (Editor)

AFTER O'CONNOR: Stories from Contemporary Georgia. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2003, 375 p.

The publication of this collection ought to be an occasion to celebrate not only the quality of writing in Georgia these days but the number of writers producing it. The 30 authors represented in this new (September 2003) volume certainly reflect a proud diversity: old, young, black, white, Asian. They are seemingly an eclectic assemblage of varying styles and experiences whose diversity is their only bond. But in fact there are some uniting elements, as veteran editor Hugh Ruppensburg of the University of Georgia points out in his introduction.

The writers of the Flannery O'Connor era were defined by events in the first half of the last century, most notably World War II, he writes. Those since have emerged under very different circumstances, from a long and bitter Cold War, a startling growth of technology, and a shift from rural to urban life. And yet these contemporary writers are continuing literary traditions even as they redefine those traditions to encompass the vital, changing relationships, geography, culture and politics of the 21st century.

Hence the anthology offers a sampling of many tastes and styles. Moultrie native Charlie Smith's three-paragraph submission "Park Diary" may barely qualify as a short story under traditional definitions, but it has a passion for its subject – heroin and its victims – that earlier writers would have understood. Then there's Bailey White and James Kilgo, each with a firmly planted small-town Southern setting and familiar themes of family and storytelling. White, however, uses a gracious whimsy in "An Unsuitable Attachment" while Kilgo explores poignancy in memory in the graceful "The Resurrection of George T. Sutton."

There's scarcely a page here where writing fails to crackle with life, whether in the pain of Pearl Cleage's striking "Four From That Summer: Atlanta, 1981," or the powerful breaking free of tradition encapsulated in Pam Durban's powerful "Soon" or the sheer fun of Ferrol Sams' near-classic, "The Widow's Mite." Memorable stories from Mary Hood, Starkey Flythe, Alice Walker, Ha Jin, Carol Lee Lorenzo and others are here. And whether each writer is known to each reader matters not; the joy lies in the discovery no less than the reaffirmation.

Ruppensburg's story selections are admirable, and the brief author introductions add a needed touch of biography. Libraries public and academic will require a copy of *After O'Connor*, and its usefulness in high school and college literature courses is obvious.

William W. Starr
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###

Sharyn McCrumb.

Ghost Riders. Dutton, 2003. 333p.

With *Ghost Riders*, Sharyn McCrumb has written a Civil War novel from the prospective of the North Carolina mountain country, from both present and past points of view. Having researched the period, the outcome is thought-provoking and educational. By moving us between the past and the present, she interweaves the lives of a number of characters: Rattler, a part Cherokee healer; Nora Bonesteel, a woman with the "sight;" Tom Gentry, bent on committing suicide; and the Civil War re-enactors from present day along with those from the past—Zebulon Vance, a Confederate general/politician and Malinda and Keith Blalock, Union sympathizers. Like most novels with a number of characters, it is hard to see how these will fit together, but they do so beautifully.

The Civil War was an era of brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor; one after which misdeeds are not easily forgotten. As Malinda puts it, "Wars are easier to start than they are to stop." In this commentary, Sharyn McCrumb illustrates the harsh conditions of war on both the soldiers and their families at home, and uses Malinda as an example of women in the service and Keith as a draft dodger.

Mountain people don't like people telling them what to do, so most rebelled against conscription. Even though they did not have an investment in the slave issue and, therefore, didn't agree with secession, these men were forced into service. It's ironic that the South did not want the North telling them what to do, but the Confederate government was doing just that to its own people. The Civil War re-enactors are stirring up the ghosts, bringing the past into the present. "They will not let loose of that war. You would have thought that losing that war once would be enough for them."

This novel works well on a number of levels—as an example of the Southern tradition of intertwining past and present, as a social commentary on the personal side of war, and as a historically accurate account of a forgotten aspect of that war. With her usual aplomb, Ms. McCrumb has written a deeply moving, hard-to-forget story of love, war, and healing, personifying Faulkner's quote, "The past is not dead. In fact, it's not even past."

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