

May 22, 2015

Edited by: Stephanie Taylor

## Calendar

Administrators' Meeting 7/15/15

APLS Board Meeting 7/16/15

# OUTSIDE THE LINES

Outside the Lines is a weeklong celebration demonstrating the creativity and innovation happening in libraries. Started by Colorado library marketers and directors, this initiative is purposed to show communities how important libraries are and how they've changed over the years. Last year was the first year for this initiative, and libraries all over the country participated – including fifteen public libraries in Alabama! This year, Outside the Lines is occurring September 13-19, 2015. Abby Carpenter, Adult Services Manager at Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, played an integral part in bringing Outside the Lines to Alabama, and she will be speaking at the July Administrators' Meeting to provide more information.

We encourage you to participate this year by hosting at least one event or campaign that:

1. Gets people thinking – and talking – about libraries in a different way
2. Showcases the library out in the community as well as in the library
3. Highlights how your library is relevant to people's lives
4. Represents your local community
5. Is active versus passive – gets people engaged
6. Is extraordinary and unexpected
7. Most importantly, is fun!

Take a peak at how some libraries participated last year: Florence-Lauderdale Public Library (FLPL) used the hashtag #flpleverywhere to ask the community to show places they read on Instagram. They also set up pop-up libraries to issue library cards, promote programs, and check out books. They used Instagram to tell residents to visit the pop-up locations.

Pinson Public Library is only a few years old, so a lot of people in the community didn't know about the services they offer. They put together packages that included mugs and literature on library services to hand out in the community and to local businesses to create awareness.

Washington County Public Library partnered with their local Board of Education, WC Career Technical School, and a local grocery store. They gave out bottled water and koozies that asked "Water You Reading" to teachers and other community leaders. They also gave out flyers about library programs and resources for students.

For more information and to sign up, visit the Outside the Lines website: <http://getoutsidethelines.org/>. By signing up, you will receive email notifications from Outside the Lines – including details about an informative webinar on Wednesday, May 27th at 1 p.m. Stay tuned for more information about this initiative in the upcoming months!

# Decatur News

Sandra Sherman-McCandless, Director of Decatur Public Library, retired last month. She started her career in 1975 and worked at the library until 1982. After a 15-year break, during which she served as Integraph's Research Librarian, she returned to the library in 2003 as Director. She was instrumental in coordinating community outreach, increasing programming, and updating the library's technology. A retirement reception was held in Sandy's honor on March 31st with over 135 people in attendance. Sherry Sakovich, former systems librarian for Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, assumed directorship on April 1st.

In other library news, each summer, staff members visit the kids at Camp Safe Haven, a day camp for underprivileged children in Decatur. The staff takes used books to give to each child and provides an educational and entertaining program. The books are provided by the Friends of Decatur Public Library and are taken from books they receive as donations from the community. In 2014, the Friends received a \$2,500 grant from BBVA Compass Bank to purchase brand new books for the 2015 campers. This year's programs will cover reading, financial literacy, conservation, anti-bullying, health and fitness, and fine arts, and each child will receive a brand new book on each topic!



## BCLC Grant

The Baldwin County Library Cooperative (BCLC) was awarded a \$20,000 grant from The Snook Foundation to help fund the new Baldwin County Bookmobile. The Snook Grant will be used to purchase 1,000 books including career resource books, picture books, junior fiction and non-fiction, young adult fiction and non-fiction, and large print fiction and non-fiction.

# Free Training with Project ENABLE

You might have seen information about Project ENABLE on the APLS listserv recently. If you missed the post, read on for more information.

Project ENABLE, which stands for Expanding Non-discriminatory Access by Librarians Everywhere, provides free foundational training designed specifically for librarians worldwide to help them gain the knowledge and skills needed to create inclusive and accessible libraries that meet the needs of all pre-K through 12 grade students. This unique training site allows librarians to designate their library type and location on their registration form and receive content that is tailored just for them.

Training can be customized for individual or group use. The site is free and open to all who can benefit from this training. For an overview of the Project ENABLE training website, there is an introductory video to watch. Five learning modules include Disability, Accessible Library, Planning, Inclusive Programs, and Assistive Technology.

Once registered, log in at any time to complete the modules or to review your progress. Useful site features can be found that help you keep track of what you've done and what you might want to revisit. The information in your registration will automatically customize your training to meet your specific learning needs and then you are ready to begin the training!

Project ENABLE's vision is to provide professional development for library professionals from all types of libraries in order to build capacity for providing equitable access and services to students with disabilities, an underserved population. Project ENABLE training is intended to (1) raise the level of librarians' understanding of and sensitivity for the library and information needs of students with disabilities and (2) foster their ability to develop programs and services, provide adequate facilities, and select appropriate resources and technologies to meet those needs. To learn more visit their website: <http://projectenable.syr.edu>

# Tuscaloosa Southern Music

Tuscaloosa Public Library recently hosted Watermelon Wine and the Poetry of Southern Music at the Southern Ale House restaurant on April 15th. This was a free event with a mix of music, poetry, and stories. Alabama poet and author Jennifer Horne, award-winning Nashville songwriter Anne E. DeChant, and award-winning Alabama author Frye Gaillard performed a concert reading that explored the history of southern music and its influence on literature. Gaillard and Horne presented readings of their works, while DeChant performed her original songs reflecting the insight of the writings.

The Friends of the Library as part of the Kate Webb Ragsdale Author Series, and the Tuscaloosa Public Library sponsored this event.



Frye (left) speaking about DeChant's (right) music.

# Winfield Grant

Felicia Self, an active patron of the Winfield Public Library and an independent consultant from Usborne Books, has often assisted the library with book fairs and fundraisers. This year she informed the library about the Literacy for a Lifetime Matching Grant Program, a 50% matching grant program available through Educational Development Corporation (EDC). Through this generous program, grants and donations are used to purchase the library's choice of Usborne & Kane Miller titles, and are matched with 50% in additional titles of choice for free! The library purchased \$2,196 (157 titles) and received 88 titles free, a value of \$1,098.



Regina Sperry, Library Director (right) and Felicia Self, Independent Consultant (left), pose with the complete shipment of books.

**2 Resources, 1 Goal: Helping Alabama Succeed** 

**LearningExpress Library &  
HomeworkAlabama**

- Online Tutoring for Grades K-12
- College Placement Resources
- Help for all ages and all skill levels
- Certification Test/GED Preparation
- Career Resources

**Find both on the APLS  
Resources and Research Links Page**

# Homewood Tea



On March 2nd, over 70 *Downton Abbey* fans participated in the Homewood Public Library's Downton Abbey Tea and Trivia program. Prizes were awarded for Best Hat, Most Unique Tea Cup, and Best Costume Ensemble. *Tea Time Magazine* treated patrons to a tea demonstration on the correct way to brew tea during the early 1900's, the time period when *Downton Abbey* takes place.

# Staff Development

Public librarians in Marshall County gathered at Guntersville Public Library on March 11th to hold their first Professional Development Day. Attendees listened to presentations covering a wide range of subjects useful to modern librarians.

Several guest speakers were present including a Publix employee, Rex Williams, who spoke on the positive experience patrons will have when they are treated as valued customers. Additionally, APLS Consultant Alisa McLeod spoke on how to apply for E-Rate, Suzanne Burton of Book Systems Library Automation Software demonstrated the new bells and whistles on their newest computer software version of Atrium, and Shirley Chupp, representative of Room At The Inn, talked about a program for the homeless population of Marshall County.

Librarians from each of the area libraries shared programs and ideas that have been successful for them including LEGO clubs, homeschool meetings, genealogy groups, adult reading groups, children's reading groups, field trips to airports and Sci-Quest, and involvement with pet shelters.



Library Directors at the Staff Development Day left to right: Kathy Handle, Arab Public Library; Lynn Burgess, Boaz Public Library; Lisa Rowell, Albertville Public Library; Thames Robinson, Grant Public Library; Debra Slaton, Marshall County Cooperative Library; Beth Wheeler Dean, Guntersville Public Library.

# Cherokee Story Time



On March 31st, Cherokee County Public Library took the Story Time kids to Ethel Morrison Park, located across the street from the library, to have an Easter egg hunt. It was a beautiful day and everyone had a wonderful time finding all the treasures that the Easter bunny had hidden.



# Montgomery Author Visit



Montgomery City-County Public Library's Coliseum Boulevard Branch was pleased to introduce D. S. Lliteras to patrons. Since he now calls Alabama home, he was honored to have the opportunity to share his books with the libraries. His books cover a wide range of interests which derives from having many professions which include hospital worker, dancer, actor, director, fireman, Vietnam veteran, and author/poet. He recently was a special guest on C-SPAN2's *Book TV* where he discussed his books pertaining to Vietnam.

Lliteras presented a wonderful program at the library discussing his work and detailing his five-book Biblical series beginning with the Crucifixion and ending with the Resurrection. Each of these books takes a different perspective through the eyes of people with varying backgrounds and viewpoints. The library had a large and welcoming crowd in attendance.

# The Book Nook

**Title:** *Twilight Land*

**Author:** Howard Pyle

**Reading Level:** Grade 4-6

**ISBN:** 9780375863370

**Reviewed by:** Karen Carroll

**Library:** Leeds Jane Culbreth Library

**Review:** This is a compilation of short stories sure to entertain.

**Title:** *Alfie Runs Away*

**Author:** Kenneth M. Cadow

**Reading Level:** K-Grade 2

**ISBN:** 9780374302023

**Reviewed by:** Evelyn Schreier

**Library:** Southside Public Library

**Review:** Mother helps pre-schooler learn "life lessons" by helping him run away!

**Title:** *Return to Groosham Grange: The Unholy Grail*

**Author:** Anthony Horowitz

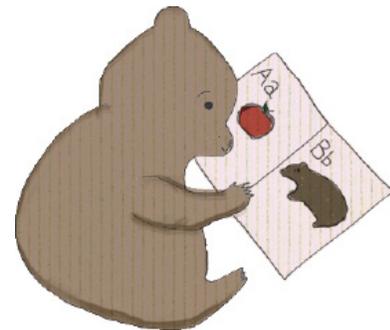
**Reading Level:** Grade 5-7

**ISBN:** 9780142415719

**Reviewed by:** Fran Brown

**Library:** Union Springs Public Library

**Review:** This is #9 in a series. It is about supernatural adventure and friendship. It is not the end of the series.



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