Tenth Gathering of Tribal Libraries Focuses on Technology

The Gathering of Arizona Tribal Libraries group hosted their 10th Gathering on May 5 - 6, at the Salt River Tribal Library in Salt River, AZ. It was a great opportunity for tribal librarians and all those associated with tribal libraries to network, share resources and present new ideas to the group. This year’s theme was “Technical Enough for you? E-readers and the Sort.”

AzLA's Native American Interest Group (NAIG) members are also part of a special group called Gathering of Tribal Libraries. This group consists of Arizona Tribal librarians, managers and staff. The planning team for the Gathering has worked for the past five years to provide mini-conferences and workshops bi-yearly that are especially designed for tribal libraries and hosted at tribal libraries throughout the state. Past venues have included Ak-Chin Tribal Library, Colorado River Indian Tribal Library, Ft. McDowell Tribal Library, Navajo Nation Tribal Library, Ventio Garcia Library and San Xavier Learning Center Library on the Tohono O'Odham Nation and Yavapai-Prescott Tribal Library.

Presentations at the May Gathering included SocioMetrics' HAWK video game (a culturally-relevant, computer-based drug prevention program), AWE Early Literacy Stations demonstrations, the Oral Tribal Libraries History Project, a Social Security overview, a school library presentation, E-Readers, and a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Senior Health workshop. All of the presenters focused on the technological as-

Yuma Pint Nights Delight

Angie Creel-Erb, AzLA Southern Regional Representative and Director of Library Services at Arizona Western College (AWC) in Yuma, broke the Pint Night ice with a warm introduction on behalf of AzLA. From there our rowdy group of library staffers from across Yuma County had lots to share until late in the night. Most of the talk revolved around libraries and common workplace issues.

After drinks and introductions we had several informal conversations about this year’s AZLA Convention at Tucson’s posh resort, the Westin La Paloma. Discussion included how to apply for travel scholarship funds, program submission, and in light of the conference location, who had visited which part of Tucson. Spouses and co-workers mingled, sharing ideas and program proposals as well as updates having little to do with libraries! One could hear sporadic shouts of “...hey what about this...” and “...wow, cool, I’d like to do that...!” However, I would have to admit the most exciting part of the evening was planning... Continued on pg. 3

Continued on pg. 2
Message from the President

Re-Envisioning Summer Reading

What opens doors to your imagination? What takes you on vacation even when you have no money for travel? What stimulates your brain and keeps your mind active during the lazy days of summer? If you answered “Summer Reading,” then you know it isn’t just for kids anymore. As I read the reports coming in from our libraries this summer I see that more and more adults are joining in the fun and participating in library reading programs.

I know that many of you are looking forward to the end of summer when the kids go back to school, you pack away the summer crafts and things get back to normal. But I want to encourage you to begin thinking about Summer Reading 2012. This will be a very special year as we celebrate Arizona’s Centennial and it presents the opportunity for us to plan a Summer Reading program that will involve all the libraries in the state. With that in mind, my challenge to you is to begin planning a Summer Reading program for 2012 that will stretch the boundaries of the library’s traditional approach.

Recently the management team here at Pima County Public Library has been reading and discussing various leadership books. In Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us, author Daniel Pink explores what motivates people, and references numerous studies showing that when we are paid to do something we enjoy it can diminish the intrinsic pleasure of the task.

Now, you may be wondering what that has to do with Summer Reading. As I read Pink’s explanation of how rewards can backfire, it dawned on me that by providing prizes for Summer Reading we may actually be turning a pleasurable experience into work. If our goal is to create life-long learners who are intrinsically motivated to read, then offering pencils and stickers may be sending the wrong message. If we want readers who read to explore, discover and imagine the world around them in new ways, then maybe we need to rethink our methods.

I have always believed that reading is its own reward. Once you know how to read you have the magic key that opens the door to learning about anything that interests you. You can take journeys through time and around the world. Recent studies are expanding our definition of literacy. Literacy is having the ability to decode words in order to inquire, investigate, discover, share ideas and then start all over again. It is an ongoing process that fuels curiosity and a love of learning.

Librarians are creative people and I know that, together, we can design a program that will inspire people to rediscover Arizona. Whether they like history, mystery, nature, adventure or tall tales, Arizona has something for everyone. Let’s re-envision a Summer Reading program that invites people of all ages to join the fun and read, explore, create, write and tell their own stories, too, as we celebrate statehood’s 100th anniversary in 2012. Whether you are in a public, school, academic or special library I invite you to participate as we celebrate statehood in a Summer Reading extravaganza for 2012!

Yuma Pint Nights Delight cont.

a follow-up social south of the border in San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora, Mex.

In other Pint Night business, we congratulated Kate Griffin on her recent promotion as Yuma County Library District’s Information Services Manager with a toast. Appetizers kept coming along with delicious pizza and breadsticks well into the evening. People took pictures on their smart phones and uploaded them to Face-
Tribal Libraries cont.

pect of new and current resources available.

It was an excellent opportunity for tribal library staff to work in small groups in a collaborative environment to investigate new technology and share information about resources available in their individual tribal libraries. Mary Villegas from the Arizona State Library and Archives brought samples of all the different e-readers available—a “Digital Petting Zoo”—so that those in attendance could try them out and ask questions. With the growing popularity of e-readers and their increasing availability on the market, it was a timely subject for tribal librarians eager to know more about them so as to better assist their patrons.

As Co-Chair of the AzLA Special Libraries Division (SLD), I coordinated the NIH Senior Health presentation with co-presenter, Kay Deeney, Educational Services Coordinator representing the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Pacific Southwest Region from the University of California at Los Angeles. We presented a “train the trainer” session to help librarians assist the senior population in their communities with health questions. Kay provided USB drives that included all the modules and resources for tribal librarians presenting NIH Senior Health workshops in their own libraries.

Seth Lansky, of Follett Library Resources, took time out of his busy schedule to present a session on school libraries that included a discussion on ways to motivate young readers. Irma Smith, Salt River High School Librarian, showcased her multimedia computer room and provided demonstrations of the great resources available to the students at Salt River High School. Jamie Lee talked about her current collection of Oral History Projects and Jeff Stoffer shared his knowledge about filming events in communities and libraries.

Leigh Thomas, Salt River Tribal Librarian, hosted the Gathering, and with her committee planned unique events such as a tour of the Huhugam Ki Museum, the Two Waters Buildings and the Tribal Council chambers at the Salt River Tribal headquarters. The Salt River High School computer lab was also highlighted. The planning committee included Oscar Hernandez, Co-chair NAIG and Librarian for Pascua Yaqui Tribal Library; Melanie Toledo, Co-chair NAIG, and Library Director for Ak-Chin Tribal Library; Sandy Littletree, Program Manager, the University of Arizona Knowledge River Program; Amelia Flores, Librarian, Colorado River Indian Tribal Library; Dena Thomas, Library Manager, Venito Garcia Library and Archives; Gertie Lopez, San Xavier Campus, Librarian, Colorado River Indian Library; Irma Smith, Consultant, Arizona State Library and Archives; and Rebecca Swift, Medical Librarian for Phoenix Indian Medical Center.

All in all, the Gathering of Tribal Libraries helped the NAIG and the SLD to collaborate, network and create partnerships that will contribute to the growth and development of Tribal Libraries in Arizona.

Rebecca Swift
Medical Librarian, Phoenix Indian Medical

Time is Running Out: AzLA Service Award Nominations Due Aug. 19

Can you think of a person or a group deserving of an award?

Show them how much they are appreciated. Recognize their accomplishments by nominating them for an AzLA Service Award! Each year AzLA gives Service Awards to individuals and groups making a difference in Arizona Libraries. These awards are presented at the AzLA Awards Breakfast or Luncheon at the Annual Conference.

And, don’t forget about your amazing volunteers. Show them that all the exceptional work they perform has not gone unnoticed by nominating them for AzLA’s Volunteer of the Year Award, which is being unveiled this year.

Get your nominations in quickly, the deadline to submit a nomination is August 19, 2011.

Tami Miller
AzLA Service Awards Chair
A Note about the AzLA Newsletter

The AzLA Newsletter has a new look, and that’s the first part of changes that are underway. The publication schedule has been changed to every other month—so, you can expect to see the AzLA Newsletter on the 15th of January, March, May, July, September, November. This might take some getting used to, so we’ll post newsletter deadlines and publication dates on the AzLA Calendar.

We hope to publish more news you can use, updates from the regional and national associations, news about the Conference, and items about the people who keep Arizona libraries buzzing.

We’ll also include links to the AzLA homepage and connected Facebook pages, the Arizona State Library, and other sites of interest to Arizona library personnel.

Please forward!
Beginning with this issue and continuing through to the end of the year, we’re reaching out to as many libraries as we can. This issue is being sent to library directors and administrators statewide, and we’re asking that you forward it on to staff members in your jurisdiction. Our goal is to reach library staff throughout the state.

And, if you’re receiving this newsletter for the first time, we invite you to sign up for a free subscription. To subscribe, send an email to imailsrv@azla.org with “subscribe azlanewsletter Firstname Lastname” in the body of the message. No subject line is necessary.

Kassy Rodeheaver
Helene Woodhams

Why Membership Matters

Did you recently join AzLA, or renew your membership in our State Library Association? If you joined by June 30th, then you’ve been entered in the Each One Reach One Contest. This means you’re eligible to win a prize of free registration for AzLA’s 2011 Annual Conference, to be held at the beautiful Westin La Paloma Resort in Tucson, Nov. 28-30. The winners of the Each One Reach One Contest will be announced at the Tucson-area Pint Night gathering on August 25 at the Barrio Brewing Co, 800 East 16th Street.

Winners of the Each One Reach One Contest will be announced in the AzLA newsletter in the September/October issue. Stay tuned for the exciting results!

But even though the Contest deadline has passed, the Each One Reach One campaign remains in full swing and the important work of AzLA’s membership recruitment and retention campaign continues. Throughout the last fiscal year, which ended on June 30, the Membership Committee worked closely with the Executive Board to increase revenues for our association. Our revenue stream comes mostly from funds from either membership dues or our annual conference registrations.

Last year’s conference was successful in that we covered our expenses, but now we need to concentrate on increasing membership funds so that we can stay in the black.

New memberships and renewals are critical to our association’s financial well-being. And, as library professionals, our association is critical to us. Without a statewide association, Arizona librarians and information specialists will lose (among many things) a powerful networking tool, a vehicle for professional collaborations, a primary source for ideas and development, and our chance to speak with a united voice when the interests of literacy and the free flow of information are threatened by outside forces.

Keep our association vital: if you aren’t already an AzLA member or your membership has lapsed, join today! If you’re already a member, why not consider renewing your membership now? It will help out the association, and you won’t lose credit for the months still outstanding on your current membership.

Just go to the AzLA website http://www.azla.org/ and under “Get Involved”, ei-
Why Membership Matters cont.

ther join or renew. If you have any trouble joining or renewing online, please contact our administrative staff at: 480-609-3999, or by email: admin@azla.org

Membership by the Numbers

Did you know AzLA has added 88 new members since January? Our association now has 414 regular; 112 support staff; 61 student; 21 retired; 22 non-salaried; 13 institutional; 3 vendors; and 3 trustee members. Our total membership is 649 as of June 30th.

The increase in Institutional Members is particularly significant, because the support of Institutional Members is an important component to helping us achieve our goals as an Association. An increase in their numbers (in this case, more than 200%) represents an increased potential for creating partnerships and communication networks within our community, to the benefit of all our Association’s members. Encourage your institution to join AzLA today. Each Institutional membership includes two complimentary memberships for library supporters: everyone wins!

Friends Invite Friends to Join AzLA

As AzLA’s Each One Reach One campaign shows, you’ve got to have friends! And the good news is that we’re hearing about friends who are encouraging other friends to join AzLA.

Recently, a retired librarian friend sent me an email asking how she could help Arizona librarians in their efforts to support libraries. I told her about AzLA’s Each One Reach One campaign. Not only did she join AzLA but she encouraged me to contact other retired librarians.

Do you know of someone who is a library supporter—a retired librarian, a library friend or trustee, a student or a vendor—who would be interested in joining AzLA? Please reach out and invite a new or old friend to join AzLA. And speaking of friends, why don’t you do the friendly thing by renewing your membership now so you don’t forget?

Marly Helm, Chair
Ella Gomez
Membership Committee

Pint Nights Connect Friends, Colleagues

Pint Nights, informal gatherings of librarians and information professionals, are pleasing participants in the Phoenix, Tucson and Yuma areas. Individuals from all types of libraries are welcome to attend. It’s a great opportunity to make new friends, do some professional networking or just relax and enjoy great company. Come check one out – dates, times and locations are listed in the Calendar section of the AzLA website.

Central Pint Nights, the Phoenix gatherings, are coordinated by Tracy Mertens, Special Libraries Division co-chair. They are held regularly at the Duck and Decanter on Camelback Rd. The Yuma socials have been happening at the Da Boyz downtown location and are coordinated by Angie Creel-Erb, AzLA Southern Regional Representative.

The monthly Tucson Pint Night moves around town to give everyone a chance to sample the local cuisine, which so far has included Mexican, American, bar food, and an ice cream social. The next Tucson Pint Night will be Aug. 25th at the Barrio Brewery on East 16th Street. The AzLA Membership Committee will be on hand, drawing the winners for free conference registrations to the 2011 AzLA Annual Conference as part of their Each One – Reach One Membership Campaign. Come and join the fun!
AzLA Conference Planning Update

Many thanks to everyone who submitted such fine proposals for the conference.

Eighty-two program proposals, seven pre-conferences, 17 posters, and nine roundtables were received, and the Program Committee tackled the difficult task of selecting the proposals to be featured at the conference. Regrettably they couldn’t all be chosen, but we put together a conference program that we feel will be well-rounded, interesting and educational.

Once all the speakers have confirmed, the conference schedule will be posted on the AzLA website, so stay tuned.

Now that the program planning is done we’re focusing on the other aspects of the conference, so now’s the time to send in nominations for the AzLA Service Awards. What better way to show your appreciation for colleagues or mentors than by nominating them for awards? There are several award categories, so no doubt someone you know would qualify. Nominations are due by August 19. For more information, go to http://www.azla.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=168.

Conference registration will open on Aug. 21, and prices are listed on the conference website. If you’d like to attend the conference but can’t afford the registration, consider applying for one of five scholarships that will cover the full conference registration fee. Scholarship recipients must be current AzLA members, and agree to write an article about the conference for the AzLA Newsletter. For more information see the article about Conference Scholarships on page 6 of this newsletter. The application form is available on the conference website: http://azla.org/displayconvention.cfm.

For more frequent conference updates, follow the AzLA Conference on Twitter: http://twitter.com/azla_conference.

Anali Perry
Coni Weatherford
Ella Gomez

AzLA Conference Scholarships Available

Do you want to attend the Arizona Library Association (AzLA) Annual Conference at the Westin La Paloma in Tucson (Nov 28-30), but lack funds for the registration fee?

Apply for a Conference Scholarship!

Five scholarships, covering the full cost of the conference registration fee, will be awarded to AzLA members.

The AzLA Membership Committee will accept applications until Sept. 1, 2011.

Applicants should fill out the online application, which can be found at the conference website. Submit the application and an essay (300 words or less) describing why you want to attend the conference and how you will benefit from it, to the Membership Committee, c/o Bonny Bruce. In the subject line, use “AzLA 2011 Conference Scholarship Application.” You must be an AzLA member to receive a scholarship.

Marly Helm
Membership Committee Chair
New Orleans was a beautiful setting for the Annual Library Association Conference!

Visiting New Orleans for the first time, I was amazed by the sights and sounds of the French Quarter, the Trolley, the Garden District, Bourbon Street and, of course, I will never forget the taste of shrimp gumbo from Mother’s, café au lait and beignets!


In addition to sight-seeing, there was much to do at Conference. The Council’s full meeting schedule prevented me from attending many Conference programs, but I was able to see Dan Savage, the Conference’s opening speaker. He was riveting! The audience laughed and cried as he spoke about the beginnings of the LGBT “It Gets Better” project, and its amazing success. (http://www.itgetsbetter.org/pages/about-it-gets-better-project/)

“Now Showing at ALA” was an exciting new feature making its appearance for the first time at Conference. Many films were screened, ranging from Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Fraggle Rock to Connected: An Autobiography About Love, Death & Technology, and The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers.

Council I

Councilors attend a full slate of meetings, including Council orientation, general membership meetings, ALA Council I, II, and III, ALA-APA (Allied Professional Association), Chapter Relations Committee Meetings I and II, and Council Forums. The ALA Council is the policy-making body for ALA and receives reports from ALA Divisions, Roundtables and special task-forces set by ALA’s President and Executive Board. The Council is made up of 100 Councilors at Large, and more than fifty Chapter and Division Councilors.

In Council I, an “Out of School Time” resolution was passed in support of libraries and out-of-school-time programming, in response to the need for such programs which grows even as they are being cut from public and school library budgets.

Council II

During Council II the policy monitoring committee gave its report and referenced ALA’s strategic plan, in affect until 2015. Key areas of concern continue to be: Advocacy for libraries and the profession; Diversity; Education and Lifelong Learning; Equitable Access to Information and Library Services; Intellectual Freedom; Literacy; Organizational Excellence; and Transforming Libraries.

The Council also heard two exciting reports, one from the Council Effectiveness Committee and the other from the ALA Presidential Task Force on Equitable Access regarding ebooks and publisher rights. The Council Effectiveness Committee made several provocative recommendations regarding the reorganization and future function of the ALA Council, including using ALA Connect as the official communication tool for the Council, broadening the size of the Executive Board while reducing the number Councilors and using meeting technology to accomplish more of the Council’s work. The Executive Council will review the recommendations and consider how these items might be

used in the strategic planning process for ALA in 2015. Information from the Equitable Access Task Force was forwarded to the Budget, Analysis and Recommendation Committee (BARC) and recommendations will be available to ALA members in August. This work was considered by all of Council to be of utmost importance to all libraries.

Council III

During Council III’s budget report, ALA Treasurer Jim Neal reported $27,300,659 in revenues and $29,789,574 in expenses. Reductions were taken which reduced the deficit to $154,000, and this amount will be addressed with money from a separate funding source to guarantee a balanced budget by the end of the FY 2011 on Aug. 31.

Several resolutions were passed, including one about the protection of Library User Confidentiality in Self Service Holds, one for continued opposition to the use of section 215 of the USA Patriot Act and the use of National Security Letters to Violate Reader Privacy, as well as a resolution on Government Printing Office FY 2012 appropriations. A resolution to increase funding for improving literacy through school libraries passed as did a resolution to increase funding for LSTA. Most of Council III’s time was taken up with the Council Effectiveness Task Force recommendations. While this was a difficult discussion I believe it central to the future of ALA as an organization and look forward to ALA and the Council moving forward.

A full report of Council actions will be available at [http://www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org).

This is an exciting time for libraries and an exciting time for ALA. Many changes are coming for all of us and our strength is in our ability to adapt and provide service to those in the community that need help in adapting as well.

Amber Mathewson
AzLA Chapter Councillor

Report from the MPLA Representative

**Libraries: The Road to Everywhere**

The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) had their conference this year in conjunction with the Montana Library Association (MLA) annual conference in Billings, MT, on April 6-9. I attended the conference as the Arizona Library Association representative to the MPLA board.

The keynote was delivered by Marilyn Johnson, author of *This Book is Overdue! How Librarians and Cybrarians Can Save Us All*. Ms. Johnson gave us an inspiring and humorous talk about just how important and indispensable librarians are, even in this age of Google.

There were many informative sessions sponsored by MPLA as well as MLA. Topics included Library Marketing, Customer Service Guidelines, and an introduction to smart phones and various reader devices. Conference-goers also had the opportunity to visit with a wide range of library vendors.

The Montana Library Association supports the Sheila Cates Scholarship fund for Montana library school students, and they certainly put the fun in fundraising at their event this year!

“The Montana Library Association supports the Sheila Cates Scholarship fund for Montana library school students, and they certainly put the fun in fundraising at their event this year!”
Libraries: The Road to Everywhere cont.

The MPLA board meetings included an informative visioning session with incoming President Dana Braccia. The conference was interesting and informative, and I appreciate the support of AzLA in sending me to Billings.

Julie Huelsbeck
AzLA representative to MPLA

ARSL to Meet in Frisco, TX

Registration continues for the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) 2011 Conference to be held Sept. 8-11, in Frisco, TX.

The conference will bring together representatives from small and rural libraries across the nation to share resources and build a spirit of collaboration. The mission of ARSL, an affiliate of the American Library Association, is to provide a network of people and materials to support rural and small library staff, volunteers and trustees to integrate the library thoroughly with the life and work of the community it serves. Learn more at www.arsl.info.

Special session speakers (all terrific!) will include Linda Braun, a nationally-known library technology consultant; Gene Ambaum and Bill Barnes, creators of wildly popular Unshelved, the world’s only library comic strip; and Joe Bob Briggs, TV personality, drive-in movie critic, author and advocate of intellectual freedom.

Examples of workshops (and there are many) include Inside Tips for Grant Writing; Homework 411 for Teens; Cloud Computing; Programming for All Ages; Endowment Building; Recycling Books for Fun, Fashion & Profit; Trustee/Board Development; Summer Reading Programs; Developing Community Partnerships; Library Signage; Engaging Volunteers; Getting Non-Reading Teens Involved in YA Lit; Saks Services on a Dollar General Budget; Storytelling Programs for All Ages; Storytime Ideas; Troubleshooting Technology; and Adult Programs on a $0 Budget.

For conference information and registration, go to http://www.arsl.info/annual-conference-awards-calendar/frisco-conference-2011/. Questions about registration, programs, schedule, hotel, volunteering, etc., should be sent to arsl.conference@gmail.com.

“Special session speakers (all terrific!) will include Linda Braun, a nationally-known library technology consultant; Gene Ambaum and Bill Barnes, creators of wildly popular Unshelved…”
Donna Hanley Named Louise A. Stephens Memorial Scholarship Recipient

Congratulations to Donna Hanley, recipient of the Louise A. Stephens Memorial Scholarship for 2011-12.

A graduate of Northern Arizona University, Hanley will enter the School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS) program at the University of Arizona this summer. She has worked at the public libraries in Mesa and Show Low, and currently manages the library at St. Johns (AZ) High School. When she finishes her degree, Ms. Hanley would like to serve as a director of a small town public library.

She will be honored at the AzLA Awards Breakfast at the 2011 Conference in Tucson.

The Louise A. Stephens Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to a part-time or full-time student in the University of Arizona SIRLS program. It is given in honor of Louise Stephens, a SIRLS graduate, who worked for Glendale Public Library for 30 years as a children’s librarian and library manager. Throughout her career, Stephens was active in the Arizona Library Association, serving as Association President, Public Library Division President, and Awards Chair. In 2001 she was named the Association’s Librarian of the Year and in 2007 she received the Rosenzweig Award for distinguished service. She passed away in July 2007, and an endowed scholarship was established in her memory.

For more information about the Stephens Scholarship, or to contribute: http://www.azla.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=116.

Special thanks to scholarship committee members Cynthia Landrum, Tami Miller, and Wade Stephens for their work this year.

Ann Ewbank
Stephens Scholarship Chair

Gift Basket Raffle will Benefit Scholarship

Every year the Arizona Library Association designates a charity for which funds are raised during the Annual Conference. This year, the Louise A. Stephens Scholarship Fund is the Conference’s designated charity.

Conference attendees can donate to the Scholarship by participating in a gift basket raffle to be held during the proceedings. Raffle tickets will be $2 each, or three for $5. Multiple gifts baskets containing all sorts of goodies, will be available and drawings will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday during the last “no-conflict” time slot in the Conference schedule. A list of raffle winners will be posted at the AzLA booth each day. Participants must be present to win.

Individuals and organizations wishing to donate a gift basket for the raffle can contact Ella Gomez.

The Stephens Scholarship is an award of $1,000 presented annually to a student enrolled in the University of Arizona’s School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS) program. To be considered for the Scholarship an applicant must be an Arizona resident, a SIRLS student in good standing enrolled for a minimum of 6 credit hours in a semester, and a member of AzLA.

“Multiple gifts baskets containing all sorts of goodies, will be available and drawings will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday during the last “no-conflict” time slot in the Conference schedule.”
Arizona Book Titles Wanted

As part of Arizona’s Centennial Celebration, Pima County Public Library is partnering with the Arizona State Library to create an online literary map of Arizona – and your opinion is needed.

The map will include the best books set in Arizona or written about Arizona during the past 100 years. The goal is to plot 100 titles on the map: fiction and nonfiction, offerings for adults, children, and youth, representative of all the points of our state compass.

What, in your opinion, are the best reads and most important titles set in, or written about, your town, city, county, or region of our state? What titles do you recommend to patrons, visitors, or students who want to know more about your area, or want to read fiction with a local setting? Arizona has been the subject of, or the backdrop to, a wealth of good books. We’re looking for a sampling of the best, most representative reads about our state.

Here are the criteria:

1. Literary merit, naturally—hard to define, but you know it when you see it.

2. Books published ANY TIME during the past 100 are fair game. But feel free to make a case for a book more than 100 years old.

3. Books that will appeal to a general audience—nothing too specialized or academic, no dictionaries or technical manuals.

4. Books that are easily available are favored, but out-of-print is ok: we know that some important Arizona books simply can’t be found any longer, except in special collections and rare book stores. Self-published books will be an exception: they present their own set of problems and won’t be favored unless they’re widely known.

5. Books! (Not other audio-visual media).

Your opinion is important to this project! Please send your book suggestions to me by July 31. (Helene.Woodhams@pima.gov). Include title, author, and publication date, and anything else you’d care to say about it.

Thanks for sharing your favorite Arizona reads!

Helene Woodhams
Pima County Public Library

YA Corner

WSJ Article Creates Uproar in World of Teen Literature

I was planning to write about something completely different this month, but that was before an essay in the Wall Street Journal by Meghan Cox Gurdon created an uproar in the world of YA literature.

Gurdon’s essay, entitled “Darkness Too Visible,” asks the question “Contemporary fiction for teens is rife with explicit abuse, violence and depravity. Why is this considered a good idea?” Admittedly, this isn’t a new topic by any stretch of the imagination—every few months there seems to be a negative essay published about the depravity of teen literature. But Gurdon appears to have pushed too many people’s buttons, and in the ensuing weeks there have been many blog posts, newspaper editorials, tweets, and emails discussing Gurdon’s essay and the state of teen literature. Some commentators have blasted Gurdon, but more have discussed how teen literature saves youth, gives them a safe way to explore topics, helps encourage empathy, and shows them that they are not alone.

Some of the more touching pieces were written by authors of teen literature who talked about writing the kind of books they themselves needed to read when they were teens. I found two of the pieces especially eloquent. In his Wall Street Journal, response to Gurdon, Sherman Alexie displayed the kind of brutal honesty that made me want to go out and buy his books – even though I already own them.

Cecil Castellucci, author of teen literature and

Continued on pg. 12
Teen Literature cont.

Los Angeles Review of Books Young Adult editor also wrote a meaningful piece for the Re-
view of Books Blog. This piece should resonate with librarians, and not just because it in-
cludes great reading suggestions.

Castellucci’s article begins by responding Gur-
don’s description of the “lost mom” at the
bookstore, who can’t find any appropriate
books for her teenager. There are plenty of
books for all kinds of kids, Castellucci argues
— parents just have to know how to find them—
Or, and maybe more to the point, who to ask
for them.

This scenario happens all the time, in libraries
as well as in bookstores, and this is where the
trained professional comes into play. As teen
librarians we are the go-to people when help is
needed selecting teen literature. And that’s
great—when we’re available. But what hap-

pens to those moms looking for books for their
teens when the teen librarian is out?

Teen librarians need to be sure the rest of the
staff is equipped with resources to help lost
moms when we are not available. I encourage
every teen librarian to create a binder of read-
ers advisory bibliographies for their library’s
service desks. This will enhance everyone’s
ability to deliver quality readers advisory for
teens rather instead of just sending patrons to
the teen shelves.

So here’s to my next two months goal at work:
update all the bibliography binders for the
service desks!

Kristin Fletcher-Spear
(who first learned about drugs from Sweet
Valley High #40)
Teen Librarian, Foothills Branch, Glendale
Public Libraries

Innovative Interfaces Users Group to Meet

Staff from Pima County Public Library and
Pima Community College Library will be host-
ing an Arizona Innovative Interfaces Inc. Users
Group meeting in conjunction with this year’s
AzLA Conference in Tucson. The meeting will
be held on Monday Nov. 28 at the conference
hotel in Tucson. We encourage all Arizona li-
braries using an Innovative Integrated Library
System (ILS), or who are interested in learning
more about Innovative to attend. This includes
public, academic, medical, law and special
libraries.

The goals of the meeting include sharing ideas
about what our libraries are doing in relation
to Innovative products and building our Ari-
izona Innovative user network. We’ve invited
Innovative to present on new products (Sierra
for example) and upcoming improvements to
existing products, and Lisa Elliot of Innovative
has confirmed that she will attend.

Refreshments will be served.

This is an informal regional user group meet-
ing. The meeting is not a part of the AzLA Con-
ference. However, since many of you will be in
Tucson for the conference we want to take

“... advantage of the opportunity to get together.
The meeting is scheduled on the pre-
conference session day and will not interfere
with the conference schedule. Since this meet-
ing is not a part of the conference there is no
charge to attend, nor do you have to be regis-
tered for the conference to join us.

The meeting will be a half day in the afternoon
(exact time to be determined) so those of you
who do not live in Tucson will have time to
travel Monday morning. Additional information
including an agenda will be emailed prior to
the conference as will an Evite, so that we can
get a headcount of attendees. Please RSVP if
you are able to come, and forward Evite to
others who may be interested.

If there are items you’d like to see on the
agenda, and/or if you would be willing to pre-
sent on something Innovative-related that
would be of interest to the group, please re-
spond to Nancy Ledeboer, Jen Maney, and
Beckie Gallivan.

Beckie Gallivan
Director, Library Technical Services
Pima Community College
Emerging Technologies

Music from the Cloud

How many of us remember carrying a tote box of 45s, or a boom box and pockets of cassette tapes to a friend’s house? Listening to our music away from home meant carrying our physical music library with us. For the most part that went away with digital music. Your music library was either loaded on your PC or on your personal player and that was that. But recently, several companies have come forward with a way to load your music library to the Cloud and stream it to any Internet-connected device.

Apple, Amazon and Google have all entered the market with various music-streaming services, as have Web companies like Spotify, mSpot and Grooveshark. The idea is simple: you upload your music library to the Cloud rather than to any one physical device. Then you can access it from web-based players on any connected PC or laptop, or even your mobile device.

There are benefits to storing your music in the Cloud: your music is available wherever you are (assuming the ubiquity of Internet connectivity), you save on buying large Secure Digital (SD) cards for storing your music and your music is backed up in the Cloud. But, there are disadvantages, too: if you do not have a broadband (or 3G) connection you are out of luck. Some of these services offer free access to a small amount of space but charge for bigger amounts, and not all services work on all mobile or OS platforms.

How would you use these services? Think of the user with a mobile device and computers at home and at work who listens to music on all three devices. In the past, every time that user bought music it would have to be loaded on all those devices. With a streaming service the music would only have to be loaded once, into the Cloud, for it to be accessible on all three of the user’s devices, and any other Internet-connected device. All devices are kept in sync without having to dig up a single USB cable or thumb drive.

How will these services work in the library setting? The amount of network bandwidth that streaming will consume will need to be a consideration. And, a computer area full of patrons all listening to their music will make for a very distracting environment without a policy in place requiring the use of headphones.

The decision about the best service for you depends on how you listen to digital music and where you purchase it. For a review of current services, Lifehacker.com has a really good comparison: cloud music comparison-whats-the-best-service-for-streaming-your-library-everywhere.

Here are some links to the various services:

- Amazon Cloud Drive
- Apple iCloud
- Google Music
- Grooveshark
- Spotify
- mSpot

Vincent Alascia
Librarian, Arizona State Library and Archives
Co-chair, MCLC TechTalk
New ALA Publication Series Focuses on Technology

The American Library Association’s Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) released the first publication of “OITP Perspectives,” a new publication series created to complement OITP Policy Briefs, on June 2.

The publication, “Digitizing Hidden Collections in Public Libraries,” was written by Gwen Glazer, staff writer/editor and social media coordinator at Cornell University, who served as the Google Policy Fellow for OITP in summer, 2010.

Glazer’s piece offers an overview of digitization challenges facing small and medium-sized libraries, presents options for large-scale digitization projects, and suggests ways to share newly created digital collections.

“This publication is significant because it delves into an issue that public librarians care deeply about but are not sure how to handle,” said Bonnie Tijerina, chair of OITP’s Advisory Committee.

“To find real solutions to these digitization challenges, public librarians must overcome all the hurdles that prevent capturing these hidden collections. A key hurdle is developing collaborations to pursue new initiatives to bring hidden collections online. I believe this publication will be a valuable tool for finding such collaborators.”

OITP Director Alan Inouye said the purpose of the new ALA-produced series is to provide an outlet for topics that are more specialized than those covered by policy briefs, which can require an extended time to develop. OITP Perspectives publications are intended for primary digital release.

“This new series provides a needed outlet for OITP to make a more rapid response to current issues,” said Inouye. “Additional publications for the OITP Perspectives series are already in the works in the areas of cutting-edge technology services, copyright, and e-books.”

Jenni Terry
Press Officer, ALA Washington Office

Librarian/Authors Seek Input from Invisible Web Users

If you use the Invisible Web during the course of your reference duties or offer instruction in its use, City University of New York Professors Jane Devine and Francine Egger-Sider would like to hear from you.

Devine and Egger-Sider, librarians at LaGuardia Community College, are writing a second edition of their book, Going Beyond Google: The Invisible Web in Learning and Teaching (Neal-Schuman, 2009). They are continuing their research and want to survey colleagues in the library world about their use of the Invisible Web and how, if at all, they teach about it. To this end, they would like to enlist the help of AzLA members.

To contribute, complete this survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KBP9TYG. It is administered by Survey Monkey and all responses are anonymous. Devine and Egger-Sider are particularly interested in communicating directly with library professionals who teach about the Invisible Web in any setting (reference, one-shot library instruction, credit course, etc.). Individuals willing to describe their work in this area and share materials such as syllabi, handouts, lesson plans, etc. will be credited in the book for submissions that are used.

For more information, contact Jane Devine (jane@lagcc.cuny.edu or (718) 482-5421) or Francine Egger-Sider (fegger@lagcc.cuny.edu or (718) 482-5423).

“They are continuing their research and want to survey colleagues in the library world about their use of the Invisible Web and how, if at all, they teach about it.”