



Federal and
Armed Forces
Libraries Roundtable

FEDERAL

LIBRARIAN

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FAFLRT Member Elected ALA President

Roberta Stevens, FAFLRT member and the National Book Festival's project manager at the Library of Congress, was elected president of the American Library Association (ALA) this spring with 55.7 percent of the votes. ALA represents 67,000 members nationally and internationally. Kenton Oliver, executive director of the Stark County District Library and the other candidate for president, received 44.3 percent of the votes.

When she is inaugurated in 2010, Stevens will become the sixth Library of Congress official to preside over ALA in the past 133 years. The other five ALA presidents from the Library were Carol A. Nemeyer, former associate librarian for national programs (1982–1983); Lucile M. Morsche, former deputy chief assistant librarian (1957–1958); Herman H.B. Meyer, former director of the Legislative Reference Service (1924–1925); and former Librarians of Congress L. Quincy Mumford (1954–1955) and Herbert Putnam (1898 and 1903–1904).

Stevens will serve as president-elect beginning this July. She will be inaugurated as president on June 29, 2010, at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. As president-elect, president, and past president (2011–2012), she will continue as a member of ALA's Executive Board.

Stevens has been the National Book Festival's project manager since its beginning in 2001. She will again manage the 2009 festival, but intends to take leave from the Library during her year as president to focus on fulfilling her campaign promises.

"I want to work with ALA's staff and members on a nationwide library advocacy campaign that rallies authors to speak on behalf of libraries everywhere," she said. "I have been struck by the passion and eloquence of many of our authors. They are our natural allies and would be terrific spokespeople for libraries, reading and literacy."

"The single greatest need of libraries is financial. Library usage is increasing at the very time the economic downturn resulted in less public and private funding being available for their support," she said, adding that more people than ever are relying on their local libraries to check out books and use free Internet access and materials in their search for jobs.

Developing planned giving programs for smaller libraries and growing ALA's international memberships by highlighting the wealth of online training and communication/networking opportunities are two additional areas of concern for her. She also plans to draw on her Capitol Hill

experience to work collaboratively with ALA and its members for legislation to support libraries at the local, state and national levels.

Although Stevens used web 2.0 technology and "social networks" (a web site, blog, YouTube videos, podcasts and her own Facebook page) to reach out to ALA voters, she said she thinks she won the election by having a platform with ideas that addressed issues important to members. Another factor in winning, she believes, was her announcement that she would make a full-time commitment to work on behalf of libraries. She is especially concerned with expanding member opportunities within ALA

Continues on page 2



FAFLRT Member Elected ALA President

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and encouraging new and younger members to get involved.

Before joining the Library of Congress in 1985, Stevens was a school library/media specialist, head of media services at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf and director of technical services at the Fairfax County Public Library. She began at the Library of Congress as the Customer Services Officer in the Cataloging Distribution Service, worked in administrative positions in the former Cultural Affairs and National Services, and was the Library's Bicentennial Program Manager.

On May 7, the University at Buffalo's Graduate School of Education

honored Stevens with its 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award. She is the first recipient of their master's degree in library science to receive the award. On May 20, she received the Ainsworth Rand Spofford Presidential Award from the District of Columbia Library Association. Spofford, the sixth Librarian of Congress (1864 to 1897), championed passage of the copyright law of 1870, which expanded the collection from 60,000 to over one million items. He is remembered for obtaining congressional support to fund construction of the Thomas Jefferson Building. The award recognizes contributions to the development or improvement of library and information services.

FAFLRT Awards Reception

Pritzker Military Library

Friday, July 10, 2009

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Come join with fellow Federal and Armed Forces Librarians to celebrate and honor this year's FAFLRT award winners. Enjoy the marvelous collections at the Pritzker Military Library and tour their unique facilities at our Annual FAFLRT Awards Reception.

http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org/pdf/pressReleases/PML_Emyy_2008PR.pdf

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The **Federal Librarian** newsletter, is the quarterly journal of the American Library Association's Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT), publishing two times electronically and two times in hard copy. It presents recent developments and events of interest to the Federal and Armed Forces library community, including news and reports on international, federal, state, and local government issues. The **Federal Librarian** subscription base is approximately 600.

The **Federal Librarian** is published four times per year. In 2009, Volume 27 was issued as two print copies and two electronic-only issues. All issues are available at ala.org/faflrt/

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FAFLRT Conference Programs in Chicago

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2009

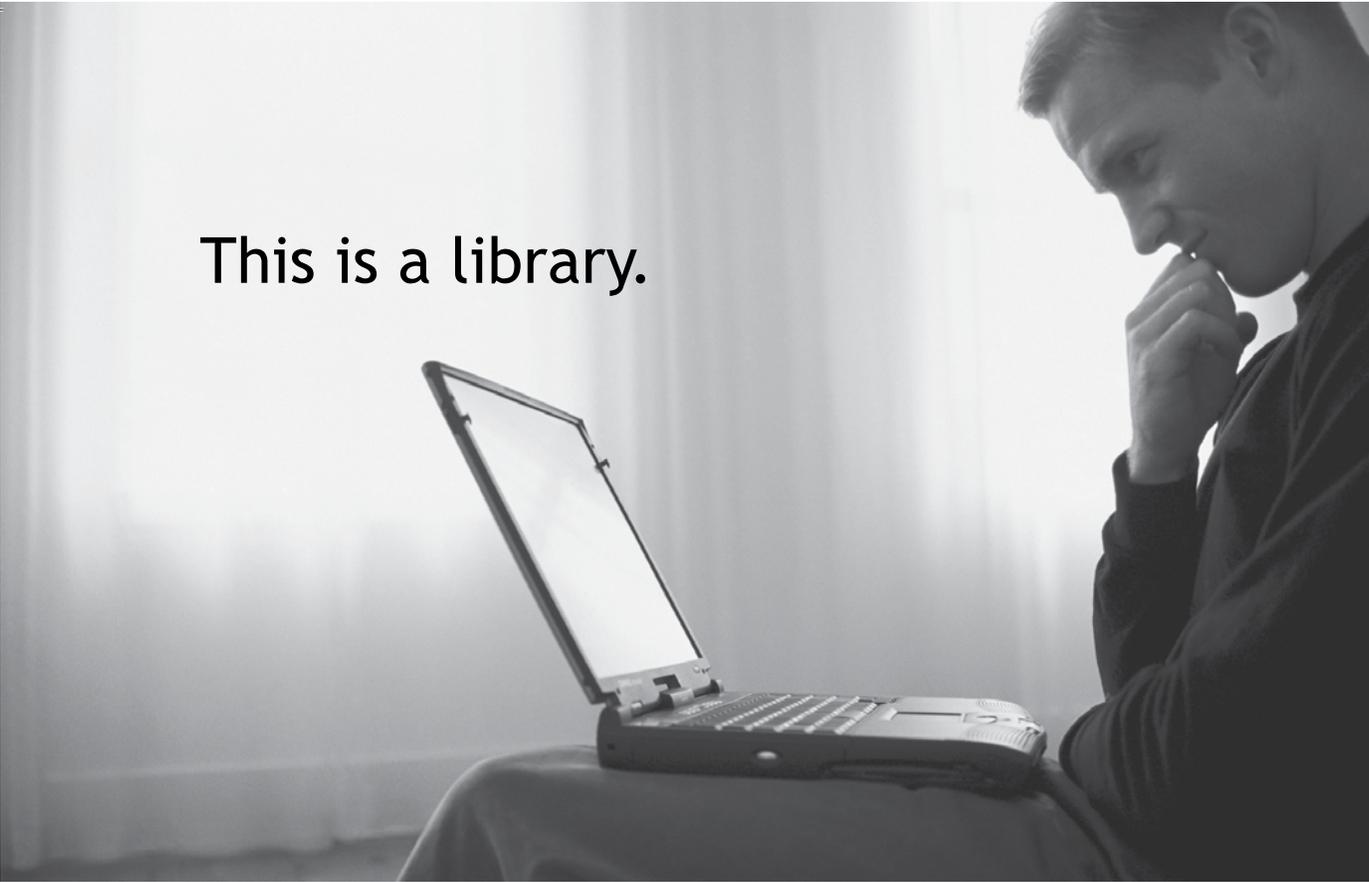
Fairmont Crystal Room	Outside the Wall: Homeland Security Digital Initiatives	10:30 am - 12:00 pm How do researchers find the information needed to stay in the forefront of securing the country from terrorist activities? Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) have partnered to provide digital resources internally and externally. We will discuss types of information available and how electronic libraries were developed. Speakers: Lea Wade (Research and Information Services, DHS), Cindy Sheffield (National Biodefense and Countermeasures Center, DHS), and Greta Marlatt (Homeland Security Digital Library, NPS).
Location to be determined	Federal Libraries and Legislative Initiatives	12:00 pm - 1:30 pm The FAFLRT Committee on Legislation hosts a "Town Hall" discussion about legislative issues and their impact on federal libraries. Attendees are encouraged to bring ideas and questions about how Federal libraries can be strengthened through legislative initiatives supported by the Association. Join us to discuss the issues over lunch!
Fairmont State Room	Real life Forensics — Like on Numb3rs, CSI, and NCIS	1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Join us to learn how forensics librarians at federal agencies help with investigations. See how librarians, the FBI, Drug Enforcement Agency, and other agencies perform fascinating work to help solve the crime. Learn about the types of interesting requests they encounter ... as we compare their real work to the cases you've watched on hit television shows.
Fairmont State Room	The FEDS are Scanning ... It's Not What You Think!	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Meet the Preservation and Digitization Working Group of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC), Library of Congress, a working group developing strategies for preservation of federal library resources. Learn about digital projects, hear preliminary findings of a recent digitization survey of federal libraries and discover implications for future access to federal government information. The program will illustrate myriad ways Federal libraries work together to respond to challenges and opportunities posed by digital information.

Careers in Federal Libraries

Where: Chicago Public Library Harold Washington Center

When: Friday, 7/10/2009, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Did you know that the average annual salary for all librarians in the Federal Government in non-supervisory, supervisory, and managerial positions was \$80,873 in 2007? Join us to learn tips and practical advice from federal librarians working in a variety of federal agencies. Discover opportunities for internships, practicum, field experiences, and fellowships. Co-sponsors include FLICC, LSU School of Library and Information Science, Library Associates, ALA Placement Office and Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science.



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Bringing Knowledge to Life.



An Interview with FBI Laboratory Supervisory Librarian, Jane Killian

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's primary mission is "to protect and defend the United States against terrorist and foreign intelligence threats and to enforce the criminal laws of the United States."¹

Supporting the FBI in its mission is its Laboratory Library, a vital component of the Laboratory's Quality Assurance and Training Unit (QATU). Library personnel there support investigations by furnishing relevant technical information and a collection of reference materials that presently includes more than 8000 scientific books and 400 periodical subscriptions.² Staff members "provide forensic examinations, technical support, expert witness testimony, and training to federal, state, and local law agencies."³

The supervisory librarian for the Laboratory Library is Jane Killian. Killian supervises three other library staff in her department — two technical information specialists and the writer-editor for all of the Laboratory Library's publications. Killian has high praise for her "amicable" colleagues and says that she and her staff members share "a work dynamic that is irreplaceable and rare." Having the chance to work with them is Killian's favorite part of her job.

Readers who think that working for the FBI might be similar to the television shows CSI and N3mbers will be rather disappointed. As Killian says, "That's the big laugh of Laboratory employees in that we are nothing like TV." The evidence that is sent to the Laboratory comes from local, state, and various federal agencies. Few FBI agents actually work in the Laboratory Division. Also, due to the fact that she does not

know if her research has been used in pending or upcoming cases, i.e. for courtroom testimony, Killian cannot specify the reference questions that she has worked on, nor can she discuss any memorable cases or inquiries that she has assisted with.

In addition to managing library personnel, Killian holds various other responsibilities, including teaching bibliographic resource classes at the FBI's Training Academy, serving as the Intranet Content Manager for the Laboratory Library's home page, and collaborating with other personnel in planning a future symposium program.

Killian's prior experience in librarianship has been in academia. Armed with an undergraduate degree in journalism from the University of Georgia, she attended the University of Kentucky for MSLIS, where she was a student worker for both the university's geology and main reference libraries. Following the completion of her master's degree, Killian worked as the Circulation and Interlibrary Loan Librarian for Berry College, a small Christian liberal-arts college in Rome, Georgia.

Killian decided to move into the federal sector for personal reasons and said that the FBI "made me an offer I couldn't refuse." Having

grown up as a self-proclaimed Air Force brat, the opportunity to work for the federal government was an exciting one in addition to providing job security.

Killian believes that her academic background was a definite strength in being hired at the FBI, as that was what the agency was looking for. She also possesses a sales and service background in the private sector which she says has helped enormously when trying to draw new patrons to using the library and helping users feel at ease asking staff for help.

About working in a federal library, Killian says, "I would do it again in a heartbeat." She notes that most government agency libraries are small, which means that a librarian can be the proverbial jack of all trades. So if that is the type of position you enjoy, consider a job in the federal sector!

*By Rebecca Kennedy,
FALFRT member*

1 "What We Investigate." Accessed March 1, 2009. <http://www.fbi.gov/hq.htm>

2 Ibid.

3 FBI Laboratory Services home page. Accessed March 1, 2009. <http://www.fbi.gov/hq/lab/labhome.htm>

FAFLRT Board and General Membership Meeting

Fairmont State Room

Sunday, 7/12/2009

8:00 am - 10:00 am

FAFLRT President-Elect wins DCLA Award

The District of Columbia Library Association (DCLA) presented its Community Service Award this year to FAFLRT President-elect Richard Huffine. This award honors those who have volunteered their library expertise to develop or improve a library service, program or facility unrelated to their employment.

Richard was recognized for his dedicated leadership of the

Federation of Friends of the D.C. Public Libraries. He works tirelessly to advocate for adequate library funding and encourage citizen involvement in public library services across D.C.

In addition to being the President-elect of FAFLRT, Richard serves as President of the Friends of the Mount Pleasant Library and is the Vice President/President Elect of DCLA.

He is also active with other ALA committees and with the Special Libraries Association, and volunteers with the Lubuto Library Project.

By day, Richard is the National Library Coordinator for the U.S. Geological Survey, and has worked previously for the Environmental Protection Agency and the General Services Administration.

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ALA American Library Association

March 18, 2009

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The American Library Association held a Membership Town Hall Meeting on January 24, 2009 during its Midwinter Meeting in Denver, Colorado. The purpose of the meeting was to articulate and discuss important issues the ALA membership wanted to share with your new Administration.

A thread expressed by many was the need to clearly establish the fundamentally good work done by libraries in assisting the public. Over and over again, comments reinforced the need to be sure that your administration has a solid understanding of the role which libraries, as essential institutions of life-long learning, play in serving and assisting virtually every segment of the population.

Libraries are perfectly positioned to disseminate information relevant to the issues and challenges that face us as a nation, the same key issues which your Administration is seeking to address. Libraries disseminate healthcare and government information. They offer literacy programs, assistance for non-English speakers, as well as access to computers, the Internet and the wealth of library resources. Libraries serve and support all diverse populations.

Public libraries are an obvious resource to support early childhood education programs and to support and augment all areas of school curricula. They work in partnership with government and business, offering Internet support for online employment applications, filing for unemployment benefits, supplying tax forms and providing assistance to those seeking government assistance. Libraries serve as a primary conduit for information for the public, and have the ability to support any national initiative.

The increased usage libraries are experiencing testifies to their value. That recent increase, well established through statistics, has resulted in dramatic increases in circulation, in-library materials usage, and attendance at programs by individuals of all ages. Urban libraries should hold a prominent spot on the urban agenda.

Dramatically increased library usage points to the need for increased library funding. A one-time infusion of dollars flowing into libraries would provide badly-needed additional resources at a time when libraries are seeing a tremendous increase in usage.

Many of our members' comments focused on funding. In New Orleans, libraries are faced with an extraordinary need for public assistance; the nation's promise to restore the community of New Orleans must be fulfilled. The goal of the juvenile justice system is rehabilitation of our youth. Libraries are a vital part of that, and professional librarians are needed in every juvenile detention center nationwide. Tribal college libraries need assistance, functioning as both college and community libraries, serving all ages. Rural libraries are often overlooked, yet vitally important to small towns and rural areas. Military libraries provide service to soldiers, but they need additional funding to expand service to their spouses and children.

The USA PATRIOT Act continues to be a concern. Librarians continue to care about protecting the basic rights of library users to read freely. Discussions of changes to the Act have been ongoing with many different groups. Many issues—National Security Letters, court/judicial oversight and review; gag orders, reader privacy, warrantless surveillance, larger First Amendment and Civil Liberties issues—are part of the discussions surrounding the need for changes to the PATRIOT Act.

Our members support the Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries (SKILLS) Act, which was introduced in 2007. The legislation included a provision for at least one state-certified school library media specialist in every public school. ALA members support reintroduction of this bill, which was not passed by the last Congress. On a larger scale, for the economy to prosper, we must provide the resources and the skills for children to be able to succeed. Members further recommended the inclusion of a librarian or teacher librarian on national boards—present and providing input at the tables in Washington where education policy is discussed.

Concerns were expressed about other federal initiatives. The No Child Left Behind legislation should be changed to allow children and parents to learn, expand and be creative through library collections that broaden their horizons, instead of simply studying for tests. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) places restrictive limitations on libraries that accept federal funding through Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants. The E-rate Program should be revised to deliver low cost, broadband services to public libraries with fewer bureaucratic hurdles and less financial burden to libraries. The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) should be supported, and Library Services and Technology Act should be reauthorized.

Libraries want to and need to provide better access to government information. Collaboration between libraries and government agencies in disseminating information to the public, along with adequate funding, would eliminate unfunded mandates to libraries. The Federal Depository Library Program needs funding to fulfill its basic responsibilities to acquire, catalog and disseminate government information. Full and permanent digital "capture" of government information is needed, and every agency must take an active role to ensure that this material is preserved and does not eventually disappear from the web. Government agencies must be encouraged to place more information online, including metadata, in compliance with their dissemination mandate.

A core value of the profession, "equal access for all," provided another strong thread for discussion. The need for an educated public was stressed, with libraries playing a central role in providing equal access to information to all persons, while remembering the poor, the disabled and the undocumented. Adequate access must also include metadata and cataloging, preservation and the availability of trained librarians, skilled in finding the information that is most relevant and useful. In rural areas without broadband, access is of vital concern.

International concerns included reinstating the Library Fellows Program, an effective way to reach out to other countries and improve international relations. The Fellows program would strengthen the Administration's programs and agenda internationally.

Members also expressed their appreciation for the Administration's action in a number of areas where the Association has taken a position. These include the war in Iraq, the use of torture, the separation of science and politics, and government secrecy.

Access and open access can only be provided within a context of intellectual property and copyright laws that expand the concept of fair use for schools and libraries so that information can be shared and used for the benefit of society. Government must understand that access is more than simply putting information on a website. In thousands of communities across the country, librarians play an essential role in providing access to e-government and in empowering all.



Jim Rettig
President

In Case of Emergency

This week, I did something I've never done before. I took a class in CPR. The medics here at the Naval War College have scheduled a series of classes hoping to increase the number of folks who can save lives in the event of an emergency. I passed and got my card.

During the course, a number of questions were raised that point out the important role that bystanders can play in the success of any rescue. Two of those points are worth repeating.

The 911 call: In 1984, my brother-in-law Mike was working as a supervisor at the Sewer Treatment Plant in Providence, RI. The plant utilized a conveyor belt that rose high into the air. The conveyor belt turned around a drum that had to be cleaned periodically. To do this job, you had to climb a rather high ladder and clean the drum while the conveyor belt was turning.

That day, towards the end of his shift, Mike was showing one of his men how to clean the drum safely. You were supposed to do it without getting your fingers caught. Maybe he was tired, but he ended up getting his fingers caught and the powerful turning drum did its worst. Mike fell off the ladder to the ground minus his arm. One man tended to Mike while the other ran to call 911.

"What city are you in?" asked the operator. "We're at the Sewer Treatment Plant," answered the man. "What city are you in?" repeated the operator. "The Sewer Treatment Plant, we're at the Sewer Treatment Plant, hurry!" the now frantic man kept repeating. Finally, after repeated attempts to get the name of the City, the 911 operator got the man to tell her that he was in Providence, RI.

What he never dreamed was that the 911 operator on the phone could possibly be in any other city than the one he was in, yet that was just the case. How do I know that? Because my mother was an information operator in the office that took the call in Fall River, Massachusetts! Fortunately, Mike survived, but the results could have been different had his employee not given the name of the city and state.

Today, it is even more important to tell the name of the city and state where the emergency is unfolding. In particular, with the advent of cell phones, you are likely to be visiting Texas and your 911 call might be answered by a call center in Vermont. Tell where you are.

The AED: AED is short for Automated Electrical Defibrillator.

Do you know where the closest one is in your workplace? If you came across someone assisting a coworker or a patron who was unresponsive and they asked you to get an AED, could you get it for them? Not if you don't know where it is. After you finish reading this article, find out where the nearest AED can be found. If there isn't any in your building, you might want to suggest that your command invest in one.

Now you are equipped to assist in an emergency. Just remember these two points: 1. When making a 911 call, always tell the location of the emergency, including the state; and 2. Know where the AED is kept so you can retrieve it when needed.

Lucille Rosa



New Member Round Table Events

Below are some New Members Round Table events at the ALA Annual conference in Chicago. Please consider attending some of these events to meet our professions' and associations' newest members!

- NMRT Conference 101, 7/10/09, 4:00-5:00pm, MCP, W-179
- Meet and Greet, 7/10/09, 7:30-8:30pm, HIL, Grand Tradition
- NMRT Conference Orientation, 7/11/09, 8:00-10:00am, PALM, Red Lacquer Room
- NMRT Executive Board Meeting, 7/13/09, 8:00-10:00am, PALM, Clark 05
- NMRT All Committees Meeting, 7/12/09, 3:30-5:30pm, PALM, Spire Room
- NMRT Awards Reception, 7/12/09, 7:00-9:00pm, HIL, Northwest 5
- Job Hunting in a Recession, 7/11/09, 1:30-3:30pm, HYATT, Grand D North
- Leadership Development in Transition, 7/11/09, 3:30-5:30pm, MCP, W-196a

Election Results

The 2009 FAFLRT election results are in. Congratulations to our incoming officers:

Vice-President/President-Elect:
Karl Edwards Debus-Lopez

Treasurer (2-year term)
Jane A. Killian

Armed Forces Director:
(2-year term)
Erica Stiner

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(2-year term)
Kimberly Ann Lyall

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The successful candidate will possess excellent leadership and communication skills and a compelling vision for strategic approaches to the development and operation of next generation library and information systems and services. This challenging and highly visible position, with national and international responsibilities, requires a broad knowledge of issues in information management, a passion for public service, and demonstrated skill in fostering collaborations. For additional information visit, <http://www.nal.usda.gov/>.

Applicants must meet mandatory qualifications, as specified in the vacancy announcements (ARS-SES:09-04 or ARS:SES:09-05), and address specific executive core and technical qualifications. Applicants should only respond to the vacancy announcement that best meets his/her educational background. Some citizenship restrictions apply. Interested candidates should obtain the position announcement from www.afm.ars.usda.gov/divisions/hrd/, beginning Monday, June 8, 2009. For questions regarding qualifications and application procedures contact Deborah Crump at Deborah.crump@ars.usda.gov or 301-504-1448. Applications must be received by Monday, August 17, 2009. USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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