

Summer 2004

## News from around the Southeast

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## 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](http://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](mailto:fallen@mail.ucf.edu)