

CTL S Newsletter

February 2010

No. 86

2009 CTL S Awards & Winter Membership Meeting Report

By Pat Tuohy

The CTL S membership honored three individuals and one library support group for outstanding service in 2009 at its January 22nd Winter Membership meeting. These awards honor outstanding individuals and groups serving the public libraries in Central Texas. Awards Committee Chair Lisa Metzger of the Wells Branch Library made the presentations.

Friends of the Waco-McLennan County Library System were recognized as the Friends Project of the Year for their reusable tote bags project. These tote bags promoted sustainability, helped spread the word about the Waco Friends, and allowed the Friends to spend funds formerly used for plastic bags on other projects.

Beth Fox of the Westbank Community Library was named Librarian of the Year. Not only has Beth helped get library district funding passed, allowing many small libraries to have a firmer financial foundation, she was also instrumental in the formation of CTL S as a non-profit. Her library is a shining star in her community!

Nancy Pencsak of the Lake Travis Community Library was honored as Library Board Member of the Year. Nancy's 25 years of service to Lake Travis includes the years it was a combined school-public library and the move to a separate library district. She spends many hours sorting donations and has raised \$10,000 for her library by selling unneeded books online.

Kenton Miscoe of the Round Rock Public Library was selected Youth Volunteer of the Year. Kenton's leadership skills aided the library in preparing for the 2nd Annual Round Rock Boat Regatta. He serves on the Teen Advisory Board and has given more than 200 hours of time to the library last year.

The Awards Committee congratulates these winners and thanks all those who sent in nominations. Committee members were Debbie Bronson (Pflugerville Lay Representative), Richard Groves (Georgetown), Geeta Halley (Round Rock), and Trella Hughes (McGregor).

Report from the Winter Membership Meeting

The CTL S membership assembled for its Winter Meeting in Salado to honor outstanding service to public libraries, to hear reports from the staff, and to take action on significant system business. After an informative presentation by James Karney, Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, Lay Representatives voted to accept the Long Range Plan for 2012 and 2013 as proposed by that Committee. This Plan will be the guiding document for the services provided to the membership in the 2012 and 2013 program years.

James also delivered a recommendation from the Planning Committee that the membership consider changes to the Bylaws that would allow other types of libraries to join the system.

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CTL S Board:

Peggy Gibson	Chair
Larry Ringer	Vice Chair
Lyle Thormann	Secretary
Eileen Altmiller	Treasurer
Barbara Crossno	At Large
Muriel Jackson	At Large
Ruth Jennings	At Large
Dick Lavine	At Large
Betty Lowrance	At Large

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He cited as reasons for this action the changing fiscal environment and pressure from the State Library to extend membership to all types of libraries. Board Chair Peggy Gibson accepted his recommendation and established a Task Force on Bylaws to study this matter. This group will bring proposed changes to the membership for its consideration and the membership will vote to adopt or reject this proposition. Mrs. Gibson called for volunteers to serve on the Task Force and the following members were appointed.

Linda Coker – San Marcos lay representative
Alayne Fuller-Ramsden – Harker Heights lay representative
Eric Lashley – Georgetown
Susan Mann – Hillsboro
Carolyn Manning – Wimberley
Tom Moran – Austin
Dale Ricklefs – Round Rock

The Task Force will be chaired by Larry Ringer, Vice Chair of CTLS. Pat Tuohy will serve as staff liaison to the Task Force and will provide all administrative and organizational support needed by the group to carry out its mission.

The Charge of this Task Force is to develop proposals to revise the current CTLS Bylaws that would allow for the inclusion of other types of libraries into the CTLS membership. This charge encompasses all revisions, deletions, or additions that are needed to admit other types of libraries into the System and to conform to the rules adopted by the Texas State Library governing system membership. The Task Force may also consider changes that will allow for future flexibility and vitality of the corporation.

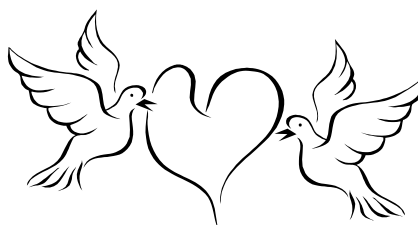
The Task Force will prepare and send out a 1st Draft of changes to the membership by April 9, 2010. A series of regional meetings are scheduled for April. Members will be able to discuss, comment on, and propose changes to the 1st Draft. The dates and locations of the meetings are as follows:

April 21 West Public Library
April 22 Madisonville, Kimbro Center
April 23 Giddings Public Library
April 29 Virtual meeting
April 30 Johnson City Public Library

After the April meetings, the Task Force will consider all comments and develop a 2nd Draft. This 2nd Draft may incorporate ideas from the regional meetings.

Over the course of the summer, members will be able to discuss these changes with each other. The Task Force may create a wiki, use the CTLS e-mail list, host telephone and virtual town hall meetings, and use other forms of communication to encourage a vigorous discussion of the implications and impact that the changes would have on the operation of the System. At the September 24th Membership Meeting in Cameron, the issue will come before the lay representatives for a vote.

The revision of the Bylaws is a profound step for our organization second only to the creation of the Nonprofit in 2005. The CTLS Board wants all members to be involved in this very important process. Changes to this document will set in place how the system will operate for the next 10 to 20 years. The CTLS membership deserves to have a thorough and thoughtful discussion of this very significant matter.



ResumeMaker for your patrons

By Kam McEvoy

CTLIS has partnered with Alamo Area and South Texas Library Systems to bring a 2 year subscription of ResumeMaker to your libraries and patrons.

You can access it from: <http://SCLC.resumemaker.com>

Add this address to your website for your patrons to use at home. You can also create a shortcut on the "desktop" of your public access computers, if you want, or add the link as a favorite in your browsers. **No password or authentication is necessary for your patrons or your library.** We'll let you know if this changes due to misuse (like, we start getting lots of hits from Antarctica or somewhere).

From the ResumeMaker website:

Perfect Resumes Fast & Easy—Guaranteed Results!

Write impressive resumes in minutes! Step-by-step guides make it fast and easy.

Over 1,000 sample resumes written by certified writers.

Everything You Need to Make a Great First Impression!

Select from 150,000 powerful, pre-written phrases for nearly every career.

Transform your job descriptions into powerful statements about your accomplishments.

Powerful Job Search Tools to Find Job Openings!

Search millions of jobs and companies.

Search every major career site and 50,000 corporate sites with 1-click.

Prepare for Interviews and Salary Negotiation!

25 Virtual Interview questions, plus 500 additional interview questions and answers.

Sharpen your interview skills, build your confidence, and turn job interviews into job offers.



23 Things in February

Libraries have always been the answer place, but with all the Web 2.0 technologies out there now, do you sometimes feel like your patrons are passing you by? You can use the 23 Things program to brush up on your Web 2.0 skills as well as learn how libraries are using these skills to reach out and engage patrons. So please join us in this life-long learning adventure! Here's the link to our 23 Things blog if you are just starting the program :

<http://ctlis23things.wordpress.com/>

Week 5: Play Week

10. Play around with [chat and instant messaging](#).

11. Learn to tweet.

12. Take a look at [some social networking sites](#).

13. Play some [online games](#).



Week 6 : Tagging and Folksonomies

14. Learn about [tagging and discover a Del.icio.us](#) (a social bookmarking site)

15. Read a few perspectives on [Web 2.0, Library 2.0 and the future of libraries](#) and blog your thoughts.

Week 7: Wikis

16. [Learn about wikis](#) and discover some innovative ways that libraries are using them.

17. Add an entry to the [23 Things SandBox wiki](#).

Week 8: Online Applications & Tools

18. Take a look at some [online productivity \(word processing, spreadsheet\) tools](#).

19. Explore [any site from the Web 2.0 awards list](#), play with it and write a blog post about your findings.

TANG Tech Tips: Information Overload!!

By Holly Gordon

Everyone these days is complaining that there is too much information coming into their lives – phone calls, texts, emails, social networking, snail mail, magazines, radio, television, on and on.

I've come across an excellent article on this problem, "Being Wired or being Tired: 10 Ways to Cope with Information Overload", available online here:

<http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue56/houghton-jan/>

This article begins with describing why information overload is so draining. For instance, "University of London researcher Glenn Wilson showed in a 2005 study that people taking an IQ test while being interrupted by emails and phone calls performed an average of 10 points lower than the baseline group without those interruptions. A frightening footnote to this study is that another test group had been tested after smoking marijuana, and they only performed an average of 4 points lower than the baseline group."

So it is not just you, we are all having difficulty with this issue. The author (Sarah Houghton-Jan) gives 10 very practical suggestions for controlling the information flow. One very easy suggestion is to set your email lists to "digest." This causes the list to send you only one or two messages a day, rather than 5 or 10.

Here is a short video that will show you how to set the CTLS-L list (<http://ctls.net/mailman/listinfo>) to digest:

<http://www.screencast.com/t/MjM0OGQzZDEt>

Oh, and BTW, you can currently use Jing for free to do screen captures and small videos such as this one. It is a very cool and easy to use product. For more information on how to use Jing, view this neat little 3 minute video:

<http://help.jingproject.com/get-started/get-started-with-jing-taking-y/>

You can download Jing here: <http://www.jingproject.com/>

What's Happening Around the System...

By Katelyn Patterson

- In their endeavor to bring more of the art world to their patrons, the **Lampasas** Public Library recently hosted an unveiling of the sculpture "Holding On" by T.J. Mabrey. Now on display in the Library foyer, it's a wonderful piece sculpted from French marble depicting a man clinging for his life to the side of a large, long, slender fish. Mabrey's works can be seen in museums worldwide.
- **Goldthwaite's** two cats, Jennie and Reggie, are featured in the February 2010 issue of Cat Fancy magazine in the article, "Literary Felines, Meet 45 Library Cats." They are numbers 11 and 12.
- **Tommi Myers** of the **Llano** County Library was awarded Citizen of the Year at the Llano Chamber banquet. She was nominated for her work in preserving the history of Llano County (through programs with the Book Festival and the first Cemetery Tour) plus her work with recognizing Llano County's military personnel.
- In **Madisonville**, county commissioners approved a proclamation at their court meeting on Jan. 25 that labeled February as Love Your Library Month. The proclamation emphasizes the importance of libraries in terms of research, reading habits, a source of basic to complex information, and recreation. It also talks about the benefits that Madison County Library provides to residents both in-county and nearby.

And the winner is.....

By Suzan Nyfeler AND Jennifer Patterson



The American Library Association (ALA) has announced the top books, videos and audiobooks for children and young adults - including the Caldecott, King, Newbery, Schneider Family and Printz awards. The following is a list of all ALA Youth Media Award winners for 2010:

John Newbery Medal

for the most distinguished contribution to children's literature.

2010 Winner: When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead, Random House.

Four **Newbery Honors** were awarded: *Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose (Melanie Kroupa/FSG), which won the National Book Award; *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly (Holt/Macmillan); *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin (Little, Brown); *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* by Rodman Philbrick (Blue Sky/Scholastic).

Randolph Caldecott Medal

for the most distinguished American picture book for children.

2010 Winner: The Lion and the Mouse, written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney, published by Little, Brown and Company.

Michael L. Printz Award

for excellence in literature written for young adults.

2010 Winner: Going Bovine, written by Libba Bray, published by Delacorte Press.

Four **Printz Honors** were given: *Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith* by Deborah Heiligman (Holt/Macmillan), which was also a National Book Award finalist and won the inaugural **YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award**; *The Monstrumologist* by Rick Yancey (S&S); *Punkzilla* by Adam Rapp (Candlewick); *Tales from the Madman Underground: An Historical Romance, 1973* by John Barnes (Viking/Penguin).

Coretta Scott King Book Award

recognizing an African American author and illustrator of outstanding books for children and young adults.

- **2010 Book Winner: Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal**, written by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie, published by Carolrhoda Books.
- **2010 Illustrator Winner: My People**, illustrated by Charles R. Smith Jr., written by Langston Hughes and published by ginee seo books, Atheneum Books.
- **2010 Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award Winner: The Rock and the River**, written by kekla magoon. Published by Aladdin.

2010 Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement: Walter Dean Myers

Schneider Family Book Award

for books that embody the artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences.

- **2010 Children's Winner: Django**, written and illustrated by Bonnie Christensen and published by Neal Porter Book/Roaring Book Press.
- **2010 Middle School Winner: Anything but Typical** by Nora Raleigh Baskin, published by Simon & Schuster.
- **2010 Teen Winner: Marcelo in the Real World** by Francisco X Stork, published by Scholastic.

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award

for the most distinguished book for beginning readers.

2010 Winner: Benny and Penny in the Big No-No!, written and illustrated by Geoffrey Hayes, published by TOON BOOKS, a division of RAW Junior.

Margaret A. Edwards Award

for lifetime achievement in writing for young adults.

2010 Winner: Jim Murphy

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Pura Belpré Awards

honoring Latino authors and illustrators whose work best portrays, affirms and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in children's books.

2010 Illustrator Winner: Book Fiesta!: Celebrate Children's Day/Book Day; Celebremos El día de los niños/El día de los libros, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Pat Mora and published by Rayo/HarperCollins.

2010 Author Winner: Return to Sender, written by Julia Alvarez, published by Alfred A. Knopf.

Robert F. Sibert Medal

for most distinguished informational book for children.

2010 Winner: Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream, written by Tanya Lee Stone, published by Candlewick Press.

... AND MANY MORE! To see the complete list of awards, winners and honorees, please visit <http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2010/january2010/ymawrap2010.cfm>.

Recognized worldwide for the high quality they represent, ALA awards guide parents, educators, librarians and others in selecting the best materials for youth. Selected by judging committees of librarians and other children's literature experts, the awards encourage original and creative work. For more information on the ALA youth media awards and notables, please visit the ALA Web site at www.ala.org.

News You Can Use

By Laurie Mahaffey

Policies: Can't Live Without Them!

Last month, I mentioned looking over your policies annually to make sure everything was up to date. What I didn't tell you is where to find good policies to model. Many of our CTLS member libraries have their policies posted on the library's website. Go to our website at www.ctls.net and click on Member Libraries on the left. Then click on the underlined name of any member library to access their website and check for policies. Our libraries put a lot of thought into policies; these are the rules under which a library operates. Library boards (the community's voice) approve them.

Many of the questions I receive can be answered by policies. Often, a new librarian won't know what the policies are; the policy manual is out of date or lost in a drawer. Reviewing the policies with all staff is essential. A staff member may have been hired by a previous librarian who didn't pay as much attention to the policies. Our patrons deserve the same treatment, regardless of who is helping them at the library. If a staff member ignores the computer time limit, or doesn't charge for copies, it's not fair to other patrons.

Well-written policies can save your library money. By always asking for a driver's license or other address confirmation, your library will not have the problem of lost materials because of bad addresses given by patrons with less-than-honest intent. Sad to say, there are people who may not be conscientious, or may not understand that public libraries are a shared community resource. Tighten up those policies and help your library save money!

Jeanette Larson wrote an excellent book on policy writing for libraries: Public Library Policy Writer. Purchase your own copy, or borrow it from the Texas State Library's professional collection. Contact Anne Ramos, aramos@tsl.state.tx.us or 1-800-252-9386 to borrow it. Let me know if you need any help with policies.

To check on neighboring librarians' thoughts, send your policy question out on CTLS-L. If you are not on CTLS-L, go to our website, www.ctls.net, and click on Electronic Resources on the left. You will see the instructions for joining CTLS-L. System staff members send a lot of information out on this e-mail discussion list. Save time and don't miss anything! If you'd like to send your question anonymously, just contact me and I will send it out.

New Edition of a Classic Reference Book

Many libraries are not seeing much use of their reference collection these days. Current information is available on the Internet. Be sure to check the date of the site you are perusing and the reliability of the source. If Facts About the Presidents is used at your library, consider purchasing the latest edition, the 8th, published by Wilson in 2009 and priced at \$150. ISBN is 978-0-8242-1087-8.

CTLS Calendar of Events



Celebrate in Your Communities!
 African American History Month
 Library Lovers Month



February	4	Texas Reading Club ~ Llano
	11	Certified Computer Technologist Program ~ Mason
	12	Texas Reading Club ~ Mexia
	15	President's Day ~ CTLS Office Closed
	16	CTLS Board Meeting ~ Dripping Springs
	18	Texas Reading Club ~ Westbank, Laura's Library
March	4	Copy Cataloging Workshop ~ Round Rock
	5	Copy Cataloging Workshop ~ Marlin
	11	Certified Computer Technologist Program ~ Mason
	12	Performers' Showcase ~ Georgetown
	23	Helping Patrons Look for Work ~ Schulenburg
	24	Helping Patrons Look for Work ~ Hewitt
	25	Helping Patrons Look for Work ~ Liberty Hill

Register for CTLS workshops and events online at www.ctls.net!

CTLS Directory

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