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<http://www.kysma.org>

Winter 2008

President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

How quick it goes—from the start of school in August to Thanksgiving. It's time to take a breath and send some commentary.

In my first message to you, I want to emphasize the importance of professional events. Lately I've been at the KSMA Fall Conference in Louisville, attended 2008 Fall Conference Planning meetings, attended 2008 Summer Refresher Planning meetings, enjoyed a few District meetings, traveled to Reno, Nevada for the American Association of Librarians Association Conference, chaired the KSMA Board meeting and attended the Kentucky Book Fair in Lexington. After each event I come home full of enthusiasm for librarianship! I feel proud that I am learning new ways of sharing literature, and research skills to my students! I've seen other facilities and ideas that I'd love to replicate or adjust to my library. I marvel that some people are so organized and willing to work together for a goal.

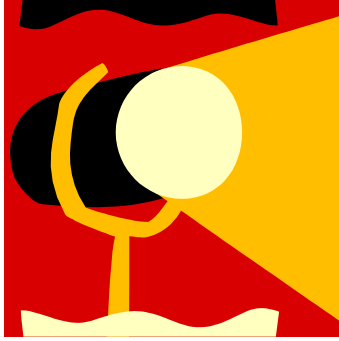
Get professionally involved! Just take one little job and do it well. Let others know that you are interested in taking on a bigger responsibility. Move on up! You'll meet new people and they will become friends—not only because of your common interest in libraries, but because they are darn nice people!

Soon I'll be traveling to a School Library Journal gathering about "Evidence," Later, President-Elect Fred Tilsley and I will be attending ALA's Mid-Winter Conference in Philadelphia. We hope to see many Kentuckians there.

At this time of the year, let's all give thanks for the love, health, and happiness that we've encountered along life's way.

In closing, I will be sending a President's message every month or so on the KYSMA website. Comments and/or questions to me are always welcome.

Evie Topcik, Teacher-Librarian
Louisville Collegiate School
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Award Winners

KSMA Service Award for School Administrator 2007

We had three excellent submissions this year, but sadly only one person could be selected as an outstanding administrator. The selection committee was made up of Paula Setser from Deep Springs Elementary in Fayette County, Margaret Omlor, from Scott County and me, Laura Younkin from Ballard High School in Jefferson County. It was a difficult decision, but ...

The winner of the Kentucky School Media Association's Service Award for School Administrator is Kathy Embry Goff. She is the principal at Warren Central High School in Bowling Green. She was nominated by her LMS, Marion Napier.

When Ms. Napier came to WCHS three years ago, she inherited an outdated, outmoded library. Ms. Goff promised to support Ms. Napier's vision of a renovated library and has followed through. Among the ways she's shown support:

Purchased 28 new wireless student computers, two new circulation computers and a wireless laptop for inventory purposes.

Approved the painting of student-designed murals on the walls and outside the library.

Encouraged the wedding of over 5000 outdated books from the collection.

Provided financing to be included in the move to a district-wide, web-based library management system.

Solicited approval to have the library painted.

Installed new flooring in the library computer lab.

Installed an ActivBoard in the library computer lab.

Provided professional development funds for various professional trainings, conferences and school visits.

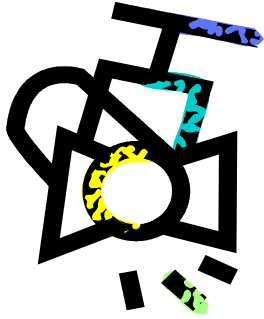
Supported changes in policies and procedures to make the library facility a more welcoming, inviting and vital part of the school.

Ms. Goff also sends flowers and thank you notes during National Library Week and random notes of appreciation routinely appear in Ms. Napier's mailbox or on her desk.

Perhaps grandest of all, when Ms. Napier approached her principal about renovation, especially heavily weeding an extremely outdated collection, Ms. Goff said "It's your library. You're the expert. Do what you need to do." Aren't those the words we all long to hear?

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Younkin
Library Media Specialist
Ballard High School



More Winners

KSMA Award of Merit 2007

Melissa Gardner, LMS at Beechgrove Elementary School, Fall 2007, and LMS at Dixie Heights High School beginning January 2008, Kenton County School District is the 2007 recipient of the KSMA Award of Merit. This award recognizes the influential role of those other than the local school building administrator in developing successful school library media programs. Congratulations Melissa!

Submitted by
Cathy Watson-Pittman, committee chair

Award of Merit Committee Members:	<u>District</u>	<u>Region</u>
Patricia Moore, Owensboro Ind.	2nd District	Region A
Connie Lepper, Henry County	5th District	Region E
Cathy Watson-Pittman, Jefferson	Jefferson	Region C
Diane Culbertson, Danville	Central	Region D
Martha Sue Fannin, Pike County	Southeastern	Region G

Eleanor Simmons Award 2007

Jennifer Wetzel from Hendron Lone Oak in McCracken County won the Eleanor Simmons Memorial Award for 2007. She is pursuing her National Board Certification. Her principal states that she has "consistently demonstrated her conscientiousness and genuine commitment to the education of Hendron Lone Oak Elementary students as well as a concern for professional growth and development." Barbara Vick, the assistant superintendent of McCracken County schools, says, "she is innovative and creative in the strategies she employs to enhance the reading program at the school." Congratulations, Jennifer.

Submitted by
Terri Kirk, committee chair

Outstanding School Media Librarian 2007

Sherry L. Deatruck from Louisville, KY was awarded the KSMA Outstanding School Media Librarian Award for 2007 at the annual KLA/KSMA Conference. Sherry was a teacher for several years in Jefferson County, and has been a librarian for fourteen years. At this time she is working as a reference librarian in Jefferson County. Her hobbies are watercolor, needlework, gardening, reading, and family activities. She is an active member of the Farmdale Baptist Church.

Submitted by Catherine Childers

And More Awards

Donna Hornsby Joint Technology Award

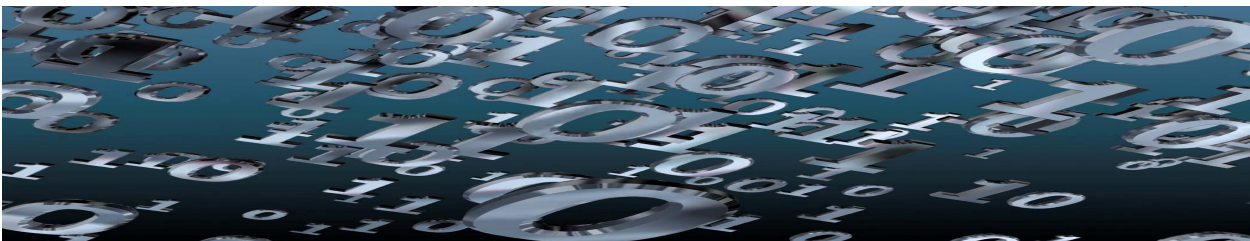
The Donna Hornsby Joint Technology Project Award honors the memory of our colleague, Donna Hornsby, who passed away in 1999. Donna was instrumental in promoting the use of technology to enhance student learning. This award recognizes two or more individuals in a school for their innovative use of library media center technology to enhance classroom curriculum.

The recipients of this year's awards are Martha Hamilton and Kay Bush from Owen County High School. Their project involved creating a student-run entrepreneurial business that provided print, video, and web productions. This project enables students to explore entrepreneurship as a possible career option. In just the first month of school, their students produces an 86-page football program, a video for a homecoming reunion, a cable broadcast of a football game and flyers for the Woman's Club Home tour.

KSMA Student Technology Award

The KSMA Student Technology Award is given to an outstanding Kentucky school student (grades K-12) who has demonstrated leadership through technology activities coordinated with the school curriculum. There were several outstanding applications for the award this year. Below is an excerpt from the nomination we received on this student's behalf:

Wesley Durham is the rare student who could get glowing recommendations from three principals, two counselors, one library media specialist, 70 faculty and staff members, and 800 fellow students for his knowledge of the school's technology system, his ability to explain things in everyday language, and his can-do attitude. Wesley has taken more computer courses (seven) than any other student in the history of this school, has received his A+ certification (a major marketing tool in the field), been awarded a Kentucky Occupational Skills Standard Achievement (KOSSA) certificate (an immediate job credential), and received numerous job offers before his graduation in May, 2007. He has worked with the School Technology Coordinator to keep the school's technology system running and was very confidential in his handling of passwords, in addition to the various trouble-shooting he dealt with on a daily basis. He could be depended on to install hardware and software, train students and adults how to use various pieces of technology, and personally saved many portfolio pieces from contrary diskettes, CDs, and jump drives. In the library media center, he was in charge of updating the student workstations, in addition to keeping the circulation and cataloging software up to date. I, like the rest of the faculty, celebrated his graduation, realizing what an asset he had been to the school during the past four years. Many of the faculty members wonder what they will do when August arrives and Wesley is not here to answer a quick question or solve a software problem. He received a scholarship to Spencerman College to continue his studies in technology, with hopes to come back to the school system to continue working with the teachers and students in the future, as well as open his own business.



Passing the Gavel



Outgoing KSMA President Darlah Zweifel hands the gavel over to incoming president, Evie Topcik at the KLA/KSMA 2007 Conference.

Libraries Helping Libraries



Libraries Helping Libraries is a fund we created last year to aid our fellow librarians in time of need. We have had libraries destroyed by fire, tornados, storms, water damage, etc. We all know how long it takes insurance companies and the board of education to settle things and get the money we need to replace the lost items. With Libraries Helping Libraries, we hope to make a small donation to help with rebuilding after a tragedy has occurred to a school's library. We all know how important it is to have new books for students to keep them excited about reading. Please contact someone on the KSMA board if you know of a fellow librarian who has had damage or a loss in their library due to a fire, bad weather, or some other tragedy. If you have a student service group who would like to make a donation to Libraries Helping Libraries, all donations are welcome.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Darlah Zweifel darlah.zweifel@meade.kyschools.us

Meade County High School

Teacher Librarian

KSMA Past-President

Remember to renew your KSMA membership or join if you haven't already.

District News

Second District

The Second District had its fall meeting on August 30 at Henderson County High School. Members brought money and items for the basket to be auctioned off at the fall conference. Other donations have been mailed since then. "Tailgating" is our theme.

Those present were asked to update the membership list for their school systems. Since our district is so spread out, it was suggested that each county or area have informal "get-togethers" as a way of exchanging ideas. The possibility of having the spring meeting in the evening instead of during the school day was also raised. Mike Sprague will consider that suggestion.

A scholarship was awarded to Jessica Crawford. Jessica is a student at Indiana State University pursuing a master's in educational technology, focusing on the area of library media.

Our newly elected officers are:

President	Mike Sprague	Henderson County High
Pres-Elect	Anne Wells	Henderson South Middle School
Secretary	Peggy Phelan	James Madison Middle (Madisonville)
Treasurer	Pam Parks	Jesse Stuart Elem. (Madisonville)

Submitted by
Marilyn Pace, past president

Third District

The 3rd District School Media Association held their fall meeting September 6, 2007 at South Green Elementary in Glasgow. Over 20 people were in attendance for dinner and the meeting. Many sports and recreation items were brought to fill the silent auction scholarship basket. The basket is actually a duffel bag on wheels.

In new business officers for 2007-08 were elected:

President-Elect: Paula Clark (Butler County)

Secretary: Tara Griffith (Russellville)

Treasurer: Charlene Rabold (Warren County retired)

Incoming president for 2007-08 is Debbie Roddy (Warren County)

In other business, Charlene Rabold noted that a Scholarship Reception would be held at Western Kentucky University October 18. Debbie Roddy and Tara Griffith attended.

Upon adjournment of the business meeting, Follett Book Company representative Phil Petitt presented a program on the software component Titlewave. Afterwards, door prizes were awarded.

Submitted by
Mary Elliott, past president

More District News

Fifth District

Our fall meeting was held Sept. 17 at Spencer County Middle School. Evie Tomcik the incoming KSMA president joined us for our meeting. Dinner was provided from Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que, after dinner we conducted our business meeting.

Our guest was Larry Moore again because several members could not be present at the Spring Meeting when he shared the new programming and Encyclomedia information. Attendees brought items for the "On the Road" basket as well as donations so items could be purchased. During the business meeting the concern about Trimble County taking the next leadership term was discussed. Everyone agreed to skip any district that does not want to participate in the leadership roles. Also announced was the fact that the next KSMA President-Elect will be chosen from our region – Region E. Evie was very helpful in outlining the responsibilities and the rewards of the position. The new KSMA award for Media Center Web Page Design was announced and a reminder about the scholarship was given.

The evening concluded with door prizes sponsored by Bill Jett (Perm-a-bound) and Larry Moore (KET). Our next meeting will be in the spring.

Jefferson County

JCSMA held it's Fall Dinner Meeting at Kingfish-River Road on October 18, 2007. Our guest speaker, Candyce Clift of Fox 41 Morning News, spoke about the importance of reading, writing and being a good storyteller in today's competitive world of broadcasting. Deborah Connelly was announced as the winner of this year's Lucy Marx Scholarship.

The KSMA Summer Refresher will be held in Jefferson County on July 8, 2008. Mary Bryant and Karen Parsons addressed the group about volunteering and distributed information about the upcoming planning meeting. The evening was cut short due to tornado warnings and the lose of electricity!

Our annual Holiday Tea was held Thursday, December 6, 2007 at St. Gabriel's School. A collection of money and books was donated to The Essentially West End School, a school for at-risk middle school boys.

Central

CKSMA met for the fall meeting on Saturday September 8, 2007 at the Tates Creek High School in Lexington, Kentucky, with 25 members present. Amber Tongate of Tates Creek High School shared with the group the process she went through to turn the Library Media Center into a student oriented, book-store café type environment. There were no applications for the scholarship and no nominations for CKSMA Outstanding School Media Librarian. Committee reports were presented. Our spring meeting will be held April 19, 2008 at East Jessamine High School.

KSMA Committee Highlight

Non-Public Committee at Work

Objectives of the Non-Public Committee are to represent non-public interests and viewpoints on the KSMA board and to promote membership in KLA/KSMA to non-public librarians.

Some ongoing concerns:

Evie Topcik and I, along with Loretta Shake, have been trying to work on a Non-Public School list of librarians and media specialists, both for Catholic schools and the Kentucky Association of Independent Schools. Are they members of KSMA is the next question. We hope to eventually have a list of these. I have sent out an e-mail asking for Non-Public school librarians/media specialists to contact me. I am researching other ways to find them.

Another issue of concern is lack of free access to KET Encyclomedia and KYVL from KDE and KET. Evie has a faculty member who serves on the Non-Public School Commission, and she asked her to support our access on their agenda in June.

The Non-Public roundtable meeting at the Summer Refresher was attended by 16 people and conducted by Evie and me. We addressed the following:

- Directory of Independent Schools
- Library censorship
- Statewide bid list
- KYVL & United Streaming (Encyclomedia)
- Help from Non-Public School Commission
- Destiny Cataloging
- Follett and Spectrum

Susan H. Simpson, committee chair

Silent Auction is a \$ucce\$\$

The silent auction at the 2007 KSMA Conference netted \$991.00. This money goes toward funding scholarships at the district level. Listed below are the districts who participated and the amount of money that was bid for each.

- First District: \$65.00
- Second District \$100.00
- Third District \$76.00
- Fourth District \$110.00
- Fifth District \$70.00
- Jefferson County \$85.00
- Northern District \$65.00
- Central District \$120.00
- Middle Cumberland \$101.00
- Southeastern District \$100.00



Spotlight on...

Paul Lanata, Director of Library Media Services, and Cathy Watson-Pittman, Internet Cataloger, both of Jefferson County Public Schools, Louisville, KY, presented at the AASL National Conference in Reno, October 26, 2007. "The Future of Homework Help @ Your Library" was the topic presented.

McCracken County librarians were also a hit at this year's AASL Conference in Reno, Nevada. Terri Kirk was Program Co-Chair and did a fantastic job as usual! She also presented her "Teen Tech Day" at the Exploratorium. Jennifer Wetzel from Hendron Lone Oak Elementary presented a session, "Liven Up Your Library! Fifteen Ways under Fifteen Dollars." She received rave reviews for her presentation and has been asked to present at other state conferences and publish her ideas as well!



Jennifer Wetzel



Terri Kirk with Jefferson Co. Librarians

LMS Summer Refresher 2008

The Kentucky School Media Association Summer Refresher will be held Tuesday, July 8th at Jefferson-town High School in Louisville. Each summer KSMA hosts a day of Professional Development. Library Media Specialists, authors and vendors from all over Kentucky present sessions. Topics have ranged from "Successful Practices and the Library Media Center" to "Inter-Net Safely Net" to "Great Reads for Teens, Part 3" to "How do you do it? Compare problems and share solutions". The day includes a continental breakfast, light lunch and concludes with Round Table Discussions. It is a wonderful experience to meet and learn from Library Media Specialists from all over the state. JCSMA members, Karen Parsons and Mary Bryant, will Chair the 2008 Summer Refresher for KSMA. Please consider presenting a session and sharing your wisdom and expertise with your colleagues. Watch the KYLMS list-serv for the official call for session proposals. Registration information will be available in early 2008. Questions regarding the refresher can be e-mailed to Mary Bryant and Karen Parsons at mary.bryant@jefferson.kyschools.us and karen.parsons@jefferson.kyschools.us. Plan now to "Race to the Refresher" on July 8th!

Presentation Proposal for 2008 Summer Refresher

Library media specialists, it is time to show your stuff! We are planning the summer refresher and we need you to be presenters. If you have done something unique with your program, discovered a new technique that is a big help, or just wish to share some ideas with fellow librarians, fill out the application below to present at our summer refresher. It will be held Tuesday, July 8th at Jeffersontown High School in Louisville. Most sessions are 50 minutes in length. If you have something of a mini – workshop, we may schedule you for 3 hours in the morning or afternoon as a session choice. If you know someone who is especially good at one of the many tasks we perform each day as media specialists, pass on this form to him/her. **The deadline for receiving session proposals is February 4, 2008.** As in the past, presenters will be responsible for providing their own equipment for their session.

Suggested topics: book clubs, new books, collaboration, discipline in the LMC, teaching drama, graphic novels, lesson ideas, National Board certification, public relations, advocacy, reluctant readers, reading promotion, technology, curriculum, etc.

Name _____

Position _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ E-mail _____

Title of presentation _____

Intended audience grade level (Elementary, Middle/High, or All) _____

Brief description of session:

Would you be willing to present your session more than one time? ____yes ____no

Mail completed proposal to: Mary Bryant
2113 Maryland Ave.
Louisville, Kentucky 40205



Western High library Getting Checked Out Books, Computers, Furnishings New

By Antoinette Konz, akonz@courier-journal.com
The Courier-Journal

Two years ago, the library at Western High School was in need of a drastic makeover.

Hundreds of books were outdated, the carpeting was old, chairs were broken, boxes were piled up and hardly any students visited.

"It was pretty bad," principal Louis Hughley said. "Some students had never even stepped foot in there."

This year, the boxes are gone, the carpeting and furniture are new and students are visiting -- and checking out books -- in droves.

"It was kind of cluttered, and the books were kind of old. There really wasn't anything interesting to read," said Kameron Burton, 17, a senior who is also a library aide. "Now, the library is kind of like the big hangout place. A lot of kids come in the morning before school starts to read, sit on the couches and talk and play games on the computers."

Hughley said the improvements cost about \$100,000 and calls them "the best investment we've made." The changes were made over the past year.

"A library should be the center of all learning activities; it should be the heart of every school," he said. "I am very proud of the way the library turned out and that our kids love it."

Besides new books and materials, the library features a large projector screen, a surround-sound system and new computers.

Librarian Stephanie Martin said staff members weeded out nearly 200 boxes of out-of-date books. To replenish part of the collection, Martin asked students what they were interested in reading.

"I got the most requests for graphic novels," she said. "So I went out and bought graphic novels."

A graphic novel is a type of comic book, but it typically has a lengthy and complex storyline similar to a novel, Martin said.

Kameron is a big fan of graphic novels. "I can read six or seven in one day," he said. "They are very popular and are usually always checked out."

Kathy Belcher, the school's academic coordinator, said teachers also are using the library more. "It's a wonderful thing to see," she said.

Tyler Givan, who teaches U.S. history, brought his fifth-period class to the library on Friday so students could do research on a civil-rights project.

"The changes have been great," he said. "The kids seem to really enjoy coming in. It's a great working environment, and they stay on task."

Howard Wright, a junior in Givan's class, was gathering information about the Underground Railroad.

"I used to come in just for class, but now I come in to check out books -- as long as they are sports-related," he said.

Martin said circulation has soared. During the last school year, 4,398 books were checked out, compared with 1,771 the preceding year. So far this year, 1,310 books have been checked out.

Library renovations are not the only changes at Western. Hughley spent about \$100,000 refurbishing a staff professional-development room on the third floor.

Hughley got rid of junk in that room and had new carpeting and furniture installed. The school's colors -- green and white -- are evident throughout, and a student-made mural is on the wall.

"It's amazing what a face-lift can do," said Dana Kelly, a business teacher. "It's so open and organized. Everyone loves to go in there."

Reporter Antoinette Konz can be reached at (502) 582-4232.

2008 Conference Call for Proposals

2008 KLA/KSMA/SELA/ARL/NDL Conference

This is a big one folks! Go to the KLA web site to fill out a proposal to present at this year's conference which will be October 3-4 in Louisville. The deadline to submit proposals is January 31, 2008. We have some wonderfully talented people in our profession. Topics can be books, technology, teaching techniques, diversity, public relations, or whatever you have found to be important to your library program. Please come forward and submit a proposal. Go to www.kylibasn.org and click on the conferences tab. Proposals are submitted online this year. Since we will be hob knobbing with a national conference this year, this could be a great opportunity to share with librarians from around the United States.

Evie Topcik, KSMA President

KET HIGHLIGHTS

- Promotion of the PBS series "**The War**" was one of our biggest pushes this fall. We held free events for veterans, their families, interested citizens, and others all at sites all over the state in advance of the September 23rd premier. Visit www.ket.org/thewar for a look at all the yearlong coordinating projects for classrooms and communities.
- **EncycloMedia workshops** still comprise most of our requests this fall, but we are getting many more requests for advanced and student-project workshops, evidence that teachers are ready to use the resource in more meaningful ways.
- Two of our **Distance Learning** classes have College Board AP approval now: AP Physics and AP Latin. Our classes are cheaper than KYVHS and have much more teacher/student interaction and support. <http://www.dl.ket.org/>
- Several of our workshops have been given approval for **EILA credit**. Effective September 13, 2007, receive two hours of EILA credit by attending any of the following KET trainings: KET EncycloMedia, Arts Toolkits, Using KET's Education Resources, and Media Literacy. Pass this news on to your administrators, please.
- Make sure your school (grades 4-12) received the new **PD "Literacy Without Limits"**, which should have arrived very recently, and share it with administrators, reading specialists, and the like.
- Have you changed your receiver to Channel 4 so that your school is receiving the new KET-ED channel?

As always, contact your regional education consultant with any questions and requests.

<http://www.ket.org/contact/contact10.htm>

Missi Baker, KET Education Consultant

mbaker@ket.org

Missi Baker

www.missibket.blogspot.com

Margaret Omlor, Scott Co. High School and Melanie Bishop, Sayre School enjoy the awesome exhibits at the 2007 AASL Conference in Reno.

