

Summer 2006

SELA Activities

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As a librarian, my proudest moment came during an invocation offered by the Rev. David Duggan. His text concentrated on the value of libraries to the American people. After talking about the grandeur of the building, he stressed the principles of librarianship and the commitment of librarians to a free society. This speech helped me reflect on the many reasons that I had chosen my profession.

To quote, “Yet, there is something even grander than renovated buildings, expanded space, beautiful art, and a new look that we celebrate today, and that is what the library, be it Logan Helm Library or any other library across this nation of ours, represents to the communities they serve. Each and every library in our country is a place in which the basic rights and privileges upon which a democracy is built are practiced each and every day.”

Libraries do change lives.

All the best,

Judith Gibbons

CORRECTION

Newkirk Barnes was misidentified in her article “Promoting Federal Depository Libraries: Improving Public Access to U.S. Government Information” published in the Spring 2006 issue of *The Southeastern Librarian*. She can be reached at NBarnes@library.msstate.edu I apologize for any inconvenience this has caused – Perry Bratcher, editor.

SELA ACTIVITIES:

Prior to the 2008 KLA/SELA Joint Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, the SELA Membership Committee will be involved in seven projects. These projects will help create new opportunities and professional activities for SELA members and library science students. The individuals helping to complete these projects include Membership Committee members as well as other SELA members. Specifically, the projects include:

- Conducting a logo contest to up date the SELA logo
- Planning a Soiree at the 2008 SELA/KLA meeting
- Creating a mentoring program

- Updating the SELA Web page
- Writing a descriptive paragraph for the various SELA Committees
- Writing a job description for State SELA Representatives
- Creating a new level of giving - Corporate Level.

If you have any questions about the projects listed, or wish to volunteer for any of the activities above, please contact:

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SELA
Reference Librarian
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407-823-3604

Conference Grant/Scholarship Recipients

The following individuals are recipients of the **2006 Frances Coleman/Thomson Gale Conference Grant**:

- *Bradley Brazzeal* (MS), Mississippi State University

- *Courtney Bruch* (AL), South University
- *John Crawford* (KY), Woodford County Library
- *Shirley French* (KY), Gallatin County Public Library
- *Deana Groves* (KY), Western Kentucky University
- *Christina Hull* (SC), University of South Carolina at Aiken
- *Michael Jason Martin* (FL), University of Central Florida
- *Bethany Skaggs* (AL), Jacksonville State University
- *Lisa Vardaman* (AL), Troy University
- *Shaundra Walker* (GA), Georgia College & State University
- *Susan Wilkins* (KY), Lexington Public Library - Northside Branch
- *Amy York* (TN), Middle Tennessee State University

The **Ginny Frankenthaler Scholarship** recipient for 2005-06 was *Leah Mickens* from Atlanta, GA.

Outstanding Southeastern Author Awards Go to Conroy and Kidd

James P. Cooper, Co-Chair of the Awards Committee made these comments at the SELA luncheon in Memphis. As Southerners, we place great value on good food, good stories, good writing, and maybe a little good gossip. Pat Conroy's cookbook has all of these things and more. Pat Conroy's appreciation of cooking began when his wife entered law school and put him in charge of preparing meals for his family. By chance, he began using a French cookbook that taught him the basics of good cooking and good food.

The Pat Conroy Cookbook: Recipes of My Life is an unusual cookbook in that it is also a book of stories and a memoir all rolled into one book. But throughout the book, one always knows that it was written by a talented author who takes us with him to

Italy or to his childhood in the South or to the many other experiences of his life. It is with pleasure that we recognize Pat Conroy with the Outstanding Southeastern Author Award for his nonfiction book.

Jan Ruskell, Co-Chair of the Committee presented the fiction award for Sue Monk Kidd. Kidd received the Outstanding Southeastern Author Award for her novel *The Secret Life of Bees*. Kidd's first novel is reminiscent of Harper Lee because she deals with characters living in a small Southern town during the Civil Rights era. Although originally from Georgia, Kidd lives in South Carolina and set her novel there. A strong point of her fiction is that it appeals to readers and non-readers alike. That is an accomplishment worth noting.

SELA Archives

The SELA Archives, approximately 55 boxes, were transferred from Emory University to Valdosta State University's Archives and Special Collections. Valdosta State University now has the only active and on-going library school in Georgia, and also houses the papers of the Georgia Library Association. Emory also transferred copies of the finding aids and inventories for the SELA collection.

Valdosta State University is a regional university of over 10,000 students in the extreme south center of Georgia (on I-75, just 13 miles north of Florida). The VSU Archives and Special Collections houses materials in a climate controlled, secure area. The area is staffed by a certified archivist, an archives technical assistant, and numerous student assistants.

The Archives is very active in teaching and has an extra credit volunteer program with the history department that brings over 250-300 volunteer hours a semester. Emory noted that the SELA papers received very little, if any, use. Since VSU does have a library school, the collection will be publicizing to them. Since it is a regional

collection, it could be used by library schools (and librarians) across the SELA area. Any venues for getting information out about the Archives and/or any anecdotal information about these records and about SELA that could help in writing a description or in “selling” the collection to potential users would be appreciated. Contact Deborah Davis at dsdavis@valdosta.edu

ALA NEWS

National Library Week Grant

Libraries across the United States are invited to apply for the \$5,000 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant, which will be awarded to a single library for the best public awareness campaign incorporating the 2007 National Library Week theme, “Come together @ your library.”

The grant is sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing, a division of Scholastic, the global children’s publishing, education and media company, and is administered by the Public Awareness Committee of the American Library Association (ALA). This year’s application deadline is October 16, 2006. National Library Week is April 15-21, 2007.

All proposals must use the “Come together @ your library” theme, which incorporates The Campaign for America’s Libraries’ “@ your library” brand, on any and all promotional and publicity material supporting National Library Week activities. Guidelines for using the brand are available on the campaign Web site at <http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary> under the “download logos” section.

A grant application form and guidelines are available on The Campaign for America’s Libraries Web site at <http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant>. Information also is available from the ALA

Public Information Office. Telephone: 800-545-2433, ext. 4020. E-mail: mhumphrey@ala.org.

The winner will be notified and announced at the 2007 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. Information on last year’s winner, the Maricopa County Library District in Phoenix, Ariz., and the winning application can be viewed at <http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant>.

Members of the National Library Week subcommittee include Dee Yost, chair, Hastings College Perkins Library (Neb.); Elliot L. Appelbaum, Lexington (Ky.) Public Library; Dr. Gordon Newton Baker, Clayton State University (Ga.); Darlene Basone, school library consultant, Ohio; and Lisa Rice, Bowling Green (Ky.) Public Library.

ALA Resolution on the Taxpayer Bill of Rights

I'm pleased to share this message from the ALA Chapter Relations Office. I'd also like to thank my fellow southern chapter councilors who helped pass the resolution – Ann Hamilton

To the Chapter List:

Thanks to all who supported the adoption of the resolution in opposition of Taxpayer Bill of Rights Laws by ALA.

Below is the resolution.

Michael Dowling
Director
Chapter Relations Office and
American Library Association

Resolution on Taxpayer Bill of Rights Laws (known as TABOR, TEL, SOS, etc.)

Whereas, a number of states are or will be considering passage of the proposed Taxpayer Bill of Rights Laws (TABOR), also know as Taxpayer Expenditure