



Media Center

MESSENGER

Newsletter of the South Carolina Association of School Librarians

Volume XLII

September 2004



From the President . . .

Robbie Van Pelt, President SCASL, Robbievanpelt@aol.com

I hope all of you are busily engaged in challenging and exciting learning communities at your school locations. I am so honored to serve as president of SCASL and its community of dedicated professionals. This year marks the 30th birthday of our association and its mission to advocate for professional excellence, facilitate collaboration, and develop leadership to ensure that school library programs are integral to teaching and learning in every South Carolina school.

Your SCASL executive board just completed a weekend retreat to develop our focus and plans for this upcoming year. We are re-implementing a mentoring program for new media specialists, developing a position statement on the impact of school library programs on student achievement, and considering sponsoring a summer summit or mini-conference. Of course, this is in addition to all the work our standing committees do each and every year to produce the South Carolina book awards program, host an outstanding annual conference, participate in advocacy and legislative endeavors, oversee the state listserv and Website, help with EdTech, and manage the Regional Network. It takes many hands and many combined talents to keep our association's work moving forward.

It is my hope that each of you will have a major role in helping create a true learning community at your school. I envision a collaborative learning environment that invites all your students, teachers, administrators and parents to become both learners and teachers. Our own Dr. Dan describes it so well in a 1994 article in *School Library Media Activities Monthly*, when he states that library media specialists in a learning community "are the professionals concerned with the resource called 'information', how it is accessed through the information utility called a 'library', how that utility is unique in the place called a 'school' and how the combination can best be used to accomplish learning and to build community."

Through our combined efforts as members of SCASL, we can create the professional learning community that we all need and deserve. Our collective knowledge provides opportunities for greater understanding of our role and functions in the school instructional program, and can help us articulate a vision for the future. Our collective voice is a powerful voice to shape perceptions as well as to advocate for our profession and its value to the overall school program. It is my hope that SCASL will serve its community so well that every media specialist in the state will want to become a part of it and to take part in the many opportunities to become involved in our learning community. Our membership year, like our fiscal school year, runs from July 1 to June 30. We need to have our memberships collected by October 1 so that we will have an operating budget for our work and conference plans. So, we are announcing a great incentive for you. We will hold a drawing from the names of all active members as of October 1. Besides getting the discounted member registration fee if you join by October 1, you will have the chance to win one of **5 FREE** conference registrations! Do not hesitate or delay. Tear out the membership application that you'll find in this newsletter and mail it to our executive secretary today!

Our conference this year is going to be awesome. Lawren Hammond and the Pee Dee local arrangement folks have already been busy planning to host us in Florence. Lawren has arranged a stellar line-up of conference presenters. She has firm commitments from Dr. Steven Layne, a national literacy consultant, Toni Buzzeo (wow!) who has written extensively about collaborating to meet standards, Nancy Pollette, and David Loertscher (yeh!), professor from San Jose State who wrote *We Boost Achievement: Evidence Based Practice*. This is a hefty serving of great professional development. So get those memberships in and start planning your professional leave to attend **Teaching, Learning, Connecting for Success @ Your Library®**, March 2-4, Florence Civic Center.

Best wishes for a rewarding school year.

FROM SLIS: Your Library School

Welcome to a new school year. Every year since 1st grade, I have started school, as a student, teacher, and now as the Director of the School of Library and Information Science. And every year has had its own special excitement and unique challenges. This year is no exception. SLIS has a lot of great things going on. Instead of describing them fully in the space I have, let me just list some of the things that we will be working on in the coming year. As the year progresses I will keep you updated through the *Messenger* and through my weekly *Monday Matters* that I send to the SCASL listserv. We will:

- Complete the proposal and get University and Commission on Higher Education Approval for an undergraduate bachelor's degree in Information Science.
- Complete the proposal and get University and Commission on Higher Education Approval for a Ph.D. degree in Information Studies with an emphasis on preparing the next generation of library school faculty in the area of school and public library work with children and families.
- Complete the South Carolina Public Library Economic Impact Study to demonstrate how important public libraries are to the economy of the state and its individual citizens. (<http://www.libsci.sc.edu/sceis/home.htm>)
- Work with the South Carolina Latino Immigration Project (<http://www.cla.sc.edu/lasp/SCLIP.htm>) to encourage participation by libraries in this exciting and important area of our society.
- Work with SCASL to develop advocacy strategies for school library media programs in the state.
- Continue to work with the College of Education to provide information literacy and materials courses for their undergraduate majors.
- Work toward raising \$1.5 million dollars for the Augusta Baker Chair in Childhood Literacy (<http://www.libsci.sc.edu/bakerchair/index.htm>).
- Continue to work toward making the BEST Center, its new publication, *Children, Literacy and You* (<http://www.libsci.sc.edu/best/BESTNEWSFinal.pdf>), and the Web site **the** information resource for children's literacy in South Carolina.

We have 2 new faculty joining us this fall, Dr. Judy Marley in the humanities and Jinmook Kim in technology applications. We will begin a search this fall for another faculty member in the area of information literacy.

It looks like a good year for SLIS. Thank you for your interest in **your** library school. If we can be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact us. Or if you have suggestions or just want to chat, give us a yell.

I hope you have a wonderful year!! See you at Annual Conference, if not before!

Dr. Dan, ddbarron@gwm.sc.edu

Dr. Dan Barron, Ph.D.

Director and Professor, School of Library and Information Science
College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, University of South Carolina

Affiliate Assembly Meetings this Summer

Robbie Van Pelt, President SCASL

Martha Taylor, Lawren Hammond, and Robbie Van Pelt represented SCASL at Affiliate Assembly meetings held during the ALA conference in Orlando in June. Our Affiliate Assembly serves to communicate major library issues and concerns of its members across the nation to AASL's board of directors. It also serves to communicate actions and activities of AASL to its Affiliate members. We learned that in an effort to support NCLB, the U.S. Department of Education was sponsoring summer **Teacher to Teacher** institutes to help identify best practices and action research activities across the nation. Media specialists had been excluded until our AASL president intervened and got approval for up to three media specialists to participate. (When a call for applicants went out this summer, our own SCASL Media Specialist of the Year, Patty Bynum, applied and was accepted). We also learned that a compilation of the latest library research will be published by Scholastic and sent to administrators across the U.S. this fall. To obtain a copy of the report entitled **School Libraries Work** visit this URL: http://www.scholasticlibrary.com/download/slw_04.pdf

Additionally, the Affiliate Assembly members identified key concerns that will be presented to the AASL board for future action. The president of AASL, Dawn Vaughn, will attend our conference in March where she will present a concurrent session and facilitate an informal forum to learn of issues that should be addressed by the current AASL executive board.

Keep in Touch

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To subscribe:
Address: listserv@listserv.sc.edu
Subject: Leave blank
Message: Subscribe SCASL-LS
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To send a message:
Address: SCASL-LS@listserv.sc.edu
Type: your subject
Type your message and send.

The Media Center Messenger:

Send all suggestions, corrections, articles,
and ideas to jmoggles@direcway.com

Other important addresses:

SC Dept. of Education: www.state.sc.us/sde/
SCLA: www.scla.org
SC State Library: www.state.sc.us/scsl
ALA: www.ala.org
AASL: www.ala.org/aasl

Calendar

September 2004
Library Card Sign-Up Month
Sept. 25 - Oct. 2, 2004
Banned Books Week
October 2004
National Book Month
Oct. 1-3, 2004
AASL Fall Forum on Reading, Dallas, TX
Oct. 17-23, 2004
Teen Read Week
Nov. 15-21, 2004
Children's Book Week
Jan 7-10, 2005
EdTech, Myrtle Beach
Jan. 14-19, 2005
ALA Mid-Winter
March 2-4, 2005
SCASL Conference, Florence
April 2005
School Library Month
April 10-16, 2005
National Library Week
June 23-29, 2005
ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

*For your convenience you can now
view the Media Center Messenger
online at the SCASL Web site.*

If you did not pay your 2004-2005 SCASL dues at conference last year, be sure to pay them by October 1 and take advantage of the \$50 discounted conference registration this year! You also have a chance to win a free registration.

The South Carolina Association of School Librarians advocates professional excellence, facilitates collaboration, and develops leadership to ensure that school library media programs are integral to teaching and learning in every South Carolina school.

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Executive Board Exercises

Here's a sweet idea that you might adapt for your own use. At the recent Executive Board retreat, one of many exercises was to write a position statement on the importance of libraries to the future achievement of students. To sweeten the task, but to stir the creative juices (as well as the digestive juices), members were charged with incorporating--physically--into the text pieces of candy resulting in something of a rebus. Here is the text of one of those statements in the form of a resolution.

Whereas, we believe that all students should have access to resources worth **\$100 Grand**, and

Whereas, we want them to pursue careers that will lead them to jobs on **5th Avenue** where there will be no **Snickers** at the quality of their skills and **Charms**, and

Whereas, we want them to reach heights that exceed the **Milky Way**, and

Whereas, we want them to benefit from collaborative planning that exposes them to great works of literature such as **The Three Musketeers**, and

Whereas, we want them to be free to enjoy a variety of careers such as a happy farmer, successful businessman, creative teacher or **Jolly Rancher**, and

Whereas, we want them to realize that the experiences from their school library media center were **Life-savers**,

We, therefore, resolve that every student who enjoys these benefits will express his/her appreciation to the library media specialist with **Hugs** and **Kisses**.



Heather Loy of Wagener-Sally High in Aiken sent some wonderful examples of SC Book Award Nominee displays to the SCASL listserv!

SCASL Executive Board 2004-2005

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From the State Department of Education
School Library Media Services

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“Don’t you just love it when a plan comes together?” We’ve all used this expression to explain how seemingly disconnected events merge to answer some problem we may be grappling with. In thinking about this column for the first issue of *The Media Center Messenger*, my “plan” came together when I finally got around to reading the July 19 issue of *Newsweek*.

The article was entitled, “Waiting for the Movie” and the teaser line read: “Reading’s going out of style, even as publishers go wild.” The authors used data from a report published by the National Endowment for the Arts that says “...less than half of the adult American population now reads for pleasure...Young adults between 18 and 34, a category that once claimed the status of most-active readers, is now the lowest, dropping 28 percent since 1982.” (Jones, 58) The *Newsweek* article includes this quote: “Indeed, at the current rate of loss, literary reading as a leisure activity will virtually disappear in half a century.” I hope that these statistics are as disturbing to you as they are to me.

As library information professionals we are charged with teaching our students how to locate and access information **and** we have a responsibility to help them **read** and understand the information they find. Recently I heard a library media specialist talking about her new principal. She said he was very emphatic that her role was reading motivator not Accelerated Reader manager! How many of you manage your school’s reading incentive program in the name of motivating reading?

We have led the way for infusing technology into the K-12 environment and everyone is better for it. Unfortunately, we have, in many instances, ignored our literature connection in favor of a technology connection. Technology is omnipresent but without the life-skill of reading our students will be at a definite disadvantage in the future information society.

What can we, as library information professionals, do to bring reading and literature appreciation back to the forefront of what we are about in our school library media centers? A few suggestions come quickly to mind: (1) Make sure you complete the LMS Annual Survey on a yearly basis. The 2003-04 survey will remain open until September 30, 2004, for your

data entry. We need everyone’s most current data as we work to secure funding to update our print collections. (2) Work with your literacy coaches, reading specialists, reading teachers, and classroom teachers to encourage students to engage in self-selected reading rather than being locked into a certain reading level, reading range, or Lexile level. (3) Work with your literacy coaches, reading specialists, reading teachers, classroom teachers, and administrators to secure funds for your school library from the state reading grant programs. (4) Encourage your students to set personal reading goals and then recognize each student who meets his or her goal. Recognizing students who meet their personal reading goals ensures that many of your students will get some form of reading recognition. If you always recognize the high point earners, you run the risk of always recognizing the same students and these students would be your readers whether they earn points and receive prizes or not. Just think what it would do for that reluctant reader to hear his or her name announced over the PA system or see his or her name on the wall of readers for meeting a personal reading goal. (5) Share our suggested reading lists with your students, parents, and teachers. The 2004-05 suggested reading lists are now available on the School Library Media Services web page.

Our list of things to do for reading promotion/motivation could go on for pages and pages but you get the idea. I challenge you to determine at least three ways in which you will be a reading motivator this year and then to share your successes with your colleagues through the SCASL listserv and by writing an article for *The Media Center Messenger*.

Keep this thought in mind as you work with your students and teachers: All technology is useless unless you can read and understand what is read.

End Note: Jones, Malcolm. “Waiting for the Movie.” *Newsweek*, no. 3 (July 19, 2004): 58.

South Carolina Book Award Nominees 2004 - 2005



Children's Book Award Nominees

The 5,000 Year-Old Puzzle: Solving a Mystery of Ancient Egypt
Claudia Logan

Because of Anya
Margaret Peterson Haddix

A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor
Harry Mazer

Dillon Dillon
Kate Banks

The Gold-Threaded Dress
Carolyn Marsden

Halfway to the Sky
Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Handel, Who Knew What He Liked
Matthew T. Anderson

The House in the Mail
Rosemary Wells

I Smell Like Ham
Betty Hicks

King's Mountain
G. Clifton Wisler

Lumber Camp Library
Natalie Kinsey-Warnock

Mr. Lincoln's Way
Patricia Polacco

A Real American
Richard Easton

Ruby Holler
Sharon Creech

Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps
Andrea Warren

Taking Care of Trouble
Bonnie Graves

To Fly: The Story of the Wright Brothers
Wendie C. Old

Uncle Daddy
Ralph J. Fletcher

A Week in the Woods
Andrew Clements

When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson, the Voice of a Century
Pam Munoz Ryan



Junior Book Award Nominees

Goddess of Yesterday
Caroline B. Cooney

Heir Apparent
Vivian Vande Velde

Hippolyta and the Curse of the Amazons
Jane Yolen & Richard J. Harris

The Hunting of the Last Dragon
Sherryl Jordan

Just Jane
William Lavender

Kindling: The Fire-Us
Jennifer Armstrong & Nancy Butler

Once Upon a Marigold
Jean Ferris

Pictures of Hollis Woods
Patricia Reilly Giff

Red Midnight
Ben Mikaelson

The Rope Trick
Lloyd Alexander

Rowan of Rin
Emily Rodda

Ruby Holler
Sharon Creech

Stand Tall
Joan Bauer

Storm Warriors
Elisa Carbone

Stormbreaker
Anthony Horowitz

Surviving the Applewhites
Stephanie S. Tolan

Swimming Upstream
Kristine O'Connell George

The Thief Lord
Cornelia Funke

Things Not Seen
Andrew Clements

Wild Man Island
Will Hobbs



Young Adult Book Award Nominees

All-American Girl
Meg Cabot

Ashes of Roses
Mary Jane Auch

Before We Were Free
Julia Alvarez

Book of Fred
Abby Bardi

Breaking Through
Francisco Jimenez

Bronx Masquerade
Nikki Grimes

Dunk
David Lubar

The Gospel According to Larry
Janet Tashjian

Home of the Braves
David Klass

The Lovely Bones
Alice Sebold

The Night I Disappeared
Julie Reece Deaver

Out of the Fire
Deborah Froese

The Pact
Drs. Sampson David, George Jenkins & Rameck Hunt

Shattering Glass
Gail Giles

Soldier Boys
Dean Hughes

Son of the Mob
Gordon Korman

Stoner and Spaz
Ronald Koertge

Things Not Seen
Andrew Clements

This Lullaby
Sarah Dessen

What Happened to Lanie Garver



Book Award News

Joyce Moore, Book Award Chair, jmoorescba@yahoo.com



The SCASL Book Award Nominees for the 2004-2005 school year are listed on the opposite page. Three committees choose books for this list by volunteering many hours to read and select what they consider to be the best in current literature. The SC Book Award program, which was begun in 1975, has grown from the participation of sixteen schools to over 200 schools this past school year. Participation guidelines are listed below.

A. Students:

1. Read or listen to a minimum of three nominee books.
2. Vote for your favorite book by February 14, 2005.

B. Sponsor:

1. Secure support and authorization of the principal to participate.
2. Read books on nominee list to determine if each is acceptable to school's book selection policy. Select and purchase at least 50% of the nominee titles.
3. Access book award section of SCASL website for teaching suggestions.
4. Provide information about the award program to teachers and students.
5. Conduct voting process and send total votes to committee vice-chair.

C. Certificate of Participation:

1. Each participating school will receive a certificate.
2. A set of 50 bookmarks will be given to participating schools at conference.

Let's Read, South Carolina! Voting Deadline for Book Awards Is February 14, 2005

Banners

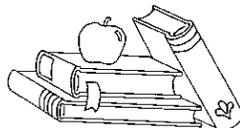
A banner contest is held during the annual SCASL conference. Participation information may be found at the SCASL website under the book awards section.

Website

Have you seen the updated SCASL webpage? A special thanks is due to our webmaster Donna Teuber for her work on this.

Coming Soon!

The first nominee list for the newly formed Picture Book Award will be available during January, 2005. Congratulations to **Ben Gunter** of Lexington 1 Schools whose design was selected as the logo. It can be seen under the Picture Book award section of the SCASL website. Another Lexington 1 student, **Josh Adams**, submitted a design that will be used to denote the overall Book Award program and is shown in the header of this page.



2004 - 2005 SCASL Awards

SCASL's Professional Awards Program includes four awards to recognize outstanding media specialists, exemplary administrators, and others who have long supported SCASL and its goals. These awards will be presented at the SCASL Conference in Florence, March 2-4, 2005. The Awards Committee of SCASL is currently accepting nominations during September and October 2004 for Awards to be presented in 2005, including Administrator of the Year, the Distinguished Service Award, Media Specialist of the Year, and the Nancy Jane Day Scholarship. Completed applications must be mailed and postmarked no later than November 15, 2004. Download the award packet at <http://www.scasl.net/awards.htm>.

Administrator of the Year

The award for Administrator of the Year was first presented in 1979. SCASL annually honors a school administrator who has made a unique and sustained contribution toward furthering the role of the library media center. Building level principals as well as state, county, or district school superintendents are eligible for nomination. District administrators responsible for broad instructional leadership, such as assistant superintendents, directors of curriculum and instruction, and directors of education are also eligible. Membership in SCASL is not required for nomination.

Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes an individual or an organization for contributions to SCASL and/or school media programs throughout the state of South Carolina. Business professionals or organizations, authors, illustrators, educators, and media specialists who have given sustained and/or outstanding service at the state level may be nominated. Membership in SCASL is not required for nomination.

The Nancy Jane Day Scholarship

The Nancy Jane Day Scholarship is awarded to an SCASL member to reimburse the cost of one successfully completed college course taken for credit to improve job performance or to complete a graduate degree in library science. The scholarship honors Nancy Jane Day who was the Supervisor of Library Services for the South Carolina State Department of Education for twenty-four years.

Media Specialist of the Year

The Media Specialist of the Year award honors a full-time media specialist on the basis of exemplary quality library media programs as well as service to and active participation and leadership in SCASL and related professional organizations. Exemplary library media programs are those defined as reflecting the themes of collaboration, leadership, and technology integration as outlined in *Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning* (American Association of School Librarians), including outstanding and effective support of student learning through well-rounded, innovative, and comprehensive program administration, learning and teaching, and information access. In accepting this award the Media Specialist of the Year agrees to make presentations throughout the state to share his/her methods of best practice, including presentations at the annual SCASL Conference and the South Carolina Administrators' Conference. The Media Specialist of the Year also agrees to write at least one article for the *Media Center Messenger*, serve on the SCASL Awards Committee, and represent SCASL in Columbia on South Carolina Legislative Day.

Applications for any of these awards may be obtained by visiting the Website at <http://scasl.net/awards.htm> or by contacting:

Dr. Sandra McLendon, Awards Committee Chair,
smclendo@greenville.k12.sc.us
2725 Anderson Road, Greenville, SC 29611
Phone (864) 295-5185

Completed applications should be mailed to the Awards Committee Chair and must be postmarked no later than November 15, 2004. The committee cannot consider any application postmarked after the deadline. Applications by email or fax will not be accepted.

Library resources and research have always been critical to scholars of all ages as Dr. Bryan indicates in this article. He draws upon libraries for his research and adds to their store with his writings.



A New Book on the Architectural Profession in South Carolina

Dr. John M. Bryan, University of South Carolina

Working together, librarians and architects have contributed to our democracy in interesting—and often unexpected—ways. Every stable society depends on a foundation of written records—deeds, laws, legal proceedings and the literature which conveys the experience of successive generations.

Thomas Jefferson is often praised as an architect and bibliophile. He wrote that “I cannot live without books,” and he expressed the importance of libraries in his design for the University of Virginia library. Modeling the new library on the greatest of the Roman Temples, the Pantheon, literally “the temple of all the gods”, he sited it at the heart of the campus. Jefferson’s personal library was famous in its day, and we know why, for he prepared a catalogue when he sold some 13,000 volumes to the Federal government to re-establish the Library of Congress which had been burned during the War of 1812.

Jefferson’s personal library played a formative role in the architectural education of Robert Mills (1781 - 1855), a native South Carolinian and the first American to study specifically to become an architect. The influence of illustrations from Jefferson’s books can be traced in Mills’ subsequent designs; moreover, Mills, perhaps following Jefferson’s example, became an omnivorous reader and a notable author. In addition to his well-known Atlas of South Carolina (1825), Mills published approximately 2000 pages of prose. Mills’ designs for a library in Baltimore and for the South Caroliniana Library at the South Carolina College in Columbia were both influenced by Jefferson’s earlier library at the University of Virginia.

I recently summarized Mills’ career in a book published for the South Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Several years ago when we started this project, I mistakenly assumed I already knew the interesting stories about architecture in South Carolina; however, collections in several libraries quickly proved me wrong, for there is always more to learn about almost everything.

For example, architects around the state helped with the research, and Gayland Witherspoon of Clemson pointed out an unpublished, 88 page memoir written by the late Harlan McClure. McClure’s essay is history in the first person. He recounts the development of a nationally respected curriculum at Clemson; he also provides a vivid glimpse of racial integration at the university and the growth of South Carolina during the last third of the 20th century. Phelps Bultman, a retired architect from Columbia, and the late James L. Thomas of Spartanburg directed me to data that shows that modern architectural practice first came to our state in the 1880’s with the textile industry. (This is “new” history, for previous writers always credit Charleston as the source of the profession in South Carolina.) And in the South Caroliniana Library I found beautiful unpublished drawings by Albert Simons. He was a leader in the early Depression era WPA programs to save historic buildings, and he was one of the founders of the preservation movement in Charleston.

In addition to including new historical material from various libraries, we were able to publish color photographs of more than 100 buildings which have won design awards in South Carolina over the past 25 years. *Architectural Practice: The South Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects* introduces the reader to the best buildings and the design profession in our state. Profusely illustrated, the 193-page book provides a comprehensive visual survey of successful design ideas. Individuals, schools and libraries may order copies directly from: AIA/SC, 1522 Richland St., Columbia, SC 29201. For further information and pricing, call: 803-252-6050.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John M. Bryan is a professor of art history at the University of South Carolina and a native of the Palmetto State. He is the author of seven books, including *Biltmore Estate*, and numerous monographs and articles during a 32-year career at USC. He collaborated with the Smithsonian Institution in collecting the papers of the nineteenth-century South Carolina architect Robert Mills and served as curator for two national American Institute of Architects exhibitions. As well as being a recipient of the USC Educational Foundation Research Award for Humanities and Social Sciences and the Order of the Palmetto, he has also been inducted into the prestigious Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C., based on his career achievement and distinction in his field.

You're Not Going to Believe This...

Lynda Lee, Manning High, Manning, llee@clarendon2.k12.sc.us

You're not going to believe this, but one year ago I learned that I would be given sole charge of my 3A high school library. It turned out to be the best year I have had since becoming a librarian.

I knew that state budget cuts seemed to be all encompassing. But, I wasn't expecting to go from working with another professional to reinventing myself. Initially, all sorts of thoughts and feelings ran through my head day and night. I realized that a teacher **WOULD** come assist with each class that they brought so there would indeed be two professionals in the library much of the time. But what about those students with passes? Student ID's? What about cataloging? Book orders? Ha! Then I remembered something that Dr. Pam Barron had said at the start of her great but very challenging "Jump Over the Moon" class years ago. You eat an elephant one bite at a time.

Immediately I knew that different tasks would need to be prioritized, so that when time was running out I would have a direction to head. Multi-tasking became kind of a game. Could I work on a book order online while making student ID's during registration? Absolutely!

Did you know that there are different ways of doing things in your library? I learned from student helpers that in order for me to survive I needed to compromise with my own expectations. Let a student do some housekeeping chores even if it's not exactly the way you would do it. Can you live with a bulletin board that is done a little below your standard, or a little dust behind a computer monitor that was missed during cleaning? You can if you only have time to assign it, not to do it yourself.

Make lemonade when you can! We are on a four block schedule. One period a day I had fabulous student helpers, the other three periods the help ranged from so-so to aghhhhh! I fired one Service Learning student because he would slip out and just disappear. No help can be easier to deal with than bad help. I saved tasks that required skill and trust for my "Dream Team" to do and left the mundane tasks for helpers with less skill.

Communication with students was a challenge. I reminded students verbally when they checked out books what their status was for fines or overdue books, but I did not have time to print out notices until the spring. Two glaring roadblocks were that we rarely met homeroom and that many of our students also go to the local tech school at some time during the year. I use Follett's circulation system, and this year I'm going to try putting a student's first fall-on-campus class in location 1 and their first spring-on-campus class in location 2. It will take longer to key in, but hopefully it will enable better communication. A book return box is outside the library door so that it's always accessible, and if I ever knew in advance that I would not be at school I marked that day closed on the circulation calendar so that students would not be penal-

ized. On the rare occasions that I was unexpectedly absent. I gave students appropriate time credit when I returned to school.

Teacher communication was very important to me. I nabbed them in the hall whenever I could, turned my former co-worker's office into a workroom for faculty, and found a communication friend in what I expected to be a foe. The "foe" I named "Elle" for elephant. It is a giant color laser printer that serves the entire staff. How on earth was I going to have time to orchestrate its operation? Guess what? "Elle" brought the teachers to me! I didn't have to scramble down the halls so much when teachers were coming by to pick up what they had printed. That gave me a chance to do some fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants planning and sign them up for checkout or innovative projects with their classes. One inventive teacher would send notes to me as documents through the printer. The teachers became great negotiators when they were vying for the same library time slot or the same piece of equipment.

Schedule is not always a dirty word. Junior Class Sponsor has been one of my titles for several years. Last year, in order to conduct planning meetings for the Junior Class Ring Ceremony and the gigantic production of the Junior-Senior Prom, the library was reserved for committee members during lunch on Fridays. Teachers who felt confident enough even did research in the library during prom week when I was overseeing the decorating.

It is important to do things that make you happy too! I went to a drama class and did some storytelling while another teacher managed her students and their research in the library on her own. I blocked in time for some NASCAR reading groups as enrichment for some freshmen students. Since the library was **REALLY** my home away from home, I decorated the offices with some of my amateur photography that made me smile.

Look after yourself. Stay hydrated. If you need a shoulder to lean on, find one. Administrators and teachers are human too. Take a lunch break! I am thankful that my principal insisted that my lunch break was important. I had from 36 to 70 students in the library everyday during the students' lunch, so I would take my lunch break immediately following theirs. Teachers always understood. After a day with the morning crew, classes, the lunch bunch, and a few after school stragglers, I got out of there! I recharged for the next day, I did not feel compelled to "spend the night" at school in order to do a good job.

The support that I received from my administrators and teachers made last year's success possible. We all pitched in to give the students the best we could offer. I was shocked and humbled when the teachers selected me as their Teacher of the Year this year. I learned that at my weakest time, I grew to be a survivor.

SCASL Elections Committee Seeks Recommendations

The SCASL Elections Committee needs your help! Suggestions for nominees are needed for the offices of vice-president/president-elect and secretary. The slate of nominees will be published in **Media Center Messenger** prior to conference. Elections will be held during the March 2005 SCASL business meeting at the conference in Florence. Nominees must reside and/or work in South Carolina and be active members of SCASL.

The vice-president/president-elect's commitment is for three years. This position requires previous Executive Board service.

Year One duties 2005-2006

- Serves as vice president of SCASL
- Plans the SCASL 2006 annual conference
- Attends ALA 2005 Annual Conference to observe AASL Affiliate Assembly meetings
- Attends ALA 2006 MidWinter Conference as an SCASL delegate to AASL Affiliate Assembly
- Maintains personal membership in ALA and AASL

Year Two duties 2006-2007

- Serves as SCASL president
- Attends ALA 2006 Annual Conference to represent SCASL at AASL Affiliate Assembly
- Attends ALA 2007 MidWinter Conference as an SCASL delegate to AASL Affiliate Assembly
- Maintains personal membership in ALA and AASL

Year Three duties 2007-2008

- Serves as SCASL immediate past president
- Chairs Elections Committee
- Chairs SCASL 2010 annual conference site selection task force
- Attends ALA 2007 Annual Conference as an SCASL delegate to AASL Affiliate Assembly
- Maintains personal membership in ALA and AASL

The secretary serves a one-year term from July 1 - June 30. He/she is responsible for recording and distributing minutes of Executive Board, Executive Committee, and SCASL Business meetings. No prior Executive Board experience is necessary.

The 2004-2005 Elections Committee members include: Martha Taylor, immediate past president; Frances O'Neal, Regional Network director; Patty Bynum; Penny Hayne; and Carolyn Jenkins. Please send your suggestions to: Martha Taylor / 1209 Stonehurst Drive / Anderson SC 29621, martha_taylor@charter.net or marthataylor@anderson5.net

An email link is available on the Elections Committee page on the SCASL Web site.

Design by the Book

Martha Alewine, Office of Technology, created a project modeled after the popular TV show *Trading Spaces* where a deserving school library would receive a complete make-over. She named it "Design by the Book" and this summer Newberry County's Reuben Elementary was chosen as the recipient of this award thanks to donations from S.C. businesses and agencies. For two days, Julie Haltiwanger, the library media specialist, was barred from the library as a crew from the State Department of Education, ETV and the school worked to remodel the facility. Fresh paint, new carpet, furniture, \$3,000 worth of new books, a new computer, and a completely new decor refurbished the media center into something to be proud of. The purpose of the project, aside from helping out a specific media center, was to bring attention to the need for sufficient funding for our media centers to provide them with current books, up-to-date equipment, and proper facilities. In congratulating Martha, Don Cantrell of the SDE said, "It was heartwarming to see the reaction and deep appreciation on the media specialist's face when we saw the finished results of the efforts of many volunteers under Martha's leadership. Way to go, Martha!" You can read the details in the article in the State newspaper. <http://www.thestate.com/mld/thestate/9157062.htm>

THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

When Did You Last Read Your Own Mission Statement?

Peggy Harrison, Brewer Middle School, Greenwood, harrisonp@mail.gwd50.k12.sc.us

“His reasons are as two grains of wheat hid in two bushels of chaff: you shall seek all day ere you find them, and when you have them, they are not worth the search.”—William Shakespeare, *The Merchant of Venice*

Writers are often accused of redundancy when they employ the words *reflecting back upon* because we are all accustomed to viewing reflection as always following action. While reflection is a necessary ingredient for evaluation, the time has come to reflect upon its positioning at the back of the timeline.

The beginning of a new school year is an excellent opportunity to move reflection to the front of the line. With all the scurrying about to get our school library media centers up and running, how easily we can lose our sense of the purpose of what we do and why.

Pause, take a deep breath, and spare a minute—“No, no!” your mind screams, “there is not a single minute to spare!” Resist the panic, revolt against the overload, and force some time to reflect ahead upon **what** you want your library media program to accomplish, and **why**, and, let’s not forget, **for whom**.

All of which brings us face to purposeful face with the mission statement of your school library media center. Now I’ve written and revised a few mission statements in my time, and I’ve been compelled to read a good many more. Most mission statements, mine included, tend to be overly verbose and equally overly ambitious.

Reflecting ahead to what I want to accomplish for the year is a great way to jettison both the excess verbiage carried around by my mission statement and the grandiose projects that threaten to overload the actual mission and find those two grains of wheat in the bushel of chaff.

Now, **what** does a school library media program need to accomplish? Reflect on this question. While specific answers will and should vary, the essence of the mission will lie in supporting your school’s instructional program. After all, there are libraries of other types, not to mention bookstores (think Barnes & Noble) that provide books and other media. Being integral to the instructional program of your school is synonymous with being valued in your school. Otherwise, your library media program risks being marginalized. That this is a bad result is evident in the expression “chipping away at the margins.”

Then, **why** do you want your library media program to be an integral part of instruction at your school? A very glib answer, in view of the last statement in the preceding paragraph, would mention that monthly paycheck that’s already spent. A more reflective answer emphasizes the need to increase student learning and highlights the importance of a well-planned, effective school library media program in schools that are successfully addressing that need. Have you read the research—the Colorado and NC studies, etc.? If not, read one or more of these studies now. (Here I am—encroaching on your spare minutes again.)

Lastly, **for whom** do the services of school library media center exist? The answer, although self-evident, is often ignored in practice. The library media center—its resources, its services, and its programs—exists for the students. Certainly, we serve other members of the school community, especially classroom teachers, but, even if indirectly, we are always serving our students.

Actually, that’s three grains of wheat that we’ve found. Now, at the beginning of another year of opportunity, let’s prove their worth and plant them as the purpose for all that we do during our busy days.

Do you subscribe to the SCASL listserv?

Keep in touch with fellow professionals who use the listserv to find answers to questions, to solve problems, and to discuss current topics of critical interest to the profession. Dr. Dan subscribes. Why shouldn’t you? Details available at SCASL.net

Making that Good Impression...Again and Again

Greta Flinn, Calhoun Falls High School, mflinn@acsd.k12.sc.us

Back to school time has always been exciting to me. It is a magical combination of nostalgic memories, newly sharpened pencils, and the joy of seeing friends you missed during the summer. As a second-generation educator I have always operated on a school calendar. Summer seems to wipe the slate clean and set us up to begin the “new year”.

That’s why although I’ve always heard that you can only make a good first impression once, I believe that each new school year offers that “first” opportunity again, making me determined to make a good impression year after year.

A special education teacher at my school, now a good friend of mine, recounted the first impression I made at my current school. She laughed and told me that they (our school’s faculty) weren’t sure what to think when they first met me. I hopped up, dressed to the nines, at our first faculty meeting, pumped up with energy, seemingly not daunted by being the new guy, and proceeded to lay out my vision for the library media program that year via PowerPoint. She said they were a little overwhelmed, but it definitely made an impression and put the library media center at the forefront of everyone’s minds. She also related that it let them know that I seemingly “knew what I was doing”. It appears that I made an impression with impact.

I use the new school year as a chance to reinforce that first impression and make a good impression again and again. Making a good “first” impression every year goes a long way towards fostering that inviting library media environment and forming and maintaining collaborative partnerships. I have listed some suggestions below that have served me well again and again in this endeavor.

- **Get on the agenda:** Being on the agenda at the start-off faculty meeting for the school year lends the library media program an air of importance and puts the library media center at the forefront of your faculty’s mind. I start each school year with a specially planned presentation.
- **Dress to impress:** Since our start-up meeting occurs on a teacher workday most of our faculty is turned out in jeans and t-shirts. I usually dress this way also, since I know I will be getting pretty grubby, but I make an exception for this day. I dress in what I refer to as “district office” clothes.
- **Keep it positive:** Smile and create a positive spin. If you are forced to relate negatives, do it with humor and move on to something positive. Stress abounds at the beginning of the year so try not to add to it. I plan to eventually put a “No Whining Zone” sign up in my office to help me stay positive.
- **Lay the groundwork:** Carefully consider what information you wish to impart and how best to present it. I am a big fan of PowerPoint. Depending on the information I have to share, I might conduct a PowerPoint presentation or I might pass out handouts featuring PowerPoint slides. I

always jot down notes in the margins on my hardcopy to use as a script to keep on track. Deliver your presentation in the most time-efficient manner possible. Our start-up meeting is lengthy and intense, and I am usually close to the end of the agenda. Speaking longer than fifteen minutes would not earn me any friends. Part of laying the groundwork also encompasses setting up the library media center before your teachers return if at all possible. If you aren’t contracted to work any more days than the teachers, try to arrange your posters and bulletin boards before you leave for the year. Loosely stapling newspaper over your bulletin boards is a great way to protect them over the summer.

- **No reruns:** I plan and prepare a library media presentation from scratch each year. I don’t cover items like library media hours and class sign up. My faculty knows this already. Instead I give a current year update that focuses on new initiatives and changes as well as services, programs, or procedures that I feel have not been communicated effectively in the past. I cover the basics of library hours and such through the first newsletter I send out. That said, I do consistently pass around a sign-up form for the library media advisory committee and a “fix it” form in an effort to determine pressing technology concerns entering the new school year.
- **Welcome the new:** To make the new faculty feel welcome and encourage a working relationship, I procure network user IDs and passwords for them prior to their arrival. I also purchase pencil boxes and fill them with some goodies and a brochure that welcomes them to the library media center and details basic library media center usage procedures. I visit their classrooms during those first few days to determine if there is any way I can help them.
- **Put on the finishing touches:** When I passed out hand-out packets this year, I included a table with the DISCUS databases by subject and a copy of the KnowItAll.org hand-out (available from the website) that lists features by subject area. My handouts were tailored to specific subject areas. For example, our ELA teachers received a handout packet with the KnowItAll.org sheet for Language Arts and our special education teachers received a handout packet with the KnowItAll.org sheet for each subject area. As the teachers passed around the handout packets and pulled out the one with their name, I overheard our assistant principal whispering to our principal, “She put a lot of work into this.” I couldn’t have been happier. That was just the sort of good impression I was aiming for.

Give these suggestions a try and tailor them to your school setting. Seize the opportunity a new school year affords you to make that good first impression again. The side effects of respect, inspired confidence, and relationship building are worth the effort you put into getting on the agenda, dressing to impress, laying the groundwork, avoiding reruns, welcoming the new, and putting on the finishing touches.

Open Source Rocks!

How We Created a Computer Lab in Our Media Center for Under \$2000

Andrea Baker, Airport High School, Lexington 2, abaker@lex2.org

We've heard the famous real estate maxim for many years... location, location, location! As we assist students with a variety of projects and collaborate with teachers on designing standards driven units with an emphasis on information literacy, media specialists could very well have their own maxim... access, access, access!

The problem we faced in our school was limited computer access, no money to install a new computer lab or upgrade the hardware in the existing computer labs. The solution to our dilemma began to become very apparent. Open Source.

What is Open Source? Open Source is a movement throughout the world to share computer code. As opposed to proprietary vendors who keep the code secret, Open Source makes the code available to anyone. The belief behind Open Source is that many minds are better than a few. Open Source is a bottom up business philosophy as opposed to the top down business philosophy associated with proprietary vendors.

We initially learned about Open Source from a professor at Davis College. Dr. Molyneux taught Open Source and specific Linux tutorials in the Internet Under the Hood class. He planted the seed.

My colleague at Airport, Amy Daniels, and I decided to explore the possibilities of Open Source during the 2002-2003 school year. We subscribed to the k12ltsp listserv. K12ltsp stands for Linux Terminal Server Project. This is an international listserv. We quickly realized two states in the U.S. were leading the way. Those states are Oregon and North Carolina. Raleigh, North Carolina is home to Red Hat Linux. Linux is an example of Open Source. Red Hat Linux is an operating system.

We read copious numbers of e-mails about k12ltsp, and the pieces began to fall in place. Being the inquiring media specialists that we are, in early March 2003 we invited ourselves to visit a school district slightly west of Asheville, NC. Michael Williams at Haywood County Schools is the Technology Director and served as our host. We visited a high school that had five computer labs; these labs were running dual platforms. Dual platforms mean some of the labs are proprietary and some are Open Source. We left feeling empowered and knew we could replicate the Linux lab concept.

During spring 2003, between lurking on the k12ltsp site and visiting Haywood County Schools, we Googled to determine whether there were any LUG groups in the Columbia area. LUG stands for Linux User Group. There are local LUG groups throughout the world. Once again, being the investigative media specialists that we are, we determined there was a LUG in Columbia (it's called ColaLUG), and there was a meeting coming up within a few days. So we went. We had no idea what to expect. The meeting took place on the campus of the University of South Carolina. When we walked in the room and scanned the lay of the land, we quickly realized we were the only females! The ColaLUG members were VERY helpful and eager to assist us in our quest to install a Linux lab in our media center. One member in particular, Mike Wescott, has been key to our success; we refer to him as our Linux

guru. He is humble, unassuming, and totally supportive.

We approached our principal, Mr. Frank Jovanelly, in August 2003 and proposed installing a Linux lab in our media center. Our principal was very supportive and assisted us in getting the proposal approved through the district chain of command. We were given final approval in mid-September 2003.

Amy and I began contacting local businesses and asking for hardware donations. Wow! We were delighted at the overwhelming support we received from the companies contacted. We received hardware from corporate giants, mom and pop businesses, and our wonderful teachers. What began to take shape was truly a collaborative partnership between our school and the community with ownership belonging to all parties.

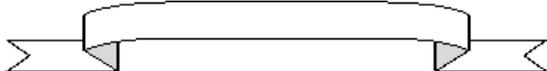
One of our parents and his son, our ColaLUG guru, and both of us began spending approximately one Saturday a month literally building the lab. We received a monetary donation from a utility company. That helped us purchase cables, switches, and electrical poles. Things were beginning to take shape.

Hands down the best advice we received was about Executive Order 12999. President Clinton signed this order. It mandates that federal agencies offer discarded hardware to schools and nonprofits at no cost and expedites the transfer of said hardware. We visited our WONDERFUL Veterans Administration hospital and went to their warehouse to check out their discarded hardware. Our jaws literally dropped. We were able to secure pallets of CPU's, 17-inch monitors, servers, laser printers, keyboards and mice. None of the CPUs had hard drives, but it didn't matter since k12ltsp pushes everything through the server. The VA hospital warehouse was a treasure trove and propelled our project forward at an expedited pace.

During the spring semester 2004, we decided to pilot the lab with an English, Social Studies, and Science teacher in order to stress the system and get the proverbial kinks worked out prior to fall 2004. We discovered we needed additional memory in one of the servers and decided to forego traditional mice and opted instead for optical mice.

What have we learned? Our community is generous and benevolent. Airport High School teachers are collegial, giving professionals. The fact there are two media specialists at our school was invaluable. We bounced myriad ideas off each other and had each other as sounding boards when things became arduous. We also became even more passionate about Open Source. A media center would never have one encyclopedia set. Along the same vein, it is vital to make students aware there are choices among computer operating systems. Come visit the Linux Lab the next time you are in Columbia! We'll send you home with free software and show you how our students and teachers are using Open Source to seamlessly integrate technology into the curriculum.

For additional information contact Andrea at abaker@lex2.org



SCASL HONOR ROLLS

Public relations and advocacy are important parts of every school library media program. Showing our appreciation for those who help us is one simple way that we can promote our programs. A word or note of thanks is often all it takes to win an advocate. Our administrators and paraprofessionals are some of the people who are often missed when it comes to showing our appreciation. Here is the perfect opportunity to distinguish these special people by nominating them to their appropriate Honor Rolls. They will be recognized in the *Media Center Messenger* and the conference program, they will receive a certificate of merit, and a letter of commendation will be sent to their supervisor, superintendent or school board. This program is ongoing throughout the school year and nominations may be sent in at any time. However, the December 3, 2004 deadline makes sure names can be published in the conference program.

Honor Roll of Administrators

To submit a nomination to the Honor Roll of Administrators, please include the following in your application:

- Your name, position, and address
- Name of nominee and position
- Name and address of school
- Names and addresses of superintendent and chairperson of the school board

On a separate sheet please include the following:

- Description of the activity for which nomination is being made
- One or two sentences for publication purposes summarizing the reason for nomination
- Verification: e.g., agendas, programs, photos, clippings, letters of commendation, etc.

Send the completed nomination no later than December 3, 2004 to Suzanne Washick, Stone Academy, 115 Randall Street, Greenville, SC 29609.

Honor Roll of Paraprofessionals

To submit a nomination to the Honor Roll of Paraprofessionals, please include the following in your application:

- Your name, position, and address
- Name of nominee and position including number of years at current position
- Name and address of school
- Name of supervisor or media specialist and principal

On a separate sheet, please include the following:

- A short description or tabular list summarizing the reasons for the nomination (consider responsibilities, work habits, strengths, and interaction with media patrons)
- At least one letter of recommendation from someone other than the person making the nomination (example: a teacher/principal/media patron/etc.)

Send the completed nomination no later than December 3, 2004 to Suzanne Washick, Stone Academy, 115 Randall Street, Greenville, SC 29609.

IT'S A GOOD THING

Sandy Stearns, Colleton County High School, Walterboro, sstearns@mail.colleton.k12.sc.us

I think of August as the beginning of the year. I make resolutions and think of ways to do my job more efficiently. So here are some ideas which might help you.

BULLETIN BOARDS

Take photos of your boards and keep them in a file. This allows you to look back and improve, reuse, or recycle. Be sure to label the picture with the date you used it and give it a title.

When I take a board down, I put the letters in a zippable sandwich bag with a piece of paper that tells me what I said. (If you use freezer bags, you can write the saying on the outside with permanent marker.) Then I file the bags along with the other items from the board in a large brown envelope. On the outside of the envelope, I write the title of the bulletin board and any other info I might need. Keep the brown envelopes in a box or file and come next fall you will have some ABC (Already Been Created) bulletin boards.

If you have long bulletin boards (14 ft.), I recommend hanging the paper vertically. Four, 36-inch wide pieces about 4 feet long will cover the board with about a finger width of overlap for each sheet. It's much easier to hang a 3ft. wide piece than a 14ft. long piece. You can have more combinations of colors. Hang the end pieces first so that you line up the straight edge of the paper with the straight edge of the board. Then hang the middle pieces and trim the top and the bottom.

IDEA FILE

Like most of you I'm always on the lookout for interesting slogans, clever ideas, and unusual pictures, so I keep an "idea" file. Anything (and everything) that strikes my fancy goes into this file. When I'm in search of inspiration for a display or bulletin board, I go to my file. I also maintain a "joke" file. These files can get thick so don't forget to weed.

ROLODEX

No, this is not antiquated technology! I keep a small rolodex next to the phone. Any company I do business with is there from the guy who repairs the overheads to Channel One to ITV to the local TV stations. If I have a site ID or an account number,

that goes on the card. This is very handy for calling *The State* newspaper to let them know you didn't get your paper.

TEACHER LOCATOR

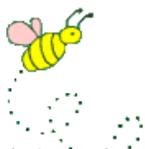
If you work in a large school and have teachers who float, this is very handy. In Excel I create a spreadsheet. The teachers are listed alphabetically in the first column. Then I create columns for homeroom section, department, each of the periods including lunch. Simply fill in the room numbers in the appropriate cells. I leave the cell empty for planning periods. If a person is a department head, I put an asterisk by their name. I've even been known to color code the names by department and at the bottom of the page put a color coded box with the number of people in that department. This gives me the convenience of knowing how many copies to make for things that go only to a particular department.

We have listserves within our school for each department (e.g. science department, *cchsscience@mail.colleton.k12.sc.us*). This is a really great convenience. I can forward an email, a Web site, or information to the whole science department at one time. We use email as our prime distribution of information within the school.

END-OF-THE-DAY

At the end of the day I make sure everything is ready for the next morning. Cross the date off the calendar, write the date on any documentation for the next day, check the schedule, etc. I make sure what I'm going to do first thing in the morning is right there on top of my desk. This reminds me of meetings, classes, presentations or anything unusual. This routine gives me a sense of closure for the day, and I go home knowing that I'm ready for the next day. It's a good thing.

If you have suggestions for this column, you can email me at sstearns@mail.colleton.k12.sc.us



Aunt Bee's Briefings

Here is a fresh idea to use as you implement Big6. Buy inexpensive mechanical pencils and attach a note to each stating, "Pencil Me in For a Big6 Connection!" Include a diagram of the three parts of the Big6 triangle, Technology-The Classroom Curriculum-Library Research. After giving the pencils to your teachers, explain steps toward planning a Big6 connection. This can be accomplished through e-mail if you have introduced Big6 before, or if not, by talking to your administrator about allowing you to host an inservice. Good luck!

Reflections from a First Year Media Specialist: Ready, Set, Go...

Terri Catalano, Irmo Middle School, Lexington 5, tcatalano@lex5.k12.sc.us

Almost 2 years to the day after starting the pursuit of my Master of Library and Information Science degree from USC, I am beginning my career as a school media specialist at Irmo Middle School in Columbia, South Carolina. So many thoughts, ideas and feelings saturate my brain about what I want to accomplish in the coming year, but a pervasive sentiment is how much I have learned in the last 24 months and how quickly the time passed. At different times during each semester I would feel overwhelmed with work and wonder if it was worth the effort and even if I would have the wherewithal to complete the program. Juggling schoolwork, family and graduate assistantship responsibilities could be daunting at times, but now I am convinced that the hard part is behind me (am I just woefully naive?) and that I am ready to begin the work for which I have so diligently prepared.

So where does one begin? Well, if you are a newly certified teacher, not a previously certified classroom teacher adding on library media certification, you begin with induction. The induction process is a yearlong program to initiate new teachers to the profession to help make them more successful and to improve their retention rate. The induction program in my district begins with two full days of orientation and continues throughout the year with monthly meetings that address a range of issues from classroom management to the service the media center can provide to teachers. Yes, I am happy to say that my district devotes an entire induction meeting explaining the role of the media center and, since I am the only media specialist going through induction this year, I will have the opportunity to make that presentation to my fellow inductees. In addition to the orientation and meetings, I am assigned a mentor at my school to help guide me through the process and answer questions or concerns that arise through the year. As would be expected, there are some similarities and significant differences between the information needed to be a successful classroom teacher as opposed to a successful media specialist. Fortunately, those differences have been addressed by the state through the formulation of ADEPT dimensions specifically designed for media specialists. For those who are not familiar with ADEPT, it is South Carolina's system for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching. The downside to being the only media specialist going through induction in my district is twofold: first, at least in my case, I am among the oldest of the "new teachers" in the group. In library school there is a nice range of younger and not so young students, since many career changers are matriculating through the program. Most of the new classroom teachers in the induction process have gone straight through from high school and look, in some instances, as if they still are, in fact, in high school. When, during the introductions at our first meeting, one of my fellow inductees mentioned her older sister, who was all of 25, I admittedly

felt "less than young." On a more serious note, not having another media specialist to share ideas and the experience of induction with is a shortcoming and having that opportunity would greatly enhance the experience.

Although lacking that camaraderie in the induction process, I have it in my new position. Previously, Irmo Middle had one media specialist; upon her retirement last spring, however, after over 20 years with the school, the increasing enrollment justified two media specialists and I was hired along with Renee Williams, another USC alum. Although Renee is new to the school like me, she is beginning her 8th year in education, 4 as a classroom teacher and 3 as a media specialist. So I have the best of both worlds: acclimating myself to the media center with my colleague who is also familiarizing herself with the collection, faculty and resources at the school, while benefiting from her previous experience as a media specialist at a different school.

As I prepare to embark upon what I am sure will be a rewarding and exciting career as a middle school media specialist, I am doing all I can to get ready and organize my ideas and plans for the new school year. First and foremost, I am trying to read as much of the middle school fiction as possible, particularly the 2004 - 2005 Junior Book Award nominees. I want to be able to recommend a good read to everyone who comes through the door of my media center, from teachers to students, from the academically gifted to the struggling learner. I am also starting to familiarize myself with the curriculum map for all subjects, as well as the nonfiction and reference collection so that I can knowledgeably promote the media center as the instructional hub for the entire school and encourage access for all members of the learning community. Moreover, I will concentrate on working with teachers to infuse information literacy and technology literacy across the curriculum as vital and categorically necessary 21st century skills. Additionally, I am planning to advance the use of electronic resources, especially DISCUS, to complement the print resources in the media center. And of course, I will continue to hone my hands-on technology skills, such as connecting data projectors to computers (or VCR's) and effectively operating assorted models of digital cameras and camcorders.

I know the next year will be anything but dull. I will make some mistakes, learn a lot, and, with luck and determination, positively impact student achievement at Irmo Middle School. I am confident that all that I have learned at USC will serve me well and that whatever happens, in May 2005 I will look back at this time as the beginning of my "most excellent career adventure."

ABC Schools Provide an Opportunity for Media Center Collaboration

Carole McGrath, Brunson Elementary, Hampton, cmcgrath@hampton1.k12.sc.us

As educators we all strive to give our students the best educational opportunities available. During the past several years under the leadership of our music teacher, Jack Hutto, the staff at Brunson Elementary School in rural Hampton County has expanded those opportunities to include dance, African drumming, and theatre. During the 2003–2004 school year, we were accepted as an Arts in Basic Curriculum School. When asked to describe “Arts in Basic Curriculum” Mr. Hutto stated, “In today’s ever changing society, we have to prepare our students for tomorrow by teaching them to be creative thinkers and problem solvers. All students learn differently. Arts in the Basic Curriculum (hereafter ABC) recognizes that students learn in different ways. By using arts-based instruction, students are learning academic subject matter through different modalities of learning. ABC teachers are becoming more aware of how their students learn best, either by visual, auditory, or kinesthetic learning. Students are achieving success and enjoying the process.”

During the application process, Mr. Hutto formed a strategic planning committee which I willingly joined. I immediately saw the potential for including the library media center and specifically information literacy skills in this process. One of the first things that the committee did was to ask me to create a form for teachers to use to request collaboration between the classroom teacher and the art, music and physical education teachers. After explaining the correlation between what I was trying to accomplish by way of collaboration, the committee agreed to include the media center. The Curriculum Collaboration Form (see figures 1 and 2) was created using elements that the committee wanted to include as well as elements from the collaboration resources found on our state web site. (<https://www.myscschools.com/offices/tech/ms/lms/ResourcesforLMS.cfm>)

This form is divided into several sections for data entry:

- Lesson / Unit Summary:** A large rectangular box at the top.
- Lesson Objectives:** A list of four numbered lines for objectives.
- End Product:** A rectangular box.
- Evaluation:** A rectangular box.
- Roles and Responsibilities:** A grid with columns for 'Classroom Teacher', 'Art', and 'Music', and rows for 'Classroom Teacher' and 'Materials'.
- Reflection:** Three horizontal boxes labeled 'Areas that went very well:', 'Areas that need improvement:', and 'Suggestions for next time:'.

This form contains checkboxes and selection options:

- Request Type:** Radio buttons for 'Support', 'Parallel', and 'Collaboration'.
- Request Level:** Radio buttons for 'Classroom', 'Parallel', 'Collaboration', and 'Team Teaching'.
- Request Area:** Radio buttons for 'Art', 'Music', 'Physical Education', and 'Library Media Center'.
- Requester:** A box for the teacher's name.
- Request Date:** A box for the date.
- Request Period:** A box for the duration of the request.
- Request Description:** A large text area for details.
- Request Status:** Radio buttons for 'Approved', 'Pending', and 'Rejected'.
- Requester's Signature:** A box for the teacher's signature.
- Requester's Title:** A box for the teacher's title.

When Mr. Hutto and I presented our plan for collaboration to our faculty, we used portions of the PowerPoint concerning collaboration, available at our state web site, and then added slides specific to arts integration. Our teachers were receptive to the plan because of the arts integration we had been doing in the last several years.

As you can see from our Collaboration Request form, we identified four levels of collaboration. Teachers used the form to request collaboration opportunities from the special area teachers and could request any level of collaboration they felt comfortable with. In the beginning the requests were for support or for parallel teaching, but as teachers began to see the value in these activities the instances of true collaboration increased. During the 2003–2004 school year the number of teachers who requested collaboration with the media specialist tripled. After years of trying to increase my level of support and collaboration with my teachers with only very limited success, I was thrilled at the number of teachers who willingly sought my assistance after we implemented this program. As a school and through the library media center we had many instances of collaborative teaching across all special areas and hope to see the quality and quantity of those instances increase this year. Several teachers reported to me that they were reluctant to collaborate with me in the past because of their perception of it being something “extra” for them to have to do. The ABC school program gave me the opportunity to incorporate my library program into something that the teachers were already doing.

If you would like more information on becoming an ABC school visit the website at <http://www.winthrop.edu/abc/> and <http://www.state.sc.us/arts/education/>. If you would like to know more about our efforts, you can contact Jack Hutto or myself by email at jhutto@hampton1.k12.sc.us or cmcgrath@hampton1.k12.sc.us

“The ABC Project is a statewide collaborative initiative begun in 1987, whose goal is to ensure that every child in South Carolina, from pre-school through college levels, has access to a quality, comprehensive education in the arts, including dance, drama, music, visual arts and creative writing. The Arts In Basic Curriculum (ABC) Project is cooperatively directed by the South Carolina Arts Commission, the South Carolina Department of Education and the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Winthrop University.” (<http://www.winthrop.edu/abc/>)

Bring on the Warm Fuzzies:

Things to Do to Make Others Feel Welcome in Your Library Media Center

Valerie Byrd, Library Media Specialist, Dutch Fork Elementary School, vbyrd@lex5.k12.sc.us

I think August is one of my favorite months. August is our chance to start again with a clean slate. It brings the beginning of the year, which means new computers, new policies, new teachers, and new students. The computers and policies make themselves known at school in no time, but those new faces take a little bit more care. I have thought about things I do at the beginning of the year that make others feel welcome. These tips are also good for “old” teachers and students (back to that clean slate...let’s start off on the right foot!).

Teachers

Folders are cheap this time of year. Buy enough for each teacher at your school (don’t forget special areas, AGP, and your administrative staff). Stuff that folder with all kinds of goodies. Going into my Library Media Center folders are: Big 6 bookmarks, information from the public library, information about our school library’s website (www.readingwithmsbyrd.com), and a one sheet information page with important dates and events coming up in the Library Media Center. For my flexible grades (3-5), I am including information about HOW to schedule their class into the Library Media Center as well as information about WHY a flexible schedule is best practice for BOTH of us. I am also including a copyright brochure and a Fair Use checklist (from Martha Alewine’s website and Grolier, respectively). Make sure you stuff some extras for student teachers, library school students that pop by, and other visitors that come to the Library Media Center throughout the school year.

Assistant

I am getting a new assistant this year. To welcome her, I have cleaned out her desk completely, leaving only necessary forms, a calendar, and office supplies. I want her to feel that this is her new home and that she can decorate it as she would like. I will have a new plant on the desk to welcome her on her first day with a note that states “I am happy you are here!” (The plant and note may not be a bad idea for your returning assistant). I have created a training/welcome kit that includes everything the new teacher folder does as well as the Library Media Center Policy and Procedures manual, a quick reference sheet for passwords, a quick “how to” about our circulation system, and other Library Media Center nuts and bolts.

Students

At our school, new students are given a “coupon book.” One coupon is a free bookmark from the Library Media Center. This gives the student a chance to have some one-on-one time with the Library Media Specialist and I make sure the bookmarks I give to new students are some of the coolest I own. Returning students know they may take bookmarks from a certain container near the circulation desk. Other ideas for welcoming new (and old) students into the Library Media Center include showing pictures of what you did over the summer and sharing favorite books you have read.

Some tips that apply to any group:

- Coffee

I have discovered that kids and teachers LOVE the smell of coffee brewing when they walk into the Library Media Center. I guess it reminds them of a bookstore. It also helps with that caffeine boost we all need!

- Candy

There is always a full candy dish in my office. Candy is a lure to teachers. Why not talk about collaborative possibilities when you catch them poking through your candy dish?

- Music

Everyone loves music! I try to turn on classical or jazz each day for students and teachers to hear when they come into the Library Media Center. If having music on bothers you when you are teaching classes, try to play it before and after school and perhaps during checkout times.

- Recreational reading area

Make sure you have SOME sort of area for recreational reading, whether you are in an elementary school or a high school. Everyone should have some “fun” spot: a couch, a kiddie pool, a bathtub, a sandbox, etc. Stuff it with pillows and stuffed animals and allow kids (and teachers and parents, etc.) to read there. I find that it adds a nice “feel” to the Library Media Center.

- A SMILE!

Perhaps the most important thing to greet people with when they come to the Library Media Center!

There are so many things you can do to make others feel welcome in your Library Media Center! If you have a suggestion to share, email Valerie Byrd at vbyrd@lex5.k12.sc.us

Leadership at the District and Building Levels

Joe Myers, Coordinator of Media Services, Goose Creek, JoeMyers@berkeley.k12.sc.us

Leadership can be a lot like herding cats. Some will follow, some will stray and some will look at you with disbelief. As leaders, whether at the building level or the district level, communicating a clear vision of the direction you want to go is most important. Creating a plan with goals and objectives provides a roadmap to moving forward even in tight budget times. As a district media coordinator I have learned that leadership is the constant challenge of keeping all the key stakeholders informed of what you are doing. It also requires you to look for opportunities when change comes about. It is creating allies who share your vision and goals. Leadership at the district level also includes making sure that teachers, principals, and district level people understand that media specialists are important in improving student achievement.

In the book *Developing Leadership Skills: A Source Book for Librarians*, the author writes “Leadership is *vision* – that clear perception of an institution’s mission and potential both now and in the future. This vision employs the exercise of both intelligence and imagination.” In the position that I’m in I need to communicate my vision of what the library media programs in the district should be. Fortunately documents such as Achieving Exemplary School Libraries: Library Media Center Program Evaluation Rubrics with Catalyst: Setting the Standards for Student Learning through School Libraries provide a framework for a clear vision of school libraries and provide the intelligence I need. Imagination comes from a famous quote from Robert F. Kennedy. *Some men see things as they are and say, ‘Why?’ I dream of things that never were and say, ‘Why not?’*”

Leadership requires us to be knowledgeable about research and education trends. It is important to be current on educational research and trends in other disciplines. With this knowledge, collaboration among different disciplines makes a stronger case for having good media center programs in our schools. These types of collaborative efforts will plant the seeds for future opportunities.

Leadership by example is a very powerful thing. Recently our district hired a new assistant superintendent for elementary schools. She knows what a quality library media center program is because as an assistant principal she observed and worked with an excellent media specialist. Having worked with her as a principal, I know she has high expectations of what a media center program should be and I can count on her for support now and in the future to move our elementary media centers forward. We need to realize especially at the building level that today’s teachers and administrators are the future district leaders. If we demonstrate the quality, value, and importance of the library media center programs and how as professionals we contribute to student achievement then we can move forward in achieving our goals.

Change is constant. As administrators retire, changes in curriculum, philosophy, goals and objectives in your building and district will change. The time to be an advocate for your library media program is when you see those changes coming. Be an advocate of quality library media programs in your building and/or district. Volunteer on committees, chair committees; offer to be of assistance so that you are a visible presence at those times when change is taking place.

Having served a dual role this past school year as a building level media specialist and a district coordinator, proved it is difficult to be two places at the same time. On the one hand the job of a media specialist is a full time responsibility. The job of being a coordinator responsible for all the schools in the district is also full-time. Recently I had the opportunity to talk with a new assistant superintendent about the goals and objectives of our media programs. She clearly could see the value of having someone at the district level and fortunately I was able to return to a full time coordinator status. Those of you in small districts that do not have the luxury of a full time person will find that as an individual media specialist you will need to make more of an effort to ensure that the district decision makers know how important your input is. It will definitely require going the extra mile sometimes to achieve a goal. I would also say that being an advocate of library media programs in your district is key. Here are some suggestions for becoming a leader in your own situation.

- ✓ Create a plan for your building or district. Establish a mission statement and goals that are clear and concise. Involve media specialists, administrators, teachers and other key people in your plan.
- ✓ Know your plan. Don’t just read it. Make it a part of what you do on a daily basis.
- ✓ Introduce yourself to new people at the district office. Let them know about your plan and offer to collaborate on any future projects.
- ✓ Communicate often with key decision makers. Have your facts and information accessible so that when questions arise you are prepared.
- ✓ If you are serving a dual role as a building level media specialist and the lead person in your district, develop a professional relationship so that you are asked for feedback about media center programs.
- ✓ Be visible to key people. Let them see you so that they know who you are.
- ✓ Compromise when necessary. Show people you can be a team player.
- ✓ Be an example of what an excellent media center professional is. Let people see how your program is succeeding.
- ✓ Partnerships are most important. Develop and nurture them.

These things will take time to cultivate in your situation. Nothing is going to change overnight; however, never be afraid to approach an administrator and talk to him/her about goals and objectives. Discuss philosophies and strategies. Seek people with like-minded views about library media programs and enlist their assistance. During this process, you will find allies, supporters and champions. If all else fails just say “Here, Kitty, Kitty!”



Save the Date for A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen

Christopher Paul Curtis, who made his debut in children's literature with *The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963*, will be the featured guest for the 19th annual A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen: A Celebration of

Stories. Cosponsored by the Richland County Public Library and the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science, the two-day event will be held on Friday, April 22 and Saturday, April 23 in downtown Columbia. Curtis' second novel, *Bud, Not Buddy*, is the first book to ever receive both the Newbery Medal and the Coretta Scott King Author Award. Watch the library's Web site for more details on this year's event! <http://www.richland.lib.sc.us/baker.htm>

Follow the Yellow Brick Road to NBC

Glenda Green, W.J. Keenan High School, ggreen@richlandone.org

With red slippers on, I'm beginning my journey for National Board Certification. Many have forged the path before me and to them I say Congratulations! But for those considering this challenge, you might find this series of insights useful. For my colleagues who are on this journey with me, please email me your thoughts and horror stories at ggreen@richlandone.org I'll share them throughout the year.

Two kids in tow...and away we go! No excuses, no promises...just an honest attempt at professional development and growth. The challenge has not been the work so far, but external forces (i.e., family emergencies and demands of life, in general) that have absorbed my time and energy. I decided to choose one day a week as my "National Board" Day (NB-DAY). On an NB-Day, all extra work will be devoted to furthering my work and tasks related to NB's. I'd like to hear from others on this journey about their approach to completing NB tasks. More in the next issue. Let me hear from you. We're off to see. . .

Help Wanted

From the Pre-Service Committee

"Working with New Teachers and Student Teachers through Pre-Service"—With a new school year comes a new group of first year teachers as well as student teachers. As we welcome these new folks, let's remember to pull them aside and share some information about the school library media profession with them. You can do this by giving the "pre-service talk" or by simply beginning a dialogue with them. It is important that we as media specialists let these people know what we do and how we can work together to help students learn best. Creating a successful collaborative relationship early on helps eliminate misconceptions about media specialists as well as build a new professional relationship. For more information on giving the pre-service talk, contact Jessica Felker, Pre-service chair, at jfelker@newberry.k12.sc.us

SCASL Standards & Guidelines News!

The SCASL Standards & Guidelines website has been updated! Check out <http://www.scasl.com/standards.htm> for easy access to ADEPT Guidelines, the South Carolina Curriculum Standards, ISTE Standards, Information Literacy Standards, and more!

If you are interested in working with the Standards & Guidelines committee, please contact Valerie Byrd at vbyrd@lex5.k12.sc.us

Calling all Retirees

Your help is needed to plan the retirees meeting at our SCASL conference in March. If you have program ideas for our meeting and would be willing to work on the planning, please contact Joan Kruger at 2450 Mineral Springs Rd., Lexington, SC 29072 or e-mail at mjk2450@att.net.

Special! Big Savings! Your Chance to Win!

Pay your membership dues by **October 1** and here's what you get:

- \$ A big \$50 discount on registration for Spring Conference
- \$ A chance to win one of 5 FREE conference registrations!

This is too big an offer to ignore.

Do it now!

When Chaos Reigns Supreme

Mary Jane Michels, Pauline – Glenn Springs Elementary, Spartanburg, wjmjmichels@peoplepc.com

The big hand hasn't even crept past the 7 and already your principal has turned your name in as the yearbook sponsor, two teachers have reported computer problems, a parent is waiting at your door and students are lined up at the circulation desk. Just another day in media center paradise, especially if you're a one person show. How do you keep yourself together when any sane person would run away screaming? Here are a few thoughts on making it through those kind of days.

- Type out and laminate step by step instructions for checking books in and out and post them by the circulation work station. If you are busy with other problems, another teacher, parent volunteer, warm body off the street can follow the steps to take care of basic circulation procedures without a marathon training session.
- Identify technology savvy faculty who can lend a hand with problems that crop up in the classroom. Ideally there should be one teacher in each grade level or department who can act as the first line of defense for you.
- For those with scheduled classes, keep a file of activities that students can pursue that do not require your constant attention. Rainy Day Read – Ins can be enjoyed by all elementary grade levels. Students choose a book and a comfortable spot and read for an allotted time. Change the name to suit the weather and provide yourself with some time to take care of other tasks that need your immediate attention.
- At the beginning of the year, take the time to set up opening and closing routines for each day. These should include those tasks that are non-negotiable with you. Examples might include leaving a clean desk in your office, making a to-do list for the next day, shelving all books. Keep the lists short, just down to the essentials. Print out the lists, post them where you will see them and then do what's on them. When everything else has fallen apart you will know that you have taken care of what is most important to you and your media center. At the very least you will start and end the day feeling as though you have accomplished something.
- Finally, remember to keep a sense of humor. Yes, what we do is important but it's not brain surgery. Laugh when you can, even if it's at yourself. Our principal sent an essay out the first week of school reminding all of us that attitude determines attitude, our job is to decide what kind of day we are going to have. Surprisingly, we have more control over that than we realize. We can choose to whine or we can choose to shine. Help yourself, your students and your faculty by choosing to shine!



DISCUS Technical Toolbox - Tools for You

- How do I make a desktop shortcut to the DISCUS site?
- What are the technical requirements for accessing the databases?
- How do I begin troubleshooting DISCUS technical problems?
- Where do I turn for more help?

Visit the **Technical Toolbox** area of the DISCUS Web site to find answers to these and other technical questions about DISCUS.

Create a Desktop Shortcut walks you through the steps for this task. *Troubleshooting Tips for Library Staff* gives basic guidance to get you started on solving access problems that you or your users encounter. If that does not lead to a solution, there is a link to *Contact Us* to get more help. *Web Link Instructions* detail the guidelines for linking to DISCUS from school or district Web sites. These instructions include links to various sizes and formats of the DISCUS logo and database logos for use on Web pages and in printed materials.

Check the *Technical Requirements for Access to DISCUS Databases* to help insure that all school PCs are able to access the databases and take full advantage of their multimedia and special features. A work in progress, the **Technical Toolbox** will be further developed based on input from library media center and technology staff.

For more information, visit the DISCUS web site: www.scdiscus.org or contact:
Mary Bull, DISCUS Program Director, (803) 737-7736 or email: mary@leo.scs1.state.sc.us

Authors on the Beach

September 24th and 25th, 2004

Another exciting event not to be missed. Some of the authors/Illustrators/storytellers currently scheduled to appear are: Janet Stevens, Brod Bagert, Susan Stevens Crummel, Jerry Pallotta, Will Hobbs, Steve Swinburne, Eric Velasquez, Carol Boston Weatherford, Rob Bolster, and Lester Laminack.

For more information: KidConnect2002@aol.com, or contact Annie Smith @843.450.5653.

Plan NOW to attend this exciting, fun filled event!

Does this sound familiar?

It's That Time!

Betty Daniels, Douglas Elementary School, Trenton,
bdaniels@edgefield.k12.sc.us

New books to catalog and place on the shelves,
Tables to arrange and lessons to prepare,
Automated system, updated and ready,
Materials gathered for teachers to share.
WDES News programs planned for every morning,

Collect the news for Panthers News & Courier,
Website updated for the month,

Take your time and do not hurry.

Finally, excitement is filling the air,

A little nervousness about what's to come,

Always hopeful for a great school year,

Skills to teach and pray they learn.



Frankie O'Neal was one of several staunch SCASL members who made sure that school libraries had a voice in the Education March held this past May.



Author/Illustrator Don Bolognese Visits Kershaw County Students

Janice P. Mahoney, former LMS Kershaw County Schools, esd543@charter.net

In March, Don Bolognese and his wife, Elaine Raphael were guests of the Friends of the Kershaw County Library. They are both authors and illustrators of numerous books for children. With the assistance of Kershaw County School Library Media Specialists, Mr. Bolognese visited seven schools: Blaney, Jackson, Midway, and Mt. Pisgah Elementary Schools, Lugoff and Stover Middle Schools, and Camden High School. His most recent book is *The Warhorse*, which he authored and illustrated.

Prior to his visit, students participated in a read-aloud of *The Warhorse*, either in their classroom or with the school's LMS. Extended classroom activities included writing their own version of the book's ending, discussing the book's writing elements, or keeping a journal with illustrations while listening to the story. At Camden HS Art I students drew medieval objects (swords, armor, etc.) on parchment paper, tore the edges, "aged" the paper with a tea wash and mounted the illustrations on rough paper resembling stone. At Mt. Pisgah fifth graders used DISCUS to find out more about leprosy, knights and armor. Susan Prettyman, LMS Camden HS, created a Don Bolognese PowerPoint Presentation for the schools. Students prepared questions to ask Mr. Bolognese about his training and skills as an illustrator and the research elements required to write historical fiction.

The Warhorse is written for the upper elementary and middle school student. The story is about a promising young artist who longs for knighthood and the adventure of battle. With his prized horse, Scoppio, he becomes involved with a fierce battle between two rival cities of Renaissance Italy. The book is a great read-aloud and Mr. Bolognese's illustrations are based on works of Italian art of the period.

The Kershaw County Library hosted an afternoon drop-in for participating teachers and LMS and provided copies of the book to each. Mr. Bolognese appeared at a book signing reception at a local bookstore.

Mr. Bolognese and Elaine Raphael have collaborated on several titles. In addition to works of fiction, the Bologneses have authored a series of drawing how-to books. Mr. Bolognese may be contacted via his web site www.thewarhorse.com.



Region 1A.

Anderson County. District 2. Heidi Pruitt is the new media specialist at Belton-Honea Path High School. She was formerly an English teacher at Travelers Rest High School for nine years and Pendleton High School for two years. **District 4. Kay Herbster** has come out of retirement to be the media specialist at Townville Elementary School. Prior to her one year of retirement, Kay was media specialist at Lakeside Middle School in Anderson District 5. **District 5. Jenny Jones**, media specialist at Calhoun Elementary, received an EIA grant entitled, "Literacy from Dawn to Dusk." The grant proposed to engage parents in the learning process through three family literacy activities: "Books for Breakfast", parent workshops, and "Goodnight Moon, Goodnight Calhoun". These activities will bring literature into the home and literacy information to the parents. It will also provide opportunities for family bonding and success to the child from dawn to dusk. ♦ **Shari Ganal**, media specialist at Lakeside Middle School, wrote a grant "All Boys! All Girls! All Achieve" that was funded for \$6000.00

Region 1B.

Spartanburg County. District 1. Ellen Bunch is the new media specialist at Inman Elementary and **Susan Massey** is the new media assistant at Landrum High and Landrum Junior High. **District 2. Allison Ratteree** is the new media center assistant at Boiling Springs Junior High. New media specialists are: **Pat Jennings** at Boiling Springs Elementary, **Mike Seagle** at Cooley Springs-Fingerville Elementary, **Lorrie Sawyer** at Carlisle-Foster's Grove Elementary. **District 5. Stacy Holcombe** is the new media specialist at D.R.Hill Middle School. **Candi Vaughn**, formerly of D.R. Hill Middle School, moves to a new school, Florence Chapel Middle School. **Jean Kristinik** of Wellford Elementary School retired this year. **District 6. Nina Crawford**, Woodland Heights Elementary School, received a \$2000 EIA teacher grant. The funds will support a reading incentive program titled "Dog-Gone Excited About Reading" that uses dog-theme activities to promote reading. The grant will help provide books, supplies, prizes and equipment.

Region 3.

Rock Hill. Cathy Nelson, Northside Elementary, will present a session about literature and arts integration at the annual SC Alliance for Arts Education Conference in September. She and Northside art teacher **Judy Hall** will co-present. The session will feature student artwork and ideas of ways to integrate literature with art in the classroom. ♦ **Jane Daffin**, Old Pointe Elementary, working with two first grade teachers, Mrs. Hallman and Mrs. Glover, won a \$6,000 EIA grant called "We Can't Wait!". They will develop 5 research units for first grade classes. ♦ **Karen Olson** announces that Castle Heights has a brand new media center! **Chester.** Chester County has four new media specialists: **Kevin Rholetter**, Great Falls High School; **Glenda Creel** and **Laura Weeks**, Chester Park Elementary; and **Russ Conrath**, Chester Middle School. **Fort Mill. Rick Warner** is the new media specialist at Gold Hill Middle School. He previously served as media specialist at Springfield Elementary in Fort Mill. The new media specialist at Crowders Creek Middle School is **Brenda Branson**.

Region 4A.

Fairfield County. Glenda Metz is the new media specialist at Fairfield Primary School. She is replacing **Nancy Glenn** who retired last year. ♦ **Frankie O'Neal** attended the ALA Conference Exhibits in Orlando, Florida this summer and shared this information with the county LMS. **Newberry. Christi Vinson** is the new media specialist at Pomaria-Garmany Elementary. **Evie Shelton** retired. **Rebecca Elswick** is the new media specialist at Mid-Carolina High School. **Lexington 1. Jamey Crumpton** of Pelion Middle School was selected to receive a security system by 3M Corpora-

tion after writing a "Salute to Schools" grant. These systems are awarded to middle and high schools only. Only 3 schools in South Carolina received the gift out of 100 total. The gift of the security system is worth an average of \$15,000 according to 3M. ♦ **McCrorey-Liston Elementary** in Blair was one of two schools in the state to receive the Laura Bush Grant for library books. **Kathy Walker** is media specialist there.

Region 6.

Kershaw County. Newcomers to the district are: **Alice Brice** at Baron DeKalb Elementary School who was formerly at White Knoll Elementary; and **Kitt Lisenby** at Mount Pisgah Elementary who came to Kershaw County from Cheraw Intermediate School; **Tami Clyburn**, having completed a 6-year stint at the State Department of Education, has returned to her former job at Lugoff Middle School replacing Paula Bordner. **Paula Bordner** has moved to Midway Elementary School. **Lee County.** New media specialists are: **Margene Culler** at Lower Lee Elementary; **Patricia Stukes** at Bishopville Primary; and **Vicky Haynesworth** at Mt. Pleasant Middle. **Sumter Two. Karen Waterfield** is interning at Alice Drive Elementary while a media specialist at High Hills. **Karen Tisdale** is the new media specialist at Lakewood High School. **Lillian Peter** is moving into a new media center at Rafting Creek Elementary. **Clarendon 1.** The school district has just gone to using eChalkboard as a tool to let parents and the community know about the happenings in our schools. They have Website pages available at <http://www.clarendon1.k12.sc.us> Click on school listings to see individual schools and their news. **Clarendon 2. John Skelley**, library media specialist at Manning Jr. High School, will retire this year.

Region 7.

Chesterfield. The Chesterfield County media specialists participated in a second Fall Expo at Cheraw Primary School earlier this month. **Gayle Davis**, media specialist at Cheraw Primary hosted this event in which vendors presented their products to all county media specialists. **Darlington.** New media specialists are **Manson Rhodes** at Hartsville High School and **Melissa Mixon** at West Hartsville Elementary School. **Judy Hall** transferred to Hartsville Junior and **Lina Pearson** returned from retirement to Brockington Elementary. **Dillon 1. Liz Herlong** was named 2004 School-to-Work Teacher of the Year for Dillon District One. (See Kudos opposite page.) **Florence 1.** Media specialists in the Pee Dee area had a dinner meeting in April to begin planning for the 2005 SCASL conference. Twenty-two librarians, including some from the Florence County Library and Francis Marion University assigned themselves to committees and began preliminary work. ♦ **Margaret Cox** retired from Williams Middle School and **Ginny Alexander** has taken her place. **Mary Davidson** retired from Southside Middle School.

Region 8.

Horry County. David Bell, Coordinator of Media Services for Horry County Schools, was named the Administrator of the Year by the Horry County Association of Educational Office Professionals. Bell was nominated for the award by **Connie Rogers**, president of HCAEOP. ♦ **Nancy Ragin** of Myrtle Beach Middle was awarded a Doctorate Degree. She received an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from SC State University. Personnel changes: **Lisa Covard** is now at Conway High School Library, **Bobby Castle** is at Aynor Middle School, **Lisa Ricketts** is at Midland Elementary School, **Renee Beverly** is at Conway Elementary School, and **Rhonda Wells** at GreenSea Floyds High School. **Nicole Brevard** (see vital statistics) received her doctorate.

Region 9B.

Dorchester, District 2. **Tabitha Hattabaugh** is the new media specialist at Spann Elementary School and **Lynnette Duchnak** is the new audiovisual aide at Newington Elementary. ❖ **Donna Moyer**, media specialist at Fort Dorchester High School received an EIA grant of \$6000 that will be used to provide presentation equipment for media center classes. **Berkeley County.** Four new media specialists are: **Bobbie Starnes**, Boulder Bluff Elementary; **Carolyn Davis**, Sedgefield Intermediate; **Nancy Barnwell**, Marrington Middle School; and **Lynne Altman**, Sangaree Middle School. Two media specialists made changes in assignments. **Susan Garrison** is at Howe Hall AIMS, and **Angela Nuottila** is at Goose Creek High. **Joe Myers**, Coordinator of Media Services was placed back at the district office full time with additional duties. ❖ The district opened three new media centers this fall at Cainhoy Elementary Middle, College Park Elementary and Sangaree Middle - a new school. ❖ Hanahan Middle School opened the Books Rock Café this year in the media center. To see the café go to <http://www.berkeley.k12.sc.us/middle/hms/lmc/Books%20Rock%20Cafe.htm>

Vital Statistics



Sympathy is extended to **Debbie Stone** and her family in the passing of her mother this July.



Nichole Brevard, Horry County, gave birth to a baby girl in July.

Holly Hartell, Pacolet Elementary in Spartanburg District 3, gave birth to a son on June 21.

Dawn Blaum, Sandhills Elementary School in Lexington District 4, had a baby boy in July.

Christy Emery, Lugoff Elementary School in Kershaw County, has married and is now **Christy Brewer**.

Teachers of the Year

(Note: This is only a listing of names sent to Regional News to date.)

Melanie Hahn, Honea Path Elementary, Anderson 2.

Michelle Pope, Maybry Junior High, Spartanburg 1

Heather Griffin Kanipe, Oakland Elementary,
Spartanburg 2

Dr. William Harner, who resigned last year from the Greenville School District, has been named Distinguished Administrator of the Year by AASL. He was nominated by Susan Gray of Travelers Rest High School. His new district has already found that they have a strong advocate for school library media center programs. He also learned from *School Library Journal* that he is a finalist for Administrator of the Year. Results to be announced in October.

Kudos to:

Elizabeth M. Herlong, English instructor and media specialist at Lake View High School in Lakeview (Dillon 1) was one of 250 teachers nationwide to be awarded the 2004 Coca-Cola Educator of Distinction award. The award recognizes outstanding teachers dedicated to providing education with an enhanced purpose. Elizabeth was nominated by Matthew McClellan, himself a 2004 Coca-Cola Scholar and a June graduate from Lake View High. Elizabeth received a commemorative crystal gift and a plaque inscribed with a personal dedication written by Matthew.

SCASL member **Kathleen Foxo**, owner of LibraryGames.com and a former school librarian, was featured in Skirt! Magazine's profile section. The theme of the May issue was play and Kathleen and her games were pictured in her studio. In the article, she encourages educators to find new ways to bring creative play and fun into the learning process. LibraryGames.com has just finished the first in a line of K-3 library videos that incorporate music, jokes, and puppets with kid-friendly library information. Skirt! Magazine is circulated in the Southeast with subscriptions nationwide. To see the article, go to LibraryGames.com

The Public Awareness Committee is proud to announce **Jessie Hayes** from Lakeview High School in Dillon as the 2003-04 winner of the Margaret Ehrhardt Student Scholarship in the amount of \$500. Her media specialist is Elizabeth Herlong.



Ida Thompson, named RIF 2004 Volunteer of the Year for the Southeast Region, is pictured here accepting her award in Washington, D.C. this summer. Ida was one of only 5 nationwide winners.

From **Connie Rogers**, Media Paraprofessional of the Year 2003-2004.

It was such an honor to receive the first Media Paraprofessional Award from the SCASL. I truly appreciate the SCASL recognizing the Media Paraprofessionals throughout the state. I would like to thank David Bell and my co-workers who help keep me on track and help pick up the slack. To ALL the Media Specialists and Media Assistants, what a great team all of you are! You help make my job easier. Please know that I appreciate each of you for all that you do for our children here in Horry County. To my family, thank you, for always supporting me as a mother and a professional. Finally, to the committee that nominated me for this recognition, thank you.

Sincerely,
Connie Rogers, Media Service - Secretary
DELIC - Operator for ETV
E-Mail: crogers@do.hcs.k12.sc.us

T L C ~ Teaching, Learning, Connecting for Success

SCASL Annual Conference ~ March 2 – 4, 2005
Florence Civic Center, Florence, South Carolina

The 2005 SCASL conference will be visiting Florence for the very first time and the media specialists in the greater Florence area are already busy at work planning a warm welcome for us. We'll get to see their brand new public library that's reminiscent of the grand Carnegie libraries of old on the outside, but totally modern on the inside. The best of both worlds!

We'll have the opportunity to learn from some of the best in our profession – David Loertscher, Toni Buzzeo, Steven Layne and more. We already know that Mary Pearson, the YA winning author is coming and more information about authors and speakers will be posted on the SCASL web site as it becomes available. We'll discover some fantastic new restaurants through the "Dinner with a Local" evening out and there'll be something of interest for everyone.

There is one important change in registration that you will want to know about. The Executive Board has approved a change in the registration procedure in order to better support the business of SCASL throughout the year and to provide additional funds needed to plan the conference. Beginning this year, members who send in their dues postmarked on or before October 1 each year will pay less to register for conference than members whose dues are postmarked and received after October 1. Conference costs are anticipated to remain about the same as past years, but for late memberships, registration will cost an additional \$50.00.

If you have a great idea or program to share, fill in the Application to Present on the opposite page and send it in right away. Not ready for a 'formal' session presentation? Sign up for the more informal Exploratorium Session so colleagues can talk with you one on one about your ideas and pick up one of your handouts to help get them started. The Proposal to Present is on the final page of this issue.

If you're interested in getting involved by volunteering to preside over a session or work in the SCASL store or help with registration, please let me know. I look forward to seeing you all in Florence!

Mark your calendars and request your professional leave now. Remind your principal that he or she will have an even better media specialist when you return with ideas that have been proven successful and are ready to put into action. We'll see YOU in Florence!

Lawren Hammond, Vice-President/President-Elect, lhammond@aiken.k12.sc.us

Complete and mail this application today!
Join SCASL now!

<i>South Carolina Association of School Librarians</i> MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2004-2005 MEMBERSHIP IS BASED ON A FISCAL YEAR THAT RUNS FROM JULY 1 - JUNE 30																					
<p>PLEASE CHECK AS APPROPRIATE:</p> <p>Individual Membership</p> <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Full/TERI LMS</td><td>\$30.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Retired LMS</td><td>\$30.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Retired, paid member 10 consecutive yrs prior to retirement</td><td>\$0.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Exhibitor</td><td>\$15.00</td></tr></table> <p>Associate Membership</p> <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> State, District or School Adm</td><td>\$5.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Legislator</td><td>\$5.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Paraprofessional</td><td>\$5.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher</td><td>\$5.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Student-Fulltime not employed in a school</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Association or business</td><td>\$50.00</td></tr></table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Full/TERI LMS	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired LMS	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired, paid member 10 consecutive yrs prior to retirement	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibitor	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> State, District or School Adm	\$5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislator	\$5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Paraprofessional	\$5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher	\$5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Student-Fulltime not employed in a school	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Association or business	\$50.00	<p>Name _____</p> <p>Position/Title _____</p> <p>School District _____</p> <p>HOME ADDRESS</p> <p>Street _____</p> <p>City/State /Zip _____</p> <p>Phone _____ Fax _____</p> <p>E-Mail _____</p> <p>Institution _____</p> <p>BUSINESS ADDRESS</p> <p>Street _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p> <p>Phone _____ Fax _____</p> <p>E-Mail _____</p>
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<p>Please make check payable to SCASL, and return to: SCASL • PO BOX 2442 COLUMBIA • SC • 29202</p> <p><small>Dues paid to SCASL are deductible for income tax purposes.</small></p>																					

T L C ~ Teaching, Learning, Connecting for Success @ your library®

March 2 - 4, 2005

Florence Civic Center, Florence, South Carolina

Application To Present

(Deadline for submission: Received by October 15, 2004)

Please type or print all information.

Main Presenter

Vendor: Yes _____ No _____
 Name _____
 Institution _____
 Work address _____

 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____
 Home address _____

 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

Co -Presenter

Vendor: Yes _____ No _____
 Name _____
 Institution _____
 Work address _____

 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____
 Home address _____

 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

Session Title _____

Session Description: Your description will appear in the program and should be written to “market” your session. (No more than 50 words. Use back of page if necessary.)

Please include a brief statement for the presider to use to introduce you before the session begins: _____

Equipment Needs: Computer hardware, peripherals, and Internet connectivity will NOT be provided.

Choose program format you prefer: 1-hour _____ 2.5-hour workshop _____ 5-hour workshop _____

For technology sessions, what level of expertise is required? Novice _____ Experienced _____

Has this program been presented before? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, where? _____
When? _____

Would you be willing to make your presentation twice? Yes _____ No _____

Is there a day when you are NOT available to present? Wed. _____ Thurs. _____ Fri. _____

Is the appeal for: Elementary _____ Middle _____ High _____ ? (Check all that apply.)

Return to: Lawren Hammond / 2000 Knobcone Ave. / North Augusta SC 29841

Phone 803-442-6156 / Fax: 803-442-6127 / Email: lhammond@aiken.kwe.sc.us.

All applications must be received by October 15, 2004. Electronic submissions are permissible.

All presenters must be listed on the application. Vendor presenters must be conference exhibitors.

Presenters are responsible for their own conference expenses, including registration.

Notification of acceptance will be mailed to the main presenter.

SCASL
P.O. Box 2442
Columbia, SC 29202



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SCASL 2005 Conference
Proposal to Present One Hour Exploratorium Session
TLC ~ Teaching, Learning, Connecting @ **your library**[®]
Florence Civic Center, Florence, SC
March 2 - 4, 2005

Exploratorium Session will be a one-hour tabletop exhibit session. Selected presenters will have the opportunity to share great program ideas via portable display and handouts (optional).

Title _____

Description _____

Main Presenter:
Name _____

Additional Presenter (if any)
Name _____

School Name _____

School Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Email _____

Return to: Lawren Hammond, 2000 Knobcone Ave., North Augusta, SC 29841
803-442-6156, FAX 803-442-6127, email: lhammond@aiken.k12.sc.us
All proposals must be received by October 15, 2004.
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