Bittersweet Times

Happy spring! And welcome to ALSConnect, our newly redesigned ALSC newsletter. We hope you like our new look! Within this issue of ALSConnect you'll find lots of information about our ALSC Midwinter meetings and some exciting previews of our historic joint American Library Association (ALA) and Canadian Library Association Annual Conference in Toronto, Ontario this June. Our ALSC conference program is terrific—both practical and inspirational—while our Canadian children's librarian counterparts have some fascinating and unique offerings planned. Check out the ALA Conference Web site at (www.ala.org/events/annual2003) for the most up-to-date information on registration and events. Some of us will be continuing on to Ottawa, Ontario (Canada's gloriously beautiful capital city), to participate in an international forum on Canadian children's literature, "The Fun of Reading/Lire me sourit" (www.nlc-bnc.ca/forum) immediately following Annual Conference.

Ironically, as I sat down to write a more personal, sprightly, upbeat spring message for this fresh and excitingly redesigned newsletter, a cold and snowy blizzard was raging outside. Inside, the library press was full of dire budget news. General interest newspapers and airways are alive with speculation about an incipient war in the Middle East and rumblings from Korea—on both sides of the border. The still elusive details of the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster are coming together. It is hard to feel hopeful or sprightly in a world where the hope of spring seems far away indeed.

I was also reminded that in my very first newsletter message, as a newly minted ALSC vice president, I focused on the events of September 11th and the enduring effect they will have on the lives of the children we serve. These newest challenges at home and abroad will again require us, the nation's children's librarians, to help our young constituents understand confusing and even frightening events as they unfold. We will offer needed context and clarification to our kids as they try to make some sense of the world and their place in it.

This sobering task can be leavened by the vitality and power of the materials we together honor and highlight each Midwinter when we announce ALSC's choices—the most distinguished and notable books, videos, and recordings of 2002—for kids and the adults in their lives. Thankfully this year's ALSC media awards will help us in our task of connecting kids with the best, especially in troubled times. Avi's Newbery-winning Crispin (Hyperion) demonstrates that a young boy can show extraordinary courage and loyalty in perilous times. Caldecott winner Eric Rohmann's My Friend Rabbit (Roaring Brook Press/Millbrook Press) handsomely shows the happy results of loving friends working and playing together. James Cross Giblin's Sibert-winning The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler (Clarion/Houghton) challenges young readers to learn from the past as they confront today's unfolding events. The Batchelder winner, Cornelia Funke's The Thief Lord (Chicken House/Scholastic), is an exciting child-centered fantasy/adventure that also reveals a powerful new definition of a family. The Carnegie-winning So You Want to Be President (Weston Woods) is a superb video adaptation of David Small's Caldecott-winning book that cannot help but connect with kids of all ages as it painlessly introduces youngsters to the fascinating lives of our nation's chief executives. Our newest Wilder Medalist, Eric Carle, validates the prodigious contribution of this picture book master. He has created satisfying books of lasting value and enduring beauty for our youngest constituents. Thanks to all the members of the ALSC media award and notables committees. The commitment and contribution you have made cannot be calculated.

This past Midwinter was exciting but sometimes it felt more bittersweet. Our gathering began with a Rally for America's Libraries event that focused on the precarious funding climate for libraries of all types across the nation. Kids are at risk and their libraries are at risk as well. ALSC was honored to sponsor a well-attended memorial for our long time member Zena Sutherland. Judy Zuckerman of the New York Public Library and Ann Carlson of Dominican Library School (River Forest, Ill.) organized the gathering. Publishing friends, colleagues, and former students alike
celebrated the gift of Zena’s life and work. An ALSC Distinguished Service Award winner, Zena helped keep the association focused on what is truly important about children’s librarianship—identifying and connecting children to the very best books. We’ll not see her like again.

So . . . happy spring! Although we may have so much work yet undone, we have so much to be proud of and to celebrate!—Barbara Genco, ALSC President

Councilor’s Report

ALA Council addressed several issues of importance to youth services librarians at the Midwinter Meeting.

- **ALA/Allied Professional Association.** Council met as the ALA-APA Council (this is the separate 501 (c) 6 organization established to certify librarians and advocate for improved status, pay equity, and better salaries) and approved final transition recommendations, the ALA/Allied Professional Association Business Plan, and the ALA-APA Budgetary Ceiling. This allows the ALA executive board to establish a loan for the implementation of ALA/APA.

- **CIPA (Children’s Internet Protection Act**, which requires libraries receiving certain federal funds to block Internet access). On May 31, 2002, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals’ decision favored the ALA's lawsuit to overturn the act. The panel said in essence, the statute violates the First Amendment and is facially unconstitutional. The decision was appealed and arguments are scheduled to be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday, March 5, 2003. Keep abreast of news at [www.ala.org/cipa](http://www.ala.org/cipa).

- **USA PATRIOT Act.** Council passed the Resolution on the USA PATRIOT Act and Related Measures That Infringe on the Rights of Library Users. There was considerable discussion within committees and units during information sessions and at various caucuses. Upon recommendations and guidance from the ALA Committee on Legislation, the final resolution was drafted and approved.

- **Virtual Membership.** Much discussion centered around virtual members, especially in relationship to the organization as a whole, and the existing by-laws. The definition of the term, appointment of members, and participation in meetings were all issues seeking clarification.

- **Investments.** Council voted on a revision of ALA Policy 8.5.1, *Investments Funds*. This change will be of interest to ALSC as it impacts interest and dividend income, scholarships, and the establishment of endowments.

- **Honorary Membership.** One of three ALA members to be bestowed honorary membership at the Annual Conference will be Lucille Cole Thomas, long-time public library trustee, a former children's librarian, and a staunch supporter of youth services!

- **Two new awards were announced.** The Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children is donated by Peggy Sullivan. The Schneider Family Book Awards will recognize an author or illustrator for a book that encourages artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences. I am sure we will be hearing more about each of these awards.

A smile crossed every youth services librarian's face as ALA President Freedman commented on the large audience he addressed at the Monday morning youth media awards press conference! I think the love and power of books came through loud and clear!—Councilor Kathy East on behalf of ALSC Councilor Bessie Condos Tichauer

Stay Informed! Be Involved!

These are busy legislative times with many issues arising that affect library service to children such as LSTA and the TEACH Act. The ALSC Legislation Committee urges all of you to subscribe to [ALAWON](http://www.ala.org/washoff), the free e-mail publication of the ALA Washington Office and to frequently visit the Washington Office Web page ([www.ala.org/washoff](http://www.ala.org/washoff)) for current information.

During Midwinter, at the request of the ALSC Legislation Committee, the ALSC board approved in principle, the *Resolution on the USA PATRIOT Act and Related Measures That Infringe on the Rights of Library Users* that was passed by ALA Council on Wednesday, January 29, 2003.
National Library Legislative Day 2003

National Library Legislative Day events will be held in Washington, D.C. on Monday and Tuesday, May 12 and 13, 2003. Participants in legislative day events include librarians, trustees, friends of libraries, library school faculty and students, and other library advocates who will speak to members of Congress about the significant contributions libraries make in their communities. Your congressional representatives want to know about how libraries and library programs impact the lives of their constituents—and who better to tell them about the continuing importance of libraries than a strong group of library advocates? If you are unable to go to Washington, D.C., you can always call your congressional representative or local elected officials.

Visit the Washington Office Legislative Day Web page at [www.ala.org/washoff/legislativeday.html](http://www.ala.org/washoff/legislativeday.html) to find contact information for your state’s coordinator—grassroots participation is crucial to successful legislative events.

See You in Toronto!

At ALA Annual Conference in Toronto, the AASL Legislative Committee, co-sponsors with ALSC and YALSA, is presenting the program “All Politics is Local—Legislative Advocacy on the Home Front.” Learn from a panel of seasoned librarians how to influence legislators right in your home district or in your library without having to travel to your state capitol or to Washington, D.C. There will be time for questions and opportunities to share experiences.—Susan Veltfort, ALSC Legislation Committee

ALSC Award Winners

Distinguished Service

A consultant, writer, and reviewer whose career spans forty years of service to children's libraries, Julie Cummins is the recipient of the 2003 ALSC Distinguished Service Award. Cummins will receive a monetary award of $1,000 and will be honored at the ALSC membership meeting during the ALA Annual Conference in Toronto in June 2003. "Julie Cummins is a tireless advocate for children's services whose influence has been far-reaching through leadership, consulting, mentoring, speaking, teaching, and writing," said Connie Rockman, chair of the award committee.

Julie Cummins' years of leadership in children's services include service as head of the central children's room at Rochester (N.Y.) Public Library, children's services consultant of the Monroe County (N.Y.) Library System, coordinator of children's services at New York Public Library, and editor-in-chief of *School Library Journal*. She has served on numerous committees for ALSC including the Laura Ingalls Wilder Committee, Research and Development Committee, and the National Advisory Board for the Born to Read Project. A strong advocate of excellence in children's literature, Cummins has served as a member or chair of the Newbery, Caldecott, and Notable Children's Books Committees as well as chairing a Joint Youth Task Force on Continuity and Change.

BWI Summer Reading Program Grant

Providence (Rhode Island) Public Library is the winner of the 2003 ALSC/Book Wholesalers (BWI), Inc. Summer Reading Program Grant for its program, Creating Readers Summer Camp. Part of the summer reading program, this summer enrichment program for kindergarteners to fifth graders will be presented in four sessions in the month of July. Each session will offer participants drama, puppetry, movement, and music activities that bring books and words to life. A staff of teens, along with the project coordinator, will run the program by facilitating poetry readings, read-alouds, word games, and journaling while role-modeling pro-literacy attitudes. In addition, specially trained facilitators will present workshops in areas of expertise related to literacy or language, such as improvisation, storytelling, and poetry. Many hands-on experiences will be provided to enrich the participation of each child.

According to ALSC/BWI Grant committee chair Meaghan Battle of Farmington (Mich.) Community Library, “this innovative program offered by the Providence Public Library is a special enhancement to their summer reading program that incorporates community involvement, bilingual publicity outreach, role-modeling, and school-library cooperation. The Creating Readers Summer Camp will provide a concentrated experience in a public library through exciting literacy activities, taking the public library into an entirely different dimension for all those involved."
The $3,000 grant, donated by Book Wholesalers, provides financial assistance for public libraries to develop outstanding summer reading programs for children. The grant also recognizes ALSC members for outstanding program development.

**Econo-Clad Literature Program Award**

**Jana Fine** of the Clearwater (Fla.) Main Library is the recipient of the 2003 ALSC/Econo-Clad Literature Program Award for her R.E.A.D. (Reading for Elementary Achievement and Development) program. The ALSC/Econo-Clad Award is designed to honor an ALSC member who has developed and implemented a unique and outstanding reading or literature program for children. Administered by ALSC and sponsored by Econo-Clad, a division of Sagebrush Corporation, the award will provide a grant of $1,000 to support Fine's attendance at the American Library Association Annual Conference to be held in Toronto, Canada, in June 2003.

The R.E.A.D. program is a collaborative effort between the public library, the Clearwater High School drop-out prevention program (GOALS), and several daycare and Title 1 elementary schools. High school teens are trained to prepare and present preschool storytimes to lower income or disadvantaged children in several school and daycare settings. The teens provide literacy experiences and positive role models for the young children while increasing their own self-esteem and self-worth through this experience. The young children are introduced to books, poems, and activities that reinforce the importance of reading and literacy in this win-win situation. Teens look forward to seeing their “kids” and the young children look forward to seeing their friends “from the big school” and being read to. The program has helped the teen's motivation to remain in school and increased their literacy and the younger kids have gained valuable exposure to books and reading.

**Bechtel Fellowship**

**Mary Humphrey** has been selected as the 2003 recipient of the Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship. The Bechtel Fellowship is designed to allow qualified children's librarians to spend a month or more reading and studying at the Baldwin Library, part of the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Humphrey plans to study Heroic Quest Tales in Fairy Tale and Folk Literature at the Baldwin Library. She intends to use the research in the programs she conducts for children, teachers, and other librarians.

Mary Humphrey is the school library media specialist at West Genesee Camillus School District in Camillus, New York. She considers the hero and heroine archetypes presented in fairy tales and folklore literature as engaging and powerful role models for children. She will search for folklore that embodies specific characteristics showing successful quests in diverse cultural settings.

**Special Notice**

As part of the ALSC Communications Plan, the *ALSC Newsletter* has changed its name to *ALSConnect* with this March 2003 issue. Please note that with the new name, we begin a new volume year and issue number. This March 2003 issue is volume 1, number 1 of *ALSConnect*. Volume number 24 of the *ALSC Newsletter* closed with issue number 2, December 2002. The next issue of *ALSConnect, June 2003*, will be published both in print and electronically at ALSC's Web site. We will notify members on the ALSC-L electronic discussion list when the issue is mounted on the Web. Or, stay tuned to the ALSC Web site at [www.ala.org/alsc](http://www.ala.org/alsc).

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**Bright Ideas**

**Year-Round Fun at Mt. Lebanon Public Library**

At the Mt. Lebanon Public Library in Pittsburgh, we have recently begun programs for parents and very young children beyond Baby Lapsit programming. I had heard about the Family Place programming of the Middle County Public Library in Long Island and wanted to offer something similar here. We lack the space for large-scale
programs, but I decided that we could do something on a more limited scale. So, last September we started with two programs for adults and children ages one to three. Registration was limited to twenty adults and twenty children. The series was titled "You and I: Learning Together." The first program, presented by a local art teacher and author, involved the parent and child in creating art together. The second program, "Who Is This Child?: Understanding and Working with Your Child's Temperament," was presented by a local child psychologist and professor. Suggested reading lists were compiled for each session, as well as handouts. Both programs were very well received. Two more programs were held in January, one about early childhood literacy and the other, presented by a preschool music teacher, about developing motor skills through musical activities. There are always books to go along with these as well!

Every year, early in November, we compile a list of books for holiday gift-giving. Actually, we compile a new version every couple of years, with updates each year. Another booklist that goes along with this is titled "Great Gifts That Don't Need Batteries," a list of books along with gifts that tie-in to the story (such as an Encyclopedia Brown mystery and a fingerprint kit or magnifying glass).

We have also been presenting family programs once a month on Sunday afternoons through the winter and early spring. These have proven to be quite popular and include stories, songs, crafts, and, sometimes, refreshments. They have included themes like Groundhog Day (after all, this is western Pennsylvania, home of Punxsutawney Phil) Mardi Gras, origami, and so on.

During the summer, we present programs two afternoons a week for school-age children, on Tuesdays or Thursdays, so we have dubbed them Terrific T's. They are a combination of home-grown programs such as quiz shows, Puppetmania (we even did a performance with feet puppets—drew faces on bottoms of socks, laid on our backs, and propped our feet up on a table on its side (anything for the library!), Cook up a Book, Rock on, and outside performers such as the local theater arts group who taught the children a song and dance. Generally, we have an attendance of forty to one hundred children at each program, partly due to the attendance of an extended day program, but certainly not entirely. It seems to be one time of the year when we really can reach the school-age population.

We are fortunate at our library to have an outdoor courtyard that patrons can use for reading, meditation, and so on, that can also be used for programming. Two summers ago, we began a series of summer outdoor concerts. These are held on four consecutive Thursday evenings in August, from 7 to 8 p.m. The concerts are designed as events for all ages and usually attract anywhere from fifty to eighty individuals. Last summer, our performers included the Balkan Babes, an Eastern European folk group; two brothers of high school age on violin and viola; a folk singer; and a bassist from the Pittsburgh Symphony. The bassist talked about her instrument, played several pieces, and read Berlioz the Bear by Jan Brett. Some of the performers volunteered their services and some received an honorarium from funds provided by the Friends. We did have the library meeting room as back-up, but luckily did not need it. Not only is this a way to entice families and individuals into the library, but it also goes along with the twenty-first century vision of the library as a cultural and community center.—Judy Sutton, Head of Children's Services, Mt. Lebanon Public Library, Pittsburgh

Dads Read in Austin

Austin Public Library has been offering Daddy and Me storytimes since September 2002. The monthly evening program is based on the FRED (Fathers Reading Every Day) program developed by Texas A&M University and encourages fathers or other male role models to be involved in their child's early literacy development. Special guest fathers have included author and illustrator Keith Graves and Gus Garcia, mayor of Austin. For information contact Jeanette Larson, Youth Services Manager, Austin Public Library

SFPL Staff Share Their Collections

Not too long ago, Mary Norris, who is responsible for the displays in the Children's Center of the San Francisco Public Library, asked all the staff to bring in items from our personal collections. She then put together a fascinating exhibit titled Collect Collections. She ended up with quite a variety of collectibles: bouncy balls; stamps; coins; miniatures; ornaments; mixers; Wizard of Oz figures; shells; Day of the Dead materials; cats; turtles; postcards; souvenir pens; rocks, stones and pebbles; leaves; and bookmarks.
What really made this exhibit exceptional was the inclusion of reasons for collecting. The following were taken from the Smithsonian Kids: Collecting Web site at http://kids.si.edu/collecting:

- collecting opens new worlds for you;
- collecting is creative;
- collecting teaches you many things;
- collections tell stories;
- collecting lets you share your knowledge with others; and
- collecting can surround you with beautiful objects.

This exhibit could easily be combined with a program featuring a collector . . . or kids with collections. We didn't include dolls in this exhibit because we had recently exhibited staff dolls from around the world. These exhibits have been two of our most popular with both children and adult patrons.—Grace Ruth, San Francisco Public Library

The Art of Storytelling

Storytelling is an art form that awakens our curiosity, and helps us discover our common humanity and hear the beauty of the spoken word. Children and adults alike discover the positive power of story during Multnomah County (Ore.) Library's annual three-day storytelling festival.

In November 2002 over 8,400 people attended the library's third annual celebration, Tapestry of Tales: A Family Storytelling Festival. With generous contributions from the Clark Foundation and the able assistance of the Library Foundation, the library presented a variety of performances throughout the community. Bill Harley, Kathryn Windham, Beth Horner, and Steve Sanfield were 2002's featured tellers. Audiences also enjoyed the talents of four regional storytellers.

Children and adults enjoyed Story Swap, where both professional and amateur tellers tell a five-minute story. Mini-festivals took place during the day on Saturday in library branches—storyteller groupies followed their favorite teller around from one location to another. The ever-popular Bill Harley entertained over 250 people at one mini-festival, with some audience members coming from British Columbia just to see him perform.

The festival also had an outreach component—the library provides free performances to targeted schools that might otherwise lack funds to hire performers. Over the past three years, we have also arranged for performances in community centers, churches, Boys and Girls clubs, and theaters which supplement the tellers' appearances in our library branches.

This year we invited sixth grade students to visit a senior center, where eighty-four-year-old Kathryn Windham entertained both young and old with tales of growing up in the south. Teller Beth Horner arrived at one middle school to discover that two students had been killed in an automobile accident over the weekend; she quickly adapted her stories to fit the mood of her audience.

Presenting a festival of this size takes many months of planning by youth librarians and public relations staff, but the response every year is well worth it. Our customers are already looking forward to Tapestry of Tales 2003.—Ellen Fader, Youth Services Coordinator, Multnomah County Library

The Power of State Book Awards

One of the most overlooked and most effective programs to motivate young readers across the country is the state reading awards. In nearly every state, a selection of books is put forth annually for children to read during that school year. At the end of the year, children vote for their favorite author and the author wins an award from that state's reading or library association for the best book of the year. This is an important award to the authors who want nothing more than to have children enjoy their books. It is also important to the publishers who know that making the list means substantial book sales. Most importantly, however, is its importance to librarians, teachers, and parents who want to engage their children in the joy of reading. We well know that our job as parents, librarians, and teachers is to help make our children lifelong readers and learners. The more they are exposed to good literature, the more likely it is that they will continue to enjoy reading.
Nearly all states have state reading awards to encourage reading. A state's library, reading, or school library association typically sponsors the award along with other organizations. While the rules for reading and voting vary from state to state, the motivational factors are the same. Author Cynthia Leitich Smith's Web site (www.cynthialeitichsmith.com) has a full listing of the state reading awards and contact information for the people who oversee them. I'd like to share with you the Virginia Young Readers Program (VYR), sponsored by the Virginia State Reading Association, since I chair that committee, to give you some insight into how at least one award program is run.

The Virginia Young Readers committee is comprised of four different levels: primary, elementary, middle, and high school. We meet twice a year: in the spring to put together a reading list for the upcoming months before our next meeting and in the fall to create the official list for the school year beginning in the fall of the following year. Books are nominated by teachers, parents, publishers, authors, and by the committee itself. Once the nomination list is compiled in the spring, we all go off and read anywhere from thirty to fifty books in a given season. What we are looking for are books that children might otherwise have missed. They don't necessarily have to be Newbery or Caldecott quality. After all, children will hear about those books through other avenues. Our books are books that will turn kids on to reading for the sheer pleasure of it. In short, they must have a good story. We also consider reading levels, multicultural issues, and a balance of genres as we are considering books for our list. In the fall, we come back together for a riveting day of book discussions and voting until we have agreed upon a list of ten books for each of our four levels. At that point, I contact the publishers to make sure that the books will be in print when we need them. The finalized list is announced at our yearly spring Virginia State Reading Association conference and the reading begins! With the help of booksellers, the Virginia Library Association, the Virginia Educational Media Association, our local reading councils, and our Web site (www.vsra.org), the word gets out across the state.

Public librarians, teachers, and school librarians make sure they have copies of the books on hand and children begin their reading. I personally make sure that the public library has a list of the books as well as the local bookstores. I even make sure that the books are featured in our school book fair by placing little signs on each VYR book.

The children must read or have heard four out of the ten books on any given level in order to vote. This allows even the most reluctant readers to feel that they can participate. Please check my Web site for specific details on how I conducted the program schoolwide at the two elementary schools where I was the children's librarian (http://curry.edschool.virginia.edu/go/tempo/VCCB/Youngreader.html). In each case, I read all of the picture books on the primary list to every child, from kindergarten through fifth grade. In addition, I booktalked the novels on the elementary list to every student, grades 3 to 5. I bought a hardcover copy for the library and three or more paperback copies as well. Considering the amount of reading that these books engendered, the investment was quite small.

Teachers who were supportive of the program bought copies for their classroom libraries as well. It became a badge of honor to be reading the VYR books. Children were talking about their favorites in the halls and lending each other books that they begged their parents to buy for them. When voting time came the following March, the children could barely contain themselves and they took the voting very seriously. After all, they were voting to help their favorite author win an award! Voting tallies were offered to teachers who used them as a graphing exercise in math. These graphs were hung on the walls throughout the school. It was an exciting time. And when word came back to us and we had picked the winner, it was cause for celebration. I might add that in a school of about 500 children where half were eligible to read the elementary list (grades 3 to 6), over one thousand novels were read for the VYR program alone.

Votes are sent in via e-mail to local councils and then on to the chair of the program. Winners are simultaneously announced at the spring conference and on the Web site. Schools and libraries then receive a certificate with a gold seal for participating in the program. Winning authors receive a Virginia Cup engraved with the name of the book and the year. Each author that I have spoken with about the award has effused over winning the award. Recently, Eve Bunting, who won for *Blackwater* on our middle school list, sent a lovely note thanking the children of Virginia for continuing to read her books and saying how wonderful it was to win the award. Eva Ibbotson, British author of *The Secret of Platform 13,* sent a beautiful letter saying how nice it was to hear that American children are enjoying her book so much. When I met Peg Kehret, who won for *Earthquake Terror* some years back, she showed me a necklace she was wearing with state charms adorning it. She said that each time she wins a state award, her husband gives her a charm from that state. Not surprisingly, her necklace was chock full of charms.

In terms of motivating children to read, the state reading awards are a fantastic idea that is too often overlooked. Besides using it to get kids reading, the list is also a nice place for librarians and teachers to look for good book ideas
from year to year. In addition, parents love to have a list of suggested books so the list is helpful to them as well. The state reading awards are a win-win situation for everyone involved and I encourage you to find out about the program in your state. The more children read, the better they get at it. And who better to suggest books for children to read than the teachers and librarians children know and trust.—Joan Kindig, Assistant Professor, Curry School of Education, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, and Chair, Virginia Young Readers Program

New Site Celebrates Canadian Picture Books

A new Web site celebrating the diversity and success of Canadian illustrated children's literature has been launched. The Canadian Children's Illustrated Books Project Web site is now accessible at www.slais.ubc.ca/saltman/ccib/home.html.

Web visitors are treated to a sampling of the literary and visual contributions of Canadian authors and illustrators to children's literature. The site features an extensive list of multimedia resources, including an annotated list of picture books that won national awards between 1970 and 2001 in Canada, Australia, Great Britain, and the United States.

The Web site is just one part of a three-year project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and spearheaded by Judith Saltman, a professor in the University of British Columbia's School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies.

Cows @ your library®

From spring through early summer of 2002 a herd of cows invaded Portland, Oregon—one going so far as to come into the Central Library of the Multnomah County Library. The cow quietly settled in with her book in the children's library as part of Kows for Kids (www.kowsforkids.com), a public art campaign that showcased the creative strength, diversity, and sense of humor of local artists, architects, art schools, and designers. Deborah DeWit Marchant painted the library kow, which is officially named "Elsie's Journey," but is simply known as Elsie.

"Elsie's Journey" is the first sculpture that Marchant has painted. Painting all of Elsie's natural cow curves was a fun puzzle for an artist who is used to working with oils and pastels in two dimensions. Elsie is a fiberglass sculpture painted with acrylic paints. The vibrant landscape painted on Elsie previously existed only in the artist's mind. It represents the world of knowledge available in books. Through reading, Elsie has transformed herself into an endless road of possibilities. Elsie herself is covered with quotes, including the following:

No woman was ever ruined by a book. —Mayor Jimmy Walker, New York City, 1926–1932

It is a great thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own. —Sherlock Holmes

Books can be dangerous. The best ones should be labeled "This could change your life." —Helen Exley

A book is like a garden carried in the pocket. —Chinese proverb

When Marchant decided to paint quotes on Elsie, she selected thoughts that would be inspiring to kids and that would address the philosophical journey of the search for knowledge.

Elsie rests on a wooden base and her book and its stand are also wood. Marchant's husband, Robert Marchant designed and built the wooden pieces. The pages Elsie is reading are from an actual book, Nature and Culture by Hamilton Mabie, which was published in 1898. Marchant chose this book because it explores the relationship between men and animals, among other things.

Elsie has been popular with all ages, drawing even those without children into the Children's Library as they catch a glimpse of the sculpture from the lobby. More than once a young child has entered the Children's Library mooing. Elsie receives several pettings a day from the younger children, while older children and adults circle her to read the quotes. Elsie is very patient with the photographers, posing with children, adults, and even a couple of service dogs.

While the kows were an opportunity for local artists to try something new, more importantly, Kows for Kids benefited charity. One hundred and eight unique life-sized kows were displayed throughout greater Portland. The kows were then auctioned to raise money for vital outreach, treatment, and prevention programs for children and families served
by New Avenues for Youth and Trillium Family Services. Kows for Kids grossed over 2.1 million dollars! Max and Suzanne Millis sponsored Elsie’s creation and purchased her for $30,000 at the Kows for Kids auction. They then donated Elsie to Multnomah County Library and she returned to the Children's Library. The Millis believe reading inspires children to dream, learn, and excel as they experience life’s journey. Marchant wished for Elsie to be displayed at Multnomah County Library prior to being auctioned off and she is absolutely thrilled that Elsie is living permanently at Multnomah County Library.

Kows for Kids was part of CowParade, an event that began in Chicago in 1999 and continues to spread. You might have the chance to view some city cows firsthand, if you'll be doing some traveling this spring and summer to Atlanta, Georgia; San Antonio, Texas; Auckland, New Zealand; or Dublin, Ireland. To view the Portland kows, visit [www.kowsforkids.com/kows_udder/bovinebios.asp](http://www.kowsforkids.com/kows_udder/bovinebios.asp).

—Kate Carter, Youth Librarian, Multnomah County Library

**At Your Fingertips**

Just a few quick clicks of the mouse . . . and you can take advantage of the expertise of specialists in the fields of early literacy, special education, and Latino youth, to name a few.

The ALSC Liaison with National Organizations Serving Children and Youth Committee has compiled a list of organizations serving children and youth, including contact information and Web addresses.

Visit the Organizations Serving Children and Youth Web page on the ALSC site, [www.ala.org/alsc](http://www.ala.org/alsc).

Discover conferences in your area, relevant publications, opportunities for a variety of productive collaborations, and much more. We hope you find these resources both helpful and exciting.

**Getting Together**

**Midwinter 2003 in Review**

**Celebrating Life**

During the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, well over one hundred friends and colleagues of Zena Sutherland gathered to celebrate her life and career at a memorial service on Saturday afternoon, January 25. Speakers, including ALSC President Barbara Genco, Roger Sutton of The Horn Book, Inc., author and illustrator David Macaulay, Richard Jackson, editorial director at Atheneum Books for Young Readers, and others, reminisced and shared stories about Zena. The service was planned by Judy Zuckerman, New York Public Library, and Ann Carlson, Dominican University. Sutherland, a distinguished member of ALSC and long-time editor of the University of Chicago’s *Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books*, passed away June 12, 2002.

**Author Bagdasarian Speaks**

The United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY), an ALA affiliate, presented Adam Bagdasarian, author of *Forgotten Fire* (Random House, 2002 pap. ed.), at a program on Friday, January 24 at 8 p.m. Bagdasarian spoke about how he was inspired to write the book after hearing a tape his seventy-five-year-old great-uncle made about his experiences as a twelve-year-old struggling to survive the Armenian genocide of 1915. Vahan Kenderian, the character based on his great-uncle, grew up in a secure and privileged home, the youngest son of one of the wealthiest and most respected Armenians in Turkey. But his world was shattered by the systematic violence that claimed over one and a half million Armenian lives. Through the eyes of this boy we witness the execution of family members, and feel the terror of living alone and hungry, sometimes even having to pretend to be mute in order to survive in a world where being Armenian meant certain death. In the ensuing three years, Vahan survived by sheer force of will, ingenuity, and the memory of his father's strength. Years later, Vahan was reunited with his only remaining family member, his sister Oskina, who was Bagdasarian's grandmother.
Bagdasarian pointed out that the story has touched those outside the Armenian community with its universal themes of loss of childhood, home and family, and of finding the survivor within each of us. He also stressed the importance of never forgetting the horrors of history, quoting Adolf Hitler in 1939 in support of his plan to exterminate the Jews saying, "Who does now remember the Armenians?"

*Forgotten Fire* was a 2000 National Book Award finalist. On a much lighter note, Bagdasarian’s latest book is *First French Kiss* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2002).

A reception, bookselling, and autographing followed the program.

The USBBY is the United States National Section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY). For more information about USBBY and its activities, visit [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org). Upcoming IBBY events include its Twenty-ninth World Congress in September 2004 to be held for the first time in Africa, and a joint conference with Canada and Cuba to be held in Cuba.—*Diane Janoff, Queens Borough (N.Y.) Public Library*

**June in Toronto**

**Looking forward to Toronto!**

The 2003 ALSC Local Arrangements Committee has begun work to ensure that children's librarians will have everything they need to truly enjoy ALA/CLA 2003. This is one conference you are not going to want to miss. Not only is Toronto a beautiful, ethnically diverse, and very safe city, but with the currency exchange rate the way it is, Toronto is also very reasonably priced. While dollars pretty much spend the same way in both countries, Americans will receive about $1.50 Canadian for each U.S. dollar (an increase in buying power of 50 percent).

We are developing two special guides for ALSC delegates. The first will be a list of ten places and sites (such as wonderful children's bookstores and unusual small museums or exhibits) that are not always listed in standard tourist guides to Toronto but are too good for children's librarians to miss. We are also putting together a children's literature tour of the city that will include ten prominent Canadian children's books set in Toronto and directions to the locales where they take place. As the conference draws closer we will also publish (in the newsletter and on the electronic discussion list) survival tips such as names of inexpensive but good hotels and restaurants and directions for using public transit (rather than taxis that cost over ten times as much) to get from the airport to the city’s center.

Following is information about two special Canadian events you will want to attend:

- **CLA Book Awards Reception, Saturday, June 21, 7–9 p.m.** There will be no fee for this event! It is our privilege and pleasure to invite you to be our special guest for a gala celebration to honor the 2003 winners of the Canadian Library Association Children's Book of the Year Award, Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Illustrator’s Award, and the Young Adult Canadian Book of the Year Award. Always a popular dinner event, the 2003 Awards will be presented at a special reception hosted by the Canadian Association of Children's Librarians (CACL), Young Adult Services Interest Group (YASIG), and the Canadian School Library Association (CSLA). Celebrate with some of Canada's finest writers, meet the authors and illustrator of the 2003 award-winning books, and enjoy the good company of your colleagues at a wine and cheese reception at the Lillian H. Smith Branch of the Toronto Public Library—home of the world-renowned Osborne Collection of Early Children's Books. The evening will include entertainment, special tours, and displays.

- **My Book and My Heart / Shall Never Part: A Shared Tradition of Children's Books.** An exhibit celebrating cross-border Canadian and American favorites, from long-ago days of primers, hornbooks, and early classics to the works of Margaret Bloy Graham, Susan Cooper, Linda Granfield, and Christopher Paul Curtis, among many other distinguished modern authors and illustrators, will be on display at the Osborne Collection of Early Children’s Books during CLA.

Finally, we are looking for volunteers to help with directing delegates to session rooms and to provide support to presenters. If you are able and willing to volunteer two to four hours on one day of the conference, please contact any one of the following committee members: Peg Glisson, Pittsford, N.Y., [margaret.glisson@pittsford.monroe.edu](mailto:margaret.glisson@pittsford.monroe.edu); Marie Bindeman, Lockport, N.Y., [mbind@nioga.org](mailto:mbind@nioga.org); Maureen McCoy, Brooklyn, N.Y., [m.mccoy@brooklynpubliclibrary.org](mailto:m.mccoy@brooklynpubliclibrary.org); Leslie McGrath, Toronto, Ontario, [lmcgrath@tpl.on.ca](mailto:lmcgrath@tpl.on.ca); Lynne McKechnie, London, Ontario, [mckechnie@uwo.ca](mailto:mckechnie@uwo.ca)—Lynne McKechnie, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada.
Preconference: "The Literature of Fact."

This preconference will focus on outstanding informational materials for youth. Beginning Thursday night, June 19, with a program and reception at Canadian Broadcasting Company Studios and continuing on Friday, June 20, the preconference will include Sibert Award-winning authors and publishers. To register for the ALA Annual Conference and the ALSC preconference, visit www.ala.org/events/annual2003. Register by May 9, 2003 for discounted rates!

Boys Will Be . . . : The Unique Reading and Development Needs of Boys in Libraries

The ALSC President's Program will be held on Monday, June 23, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Psychologist and author Michael Thompson discusses current trends that affect young males in literature and society. Understanding the way boys feel will help librarians connect them with the right book at the right time. National Librarian of Canada, Roch Carrier, presents his perspective as best-selling author of books loved by boys. Arrive early for a screening of The Sweater, Carrier's timeless story animated by the National Film Board of Canada. Book signing with Dr. Thompson follows.

By the Red Maple: Canadian Children's Publishing

Learning about life in other countries helps build bridges of understanding. What better place to begin learning about our northern neighbors—and better time—than at the 2003 ALA Conference in Toronto? The ALSC International Relations Committee and EMIERT are co-sponsoring "By the Red Maple: Canadian Children's Publishing," a program designed to acquaint Canadian children's publishing to the American market. The program will feature a panel of Ken Setterington, Marie-Louise Gay, Loris Lesynski, and Brian Doyle.

Ken Setterington, child and youth advocate for Toronto Public Library and children's author, will serve as keynote speaker, presenting a review of the background of the history of Canadian children's publishing.

Marie-Louise Gay, one of Canada's premier children's authors and illustrators, has won numerous awards, including the Canadian Council Children's Literature Prize for Illustrations and the Governor General's Literary Award for Illustrations (twice).

Loris Lesynski has been writing full-time since her first picture book, Boy Soup, or When Giant Caught Cold, was published in 1996. A freelance graphic designer, illustrator, writer, and children's book critic, Lesynski has also designed and illustrated many educational texts.

One of Canada's most-loved authors of fiction for young people, Brian Doyle was infused with a love of storytelling growing up in the Gatineau Hills north of Ottawa, the ancestral home of his father. Doyle's first book was published in 1978. He has received several Canadian awards, including the CLA's Book of the Year for Children (twice) and Mr. Christie Book Award (twice).

Information about Canadian children's publishing, including Web site information, will be distributed. Broaden your knowledge of North American children's literature by joining us! "By the Red Maple: Canadian Children's Publishing" is scheduled on Saturday, June 21, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Serving Native American/First Nation Youth Populations in Libraries

The Library Service to Special Population Children and Their Caregivers Committee will present this program on Saturday, June 21, at 1:30 p.m.

It will feature prominent experts and practitioners, including Dr. Loriene Roy from the University of Texas; Edna Mirasty from the Senator Myles Venne School, Air Ronge, Saskatchewan; and Wendy Sinclair from the Regina Public Library, Regina, Saskatchewan. Following presentations by the panelists, there will be a panel discussion and a question and answer session with the audience. Moderator will be Victor L. Schill, president of AILA (American Indian Library Association). A bibliographic/webliographic handout will be available.
Olivia Knows: Managers As Advocates—Pardon Me for Being a Manager, Part V

Ian Falconer’s persuasive porcine will help set the stage for the fifth part in this popular management series presented by the ALSC Managing Children’s Services Committee on Saturday, June 21, 1:30–3:30 p.m. ALA president Dr. Carla Hayden and a panel of experts will share the best ways to inform, influence, and actively support libraries and their programs. Panelists include Penny Markey from the County of Los Angeles Public Library, Mary Fellows of Upper Hudson Library System (N.Y.), and a Canadian representative. Be sure to join us, because a plush replica of the popular pig will be given away at the program.

Keeping up with the Kids: Real-Time Virtual Services @ your library®

The Children and Technology Committee will host this program on Sunday, June 22, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Phil Donohue has nothing on us! Highlighting programs using today's technology, panelists will discuss programming through teleconferencing at Queens Borough Public Library, online book clubs and live author chats at Haverhill Public Library, and online homework help through http://www.tutor.com/. Bring your questions and comments, and participate in our interactive talk show format. The panel includes Beth Gallaway, Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library, Kathleen Degyansky, Queens Borough (N.Y.) Public Library, and Kristine E. Springer, Parker Hill Library (Mass.), with Linda W. Braun of Librarians & Educators Online moderating.

Talk about Books!

Register now for the ALSC Book Discussion and Evaluation Meeting, Monday, June 23, 2–4 p.m. The art of book discussion is a learned skill: one must practice, read, and practice some more. Participants will preregister, and be assigned a small list of books. Each person reads his or her titles, takes notes, and prepares for a critical, facilitated discussion of those books. Participants have ranged from those brand-new to children's services to those from small systems eager to talk about books with colleagues, to members who just love a good book discussion.

To register, contact Meredith Parets at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 2166 or (312) 280-2166. Indicate which grade level of books you'd like to discuss: Pre–2, 3–6, or 4–8.

Cool Movies for Kids: Only the Best of the Best in Children's Video

ALSC's two video award selection committees have teamed up to bring you a "kick back and put your feet up!" program. On Monday, June 23, 4–5:30 p.m., preview top videos and hear from the people behind the productions. Carnegie medal-winning producers Paul R. Gagne and Melissa Reilly of Weston Woods Studios share the magic behind So You Want to Be President? The National Film Board of Canada will screen a title from their multicultural Talespinners collection. Notable Children's Video titles will be shared. Producer Dan Welsh will highlight a film from Spoken Arts.

ALSC Annual Conference Events

Always refer to your final program book and supplement in case of schedule changes.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Children and Libraries Debuts with Fresh Look

Children and Libraries: The Journal of the Association for Library Service to Children (CAL) debuts in May with the spring 2003 issue. With a new editor, updated graphic design, and inviting features, CAL promises to be a welcome, dynamic forum for children's librarians and all those interested in library service to children.

CAL replaces the Journal of Youth Services in Libraries (JOYS), the former division journal co-published with the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA). CAL is solely an ALSC publication.
The first issue of *CAL* will feature some familiar items, but also will provide exciting new diversions as well. The cover story will highlight the new Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art in Amherst, Massachusetts. For those who missed his essay in the 2002 edition of *The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books*, we are reprinting John Stewig's (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) fascinating essay on how picture book illustrators use their art to enrich, extend, and elaborate on the written story. With the success of his edgy children's book *Coraline*, Neil Gaiman treads outside the lines of young adult and adult fantasy. Freelance writer Maggie Thompson interviews Gaiman for the first issue of *CAL*.

ALSC news will, of course, be an important part of *CAL*. Editor Sharon Korbeck welcomes ALSC members and all *CAL* readers to send their letters, comments, and story ideas for possible publication. She can be reached at toylady@athenet.net. To learn more about the journal, visit www.ala.org/alsc and click on “Publications and Products.”

### The Twenty-first Century Learner

ALSC and the Association of Children's Museums have received an Institute for Museums and Library Services grant to convene a leadership institute this fall. "The Twenty-first Century Learner: The Continuum Begins with Early Learning," will take place September 18–19, 2003, in Washington, D.C. The institute will explore the importance of early learning in shaping lifelong learners. Participation information has not been finalized. A nominal fee will be charged. Other organizations involved in the grant are the Families and Work Institute and the Institute for Civil Society.

### ALSC Wins Carnegie-Whitney Award

ALSC has received a second Carnegie-Whitney Award from the ALA Publishing Committee in the amount of $4,000, to be added to the first award received last year for $2,700. Both awards will be used to revise the existing Born to Read brochure, and to print it in both English and Spanish. Members of ALSC’s Preschool Services and Parent Education Committee are assisting with the revision. The revised brochure is expected to be ready in time for the 2003 Annual Conference.

The revision process will involve evaluating current content and list of books, and creating new lists and content that may include, but will not be limited to the concepts of: (1) dialogic reading; (2) phonemic awareness; (3) early brain development, and; (4) emergent literacy.

Born to Read is an ALSC project that builds partnerships between librarians and health care providers to reach out to new and expectant parents and help them raise children who are born to read. Goals of the project are to help parents improve their reading skills and impress upon them the importance of reading to their children. The project also promotes greater public awareness of health and parenting resources in the library.

### Kellogg Foundation Grant

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation has extended its current grant to ALSC for another year. The $30,000 extension allows for the printing and distribution of the El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) celebration brochure in Spanish, as well as reprinting the English version of the brochure. In early March, ALSC members received a copy of each brochure. Additional copies may be requested by writing to lmays@ala.org. The brochures are also featured on the ALSC Web site at www.ala.org/alsc.

The brochures will also be sent to members of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), the Public Library Association (PLA), the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE), the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking (REFORMA), and all public libraries in the United States.

Annually, April 30 is the date designated as a national holiday for El día de los niños/El día de los libros. The celebration emphasizes the importance of advocating literacy for every child regardless of linguistic and cultural background. To help in continuing the celebration throughout the year, ALSC is continuing to collect and publish success stories from members who planned celebration programs in their libraries. The intent is to publicize what works as a source of programming ideas for other members.
Also, ALA Graphics now offers a poster and bookmark for sale that were designed by the award-winning artist Susan Guevara.

**Center on Aging, Health, and Humanities Grant**

ALSC has received a $20,000 grant from George Washington University's Center on Aging, Health, and Humanities as part of the center's project, "A Public Education Program Targeting the Young about Potential with Aging." The Quicklist Consulting Committee is involved in creating a list of books that presents aging and older persons in a positive light, for children ages preschool to sixth grade.

**Between the Lions PBS Television**

A CD-ROM featuring the *Between the Lions (BTL)* campaign ideas and activities was mailed to ALSC members in March. The format allows for programming suggestions to be customized for each library. The CD-ROM is based on the successful *BTL* Get Wild about Reading campaign produced by the Chicago Public Library.

This project concludes the grant received from the WGBH Educational Foundation for collaboration with libraries to use the PBS series to help children learn to read.

**Early Words Program Takes Giant Step**

Clackamas County (Ore.) Library received the 2003 Giant Step Award for its Early Words program. The annual award, given by *School Library Journal*, honors the public or school library that has made the greatest strides in addressing a community challenge and includes a $10,000 prize sponsored by the Gale Group.

The Early Words program strives to ensure that all children in Multnomah County enter kindergarten with the language skills crucial for reading success. The program offers childcare providers and parents in the county hands-on professional development sessions in English, Spanish, Russian, and Vietnamese on how children learn to read. Annual events such as Early Words Day at the Zoo introduce the general public to the importance of language development in babies and preschoolers.

An advertising campaign also conveys the importance of reading to babies to the general public. Signs on billboards and buses picture babies and books and feature key messages such as "He's reading a story. She's learning a language." In addition, first-time parents of babies born in Multnomah County receive a free gift kit that promotes reading and interacting with babies.

Ellen Fader, youth services coordinator at Multnomah County Library, accepted the 2003 Giant Step Award during an award breakfast sponsored by Gale Group and *School Library Journal* on Sunday morning, January 26, 2003, during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia.

**Libri Foundation Grants**

The Libri Foundation is currently accepting applications for its 2003 Books for Children grants. The foundation is a nationwide nonprofit organization that donates new, quality, hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries throughout the United States. Since October 1990, the Foundation has donated over $1,840,000 worth of new children's books to more than 1,600 libraries in forty-eight states.

In order to encourage and reward local support of libraries, The Libri Foundation will match any amount of money raised by a library's local sponsor(s) from $50 to $350 on a 2-to-1 ratio.

Libraries are qualified on an individual basis. In general, libraries should serve a population under 10,000 (usually under 5,000), be in a rural area, have a limited operating budget, and an active children's department.

Application (postmark) deadlines are March 15, July 15, and November 15. Award dates are the end of April, August, and December. Libraries are encouraged to apply for the earliest deadline possible. To have an application form e-mailed to you, please contact Barbara J. McKillip at librifdn@teleport.com, using the subject line: Grant Application.
For more information about the foundation, please visit the Web site at www.librifoundation.org, or contact Barbara J. McKillip, President, The Libri Foundation, PO Box 10246, Eugene OR 97440; phone: (541) 747-9655; fax: (541) 747-4348. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., pacific standard time.

Babies in the Library!

ALSC member Jane Marino has written a new book, Babies in the Library!, published by Scarecrow Press (January 2003). It is designed to help both new and experienced librarians program to babies and features ten programs: five for prewalkers (lap babies) and five for walkers. Each program contains rhymes, songs, and books as well as suggestions for ways to use them. There are also bibliographies of picture books, programming books, musical recordings, and other resources. Marino is the head of children's services at Scarsdale (N.Y.) Public Library and a member of the ALSC Preschool Services and Parent Education Committee.

Lewis Carroll Biography Available

Lerner Publishing released a new book by Angelica Carpenter in September 2002. Lewis Carroll: Through the Looking Glass (2003) is a biography for middle grades through high school about Charles Lutwidge Dodgson. This mathematics tutor at Oxford University in England wrote children's books under the pseudonym of Lewis Carroll to protect his academic reputation. His books Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass changed the nature of children's literature as they were written to amuse rather than to instruct young readers. He is also recognized as the finest photographer of children from the Victorian era, although some of his photographs seem controversial when judged by today's standards.

Carpenter is a member of ALSC's committee on National Planning of Special Collections and the curator of the Arne Nixon Center at Madden Library, California State University.

BookHive Unveils New Look

The Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County is pleased to unveil a new look for its popular children's book review site, the BookHive (www.bookhive.org).

Along with a fresh look, the "hive" also contains the following new features that users may find of interest:

- Quick Search—search for your favorite author, illustrator, or book from the BookHive's collection of over one thousand titles
- ZingerTales—check out the latest stories from professional storyteller Donna Washington and more
- Advanced Search—now includes the ability to search for recently published books (up to the last five years)
- Newer Books Category—allows you to view only titles published in the last two years
- Bookplates—Zinger has created a special bookplate for you to use with your favorite books

As with any new service improvement, we welcome all comments and suggestions that can help us make this an even better tool for libraries and children to use. We hope you will find this new site more friendly and easier to use. Please direct any comments or suggestions to hblowers@plcmc.org.

Remembering Crystal McNally

Crystal McNally, an eminent leader in the field of school library media services, passed away August 23, 2002, in Wichita, Kansas. Over a span of six decades, McNally served young people in various positions. She began her career in 1935 as a teacher and librarian in the Bucklin, Kansas public schools. In 1949, in Wichita, she was the first in Kansas to organize an elementary school library department. She retired from her position as director of library media services for the Wichita School District in 1985.

McNally joined ALA in 1943 and was a life member. She was also a member of ALSC and served on the 1972 Newbery-Caldecott Awards Committee and the 1989 John Newbery Award Committee. She also served on the Charles Scribner Award Committee from 1976 through 1978.
Join the Major Leagues @ your library®

With the New Year now behind us, it's the perfect time to be thinking of new spring and summer programming for 2003. How about a grand-slam partnership to start things off?

The American Library Association and Major League Baseball launched the second inning of the Join the Major Leagues @ your library® information literacy initiative in April, and we want to help you gear up for this exciting program. Players who answer a set of questions correctly will be entered into a drawing to win two tickets to the 2003 Major League Baseball World Series!

So how can you get in the game?

- Check out the Web site at [www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/jointhemajorleagues](http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/jointhemajorleagues) for more information about the overall program and to read about the library that won the Librarian All-Star Contest for the best local promotion last year
- Look for a new Web site middle to end of March in English and Spanish with all the information you need to participate in the 2003 program, including an updated toolkit of materials for librarians and new “playbooks” of baseball trivia questions categorized by age group (please note that the questions will be different from last year)
- Begin planning now to use Join the Major Leagues for spring and summer (second semester) programming, displays, film series, book discussions, or other promotions that relate to baseball.
- Consider entering the 2003 Librarian All-Star Contest to win a weekend package to the All-Star Game in Chicago in July!

Join the Major Leagues @ your library® is designed to help people of all ages build their information literacy skills, including learning how to read; learning how to use computers and other media; and learning how to find, use, and evaluate information to communicate effectively. The center of the program is an online baseball trivia contest that tests players’ information literacy skills and encourages them to use the resources of their library and librarian to find the answers. Last year, entries were received from players nationwide. We hope that this year will be an even bigger hit.

The 2003 program runs until September, but it's never too late to begin planning. Be sure to watch for more updates on the ALA homepage at [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org) and The Campaign for America's Libraries Website at [www.ala.org/@yourlibrary](http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary).

Help for Children Who Stutter

A recent survey done by the Stuttering Foundation of America (SFA) indicates that it is more important than ever to focus efforts on educating parents of young children about stuttering. According to SFA President Jane Fraser, "With early detection and intervention, stuttering in young children can almost always be overcome. It is crucial that parents become informed.” Parents' best opportunity to help their child is to learn more about stuttering and appropriate methods of handling it.

Librarians can receive a free copy of the new 2003 brochure, "If You Think Your Child Is Stuttering: Seven Ways to Help" by calling 1-800-992-9392 or (901) 452-7343. A copy is also available on the Web at [www.stutteringhelp.org](http://www.stutteringhelp.org). Also available to librarians calling the phone number above is a thirty-minute videotape, *Stuttering and the Preschool Child: Help for Families*. The video is completely free of charge; shipping and handling is covered by the foundation.

For more information about the Stuttering Foundation of America.

New Web Design Coming

This spring ALA, including ALSC, will launch a new Web site. ALA members and staff have spent over a year conceptualizing a new Web site and developing a new content management system. "The new site will make it much easier for members and the general public to find the information they are looking for,” said ALA Executive Director
Keith Michael Fiels. "Member feedback from our online survey, emails, and telephone calls provided us with direction in developing the new and improved site."

Based on this feedback, the new site will feature a better search engine, one-stop pages detailing ALA's work in major areas of interest, a more modern look and feel, and more content to help library professionals in their daily work. The ALSC home page address will remain www.ala.org/alsc after the launch of the new system. However, most of ALSC’s other Web pages will have new addresses. We welcome your feedback regarding the new ALSC Web site.

**New Award Honors Astrid Lindgren**

The Swedish Government has established a literary award in memory of the Swedish children's author Astrid Lindgren (1907–2002). The prize, which includes a monetary award equaling approximately $553,000 U.S. dollars, is to promote and enhance worldwide interest in literature for children and young people. The annual prize will be awarded for the first time in June 2003.

The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award for Literature will be awarded to authors who in their writing have produced literature for children and young people of absolutely the highest artistic quality and in the humanistic spirit associated with Astrid Lindgren. Individuals or others who promote reading among children and young people as well as illustrators may also be rewarded. It is proposed that the award may be granted to one or more recipients, but may not be awarded posthumously.

Lindgren, creator of the much-loved characters Pippi Longstocking, Emil, The Brothers Lionheart, and Karlson on the Roof, was very committed to children's rights and always spoke out on their behalf. This prize will strive to promote children's rights at a global level, in keeping with her humanistic beliefs.

A jury consisting of twelve Swedish researchers, authors, illustrators, librarians, and literary critics has been appointed to nominate and select winners. One member of the jury represents Lindgren's family. This year, due to lack of time, the jury itself will nominate the prize winners. In the future, however, a number of organizations around the world will be invited to submit nominations. Every year in March, the jury will announce the winner in Vimmerby, Lindgren's hometown in southern Sweden. The prize will be awarded every June at a ceremony in Stockholm.

For additional information, please visit www.kulturradet.se and click on the link for English, or contact Anna Cokorilo, project manager, Swedish National Council for Cultural Affairs by e-mail at literatureaward@kur.se.

**2004 Arbuthnot Lecture**

Ursula K. LeGuin, distinguished writer of science fiction and fantasy for young people and adults, has been selected to deliver the 2004 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. LeGuin has written more than fifty books, ranging from poetry to criticism to translation to novels to short stories. Her fantasy novels have been lauded for breaking new ground while exploring themes essential to young people. She has received numerous awards and honors for her books. Applications to host the lecture are now available on the ALSC web site at www.ala.org/alsc. Click on "Awards and Scholarships," "Literary and Related Awards," "Arbuthnot Honor Lecture," and "2004 Lecture," or you may contact Meredith Parets.

**Wanted: 2004 Candidates**

The 2004 ALSC Nominating Committee is seeking ALSC members to fill positions on the 2004 ballot. If you are interested in serving in an ALSC leadership role or would like to recommend another qualified member, fill out the ALSC Nominee Suggestion Form (available from the ALSC Office or at www.ala.org/alsc, click on "Board and Committee Work," then click on "ALSC Forms," or e-mail your suggestions to Jean Gaffney, chair of the Nominating Committee at mi_jean@daytonmetrolibrary.org.
And the Winners Are . . .

Information about this year’s award winning books, recordings, videos, computer software, libraries, and librarians is available on the ALSC Web site at www.ala.org/alsc, click on "Awards and Scholarships."

Sydney Taylor Book Awards

The 2002 Sydney Taylor Book Award winners have been announced. This award for Jewish children’s books is presented each year by the Association of Jewish Libraries. An annotated list of the winners, honor books, and notable books is at www.jewishlibraries.org/ajlweb/awards/stba/st_books_all_award_winners.pdf.

The awards are chosen each year by a committee of six librarians who read and evaluate approximately one hundred Jewish children's books to find the best of the best for younger and older readers.

Pacific Northwest Children's Book Conference

Portland State University Haystack Summer Program in the Arts is proud to present the 4th Annual Pacific Northwest Children's Book Conference in Cannon Beach, Oregon, July 21–25 featuring Wendy Lamb, Marla Frazee, Eric Kimmel, Linda Zuckerman, and other accomplished authors, illustrators, and editors. Focus will be on the craft of writing for children and young people. University credit is available. Registration begins March 17, 2003. Contact Elizabeth Snyder at (503) 725-4186 or 1-800-547-8887, ext. 4186.

Join the List

To stay informed about ALSC activities and issues, subscribe to the ALSC electronic discussion list. Send the following message to listproc@ala.org: subscribe ALSC-L [firstname] [lastname]. Leave the subject area blank.

Change of address? Be sure to subscribe under your new e-mail address and unsubscribe from your old address. To unsubscribe, send the following message to listproc@ala.org: unsubscribe ALSC-L. Leave the subject area blank.

ALSC Voices

Meet the Winners

In the December 2002 issue, we introduced you to two of our 2002 ALSC scholarship winners by printing the personal statement from their scholarship application. These declarations provide insight into the current careers, aspirations, and future plans of our up and coming librarians. In this issue we feature the personal statements of two more 2002 scholarship winners. The remaining winners will be featured in the June issue.

Leigh Barnes
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Melcher Scholarship Winner

I am a preschool teacher. Every day, I observe and facilitate the overall development of the children in my class. There are many aspects of the job that I find rewarding, and a few others that are somewhat unpleasant. I would have to say, though, that the part of the day that I enjoy the most would be storytime. Whether it be our morning meeting book or a random laptime reading later on, whether I make the selection based on a theme or value I am trying to teach, or a child picks out his or her favorite title, I just love to read to children. So when I considered how best to further my own professional development, I decided to combine my educational background with a degree in library and information science and become a school librarian.
I realize that there is more to librarianship than just storytelling. There is much for me to learn about information technology, children's literature, patron interaction, and other unique aspects of the position. It is my ultimate goal to establish a resource of free and interdisciplinary knowledge for children as well as the fellow educators, administrators, and parents who make up a school community, and right now I wouldn't even know where to start. But, I have already taken the first step towards making this prospect a reality; in fact, I have moved 1,100 miles from Massachusetts to Wisconsin in order to attend the university here. The next undertaking for me will be to complete the required course of study, and then I will be qualified to head out into the workforce and start bringing people and information together. And we will have storytime.

(Along with a full-time class load, Leigh is currently teaching an afternoon preschool class at a school on the UW–Madison campus. She also does consulting for another child care center, developing curriculum two mornings a week.)

Cami (Sholts) Kitzel
Syracuse (N.Y.) University
Bound to Stay Bound Scholarship Winner

Aspiring to attend an ALA accredited university and to receive my master's degree in library and information science is actually the most natural next step in the progression of both my professional and personal life. There are a few areas in this life that seem to have always attracted my attention, enthusiasm, and participation: creativity, culture, community, activity, literature, and children. I have explored a variety of ways to make my life of these elements: from being a dancer, to a student of literature, to a journalist, to an arts center publicist to now—the Youth Programming Coordinator at the Naples Library (a small, rural town branch of the Pioneer Library System located in the heart of the Finger Lakes in New York State).

I find myself now to have landed, to have focus, and to be able to make a defined picture of how all of my personal and professional aspirations can meld into one cohesive life's work. To put it simply, I want to be Mrs. Ferris. Who is this woman who has so captured my admiration and who, unbeknownst to her I imagine, has no idea she serves as the defining role model for me? She is the dynamic and beloved children's librarian for the Wood Library of Canandaigua, New York. My extensive involvement with the public library did not start with Mary Ferris, however; I met Mary Ferris while taking my young son to preschool story time. My deep involvement with the library began when, immediately upon moving to Naples with my husband, I searched for a way to tap into the community. I quickly found my niche as a member of the Friends of the Naples Library. From there, I became the head of the publicity committee for the library's half-million dollar, much needed expansion. I further volunteered to be the preschool story time facilitator and the coordinator and facilitator of the New York State Summer Reading Program, as the activity offerings for children at the Naples Library were few and far between.

As a new mother with a passion for books, culture, and community, I wanted our local library to be a place brimming with activity for both the young and the old. It was soon after being asked to join the board of trustees for the library, however, that I felt the inspiration to approach the board with a proposal I'd written that would create a new position altogether at the Naples Library—that of a youth programming coordinator. I envisioned someone (me!) coordinating a variety of regular programs offered by the library for school-aged youth. Patronization from this segment of the population seemed extremely low and I wanted to entice these young people into the library for fun, culture, and learning.

The board pounced on the idea and gave me regular weekly hours, a budget, and a decent hourly wage with the recommendation of my attempting to run a program nearly weekly. Well, I'm into my second year now, have received twice my initial budget, and can attest to the program's smashing success. Aaaaah, the satisfaction! I love my place at the Naples Library. I work every Friday afternoon and evening and offer great programming nearly each week. Some, I facilitate myself, most, I hire out by tapping into the wealth of local and regional talent.

However, (yes, this is the "but") as I reflect on my success and look toward the future (as I am obsessively apt to do) I have come to the firm conclusion that my path leads me to further my aspirations, plan for a viable career in library science for when my children both reach school age, and invest in furthering my education so that I may take on the world! (Just kidding.) In all truth and clarity, I see myself as a dedicated librarian or library director, most likely focusing on the smaller patrons and the many wonderful collections, activities, and offerings through which a library serves the youth population. I wish to emulate Mrs. Ferris because her career has amazing appeal to me—it feels like a calling. Simply, I wish to attend a graduate program in library and information science and have set my sights on Syracuse University because of its exceptional reputation, its standing within the top three information and library
science schools in the country, and because of being able to take advantage of their convenient distance learning program.

As a mother, a highly active person, a master juggler of time and resources, an exceptionally organized individual, and a gal with a whole heck of a lot of creative energy and gumption I am positive that a program such as this is for me. I hope that someday, “the beloved Mrs. Kitzel” will be enjoying a career in the field of library science, creating a welcoming and exciting environment within the library for young people, and making a positive contribution to the community at large.

(Along with her coursework at Syracuse University, Cami is also working part-time as the children's librarian at Wadsworth Library in Geneseo, New York, and loving it!)

**ALSC Time Capsule: 1966–67**

In 1966, the word “web” evoked thoughts of spiders named Charlotte, but members of the Children's Services Division (CSD) of ALA already had computers on their minds. In “Enter Computer,” printed in the November 1966 issue of *Top of the News*, Marguerite Bagshaw of the Toronto Public Library described her library’s experiment with ordering books using computers:

A consultant . . . was asked whether it was possible to order children's hard cover books by computer machine and make a financial saving. . . . In September 1965, the first orders were key-punched by J. Kates Computer Services, and the whole process became automatic. . . . From the outset, computer ordering has been an exciting venture. . . . The computer is here to stay.

In the April 1967 issue, an article called “The Child, the Computer, and Literature,” by Robert M. Hayes of the Institute for Library Research at UCLA, predicted that

The child of today will be a man in a future in which the computer will play an increasingly important role. . . . The response to such an environment may well be a passive acceptance of the computer as an all-powerful oracle, to be obeyed and followed, or it may well be a violent rejection of it, as something to be feared and destroyed.

The same issue urged members of CSD to nominate books for the first-ever Mildred Batchelder Award, to be presented at the 1968 ALA Annual Conference in Kansas City.

**ALSC Profile**

Anna R. Healy  
Youth Services Librarian  
Skokie (Ill.) Public Library  
ALSC Membership: Five years

**ALSC:** Where did you attend library school?

AH: Louisiana State University

**ALSC:** What or who inspired you to become a children’s librarian?

AH: Katie Gross at the Decatur Public Library in Illinois. Katie inspired me simply by loving her job and having a staff that loved to work with her.

**ALSC:** Why did you join ALSC?

AH: To meet people with the same love of children’s books that I have.

**ALSC:** On which ALSC committees have you served?

AH: I served on the 2000 Chicago Local Arrangements Committee, the Econo-Clad Literature Program Award
Committee, 2000-2003 (chair, 2001-2002), and I am currently serving on the 2004 Newbery Award Selection Committee.

**ALSC:** Which committee service have you enjoyed the most and why?

**AH:** Local arrangements was a lot of fun thanks to the great co-chairs, but I am excited about reading all the potential Newbery winners this year.

**ALSC:** What service or resource would you like to see ALSC offer which we currently do not?

**AH:** I would like to see more library school scholarships, specifically offered beyond the first year of study.

**ALSC:** Who/what is your favorite children's author/book and why?

**AH:** Richard Peck’s *A Long Way from Chicago*. He was the instructor for a pre-adolescent literature class I had in library school. A wonderful man.

**ALSC:** What are you currently working on at your library?

**AH:** Much of my time is taken up by collection development. What I enjoy working on most is a book discussion group, Bridging Generations: Adults Discuss Children’s Books.

**ALSC:** What three words best describe you?

**AH:** Goal-oriented, strong, and creative.

**ALSC:** What are your hobbies?

**AH:** Swimming, reading, and writing.

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An Interview with Susan Campbell Bartoletti

by Kathleen T. Horning


**Q:** How did you get started writing nonfiction for children?

**A:** My first nonfiction book was *Growing Up in Coal Country* (Houghton Mifflin 1996). I credit my husband’s family with my interest in the subject of child labor and in the history of the anthracite coal region. My husband’s grandfather, Massimino Santarelli, emigrated from Italy at the age of nine. He attended school for two years, and when he was eleven, his family needed money so he got a job in the coal breaker. According to Pennsylvania law, he was too young to work at the colliery, but many children, parents, and coal bosses knew ways to get around the law. My husband's grandmother, Pearl, also broke the law when she quit school at age six to help her mother at home. When she turned thirteen, she married Massimino and she had her first baby at fourteen. (Pearl, who is 92 today, never learned to read or to write.) For many years, I listened to Massimino's and Pearl's stories at the dinner table, and finally, one day I realized that I needed to write them down. From there, the idea grew into a book.

**Q:** Has winning the Sibert Award had an impact on your writing career? Do you think it’s had an impact on children's nonfiction in general?

**A:** The Sibert has had a tremendous impact on my career. For one thing, the “phone call” is a writer's dream. Minutes before the call came, I had glanced at the kitchen clock and said to myself, “Well, all the phone calls have been...
made. I wonder if I know anyone who's won.” At the time, I was wearing my blue-flannel puppy dog pajamas and I was standing at the kitchen stove, stirring oatmeal. My hair kept falling in my eyes, and so I grabbed a clothespin and clipped my bangs back. And then the phone rang, and it was the ALA Sibert committee calling for me. For me. Wow.

The Sibert award has given me more confidence. For one thing, it tells me that I made the right decision when I left a career I loved (I taught eighth-grade English for eighteen years) and a steady paycheck (My then fifteen-year-old son took me aside and said, “You realize, Mother, this decision makes no economic sense at all.”) in order to have more time to write.

For another reason, the Sibert elevates the significance of the genre of nonfiction in a way that, in my opinion, is long overdue. As a result, I think that the Sibert award impacts children's nonfiction in several ways. Although I could go on and on about the importance of nonfiction, I'll say here that this award impacts readers. Teachers and librarians have long known that nonfiction reaches reluctant readers in a way that fiction doesn't. They also know that nonfiction writing provides wonderful training for young writers: the research engages the students, it helps them pursue special interests and become active learners, it helps them develop reading strategies, and it helps them learn to write clearly and concisely. The Sibert, I think, shows readers that these opportunities are recognized and important.

In general, most readers know the significance of the Newbery and Caldecott awards. Fewer people know the significance of the Sibert, but that's changing, thanks to librarians. And I am confident that the Sibert doesn't mean that a nonfiction book will never win the Newbery or the Printz. I think the next step is for bookstores to promote award-winning nonfiction books with the same enthusiasm that they promote award-winning fiction titles. Many bookstores have special displays for the Newbery and Caldecott titles. I look forward to seeing similar displays for the Sibert.

**Q: What led you to write about the Irish potato famine?**

**A:** The easy answer is that Kim Keller (my editor at Houghton) proposed the idea to me. We were sitting on steps outside the ALA summer convention, just talking shop, and Kim said, “Would you ever consider doing a book on the Potato Famine?” And I said, “yes!” But, as I said, that's the easy answer. When I decide to write a book on a subject, my decision doesn't begin with a fact, but the feeling that I get about a fact. For me, history is as much about feeling as it is about fact. This might surprise some people who are used to thinking about nonfiction as beginning with fact. For me, the impulse to search for more information on a subject comes from a feeling that I get about a fact. It's that feeling that sends me to the library. That day, when Kim said “Potato Famine,” I felt as though those two words caused my heart to swell. I didn't know much about the Potato Famine. As a kid, I remembered reading about a potato blight that had destroyed the staple crop of the rural Irish people and about an uprising in Widow McCormack's cabbage patch. Those are all the facts I had. Yet the feeling that I got from those two facts drove me to search for more information.

**Q: What was the most challenging aspect of the research for Black Potatoes?**

**A:** I love to research. I own more library cards than credit cards. For me, there were two challenging aspects. The first was learning Irish! I studied the Irish language for two years while I worked on my Ph.D. Irish is a difficult language, much harder to learn than I expected, but I wanted to know Irish well enough to translate when I traveled to Ireland and worked in the Irish Folklore Collection archives at the University College Dublin.

But the most challenging aspect of the research was something I didn't anticipate: the emotional impact of working with the histories of Famine victims.

Earlier I said that history is as much about feeling as it is about fact. Some of my most important research grew out of the feelings that surfaced when I visited Ireland with my daughter, Brandy. We rented a small apartment in Dublin. Most days we spent conducting research at the University College Dublin. On the weekend we traveled throughout the Irish countryside.

As Brandy and I traveled, I imagined how the landscape might have appeared during the Famine years. In the fields, I saw men, women, and children scavenging for turnip tops and edible weeds to eat. As we passed thatched cottages, I saw tumbled ruins and evicted families. As we walked the lanes, I saw the hungry and destitute making their way to soup kitchens, to hard-labor jobs, and to the workhouse. As we stood on the quays in Dublin, I heard the echoes of families waiting to emigrate.
But mostly, as I looked at my daughter and thought about my son, I felt the deepest sorrow as I remembered the Famine mothers who were unable to feed their children. I carried that feeling with me throughout the research and the writing of Black Potatoes.

Q: There's been a lot of discussion in our field about the importance of documentation in children's nonfiction. What are your thoughts about it from the perspective of an author?

A: Documentation is extremely important in all nonfiction. Once, some years ago, a well-respected history professor told me that Growing Up in Coal Country was “good enough to be an adult book.” He was referring to my research and the documentation. Though I knew he intended his remark as a compliment, I was taken aback. I told him that I don't have two sets of standards, one for children and one for adults. In fact, if there are two sets, then I think children's books should have even higher standards.

For me, the bibliography is an art form. I like to see the bibliography grow out of the book's nature and author's inclination. (A quick look at my three nonfiction books will reveal three very different bibliography styles.) In my opinion, at the very least, a good bibliography provides sources for researchers who follow me or for general readers—children and adults—who seek additional information. It's also an opportunity to explain the contents, relevance, and value of specific sources as well as an opportunity to share enthusiasm about research, decisions, and discoveries. Though some people worry that readers might get turned off by back matter, I have never seen this happen. But I have seen students excited about bibliographies written in an engaging style.

Q: Since you've written both fiction and nonfiction, at what point in the process do you decide on the genre?

A: Sometimes I tell the stories as works of fiction; other times, I tell the stories as works of nonfiction. No matter which genre I choose—short story, picture book, novel, or nonfiction work—one element remains the same: I try to tell a story as true as it can possibly be.

Often, I know the form from the beginning. I could say that I let my instincts guide me—and this is true to a degree—but I need to also say that my instincts are well-read. As an avid reader of all kinds of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction, I think I have internalized the conventions—the underlying tenants and principles of the various fields and genres—well enough so that I can sense the shape and form of an embryonic story.

But this doesn't mean that I'm never surprised along the way. For instance, I have a picture book called The Flagmaker(Houghton) coming out in fall 2004. It's the story of thirteen-year-old Caroline Pickersgill who helped her mother Mary sew the enormous flag that has become known as the Star-Spangled Banner. I wanted to tell Caroline's story as nonfiction, and I tried: I read secondary and primary sources until the facts repeated themselves. I immersed myself in the facts of Caroline's life and the history of the time period. As I recreated scenes, I did not invent any dialogue. But I crossed into the genre of historical fiction because the narration transcends an emotional boundary. In other words, the narration moves into Caroline's thoughts and feelings, however well-documented and/or interpreted based on research these thoughts and feelings may be. In my opinion, that's when this story moves from nonfiction to historical fiction.

Q: What are you working on now? Are there any new books coming out in 2003?

A: I have two new books coming out this year. One is a novel for the My Name is America Series (Scholastic). It's titled The Journal of Finn Reardon, A Newsie, New York City 1899. It's a fictional work based on the very real 1899 newsboy strike.

The second book is a picture book, Nobody's Nosier than a Cat, illustrated by Beppe Giacobbe and published by Hyperion. This picture book is a departure from anything else I've published. It's poetry! Beppe has done a wonderful job capturing the playful rhythm of the text. He really knows cats! My cats and I are terribly excited about this book. (My dog is jealous, but he can look forward to Nobody's Diggier than a Dog in 2004.)
Welcome

The following new members joined ALSC in September, October, and November. Please welcome those from your area.

Katherine Jane Morris, AL  
Karen L. Scott, AL  
Rebecca W. Bledsoe, AR  
Ali Mattei-Mejia, AZ  
Jennifer Trinkle, AZ  
Margaret Barnes, CA  
Louise Beebe, CA  
Shannen C. Dang, CA  
Rosemary De Sa, CA  
Kimberly Doyle, CA  
Marcy Drexler, CA  
Jacqueline Freeman, CA  
Lisa Mead Hughes, CA  
Doriel Lautt, CA  
Suzanne Malich, CA  
Sherrie Melinat, CA  
Katie Moore, CA  
Amy M. Muscoplat, CA  
Ann Ogilvie, CA  
Katrin Reimuller, CA  
Claire Iris Scarborough, CA  
Stephanie Schafer, CA  
Victoria P. Sciaccia, CA  
Debbie Taylor, CA  
Kathy Vonmayrhoouser, CA  
Katie Zimmer, CA  
Paula M. Carter, CO  
Carol Lynne Denham, CO  
Nancy C. Sweetnam, CT  
Linda Baldwin Alexander, FL  
Kristin G. Alvarado, FL  
Deborah Dirks, FL  
Robyn Doppke-Jones, FL  
Colette Drouillard, FL  
Joann Atkinson Ferra, FL  
Kathryn Mary Kennedy, FL  
Okle W. Miller, FL  
Joanne M. Seale, FL  
Brenda Annisette, GA  
Jennifer Kieman Bastian, GA  
Pamela Link, GA  
Linda Louise Orne, GA  
Polly Swilley, GA  
Lisa M. Johnson, HI  
Gwen M. Taylor, ID  
Susan J. Ainley, IL  
Sarah Jane Dutelle, IL  
Diane Foote, IL  
John Galdun, IL  
Anne L. Glasscock, IL  
Swalena A. Griffin, IL  
Jean M. Jansen, IL  
Lori Rene Knobbe, IL
Pamela Kramer, IL
Mary Lidd, IL
Eleanor Maajid, IL
Karolyn Ann Nance, IL
Hope Rokosz, IL
Kapila Sankaran, IL
Debbie Steinberg, IL
Stephanie Stieglitz, IL
Katherine Tyberg, IL
Nancy K. Volkman, IL
Brian David Walton, IL
Natalie R. Ziarnik, IL
Stephanie Zvirin, IL
Margaret Rose Kownover, IN
Barbara Sakowski, IN
Yannshya Wu, IN
Kiersten Allen, KS
Sharon Coatney, KS
Sherry Elaine Henderson, KS
Tabitha Lynn Hogan, KS
Michelle L. Rosenfeld, KS
Suzanne Gayetsky, KY
Cynthia A. Luckey, KY
Marie Elena Hankinson, LA
Royann Lane, LA
Jennifer Marie Schultz, LA
Rebecca Lynn Stickell, LA
Susan D. Farr, MA
Ruth D. Feiner, MA
Ling-Fei Liu, MA
Anna L. Nielsen, MA
Charlotte B. Sidell, MA
Jared Stern, MA
Julie L. Ward, MA
Helen L. Denboer, MD
Kathleen S. Reif, MD
Alice A. Vom Orde, ME
Carolyn E. Blankley, MI
Christopher J. Borawski, MI
Hancy Elizabeth Craig, MI
Tonya Maria Dupree, MI
Elisabeth C. Orlowski, MI
Linda Mast Stone, MI
J. Maren Chesnut-Wilbur, MN
Jean H. Klatte, MN
Michayla Sue Mathiessen, MN
Carla Petersen, MN
Lisa Pollard, MN
Colleen Kay Thomas, MN
Laura Jean Belman-Pirondi, MO
Kathy Muller, MO
Cynthia Schultz, MO
Kim C. Dahl, MS
Janice J. Neal, MS
Stephanie Bertin, NC
Sarah Marie Bratsch, NC
Laurie Cressman, NC
Janet B. Gross, NC
Jennifer L. Price, NC
Mary E. Lockhart, NH
Collette Baldasare, NJ
Rosemarie Del Vescovo, NJ
Kristen M. Fitzpatrick, NJ
Sharon A. Holster, NJ
Joy Kauffman, NJ
Linda S. Kissling, NJ
Martha S. McCabe, NJ
Margaret Mellett, NJ
Gerry Lynn Myers, NJ
Ana Maria Ramos, NJ
Katherine P. Schorling, NJ
Carla N. V. Schuller, NM
Barbara Vandongen, NM
Barbara Johnson, NV
Julie L. Ullman, NV
Mary Sue Brost, NY
Aidamelia Espaillat, NY
Mary K. Humphrey, NY
Annemarie Jason, NY
Jennifer Knoerzer, NY
Lisa Luescher, NY
Tom Matamoros, NY
Audrey Padilla, NY
Amy Nicole Patrick, NY
Susan Raab, NY
Sarah L. Sachs, NY
Briar E. Sauro, NY
Ichele Balis Sipley, NY
Amy A. Sisson, NY
Nicole Renee Sparling, NY
Kimberly Taylor-Dileva, NY
Linda Valenti, NY
Donna M. Wise, NY
Vivian Yuan, NY
Joan Kelsey Barkdull, OH
Amy L. Boguski, OH
Katy Jane Dettinger, OH
Lisa E. Hubler, OH
Oksana Plaskodniak, OH
Amy L. J. Schardein, OH
Jennifer Smith, OH
Anne Tisch, OH
Janet I. Anderson, PA
Krystal Nicole Black, PA
Jeff E. Bullard, PA
Joan L. Curtis, PA
Amy R. Gillespie, PA
Kimberly Pierson, PA
Ruth Marie Stroup, PA
Deborah Lynn , Thompson, PA
Carole L. Turk, PA
Cynthia L. Welsh, PA
Constance Wong, PA
Charlotte M. Burnham, RI
Jill A. Jackson-Fernandes, RI
Beth Gaffett Tengwall, RI
Tracy O'Connor Domin, SC
Erin N. Ford, SC
Cheryl Jellema-Brown, SC
Nichole J. Broemer, TX
Ricki Val Brown, TX
Julie Conner, TX
Lola L. Cowling, TX
Christine Davis, TX
Laura F. Householder, TX
Cristal Isaacks, TX
Karen Kessel, TX
Lori Saenz Perez, TX
Carla Dee Morris, UT
Amy Cassidy, WA
Heather D. O'Donnell, WA
Laura Simeon, WA
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Christine Abler, WI
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