

12-22-2005

Georgia Conference on Information Literacy

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Recommended Citation

(2005) "Georgia Conference on Information Literacy," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 53 : Iss. 4 , Article 16.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol53/iss4/16>

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Tennessee with 3 publishers; and Mississippi, Puerto Rico and South Carolina with 1 each. This was the first year that Tennessee publishers submitted entries. Alabama was the only state within the chapter region that did not submit an entry.

The winners were announced by Melissa McDonald of the Savannah College of Art and Design, 2005 LoPresti Awards Chair at a special reception in St. Petersburg and included "Common Ground," exhibition catalog by the Georgia Museum of Art; the Art of Enameling and the Penland Book of Handmade Books, both by Lark Press of Asheville NC; and Zydeco Shoes by Pelican Publishing, a multimedia book including recipes and a cd with music.

The ARLIS/Southeast Chapter invites institutions to participate and is looking forward to receiving many fine and outstanding entries for the 2006 Awards. If you would like addition information about submitting nominations, please consult the ARLIS/Southeast website at <http://www.arlis-se.org/>.

HEALTH INFORMATION ACCESS

Does your library provide consumer health information in your community? The National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern Atlantic Region, (<http://nnlm.gov/sea>) is your regional office for training and assistance with health information access. The Network provides free training for librarians and funding opportunities for libraries in the region. Whether you are interested in obtaining the consumer health information specialist certification from the Medical Library Association by taking classes that we provide, or provide training yourself to your local community in accessing consumer health information, we can help.

We offer four consumer health classes for public librarians:

- Beyond an Apple a Day: Providing Consumer Health Information in the Public Library
- From Snake Oil to Penicillin: Evaluating Consumer Health Information on the Internet
- Looking in All the Wrong Places: PubMed for Public Librarians
- Prescription for Success: Consumer Health Information on the Internet

For information on all our classes, please visit our website at:

<http://nnlm.gov/sea/edn/index.html>.

Funding provided by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine allow librarians to implement outreach activities in their local community. Funding opportunities include exhibiting, training, and outreach projects. New prospects for funding will be available in spring 2006. If you have an idea or a project that you would like to make happen, please consider applying or contact us to discuss your ideas. To take full advantage of these benefits, libraries can become members of the Network, either at the affiliate or full membership level, depending on the type of consumer health service you provide. Membership is free. For a description of membership categories and how to apply, visit <http://nnlm.gov/sea/membership/meminfo.html>.

For more information, contact Terri Ottosen, Consumer Health Outreach Coordinator, at 800-338-7657 or 410-706-2855, tottosen@hshsl.umaryland.edu or Becky Hebert, Community Outreach Coordinator, at 800-338-7657 or direct at 443-451-5108, bhebert@hshsl.umaryland.edu.

GEORGIA CONFERENCE ON INFORMATION LITERACY

You are invited to submit a proposal for the Georgia Conference on Information Literacy to be held on October 6 - 7, 2006 at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah, Georgia.

Complete details about the Call for Proposals (including the online submission form), registration, location, accommodations, and featured speakers may be found on the website:
<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/infolit.html>

BOOK REVIEW

The Confederate Battle Flag: America's Most Embattled Emblem

John M. Coski

401 pages, 6 X 9

ISBN: 0-674-01722-6 \$29.95 (hardcover)

Harvard University Press: Cambridge, MA; London, England

March 2005

The Confederate Battle Flag: America's Most Embattled Emblem, will interest general readers and scholars for its in-depth examination of the flag's singular power in Southern politics and culture. In a deceptively brief 380 pages, Coski, the director of the Museum of the Confederacy, illuminates a controversial and violent history with the sensibility and objectivity of historian, anthropologist, and legal scholar. The subtlety of his analysis will both stimulate and bemuse readers across a wide political spectrum, and disappoint those who prefer tidy polemics.

The book contains twelve chapters separated into three sections. The opening section, "Confederate Flag", is the most viscerally appealing, because Coski performs an excellent job in narrating the mythopoetic accounts of Confederate soldiers dying for their beloved flag in battle. Beyond the obvious dramatic elements, chapter two provides the rich historical and cultural context for the use of the Confederate flag as the everlasting symbol of a vanquished army and its slave-holding empire. Chapters three and four recount the grim years of Reconstruction, and the attempt by the South to re-establish itself as a nation whose allegiance was divided between the stars and stripes and its own battle flag. From rebellion to foiled reconstruction, from Jim Crow to the gleaming Klan knights of *Birth of a Nation*, the Confederate flag was unfurled as a provocative reminder of its original use as a battle standard. Memorial organizations such as the United Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy defined the symbolism of the battle flag as one of ancestral remembrance, martial valor (or memories thereof), and the persistently sectionalist incarnation of southern patriotism.

In the second section, "Rebel Flag", the author elucidates the bellicose and bloody history of the postwar Civil Rights era. Coski points out that African-Americans had entirely different perceptions of the grandeur of those sweet, bygone days of white supremacy. As African-Americans have increasingly organized and advocated for equality, the Confederate battle flag became the loathsome symbol of a social and economic order that exploited their fellow citizens in the guise of paternalism. After World War II, and the assassinations of Medgar Evers and MLK, the battle flag became synonymous with murder rather than moonlight and magnolias. The cumulative effect of such burdensome history and racial struggle was continuously exacerbated as cultural, demographic, and political powers changed during the pre-war and Civil Rights eras. Gradually, the flag was transfigured from the noble symbol of the Lost Cause to the despotic banner of an *apartheid* culture.

The third section, "Flag Wars", describes the recent controversies that have erupted over the visibility of the flag in public and private institutions. After gaining remarkable political strength, African Americans began to compete with whites in defining the particular meaning and nature of the battle flag. In political moves that were condemned as "revisionist" by traditionally minded southerners,