

DLA Bulletin

Newsletter of the Delaware Library Association

Winter 2010

<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/dla>

President's Letter

Advocacy – Everybody's Job

A few quotable facts about America's Libraries, 2010
Source: Office for Research & Statistics: ALA Public Information Office. All facts compiled in 2009



- Americans spend more than twice as much on candy as they do on public libraries.
- If the cost of *People* magazine had risen as fast as the cost of academic library periodicals since 1990, *People* magazine would cost about \$182 for a one-year subscription.
- The average copyright year for health and medicine titles in school libraries is 1995 – a student using these resources would not learn about mad cow disease outbreak in Britain (1996) or about the cloning of Dolly the sheep (1997)

How is it that the valuable work librarians do day after day in all settings goes under the radar? Somehow many folks seem to think librarians and resources will “just be there” as if from fairy dust. Others are oblivious to services they might have if their library were better funded. Still others believe (and quote in the newspaper) that libraries are a thing of the past since everything is available on the internet.

We have no business complaining if we haven't done some self-promoting. We cannot assume people will understand our value. It's show-and-tell time! Have you invited your legislators to your library during a school day to see how you affect learning? Are you publicizing activities at your public library in the local newspaper and then posting pictures on your web page? Who is aware of how many reference questions academic librarians respond to per day – and how are they able to answer/direct/find the answer? Do you have your “elevator moment” speech prepared?

There are many advocacy resources available, beginning with ALA's Office of Library Advocacy. We need to be more deliberate about investigating materials, choosing what fits our situation, and making some positive noise! Every effort is valuable, so do not think what you do in your small way is unimportant. Remember : “If you think you're too small to make a difference, you've never been to bed with a mosquito.”

Peggy Dillner
DLA President



UD Library Discovers Jefferson Letter

Two University of Delaware graduate students working in archives recently acquired by the University of Delaware Library have discovered a letter written by Thomas Jefferson about the death of another prominent Colonial figure, John Dickinson.

The letter was found in the archives of the Rockwood Museum, which the Library received as a gift from New Castle County earlier this year. Located in Wilmington, the Rockwood Museum is a Victorian house museum, with a conservatory and furnishings from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Graduate students Amanda Daddona and Matt Davis are processing the Rockwood archive, which is huge and diverse, with thousands of documents, maps, letters, photographs, albums, diaries, deeds, business records, ephemera and other items from the 17th century until the late 1970s. It may be assumed that many, if not most, of the older items in the collection have not been examined for several decades or longer.

On Thursday, Nov.5, they found an original letter written by Thomas Jefferson among the many boxes of unsorted early material of the Bringham family, the original family that owned Rockwood. The Jefferson letter has substantive content with a distinct Delaware connection and was written during the time Jefferson was president.

“Processing a Special Collection is a process of discovery,” said Susan Brynteson, vice provost and May Morris Director of Libraries. “What a thrill for the graduate students who discovered this during their work at the University of Delaware Library! A memory always to be cherished.”



Amanda Daddona and Matt Davis found the Jefferson letter.

In addition to the Thomas Jefferson letter, Daddona and Davis found two John Dickinson letters, which are notable in their own right. Dickinson was known as the “Penman of the Revolution” for his early “Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania to the Inhabitants of the British Colonies,” which argued the cause of American liberty and were read on both sides of the Atlantic. Dickinson served in the Continental congresses and in 1781 was elected president of Delaware, a position he resigned to be elected president of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania. Dickinson worked with James Madison on the Articles of Confederation and was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1787.

The letter by Jefferson was known to exist and is included in inventories of Jefferson's correspondence. However, because the letter was in private hands, the location of the original was unknown until this discovery

For more information: <http://bit.ly/7eXTuk>

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Sussex Co. Staff Development Day

Lynne Haines, Sussex County Dept. of Libraries

On October 22, 2009 all of the public libraries of Sussex County closed for the day and celebrated our 19th annual Staff Development Day for Sussex County Libraries at Delaware Tech, Owens Campus.

Staff Development Day is a day for staff from all the public libraries in Sussex County to meet their peers, network, and attend workshops.

The theme this year was “Changing Patterns in the Media Landscape”. Various workshops were offered on such topics as developing partnerships, 2009 Pandemic H1N1 Influenza (general assembly), using Twitter to market your programs, cyberbullying, and AED Training (a certified class) among others.

At noon there was an Annual Fall Luncheon where staff was recognized for years of service to libraries. Academic achievement was also acknowledged.

Dave Baker, County Administrator, Susan Webb, Finance Director, and Councilman Michael H. Vincent attended the luncheon. State Librarian, Anne Norman, joined us for lunch and the afternoon sessions. Also attending throughout the day was Norma Prettyman from the Sussex County Library Advisory Board and several Trustees from various libraries.

The luncheon speaker was Library Director Donald B. Reynolds, Jr. of the Nolichucky Regional Library in Morristown, Tennessee.



Luncheon speaker Library Director Donald B. Reynolds, Jr. of the Nolichucky Regional Library in Morristown, Tennessee



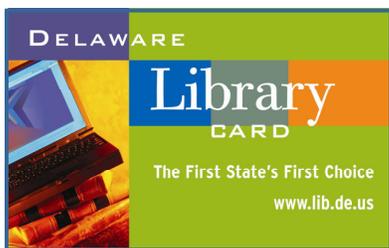
Participants of the Cyberbullying workshop

He is a longtime librarian and spoke eloquently of what libraries do for us, how best to promote them, what the public deserves, and how to deliver stellar customer service. He led us in recognizing the Council for their support of the libraries.

Based on participant evaluations, this was a very successful day for all who attended. We look forward to the landmark 20th Staff Development Day next year.

Welcome to the Delaware Library Catalog!

We are pleased to announce Wilmington Institute Library and Wilmington University Library



joined the Delaware Library Catalog in December.

"Congratulations and thank you to directors

Larry Manuel and Jim McCloskey and their staff for their hard work during the migration," said State Librarian Annie Norman. "Also, thank you to the Delaware Division of Libraries staff – Richard James, Ben Sauselein, Beth-Ann Ryan, and Jane Tupin for completing another successful milestone on behalf of Delaware libraries."

The Delaware Library Catalog comprises 20 public libraries in Kent and Sussex County, Delaware Technical and Community College Libraries, Wesley College Library, Sussex Technical High School, Delmarva Christian High School, the Delaware Division of Libraries, Delaware Public Archives, Delaware Academy of Medicine, Delaware Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Delaware Historic and Cultural Affairs, the Lewes Historical Society, and now Wilmington Institute Library, Wilmington Institute Library – North Branch, and Wilmington University Library.

All items owned by Delaware Library Catalog consortia members are searchable through one catalog: www.lib.de.us. Patrons with a Delaware Library Card may place holds and have items transferred to the library of their choice.

2010 DLA Membership Challenge

Julie Brewer, University of Delaware Library

Go green for 2010!

To avoid mailing paper renewal notices this year, the Delaware Library Association encourages all members to turn in their annual membership form and dues before February 1, 2010 when a paper mailing is scheduled to go out. The membership form is available at <http://www2.lib.udel.edu/dla/membership.htm>. Please type, print, and mail the membership form with a check to: Treasurer, Delaware Library Association, P.O. Box 816, Dover, DE 19903-0816.

THE CHALLENGE: The DLA division with the highest percent renewals prior to February 1, 2010 will be receive \$50 for division expenses. New members count, too, so it's possible to achieve more than 100% renewal. Below are the division member numbers as of October 31, 2009:

- 69 College and Research Libraries Division
- 42 Children's Services Division
- 66 School Library Media Association
- 101 Public Libraries Division

Remember DLA scholarships and committee participation opportunities when completing the annual membership form. Renewals received early in the calendar year are most helpful for planning and funding association activities. Your support of and participation in the Delaware Library Association is greatly appreciated.

Take the challenge!

Congratulations!

Monifa Carter Selected for ALA's Emerging Leaders Program



Monifa Carter, Affiliate Assistant Librarian and Pauline A. Young Resident at the University of Delaware Library, has been selected to participate in the American Library Association (ALA) Emerging Leaders

Program. She will receive \$1,000 in travel funding from the Delaware Library Association (DLA) to attend the Emerging Leaders Program sessions at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston in January 2010, and at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in June 2010. As part of the program, Ms. Carter will also participate in online leadership development opportunities between the two national conferences. Ms. Carter was selected by DLA for the ALA Emerging Leaders Program through a competitive application process.

Ms. Carter originally hails from Cincinnati, Ohio. She graduated from Indiana University with her MLS in the spring of 2008, and is currently working in the bibliographic control department of the University of Delaware's Morris Library.

The purpose of the ALA Emerging Leaders Program is to provide development training to 100 new librarians (less than 35 years old or having fewer than 5 years professional experience) that will assist them in pursuing leadership positions in ALA and other professional library organizations. Additional information about the Emerging Leaders Program is available at http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders/index.php/Emerging_Leaders

Kerry Gleason on Ballot for Caldecott Book Award Committee

Calling all Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) members: Kerry Gleason, Children's Librarian at the Wilmington Institute Library, has been selected as one of the finalists for the Caldecott Book awards committee. Her name will be on the ballot this spring. If you are an ALSC member remember to vote for Kerry!

Kerry Gleason selected by ALSC as one of 28 participants for Bill Morris Seminar

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) has selected 28 members to take part in the second biennial "Bill Morris Seminar: Book Evaluation Training."

This invitational seminar honors William C. Morris' dedication to connecting librarians and children with excellent children's books. Participants learn from experienced ALSC leaders about the importance of the group process and children's media evaluation techniques.

"This year we received nearly 100 applications from outstanding candidates across the country, so, with only 28 spots to fill, the competition was really stiff," said ALSC past-president and Morris Seminar Advisory Committee member Kathleen T. Horning. "This speaks to the excellence of librarians serving children and their desire to hone their skills so they can be even better at their jobs."

More information is available at www.tinyurl.com/morrisseminar10.

Battle of the Books at Caravel Academy

Suzanne Dix, Caravel Academy

Caravel Academy is gearing up for our 13th annual Battle of the Books this January. All students in 5th, 6th and 7th grades participate and it is a huge hit among both avid and reluctant readers. We include 20 titles for each grade with a mix of different genres so that students can "double dip" and use the books for Language Arts book reports as well. Students create teams of 3 or 4 students and compete against their peers in trivia-based round robins.

Interested in starting up a Battle of the Books? Want to talk to other school librarians who run a Battle of the Books? Contact Suzanne Dix, Upper School Librarian - Caravel Academy, at sdix@caravel.org

PLA 2010 Conference Registration Open

Brendan Dowling, PLA Communications Assistant

Registration for PLA 2010, the 13th National Conference of the Public Library Association (PLA), is now open. To register and request housing for PLA 2010, or to download registration and housing forms, visit www.placonference.org. Advance registrations must be received by Feb. 19, 2010.

PLA 2010 promises to be our most exciting conference yet, with an array of today's best authors keynoting author events and luncheons. Pulitzer-Prize winning author **Nick Kristof** will kick off the conference by headlining the Opening General Session. **Scott Turow**, author of some of the most morally engaging legal thrillers of the past two decades, and **Luis Urrea** will headline our author luncheons. Acclaimed Young Adult Author **Virginia Euwer Wolff** and one of today's most stirring children's book authors and illustrators, **Kadir Nelson**, will speak at the conference's Young Adult author luncheons. Popular essayist and NPR Contributing Editor **Sarah Vowell** will close out the conference. Other authors scheduled to appear include **Nancy Pearl**, **Chelsea Cain**, **Sue Grafton**, and **Marcia Muller**.

Offered biennially, the PLA National Conference is the premier event for public libraries, drawing librarians, library support staff, trustees, friends and library vendors from across the country and around the world. The conference includes more than 150 top-quality continuing education programs, preconferences, talk tables, social events, author events, networking opportunities and a bustling exhibits hall. PLA 2010 will be held March 23-27, 2010 in Portland, Ore.

For more information about PLA 2010, visit the www.placonference.org.

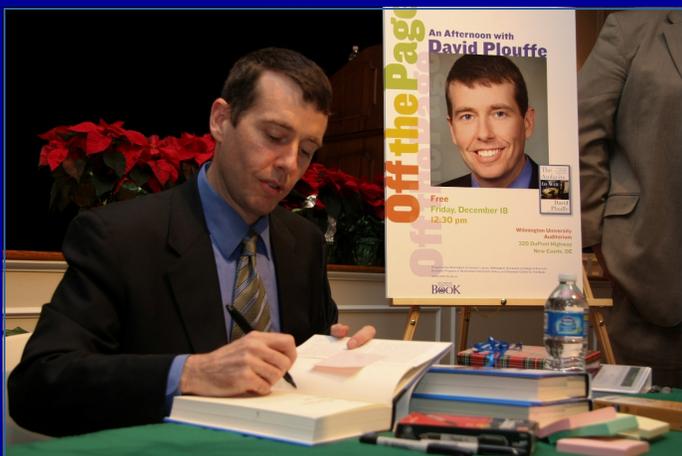


Photo courtesy of Errol Ebanks

David Plouffe signs copies of his book, *The Audacity to Win*, at Wilmington University. Over 200 people attended the program sponsored by Wilmington University Library and the Delaware Center for the Book.

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CRLD Announces Program

Janet Chin, DTCC Stanton Campus Library

Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 18th. The College and Research Library Division will be sponsoring a morning program at the Hagley Museum and Library featuring guest speakers and a tour of the nation's leading business history library and archives. You will have the opportunity to learn about Hagley's extraordinary collections documenting business activities since the 18th century and hear about the experiences of a researcher using some of Hagley's collections in American industrial design to shed light on the processes behind familiar consumer products.

Tours can be arranged for participants wishing to spend some time in the afternoon exploring the museum and its beautiful grounds along the Brandywine River. Program information will be available via Dla-1, the DLA distribution list. Be sure to join us for a very special day.

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