

# The School Library System Newsletter

## January & February 2008

### Pat's Desk Talk

#### No Librarian is an Island: Beginning Our Share Shop Series

School Librarians live a somewhat isolated existence. Not quite a part of the classroom teacher group and not quite a part of the "specials" teacher group. Unless you are in a district with more than one building and regularly scheduled departmental meetings, you can go the whole school year without the support of colleagues in a similar boat.

To facilitate the sharing of ideas, the building of a network of like-minded professionals, and to offer simple moral support to a hard-working group of people, we are beginning a series of Library Share Shops. There will be two groupings for the share shops – one for elementary and one for ms/hs. LMSs who cover all levels may pick and choose or attend both.

The first sessions' themes have been set just to get us going but at that meeting, I hope we can collaborate and build agendas focusing on areas you feel you need to develop. I will be glad to gather information and resources for the meetings, as well as provide refreshments, but the majority of the sharing will come from you! We are specialists in our field so who better to add to each other's bag-'o-tricks.

Don't short change yourself. Whether you need the hours for professional development credits or not, I hope you will join us and help to build an

atmosphere of fun, relaxed, sharing with area librarians. You may think that adding one more thing to your already full calendar will just increase your stress when actually the opposite could be true. Having a strong support system is a stress RELIEVER. Spending time with people who understand what you are going through, who can help you add new ideas and resources, and who have more ideas for dealing with library/student/staff issues can actually be an energizing experience.

Check the coming events section of this newsletter for dates and details. You should have received a flyer as an email attachment. If not, contact Mary McCormick for another one. Don't forget to get this pre-approved if you need to count the credits for your district.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at one of the sessions.



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### **Kenn's ILL Notes:**

#### **DON'T FORGET!!!**

Happy New Year to you! I hope this finds you feeling rested from the holidays and charging into the New Year relaxed and ready to go!

As the new year begins, this is just a reminder to use your expanded interlibrary loan service whenever you have chance or need. This can be used by anyone in your building from students to staff. If you're not sure your school has purchased it for you, please call the School Library System to find out. This is a wonderful service that allows you to borrow materials from anywhere in the United States! While you may physically have four walls around your library, with EILL your library has no walls! The SLS and world await your requests – what are you waiting for?

#### **HOW MUCH LONGER???** **IS IT HERE YET????**

Do these questions sound familiar to you from your students? From your faculty?

Every now and then these questions are asked, resulting in the ultimate question of, "How long does it take to get something I request through EILL?" Here is how the EILL process works:

- 1) Each request is sent to 5 possible lenders using a "string" of codes. Each code represents a different lender.

- 2) Each lender has 3 business days to fill or deny the request. If they can fill it, the request stops there.
- 3) If a lender does not touch the request for three business days, the system automatically moves it to the next lender.
- 4) Each lender can provide a variety of reasons for not filling the request. When they deny filling the request, it moves to the next lender.
- 5) This process continues until the request is either filled or comes back as "unfilled" by any lender.

The amount of time it takes to fill an expanded ILL request varies with each request. It can come in as little as 4 days (if things go really well!) or as much as 3 weeks or more. Please keep this in mind when students are working on projects or research papers, especially if they need the materials quickly.

Local lenders such as Mid York or area colleges are always used first in the string to fill requests. This provides the quickest delivery of materials to the SLS and ultimately to you. If the request has to go outside our immediate area or out of state, the distance and delivery time by U.S. mail or UPS needs to be factored in.

If you request something and feel that enough time has passed that it should have arrived by now, please feel free to call and check on its status. The system will show the date shipped and where it's coming from or if it's still "in process" and not filled yet.

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As always, please feel free to call with any questions you may have – that's what I'm here for! Here's to a great 2008!!



### Notes from Anne:

I will be on maternity leave for six weeks, starting January 30th. During that time, Katie St. Laurent will be filling in for me. I have asked her to set aside any records that arrive incomplete or illegible, and any records that are for items that require original cataloging; for example, CD's, DVD's, videos, or local publications. These items will not be processed until I return. Please continue to send us your recently added or deleted books. I will be checking my e-mail while I am out. Feel free to contact me if there are any problems.

I'd like to bring the MaineCat Statewide Catalog to your attention. It can be accessed at <http://infonet.maine.edu/search>. This is a catalog which includes the holdings of over 110 libraries and it includes around 8 million records. If you need to "steal" a MARC record, this is a user-friendly, reliable resource.

Footnote from Pat: Anne gave birth to a 6lb. 6oz, 19 ½ in. long baby girl. She is named Samantha. Mother and daughter are doing well!



### Mary's Wellness Notes:

I think this time the theme is "A Healthy Budget is a Happy Budget." We have been absorbed in budget preparation, and I know this has been the case for many of you as well. I hope everyone has had a chance to look through the budget information that was sent. Our model for sharing information continues to evolve, and presumably improve. We know that not every member of a district's library staff has the power to choose services, but we feel it is important to share information widely so that there can be as much input into the decision making process as possible.

You have probably all noticed that there are several new databases on our list. We have some new vendors, and expanded choices from our established partners. The Questia company did a webinar at the last Liaison Committee meeting, and the products profiled generated a lot of interest and enthusiasm. If you have not heard about Questia from your district liaison, ask

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them to share their thoughts on the products. There are several new ProQuest options on our list this year. We have made an effort to expand the choices for women's issues, African American issues, and gender issues. I will try to arrange trials from the vendors, so that you can sample some of the products. As always, we look forward to hearing what you think about the databases, and we welcome your suggestions for additional products.

Participation by districts in the Cooperative Collection Development co-  
oper has grown substantially over the past few years. If you are not familiar with CCD, or have not used it previously, you might want to consider adding the service. Districts purchase units of book buying power through SLS. We order the books and have them sent directly to your library, and your district receives state aid on the cost. The only stipulation for participation is that the books or materials be entered in CIDER, so that they can be shared if requested. It is a great way to stretch your district's dollars.

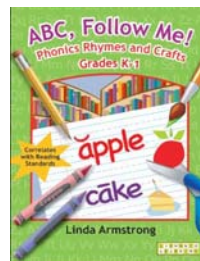
Expanded Interlibrary Loan is the other leg of our program, and those of you who use it know what a great service this is. Kenn Runniger can and does get books and articles from all over the country for students and staff members in our districts. This is especially useful for classes doing advanced level projects, and for staff members taking graduate courses or doing independent research. If you are buying the service,

be sure that you use it – it is a powerful tool.

If you have any questions about budget, please give me a call. This is an area that I have come to really enjoy; if I do not have the answer to your question at my fingertips I will get the answer. Untangling problems is one of my favorite things!



### **New! New! New!** **January 2008** **School Library System** **Professional Collection** **Additions**



Armstrong, Linda. *ABC, Follow Me!: Phonics Rhymes and Crafts* (Grades K-1). Linworth, Worthington, OH: 2007. Offers hands-on help with teaching phonics

and phonemic awareness. These easy-to-follow lessons on letter and sound recognition will help build the foundation for an effective reading program in the classroom and library.

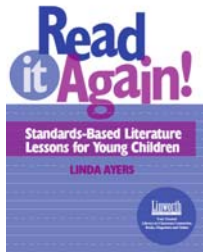
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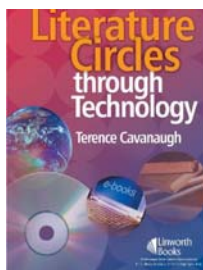
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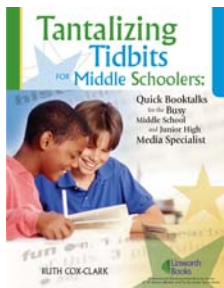


Ayers, Linda. *Read It Again!: Standards-Based Literature Lessons for Young Children*. Linworth, Worthington, OH: 2003. Presents picture book summaries, reading lists, and fun activities detailing lesson time, standards, and skills addressed.



Cavanaugh, Terence. *Literature Circles through Technology*. Linworth, Worthington, OH: 2006.

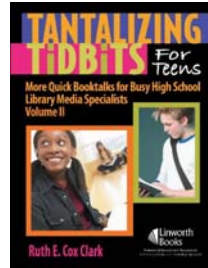
A combination reference, strategy guide, and tutorial for enhancing literature circles with technology, from the use of eBooks as the reading source to implementing a successful literature circle in an interactive online environment. Includes technology integration strategies, instructions, ideas, and student worksheets in all content areas.



Cox-Clark, Ruth. *Tantalizing Tidbits for Middle Schoolers: Quick Booktalks for the Busy Middle School and Junior High Media Specialist*. Linworth,

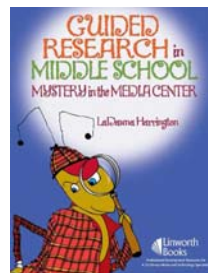
Worthington, OH: 2005. Includes booktalks that can be used to support the curriculum, encourage student leisure reading, and provide

ideas for educator-media specialist collaboration. Entries include an annotation, a booktalk, and a curriculum connection activity as well as a list of five similar titles. Types of books-fiction, short story, poetry, informational, biographies



Cox-Clark, Ruth. *Tantalizing Tidbits for Teens 2*. Linworth, Worthington, OH: 2007. Includes curriculum-related activities for educators to pick up and

use right away ... a professional booktalking and collection development tool that helps in preparing booktalks to support the curriculum, as well as encouraging struggling students to curl up with a good book.



Harrington, LaDawna. *Guided Research in Middle School: Mystery in the Media Center*. Linworth, Worthington, OH: 2007.

Inquiry-based process used to assign mystery topics to students so they can conduct independent research on high-interest subjects...provides the tools and strategies teachers/librarians need to help students think and rethink methods of gathering/organizing information to solve complex research problems...twelve lessons guide in using all types of library resources.

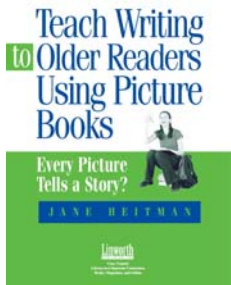
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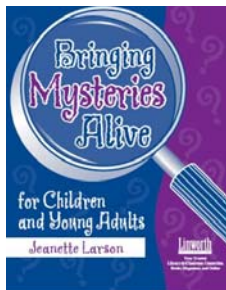
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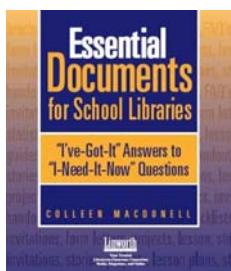
Heitman, Jane. *Teach Writing to Older Readers Using Picture Books: Every Picture Tells a Story*. Linworth, Worthington, OH: 2004.

Utilize the unique style of picture books to create instructionally sound, standards-based lessons. Improve students' writing and literacy skills in grades 5-9. Fun and effective strategies teach the basic literary elements of character, point of view, setting, plot, style, and theme, and the activities are aligned with NCTE standards.



Larson, Jeanette. *Bringing Mysteries Alive for Children and Young Adults*. Linworth, Worthington, OH: 2004.

P presents an introduction and a guide to using the various types of mysteries, including true crime, detective stories, ghosts and gothics, suspense, and many more. Engage learners and teach concepts within all subject areas.



MacDonnell, Colleen. *Essential Documents for School Libraries: "I've-Got-It" Answers to "I-Need-It-Now" Questions*. Linworth, Worthington, OH: 2005.

Practical written solutions to common problems in school libraries are provided, using a variety of print and online formats, including brochures, handouts, guides, checklists, FAQs, form letters, invitations, and stories.



### Krista's Korner:

Happy New Year, everyone! I hope you're all rested and refreshed after the long vacation. Or, if you're like me, maybe you need a vacation from the vacation! I didn't get nearly as much read as I'd planned to.

This is my favorite month in the world of children's literature, because ALA announces the children's book award winners. Were some of you able to catch the webcast? It was very exciting, almost like being there, without the expense. It's too bad their PowerPoint was all fouled up, but at least you could view the speaker and hear the sound. Did any of your favorites win? I was rooting for Ellen Levine's Henry's Freedom Box, illustrated by Kadir Nelson, for either the Caldecott or the Coretta Scott King, so I was pleased when it was given honor book status for the Caldecott.

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A new award given this year, but for some reason not announced at the awards ceremony, was the **American Indian Youth Literature Award**, sponsored by the American Indian Library Association, an affiliate of the American Library Association. The winners were: for **Picture Book:** Crossing Bok Chitto: a Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom by Tim Tingle, illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridge; for **Middle School:** Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond by Joseph Medicine Crow; and for **Young Adults:** The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie.

Another big announcement in the world of children's literature occurred on January 3: the Library of Congress named Jon Scieszka as the first National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. Scieszka is the author of The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales, The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by A. Wolf, and the Time Warp Trio books. His term lasts for two years, and he gets a \$50,000 stipend to promote children's books and reading through personal appearances and the media. Wouldn't you like that job?

The new year also brought new databases for our use through the Mid-York Library System. **America's Genealogy Bank** provides access to obituaries, newspapers, rare books, and the U.S. Government Serial Set, covering 1600 to the present. **America's Historical Newspapers**

provides over 1,300 newspaper titles spanning years 1690 to 1977. Both databases can be accessed by you and your students from home or school with your Mid-York library card number.

That's all the news for now. Talk to you again next month! Happy reading!



### ANNOUNCING... THE 2008 CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD WINNERS!

#### THE CALDECOTT AWARD

(best American illustrator):

**Winner:** Brian Selznick. The Invention of Hugo Cabret.

**Honor books:** Kadir Nelson. Henry's Freedom Box by Ellen Levine.

Laura Vaccaro Seeger. First the Egg.

Peter Sis. The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain.

Mo Willems. Knuffle Bunny Too: a Case of Mistaken Identity.

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### THE NEWBERY AWARD

(best American author)

**Winner:** Laura Amy Schlitz. Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!: Voices From a Medieval Village.

**Honor books:** Christopher Paul Curtis. Elijah of Buxton.

Gary D. Schmidt. The Wednesday Wars.

Jacqueline Woodson. Feathers.

### THE CORETTA SCOTT KING AWARD

(best Black American author and illustrator)

**Winner, Author:** Christopher Paul Curtis. Elijah of Buxton.

**Honor book, Author:** Sharon M. Draper. November Blues.

Charles R. Smith Jr. Twelve Rounds to Glory: the Story of Muhammad Ali. Bryan Collier, illus.

**Winner, Illustrator:**

Ashley Bryan. Let It Shine: Three Favorite Spirituals.

**Honor book, Illustrator:**

Nancy Devard. The Secret Olivia Told Me by N. Joy.

Leo & Diane Dillon. Jazz on a Saturday Night.

### THE SCHNEIDER FAMILY BOOK AWARD

(American author of books depicting disabilities)

**Picture book:** Andrea Stenn Stryer. Kami and the Yaks. Bert Dodson, illus.

**Middle school book:** Tracie Vaughn Zimmer. Reaching for Sun.

**Teen/YA book:** Ginny Rorby. Hurt Go Happy.

### THE MARGARET A. EDWARDS AWARD

(American author – lifetime contribution to books for teens)

**Winner:** Orson Scott Card

### THE MICHAEL L. PRINTZ AWARD

(best American young adult book)

**Winner:** Geraldine McCaughrean. The White Darkness.

**Honor books:** Stephanie Hemphill. Your Own, Sylvia: a Verse Portrait of Sylvia Plath.

A.M. Jenkins. Repossessed.

Judith Clarke. One Whole and Perfect Day.

Elizabeth Knox. Dreamquake. (The Dreamhunter Duet, Book Two)

### THE PURA BELPRE AWARD

(best Latino/Latina author and illustrator)

**Winner, Illustrator:** Yuyi Morales, illus. Los Gatos Black on Halloween by Marisa Montes.

**Honor books, Illustrator:** Raul Colón, illus. My Name is Gabito: the Life of Gabriel García

Márquez by Monica Brown.

Maya Christina Gonzalez. My Colors, My World/Mis colores, Mi Mundo.

**Winner, Author:** Margarita Engel. The Poet-Slave of Cuba.

**Honor Books, Author:** Carmen Agra Deedy. Martina the Beautiful

Cockroach. Michael Austen, illus.

Marisa Montes. Los Gatos Black on Halloween. Yuyi Morales, illus.

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Carmen T. Bernier-Grand. Frida: Viva La Vida! Long Live Life!

### THE THEODORE SEUSS GEISEL AWARD

(best American author/illustrator of a beginning reader book)

**Winner:** Mo Willems. There is a Bird on Your Head.

**Honor books:** Laura Vaccaro Seeger. First the Egg.

Darrin Lunde. Hello Bumblebee Bat.

Patricia J. Wynne, illus.

Lisa Wheeler. Jazz Baby. R. Gregory Christie, illus.

April Pulley Sayre. Vulture View. Steve Jenkins, illus.

### THE LAURA INGALLS WILDER AWARD

(American author/illustrator—substantial and lasting contribution to children's literature)

**Given every other year-- next award: 2009**

### THE ROBERT F. SIBERT MEDAL

(best American author of an information book for children)

**Winner:** Peter Sis. The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain.

**Honor books:** Brian Floca. Lightship. Nic Bishop. Spiders.

### Calendar for Winter 2007:

#### Liaison Committee Meetings 2007-08

September 18, 2007

November 19, 2007

January 16, 2008

March 11, 2008

May 12, 2008

#### Advisory Council Meetings 2007-08:

September 19, 2007

November 26, 2007

January 28, 2008

March 18, 2008

May 12, 2008

#### Professional Development

##### Opportunities:

Info Tech Skills Workshop Series III:

3:45-5:45, MVCC Library Lab

February 7, "Web 2.0/Library 2.0"

February 13, "Blogs"

February 27, "Librarians' Tools on the 'Net'"

#### Elementary Library Share Shop

Info & Tech Building, Court St.,

Utica, Training Lab

February 27, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

#### Middle/High School Library Share Shop

Info & Tech Building, court St.,

Utica, Training Lab

March 3, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

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