From the President

Welcome Back to School Everyone!

I LOVE the beginning of a new school year. As a child, August was a time for a new pair of shoes, new Big Chief note pad to write in, new satchel (does anyone remember that word?), and a new box of crayons. As a beginning teacher, August was a time for a new pair of shoes, new daily planner and grade book to write in, new group of student names to memorize, and for learning the new-and-improved way of writing lesson plans. As a beginning librarian, August was a time for a new pair of shoes, new schedule of classes to memorize, new order of books to process and promote, and a new set of award winning titles to read and share with students.

This year, August has been an exceptionally exciting time for me and NEW. MASL’s webpage has a new look, new design, new features, and provides a new way of communicating and connecting with other school librarians in the state. The MASL office has a new address, a new group of employees, and has introduced some new ways of doing business and of managing and tracking revenues and expenses. MASL’s Board of Directors have read the results and comments of the Membership Satisfaction Survey and have established new goals for the year: to have more open communication among members, officers, board, regions and the Association Management team of Penman and Winton, to continue to support and promote professional development opportunities for all school librarians, and to create a new web presence with a website that is appealing, user friendly and allows an easy to remember username and password. One mission accomplished! The new website was launched August 21.

Also new for me and my colleagues in the Ft. Zumwalt School District – a new Library Automation System. I’m sure many of you know how that NEW can sometimes be a double-edged sword. SIGH... As for the new pair of shoes, I haven’t bought them, yet.

By Maggie Newbold

Visit the New MASL Website: http://www.maslonline.org
Subscribe to the MASL Listserv: http://faculty.ucmo.edu/libraryscience/masl_l.htm
WHAT’S ON THE CALENDAR?

Fall Seminar 2009
October 10, 2009
Holiday Inn Select
Columbia, Missouri.
http://www.maslonline.org/

Spring Conference 2010
Missouri Wonders
April 18-20, 2010
Tan-Tar-A Resort
Osage Beach, Missouri
Visit Spring Conference on the MASL Calendar at
http://www.maslonline.org/events/event_details.asp?id=70465

Other Events:

2009
November 4-8 AASL; Charlotte, NC

2010
Jan 15-20 ALA Midwinter; Boston, MA
April 4-10 National Library Week
April 18-20 MASL Spring Conference; Tan-Tar-A
June 24-30 ALA; Washington, DC

2011
Jan. 7-12 ALA Midwinter; San Diego, CA
April 10-16 National Library Week
June 23-29 ALA; New Orleans, LA

WHAT IS INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM?

This brochure was created by the AASL Intellectual Freedom Committee in 2008 and is available for download, duplication, and distribution. It describes why intellectual freedom is important in a school library media program, the difference between selection and censorship, what to do before a challenge occurs, where to obtain assistance during a challenge, why schools filter and how it affects students intellectual freedom, and how the ALA Code of Ethics affects school library media specialists.

http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslissues/assl_intellectual_freedom_brochure.pdf

CONNECTIONS
Contributions

Members are encouraged to send articles of interest pertaining to news, events and ideas for publication.

The deadline for submission of articles for the Fall Connections is November 25, 2009.

-From The Editor

Have you had a book challenge?
If so, contact: Marianne Cole Fues
Intellectual Freedom Chair
707 Kingsbury Place
Columbia, MO 65203
573/445-0344 (H)
573/659-3085 (W)
Marianne.fues@jcps.k12.mo.us

CONTACT INFORMATION

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P.O. Box 2107
Jefferson City, MO 65102 – 2107
Phone: 573 893-4155
Fax: 573 635-2858
info@maslonline.org
Website:
http://www.maslonline.org/

The Missouri Association of School Librarians is a not-for-profit educational organization that is “devoted to the improvement of learning opportunities through access to and utilization of information.”

CONNECTIONS is an official publication of the Missouri Association of School Librarians.

Published four times a year, its purpose is to provide information about association activities.

Send articles to the CONNECTIONS editor:
Cheryl Skiles
cheryl.skiles@fhsdschools.org
FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

This article was originally scheduled to run in the Spring issue of Connections.—editors

President’s report MASL newsletter May 2009

... in this world nothing is certain but death and taxes.

Benjamin Franklin 1706-1790
The universe is change . . .

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus 121-180

Thank you for a great year. Change is always in the air at school, at home, and with MASL. The biggest change in MASL this year is the change in service agents. Last summer, realizing we were nearing the end of a three year contract with our current service agent, the MASL Board initiated a several month long process of review and reflection. The MASL Board’s desire was to guide MASL into the future with confidence.

We followed these steps in making the decision:

• The MASL Board of Directors appointed a Service Agent Committee in August 2009
• The Service Agent Committee prepared a Request for Proposal (RFP) listing requirements and inviting proposals for the position
• The RFP was widely distributed, each applicant received the same RFP
• Several proposals were received by December 1, 2008
• All proposals were reviewed thoroughly by members of the committee
• The Committee narrowed the choices
• References were contacted
• Financial information and proposed cost to MASL were reviewed
• Interviews and personal experience were used
• The Committee made a recommendation to the Board of Directors in February 2009
• The Board of Directors voted to accept the recommendation, making the final decision in late February and notifying parties involved before March 1, 2009.

The transition is underway. Penman and Winton Consulting Group will begin as MASL’s new service agent July 1, 2009. As you can imagine, there is quite a bit of work to be completed in making this transition.

Penman and Winton are already:
• Working on MASL memberships for 2009-2010
• Making arrangements to begin filling Reading Incentive orders starting in July 2009
• Preparing website and database updates
• Answering and taking messages on the MASL telephone line, which has already been transferred to our new office by Penman and Winton
• Accepting faxes on our new fax number
• Accepting emails for MASL at our new email address

We look forward to working with Penman and Winton as our service agent and thank all MASL members for working through the transition with us.

On a personal note, thank you for allowing me to serve MASL as President during the 2008-2009 year. I look forward to continuing to serve MASL as Past President for the 2009-2010 school year.

Gayla Strack
[Past] President, Missouri Association of School Librarians

BUILDING BLOCK AWARD NEWS

Voting for the Missouri Building Block Picture Book award began September first. Statewide, preschoolers and kindergarteners are invited to vote for their favorite of ten nominated read-aloud picture books from now until December 31st 2009. For more information, a list of this year’s nominees, and a printable ballot, please visit our web page at http://molib.org/BuildingBlock.html.

Promotional materials and activity sheets are available for purchase as well.

2009 Nominees
Emberley, Ed. Bye-Bye, Big Bad Bully-bug
Harris, Robie H. Mail Harry to the Moon!
Kulka, Joe. Wolf’s Coming!
Nedwidek, John. Ducks Don’t Wear

Socks
Reiss, Mike. The Boy Who Wouldn’t Share
Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. Little Hoot
Shea, Bob. Dinosaur vs. Bedtime
Urbanovici, Jackie. Duck Soup
Willems, Mo. The Pigeon Wants a Puppy!
Wood, Audrey. A Dog Needs a Bone!
MASL BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROPOSE ONE READ

By Maggie Newbold

I am sure many of you have heard of communities and even states promoting the reading of one book as a way to get citizens talking to one another. When an entire community reads the same book, it provides the opportunity for complete strangers to come together and begin a conversation, to start a dialogue, to make a connection. This was the reasoning behind Barbara Beattie’s brainstorm at the MASL Board of Directors Retreat held in July. Barbara [Chairman of the 2009-10 Mark Twain Committee] wanted school librarians who attend Spring Conference alone to have a comfortable way of starting a conversation at meals. What could be more natural for a school librarian to talk about than – books!

BARBARA BEATTIE PROPOSED THAT MASL INITIATE A ONE READ FOR SPRING CONFERENCE

BARBARA BEATTIE PROPOSED THAT MASL INITIATE A ONE READ FOR SPRING CONFERENCE, CHOOSING ONE BOOK FOR ALL ATTENDEES TO READ.

MOTION: I move that MASL choose one book as a One Read for Spring Conference.

Signed: Georganna Krumlinde
Second: Ronda Theissen

I am excited to announce the title the MASL Board of Directors voted as this year’s ONE READ – Playing with Matches by Brian Katcher who just happens to be a school librarian from Moberly, Missouri; author and librarian – one of our MISSOURI WONDERS!

FALL SEMINAR IS COMING

The 2009 Missouri Association of School Librarians annual Fall Seminar will be at the Holiday Inn Select on October 10, in Columbia, MO. The keynote speaker is nationally recognized and award-winning St. Louis newscaster, John Brown. Brown is author of Missouri Legends. Consider his address a preview to the 2010 Spring Conference theme, “Missouri Wonders.” The seminar includes several in-demand breakout sessions, including training from MOREnet, grant writing, AASL’s Learning for Life (L4L), and more. Come a couple of days early and attend the Missouri Library Association Conference Registration Fees:

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Online registration via the MASL site through October 9, 2009.

Contact info:
Curtis Clark & Pat Antrim
msmediacenter@harrisonville.k12.mo.us

MLA CONFERENCE

“Don’t miss the opportunity to save by registering for this year’s Missouri Library Association Annual Conference at pre-registration rates, good through the September 11 postmark deadline. Pre-Registration materials are available now on the MLA conference web page (http://molib.org/Conference.html), including this year’s individual registration form, an information sheet covering frequently asked questions, a preliminary program schedule, pre-conference workshop descriptions, and meal event menus.

This conference has an outstanding schedule of programs, table talks, poster sessions, keynote presentations, and trade show vendors. The spectacular Performer Showcase will have special interest to school media specialists and librarians.”
SHOW ME READER AWARD NEWS

Check out the new MASL website at www.maslonline.org. While visiting this website, log in as a member to have access to the 2009-2010 Show Me Activity Packet. In just a few clicks, you will have a wealth of ideas that may spark your own ideas.

Once on the MASL website, log in as a member. Click on Reader Awards and select Show Me. On the Show Me page, there is a lot of information. Under the heading of Voting, there are some grayed out areas. In the middle of that listing you will find the 2009-2010 Show Me Activity Packet, free to MASL members.

The Show Me Committee decided to “go green” with the packet and offer it as a perk for being a part of such an outstanding organization. All of the past activity packets are also available under the archived heading in the same area.

Remember that Show Me picture books are not just limited to students in first through third grade. If you are working with a group of students using quality picture books, feel free to join the SHOW ME voting in March.

### 2010-11 Preliminary Titles

- **Abe Lincoln Crosses the Creek** by Deborah Hopkinson
- **Anansi's Party Time** by Eric Kimmel
- **Big Chickens Fly the Coop** by Leslie Helakoski
- **Cool Daddy Rat** by Kristyn Crow
- **Duck Soup** by Jackie Urbanovic
- **First Dog Fala** by Elizabeth Van Steenwyk
- **For the Love of Autumn** by Patricia Polacco
- **Grace for President** by Kelly DiPucchio
- **Happy Birthday to You: Mystery Behind the Song** by Margot Raven
- **Honda the Boy Who Dreamed of Cars** by Mark Weston
- **How I Learned Geography** by Uri Shulevitz
- **Louise the Adventures of a Chicken** by Kate DiCamillo
- **Lucky Star** by Judy Young
- **Moon Over Star** by Dianna Hutts Aston
- **Mr. Lincoln's Boys** by Staton Rabin
- **Mrs. Muddle's Holidays** by Laura Nielsen
- **My Chincoteague Pony** by Susan Jeffers
- **Night Running** by Elisa Carbone
- **Origami Master** by Nathaniel Lachenmeyer
- **Owney the Mail Pouch Pooch** by Mona Kerby
- **Running Shoes** by Fredrick Lipp
- **Spuds** by Karen Hesse
- **Titanicat** by Marty Crisp
- **Turtle's Penguin Day** by Valeri Gorbachev
- **Two Bobbies** by Kirby Larson, Mary Nethery
- **Violet the Pilot** by Steve Breen
- **Wheat Doll** by Alison L. Randall
- **Willow** by Denise Nelson
- **Wolves are Back** by Jean Craighead George
- **You Can't Do That Amelia** by Kimberly Klier

Presentation of the Show Me Readers Award at the 2008-09 Spring Conference.

*Did you know? By your membership in MASL, you are promoting the Readers Choice awards and reading for all students in the state.*

*Did you know? Your membership in MASL is helping to keep the participation in the MISSOURI READER CHOICE AWARDS free to all students in the state.*

*Did you know? Participation in the program does not require a student’s librarian to be a MASL member. It’s free. But, every librarian who IS a MASL member is supporting the program for all students.*
Presenting a Special Webinar Series from Library Media Connection

CRITICAL ISSUES: LIBRARY FUNDING

Learn to “tell the story” about your library simply and effectively. This “must attend” series of webinars will give you valuable insight into today’s funding challenges and opportunities. Acquire skills in collection analysis and development, finding resources, and networking to build funding alliances…and gain confidence to grow your library program!

You can participate live online or asynchronously. All attendees will receive a certificate of completion after each session.

**Tuesday, September 29, 2009 3:30 (EDT)**

**Part I: Library Funding: Making Your Case through “Power” Budgeting**

Discover the keys to budget management—mastering the basics of how budgets work, learning where schools and libraries fit into the budget puzzle, and demonstrating strong leadership.

**Presenter:** Gail K. Dickinson, PhD., Assistant Professor
Old Dominion University
Editorial Director, LMC

**Tuesday, October 13, 2009 3:30 (EDT)**

**Part II: Library Funding: Making Your Case through Collection Analysis and Development**

Learn to analyze your collection for diversity, reading level, curriculum support, and currency, and how to find research that defends the use of magazines, audio books, e-books, and other content…all to make your library’s case successfully.

**Presenter:** Sara Kelly Johns, Librarian
Lake Placid Middle School, NY
Past President, AASL, 2007-2008

**Tuesday, October 27, 2009 3:30 (EDT)**

**Part III: Library Funding: Making Your Case for In-District Alternative Funding Sources**

Learn how to tap in-district alternative funding, and ARRA Stimulus Funds. Hear practical strategies for finding the right funds to maintain and expand programs.

**Presenter:** Cynthia Anderson, Assoc. Superintendent Emerita
Shawnee Mission Public Schools, KS
Acquisitions Editor, Linworth/Libraries Unlimited

**Tuesday, December 8, 2009 3:30 (EDT)**

**Library Funding: Wrap-up Sharing and Project Critique**

David will conduct a “big think” across all sessions. All enrollees are invited to attend and to submit projects in advance for critique. Four to five projects will be selected.

**Presenter:** David V. Loertscher, Professor
San Jose State University

**EXTRA: ONLINE COMMONS**

Share what we’re learning in an online collaborative forum developed and moderated by David Loertscher. Post ideas, ask questions of the presenters, and expand on the dialogue from the live sessions. Asynchronous session attendees can collaborate with others through the Learning Commons.

**CEU CREDIT IS AVAILABLE**

Continuing education credit will be available for series attendees. For additional information, for associated additional cost, and a list of participating colleges and universities, visit librarymediaconnection.com.

Check Out our LMC@The Forefront
Fall 2009 Webinar Series!
Visit librarymediaconnection.com

ENROLL TODAY! Visit librarymediaconnection.com or call 1.805.880.6834.

**PRICING:**

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Sponsored in part by:

[Logo Images: ABC, CLIO, LMC]
### 2010-11 Mark Twain Nominee Preliminary List

A group of Reader/Selectors is busy reading the list of twenty-five preliminary nominees. The titles on the list are:

- Adler, David. *Don’t Talk to Me About the War*
- Avi. *Hard Gold*
- Barrett, Tracy. *100-Year Old Secret*
- Barrows, Annie. *The Magic Half*
- Beatty, Andrea. *Cicada Summer*
- Couloumbis, Audrey. *Love Me Tender*
- Donofrio, Beverly. *Thank You, Lucky Stars*
- Duey, Kathleen. *Margaret and Flynn, 1875*
- Gibson, Sarah. *Truth About Horses, Friends, & My Life As a Coward*
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Found*
- Hobbs, Will. *Go Big or Go Home*
- Howe, Peter. *Waggit’s Tale*
- Stanley, Diane. *Mysterious Case of the Allbright Academy*
- Kehret, Peg. *Stolen Children*
- Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody. *School Spirit*
- Lupica, Mike. *Safe At Home*
- Mills, Claudia MacLeish. *Totally Made-Up Civil War Diary of Amanda MacLeish*
- Nelson, N.A. *Bringing the Boy Home*
- Nuzum, K.A. *Leanin’ Dog*
- O’Connor, Barbara. *Greetings From Nowhere*
- Park, Linda Sue. *Keeping Score*
- Sonnenblick, Jordan. *Dodger and Me*
- Snyder, Zilpha Keatley. *The Bronze Pen*
- Willard, Elizabeth Kimmel. *Mary Ingalls On Her Own*

Visit the 2009-10 Mark Twain Blog at: [http://marktwainaward.wordpress.com](http://marktwainaward.wordpress.com)

### 2010-11 Truman Award Nominee Preliminary List

The Truman Award committee has announced the short list of titles being considered for the 2010-11 school year. They are:

- Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Chains*
- Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *Boy Who Dared*
- Bodden, S.A. *The Compound*
- Bradbury, Jennifer. *Shift*
- Collins, Suzanne. *Hunger Games*
- DeKeyser, Stacy. *Jump the Cracks*
- Fields, Terri. *My Father’s Son*
- Gaiman, Neil. *Graveyard Book*
- Galante, Cecilia. *Hershey Herself*
- Goodman, Allegra. *Other Side of the Island*
- Grant, Michael. *Gone*
- Hazen, Lynn. *Shifty Voss: How I Come to America and am Hero, Mostly Kidd, Ronald. *On Beule Street*
- Kogler, Jennifer. *The Otherworldlies*
- Lupica, Mike. *Big Field*
- Mackel, Kathy. *Boost*
- Meehl, Brian. *Suck it Up*
- Pearson, Mary E. *Adoration of Jenna Fox*
- Petrucha, Stefan. *Rule of Won*
- Ramthun, Bonnie. *The White Gates*
- Shusterman, Neal. *Antsy Does Time*
- Spradlin, Michael P. *Youngest Templar: Keeper of the Grail*
- White, Ruth. *Little Audrey*
- Wilson, F. Paul. *Jack: Secret Histories*

Visit the 2009-10 Truman Blog at: [http://trumanreadersaward.wordpress.com](http://trumanreadersaward.wordpress.com)

### 2010-11 Gateway Award Nominee Preliminary List

Reader/Selectors are hard at work on the preliminary list. Titles on the list are:

- Bodeen, S.A. *The Compound*
- Bradbury, Jennifer. *Shift*
- Cashore, Kristin. *Graceling*
- Collins, Suzanne. *The Hunger Games*
- De la Peña, Matt. *Mexican Whiteboy*
- Dessen, Sarah. *Lock & Key*
- Dunlap, Susanne. *Musician’s Daughter*
- Fehler, Gene. *Beanball*
- George, Madeline. *Looks*
- Green, John. *Paper Towns*
- Herlong, M.H. *The Great Wide Sea*
- Katcher, Brian. *Playing with Matches*
- Kluger, Steve. *My Most Excellent Year*
- Korman, Gordon. *The Juvie Three*
- Kuklin, Susan. *No Choirboy: Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Deathrow*
- Les Becquets, Diane. *Season of Ice*
- Lester, Julius. *Guardian*
- Lockhart, E. *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks*
- McMann, Lisa. *Wake*
- Pearson, Mary E. *The Adoration of Jenna Fox*
- Reinhardt, Dana. *How to Build a House*
- Rhodes-Courter, Ashley. *Three Little Words*
- Scott, Elizabeth. *Stealing Heaven*
- Sitomer, Alan. *The Secret Story of Sonia Rodriguez*
- Yoo, Paula. *Good Enough*
- Zarr, Sara. *Sweethearts*
Howard Big6 Journey Began

After teaching high school business education for seventeen years, I decided to utilize my library training and became an elementary librarian in Springfield, Missouri. Library supervisor, Mary Kay Carson, took up a challenge from then Springfield superintendent, Dr. Moseman, calling for the library to become an active part of the educational process. Several librarians were given the opportunity to visit a flexible, integrated library program at Blue Valley Schools in Kansas City, Missouri. There I observed students from kindergarten to fifth grade using the Big6 problem solving process and working independently in the library. What I saw at Blue Valley convinced me that I wanted to learn more about Big6. My journey began in Plano, Texas, with a workshop presented by Barbara Jansen. After the workshop I began using Big6 with my own students and continued my quest to learn more. I read Big6 books, collaborated with fellow librarians, attended additional workshops, and even had conversations with my principals and other administrators about the importance of information literacy skills, the power of Big6 in teaching those skills, and the role of the library in helping students become information literate.

One such conversation with the district staff development coordinator led to the opportunity to attend “Train the Trainer Training” from founders, Eisenberg and Berkowitz, in San Jose, California, and to begin training other Springfield librarians and teachers. As a result of learning more about Big6 and conversations with my principals I was able to develop a flexible, integrated library program with Big6 as the information literacy strategy used in both of my school buildings. I collaborated with classroom teachers to create and team-teach units which included content objectives (science or social studies), reading, writing, and information literacy skills.

After attending one of my workshops, a friend, suggested I share my lessons. “Have you ever thought of writing a book?” she asked. I had not. I did not see myself as a writer. But the seed had been planted. After presenting a workshop at AASL on flexible, integrated library programs I was asked to share the workshop content in TeacherLibrarian. That first attempt at writing resulted in my initial manuscript being sent back with a long list of suggestions to improve. The editor offered to work with me if I was willing to do a rewrite. The revised article was published. That article gave me courage to submit articles to the Big6 e-newsletter. After those were accepted and my Big6 files and lessons continued to grow I thought again about the book suggested by my friend.

The Publishing Process

- Broached the idea of writing a book of Big6 strategies and lessons with Sue Wurster, Big6 Associates.
- Put in contact with Linworth Publishing publisher of all Big6 materials.
- Linworth requested proposal (purpose of the book, an outline including chapter titles and summaries, and a sample chapter).
- Proposal was accepted and I signed a contract to write my first book.
- Four months later: required to submit an early manuscript (introduction, summaries of all chapters, plus three chapters).
- Two Linworth people read the early manuscript, offer suggestions and made comments. Feedback was used to revise the existing chapters and as a guide for remaining chapters.
- Six months later the initial manuscript (all chapters, table of contents, figures, appendices, etc.) was due.
- Three months later, the initial manuscript was returned with feedback from additional readers and the editors. Changes were made and the final copy was sent to Linworth.

The writing process

Once the proposal was accepted I wondered what I had done! When I sat down at the computer, I realized that even though I had spent days preparing the proposal and had one chapter written, I still had nineteen more to write. I was overwhelmed! The process I used to complete the manuscript was:

- Create a file folder for each chapter with chapter title and summary on the front.
- Sort through my files and put lessons, ideas, and strategies I had collected in the appropriate folder.
- For each chapter:
  - Use the folder to create an outline
  - From outline and information in folder write a rough draft.
  - Revise the rough draft.
  - Son-in-law (with a minor in writing) edited revised draft (Because he was not familiar with Big6 and was not a librarian or teacher, if it made sense to him it had a good chance of making sense to teachers and librarians.)
  - Revised and edit the proofed chapter

Citing sources

- Brush up on proper citation form.
- Contact and gain permission to cite from any source cited.
- Most done via e-mail. 20 and 30 sources contacted. Most happy to give permission, although two would only grant permission if a fee was paid.
- Requests sometimes required more than one e-mail, i.e., two publishers were contacted before locating the publisher who held the copyright for Bloom’s Taxonomy.

Submitted by Joyce Needham, LMS, White Rock Elementary McDonald County R-1
ALAL OCH I GE IN JULY

Submitted by Marianne Cole Fues,
MAASL AASL Affiliate Assembly Delegate

July was ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. American Association of School Librarians’ (AASL) Affiliate Assembly (AA) delegates attend two meetings at each annual and midwinter conference. We address concerns and accommodations which have been submitted by AASL Regions. During Affiliate Assembly I, we dealt with 17 commendations being recommended for various AASL Regions. Commendations must meet certain guidelines to be considered by the assembly. They recognize programs and events as opposed to individuals. During Affiliate Assembly II, we addressed 16 concerns which had been submitted by the regions. Concerns must include actions requested by AASL that are doable. The submitted concerns and commendations are sent to the AASL Executive Committee for discussion. The submissions meeting the criteria of completeness, appropriateness for the entire organization, and adherence to ALA and AASL values are forwarded to the AA. Each concern is discussed and voted on to determine whether the concern is to be forwarded to the AASL Board. Six of the 16 submitted concerns were forwarded to the Board for further consideration. Two of the six were combined.

AASL Region III submitted a concern about integrating knowledge about the role of the school library media specialist into the professional preparation of teachers. Missouri has addressed this issue through our MASL Speaks program. Illinois has presented programs as well but we both felt that having a national task force develop a comprehensive program to integrate the role of the school library media specialist into teacher and administrator education programs and identify strategies for delivery, was desirable. In combining this concern with a similar one, suggested actions included: A. Developing a video production of best practices, B. Publishing productions on SchooTube, TeacherTube or similar platforms, and C. Sponsoring a top researcher in the school library field such as David Lorotscher or Keith Curry Lance as a keynote at an ASCD conference. This concern which originated with Missouri was selected to be forwarded to the AASL Board.

There are many, many workshops, authors, vendors, and speakers from which to make selections each day. Put a national conference on your schedule! You will be glad you did!

SCHOOL LIBRARIAN - YOU CAN BE A SUPER HERO!

Yes, it’s true. School Librarians can be the heroes of their schools. Here’s how:

With schools short on money and teachers short on time, what could be better than free, quick access to high-quality teaching materials? Working in conjunction with eMINTS, the MU College of Education is expanding the popular eThemes service, putting Missouri teachers a few clicks away from child-safe, standards-based online resources, as well as advanced tools for helping students with behavior management problems, a data base of current events lesson plans, and 100’s of interviews with technology-using teachers.

Teachers who want to locate websites to support their teaching have to wade through millions of hits doing an Internet search. Then they have to evaluate each site to determine the educational quality and safety of that site. Most teachers do not have that kind of time. eThemes solves that problem.

eThemes is an online database consisting of over 2,500 collections of websites that support student learning ranging from Aerodynamics to Zebras – and everything in between. Each collection consists of 10-15 websites that have been evaluated for content, age-appropriateness, and educational value. Plus these collections have been aligned with the Missouri State Educational Standards.

Missouri teachers already have access to the eThemes database and can search by grade level, alphabetically by topic, or key word, but soon they will be able to make requests for new educational topics by asking their school librarian to submit a request to eThemes. Working with school library media specialists, the eThemes staff will do the searching, verify the results with the teacher, and make the entire collection available to all teachers – in Missouri and across the country.

According to Laura Wedman, eThemes project director, “If only 1 in a 1000 teachers across the country use one eThemes collection a year, the savings in terms of teacher time is over $500,000.” That dollar amount seems conservative since about 1 in 1000 teachers across the country have already been trained in how to use eThemes. eThemes receives over 6,000,000 hits each year, with most activity happening in the fall and spring semesters.

Teachers and their students, parents and their children, librarians and curriculum specialists – anyone who works in a teaching role can use eThemes knowing the resources are up-to-date, safe, and standards based. And yes...

FREE.

Visit eThemes at:
http://eThemes.missouri.edu
NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE
SOUTHEAST REGION

The Southeast Region will be hosting three MOREnet workshops. The morning session will be Exploring MOREnet's Online Resources and the afternoon session is Looking at Web 2.0. Because of the great responses to these topics, we are offering three sites. The first date/site is July 22 in Sikeston, MO. The other two sites which will be in Cape Girardeau and Richland, MO will be offered on September 25.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Vickie Howard at Maggie_63701@yahoo.com as soon as possible. Not only will you be learning lots of good info, but you will have the opportunity to meet other librarians from around the region!

Author, Alex Flynn, will also be visiting our region in November.

GREAT KANSAS CITY REGION

GKC region has 2 local professional development opportunities this fall to help us meet our goals, which are the following:

- Increase networking and encourage and offer professional development opportunities.
- Inform members of available resources.
- Encourage membership in the GKC region.

- Support educational scholarships.
- Promote professional librarianship.

All library media specialists in the GKC region have been invited to attend training on the new Gale databases on Monday, Sept. 21 at Raytown South High School 5:30-8:00 (2 hour training/no GKC formal business meeting) in 2 labs and the library media center.

All library media specialists in the GKC region have been invited to tour the Midwest Genealogy Center (listed by Family Tree Magazine as one of the 9 genealogy libraries you should visit before you die), hear Independence author Cheryl Harness speak, and meet and eat a light dinner with colleagues at the Midwest Genealogy Center in Independence.

Cathy Betz, GKC President

WASH U. STL TO OFFER HEALTH LITERACY WORKSHOP

Washington University is offering k-12 librarians a two day workshop on Health Literacy through Gateway Media Literacy Partnership. The workshop will be held on October 26th and 30th.

The workshop is designed to assist school librarians in finding reputable health information online. Topics include pitfalls in finding health information, free resources, and hands on practice in finding information on "hot topics" in health.

Watch the MASL listserv for more information.

YOU CAN'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER

Submitted by Beth Wakely

On August 10, 2009, MASL members Sister Barbara Payne, CPPS (St. Joseph's Academy) and Beth Wakely (De Smet Jesuit High School) along with Jo Anne Holdener (St. Angela Merici Elementary School) presented a workshop entitled “You Can't Judge a Book by Its Cover: Choosing Appropriate Library materials for Your School and Classrooms” twice at the Archdiocesan Religious Educators Institute, held at St. Louis University. The workshop was well received by the audience.

The presentations included remarks about the present state of Catholic fiction for youth and teens, suggestions of helpful websites, recommended fiction titles of merit, and the importance of reading reviews.
VIRTUAL BOOKSHELF A BIG HIT

Move over Facebook. Shelfari is here to take your place. If you are a book nerd like me, then you will love Shelfari, the social networking site dedicated to book lovers!

Although I'm a “newbie” to Shelfari, I am totally addicted! Shelfari allows users to create a virtual bookshelf of all the books they have read, books they are reading, and even books they plan to read. Users can invite other book nerds to join to create a circle of readers. Books can be rated from 1-5, with one being “I hated the book” to 5 being “I loved the book!” Not sure if you want to read a book or not? Just pull it up and read a summary and any reviews that other Shelfari users have written. You can also send notes back and forth to other readers and post discussions about books.

Shelfari also has discussion groups available for a wide range of books and authors. For example, there are several groups dedicated to Stephenie Meyers. Readers discuss their favorite parts of the books, their favorite characters, and much more.

I am a school librarian and my husband is a high school communication arts teacher. We created Shelfari accounts right away and started inviting other teachers to become our friends. Then our daughters got on board and invited their friends. I can look at my daughters’ shelves and their friends’ shelves and find books that are “hot” with teenagers. This has helped me determine books to order when working on collection development.

Shelfari is a great way to network with other people about what is hot and what is not. I have really enjoyed browsing my friends’ shelves and colleagues’ shelves. I have discovered fabulous authors and books that I would have otherwise overlooked.

Shelfari is also very user-friendly. It only takes a few minutes to set up a profile. Within minutes of creating my free account I was adding my favorite books, emailing friends to join, and rating my books.

Overall, reaching readers in this digital age is easy with Shelfari. I am using it on both a professional level as well as a personal level. I’ve already snagged 36 friends and I have just over 100 books on my shelf—all since I joined in February of 2009!

If you love to read, then you must add Shelfari to your favorites. Join now or take a tour at www.shelfari.com (My shelf is http://www.shelfari.com/o1517816776/shelf)

Submitted by Shara Weiss, LMS, Central MS and HS, Central R-III School District

MID-MISSOURI REGION

Submitted by Ronda Thiessen, Mid Missouri Region Chair

Mid-Missouri region has had a busy summer. Eleven members attended the Mid-Missouri Region’s Summer Get Together. Becca Harbison spoke to the group briefly about a program that allows students to visit Washington, DC for a week to see government at work.

Members enjoyed lunch at the Rolling Pin Bakery followed by a visit to Riverport Market and Riverport Market: A Taste of Missouri for shopping. A tour of the oldest library west of the Mississippi in continuous use was enjoyed by all. The day was topped off with a visit to the soda fountain at Henderson’s.

Planning is underway for our September 22 meeting. Our program will be a hands-on demo by Gale on the new databases available through MoreNet. The meeting is planned for Midway Heights Elementary. We will eat and have our business meeting from 4:00 until 5:30. Then we will go to the computer lab for one and a half hours of training.

Submitted by Ronda Thiessen, Mid Missouri Region Chair

NORTHEAST REGION

Submitted by Kathy Lowther and Beth Yount, NE Co-Chairs

The Northeast Region librarians met on July 21st in Marceline, Missouri for our summer meeting. We ate lunch at Monnig Restaurant and shared Northeast library information. We visited the Walt Disney Elementary School and viewed their artwork display and library. A tour of the Walt Disney Santa Fe Museum, Sweet Tunes Ice Cream Shoppe, antique Toy Store, and Harbour Street Wine Shop completed our day.

The fall meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 16th, from 1-4 pm at Hannibal High School Library computer lab with Cheryl Cunningham, hostess.

MoreNet and Dr. Curt Fuchs, DESE, will provide our program with a short business meeting afterwards. Please RSVP by Sept. 9th to Beth Yount byount@marceline.k12.mo.us

Submitted by Kathy Lowther and Beth Yount, NE Co-Chairs

Sweet Tunes Ice Cream Shoppe, antique Toy Store, and Harbour Street Wine Shop completed our day.

by Sept. 9th to Beth Yount byount@marceline.k12.mo.us
LYNN STYPE EMPOWERMENT GRANT AT WORK

I want to thank MASL and Follett for sponsoring the Lynne Stype Empowerment Grant that gave me the means to afford a national conference. I attended ALA conference in Chicago with my sister who is a librarian in Desoto, Missouri. OH! WOW!! This was my first national conference but I am sure it will not be my last. There were many great speakers, authors galore who were signing “free” copies of their books and very generous vendors who were very happy to part with “goodies”. There was champagne and strawberries, cooking demos (with free food), and many opportunities to make contacts with vendor reps. Did I mention free books? I came home with thousands of dollars worth of newly released or pre-release books for the library.

Submitted by Ronda Thiessen, Mid-Missouri Region Chair, Truman Award Committee member, the Professional Education Committee member, and Library Media Specialist for New Franklin R-I School

Rhonda Thiessen, Lynne Stype Empowerment Grant Winner and Dave White, Follett Representative

EPSILON BETA IS “BITTEN BY BETA”

Twenty-five members of the Epsilon Beta State Library Club met in Jefferson City at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center, on March 29-30, 2009 for their state convention. The executive officers chose the theme, “Bitten by Beta”. Schools participating were Richland High School, coached by Mrs. Karen Lane, Smithville High School, coached by Mrs. Diane Hansen and Troy Buchanan High School, coached by Mrs. Georganna Krumlinde.

Students toured Lincoln University and the Supreme Court Building. During the business meeting, they chose Cape Girardeau for the site of the 2010 convention and elected the officers for 2009-2010: Amber Tilley – Richland, President, Christy Stewart – TBHS, Vice-President, Tony Stripling – Smithville, Secretary, Molly Meyer – TBHS – Treasurer, and Emily Kittle – TBHS, Historian. Mrs. Georganna Krumlinde, liaison to Epsilon Beta from MASL, installed the new officers in a formal ceremony that outlined their duties and requested the support of all members for their officers.

Several competitions were held. Winners of the Quiz Bowl were: Smithville, first place, Troy, second place and Richland, third place. Troy’s scrapbook was awarded a blue ribbon. Kayla Martin and Katte Grimsley from Troy won scholarships. Help with judging for next year would be appreciated from librarians in the Cape Girardeau area.

Tables for the meals were decorated to match the theme, and to represent the books in the Twilight series. Mirror tiles were placed on the tables, and showcased a tulip, apple, ribbon or chess pieces. Each member was given a set of fake vampire teeth. Door prizes were award at the end of the business meeting.

Submitted by Georganna Krumlinde
AWARD/GRANT RECIPIENTS 2009

There were been many applicants/nominees for the 2009 MASL Awards and Grants. The committee was pleased to announce the following winners at Spring Conference.

Dr. David Holley, principal of Kirkwood High School, was selected to receive the MASL Service Award for School Administrators. Dr. Holley has been a friend and advocate of KHS Library’s programs and services, especially raising awareness for funds that were needed to update the library collection, computers, and furniture. Dr. Holley was nominated by Library Media Specialist and MASL member, Laurie Seibel.

Kay Hopkins, library media specialist at Barstow Middle School in Kansas City, was the winner of the Call to Spring Conference Grant. The winner of this award is determined by a random drawing of 1st and 2nd year MASL members attending their first conference. Mackin Library Services sponsors this award.

Deborah Gordon received the Friend of School Libraries Award this year. Deborah has worked as a Caring communities site administrator at Buckner Elementary School for 14 years. She was nominated by Rene Burress, librarian at Buckner Elementary School in Independence. Deborah not only brings financial support to the children of Buckner but shares her positive attitude about reading and books.

Kimball Crum, Librarian at Central Elementary School in Park Hills, was the recipient of the Bright Idea Award for presenting “Trivia in the Elementary Library”. This Bright Idea incorporates curriculum with library skills in a format which could be easily adapted at other schools. This award is sponsored by Capstone Press.

The TLC (Teacher Librarian Collaboration) Award was presented to the library media specialists at Blackburn Elementary in Independence, Kay Kliethermes and Yvonne Tuggle and their 4th grade teachers, Sheri Hartley, Kathy Melton, and Kristy Williams. Their collaborative project incorporates Missouri studies and technology culminating in a “Missouri Showcase” of student work. This award is sponsored by Davidson Titles.

Megan Arnett and Amy Taylor, library media specialists at Lee’s Summit West High School, were selected to receive the Progressive School Library Media Program Award. These two ladies are not only leaders in their school but strive to share their knowledge and experience with others in the field by presenting at state and national conferences.

Ronda Thiessen was selected to receive the MASL Lynne Skype Empowerment Grant. Ronda is the library media specialist at New Franklin School. Ronda will use her grant to attend ALA’s Annual Conference in Chicago. She is excited about the opportunity to bring back pictures and souvenirs as inspiration for lessons from the home of President Obama. This Award is sponsored by Follett Library Services.

Jan Nelson is the winner of the Aileen Helmick Memorial Scholarship. She began her career as an elementary school English teacher and now she is in her third year as the library media specialist at Affton High School in St. Louis County. Jan has just finished her first year in the University of Missouri’s School of Library and Information Science master’s degree program.

Jane Hughes was awarded the Sharon Willis Memorial Scholarship. She has served as the library media specialist at Knob Noster Elementary School in Knob Noster for the past two years. Prior to her current position she was a second grade teacher for 14 years. Jane is now working toward a master’s degree in Library Science and Information Services.

Kellie Murray is the recipient of one of the MASL Scholarships. She is currently teaching a 6th grade Resource class and working on her master’s degree at Missouri Baptist University to become a library media specialist. Becoming a librarian is a life-long dream of hers.

Lea Ann Rothmier is also a recipient of one of the MASL Scholarships. She is a media specialist at Santa Fe Elementary in the Hickman Mills C-1 School District. Currently Lea Ann is a member of local, state, and national library associations and is pursuing a master’s degree in Library Science and Information Services at the University of Central Missouri.

MASL wishes the best for each of these award/grant recipients.

Margaret Butler

MASL 2008-2009 Awards/Grants
Awards Alert!
Do not let time run out! Listed below are the awards/grants available with their deadline dates!

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<tr>
<th>Award/Grant</th>
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<td>Call to Spring Conference Grant *</td>
<td>Fall Seminar</td>
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<td>Sponsored by Mackin</td>
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<td>MASL Service Award for School Administrators</td>
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<td>Friend of School Libraries Award</td>
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<td>MASL Special Service Award</td>
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<td>Bright Idea Award *</td>
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<td>Sponsored by Capstone Press</td>
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<td>TLC (Teacher Librarian Collaboration) Award *</td>
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<td>Lynne Stype Empowerment Grant *</td>
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<td>Sponsored by Follett</td>
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<td>Progressive School Library Media Program Award *</td>
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<td>Sponsored by Gale Cengage Learning</td>
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<td>Intellectual Freedom Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships *</td>
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<td>Sponsored by MASL and Dollars for Scholars</td>
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Spring Conference 2010: Missouri Wonders
April 18-20, 2010

Featured speakers include:
- Allison Zmuda, understanding by design expert and education consultant, author of *Librarians as Learning Specialists: Meeting the Learning Imperative for the 21st Century*
- Teri Lesesne, professor and children’s literature expert, author of *Making the Match: The Right Book for the Right Reader at the Right Time*
- Bob Priddy, story teller for *Across Our Wide Missouri*

Presenters Wanted
- Web 2.0 tools and applications
- Collaboration Ideas
- Middle School lessons, reading incentives, collaboration ideas, etc.
- Grant Writing
- ‘Boots on the Ground’ type workshops—Tried and true activities that you can share with others at all grade levels
- Literacy
- Technology
- Other topics of interest to Missouri Librarians

Contact: Ann Busch, Co-Chair
Email: abusch@pleasanthillschools.com
Phone: 816-540-3111 ext 5163

Missouri Association of School Librarians
P. O. Box 2107
Jefferson City, MO 65102-2107

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Fax: 573 635-2858
E-mail: info@maslonline.org

AASL Announces Inaugural Best Websites for Teaching and Learning

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has announced a new resource for school library media specialists and their teacher colleagues. The Best Websites for Teaching and Learning, a list honoring the top 25 internet sites for enhancing learning and curriculum development, is considered the “best of the best” by AASL.

The Top 25 Websites for Teaching and Learning foster the qualities of innovation, creativity, active participation and collaboration. The websites honored include: Animoto; Classroom 2.0; Curriki; Diigo; Edublogs; Facebook; Good Reads; Google Reader; Mindmeister; Ning; Our Story; Partnership for 21st Century Skills; Polleverywhere; Primary Access; RezED; Second Life; Simply Box; Skype; SOS for Information Literacy; Teacher Tube; Twitter; VoiceThread; Wikispaces; Wordle; and Zoho.

All sites are free, web-based sites that are user-friendly and encourage a community of learners to explore and discover. They also provide a foundation to support AASL’s “Standards for the 21st-Century Learner.” Valuable information on each site, including tips for effective classroom use, are available at www.ala.org/aasl/bestlist.

The Top 25 offer tools and resources in organizing and managing; content collaboration; curriculum sharing; media sharing; virtual environments; and social networking and communication. Each website is linked to one or more of the four strands of the Standards for the 21st-Century Learner – skills, dispositions in action, responsibilities and self-assessment strategies. The list will be updated annually based on feedback and nominations from members.