

Access

Library Programs for
Kids of all Ages

April

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MeL Database Renewal

by Jo Budler, Deputy State Librarian

The process for the MeL database renewal, scheduled to begin on October 1, 2003, actually began in the spring of 2002. It was then that a schedule was established for Library of Michigan and Michigan Library Consortium (MLC) staff to hold feedback groups around the state. During the months of May and June, nine feedback groups were held in Bloomfield Hills, Marquette, Sterling Heights, Hudsonville, Mackinaw City, Paw Paw, Saginaw, Lansing and Cadillac, where more than 165 people helped create a "wish list" of subjects. Those unable to attend a session were given the opportunity to complete an online survey so that their feedback could be included.

This lengthy wish list was the basis of the request for proposals (RFP) that was issued in August 2002. Responses, due on November 1, were officially opened on November 4. One of the requirements of the RFP was that vendors set up trials of any database they were including in their proposal so that reviewers could evaluate these resources. More than 80 librarians from around the state served as reviewers of the more than 100 databases that were "on trial" from approximately the middle of October to the middle of January.

Database reviews were completed by January 15. Special thanks go to reviewers and to the staff at MLC; these folks were invaluable in this process. Reviewers took the time to "test drive" each database and

complete evaluation forms. MLC housed the electronic evaluation form and aggregated the evaluations. Library of Michigan staff then read and scored these evaluations. This score was one of the criteria for selecting database package(s). Other criteria included pricing and scoring of the RFP responses by a Joint Evaluation Committee, as required by the state of Michigan.

Pricing negotiations took place between January 15 and February 5. Scenarios for purchase were created, and these were presented to the State Librarian for consideration. As we go to press with this issue of *Access*, the process is entering its final stage. The package of databases to be included in MeL is being sent to the State Department of Management and Budget, the Finance and Claims Committee and the Administrative Board for their approval. Once this purchase has been approved, the Library of Michigan will announce the databases and vendors who will be included in MeL beginning October 1, 2003 and going through September 30, 2006.

The MeL database renewal is the first project of its kind that the Library of Michigan has completed since moving from the legislative branch to the executive branch. While this project was carefully planned and carried out, it was not possible to follow the suggested timeline that was included in the RFP because there were several steps we had not anticipated. We realize that other changes to

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Notes from the State Librarian



The Library of Michigan recently played host to a meeting of the minds, international style! Canada's national librarian, Mr. Roch Carrier, took time from his busy schedule to spend a few hours with Michigan librarians and fans of his literary works.

The Canadian Consulate General's office, the Michigan State University Canadian Studies Centre and Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada partnered with us to bring Mr. Carrier to Lansing, and we are fortunate they did. In addition to his role as national librarian of Canada, Mr. Carrier is a noted author, educator and a dogged advocate for the arts. It turns out that, when it comes to librarians and the many hats we wear, there are far more similarities than differences between our two countries.

Before Mr. Carrier began his talks, I had a few moments to speak with him alone. We discussed our respective efforts to provide equitable access to our "clients" (as Mr. Carrier referred to them), and he took the words right out of my mouth as he talked about the goal to provide information when and where they want it and in the desired formats.

Mr. Carrier was also very interested in MeL and wanted to know more about its components and how we had managed to provide it. His comment was, "Libraries need to be connected with the people who are paying for them. Ideally, the kid in the most remote area, sitting at a computer, should be able to get information as easily as the student at a university."

Another quote by Mr. Carrier really cemented my belief about our commonalities: "I am dedicated to putting knowledge within reach of all Canadians by addressing issues which impede access: cost, literacy, language, distance, culture and physical ability." Amen! Isn't that what each of us here in Michigan works for on a daily basis?

Luckily, many of us will have an opportunity to further explore commonalities with our Canadian neighbors at the ALA conference in Toronto, June 20-25. Happy April!

the process may also lead to additional improvement. Therefore, the process itself is being assessed by those who participated in the evaluation, and based on their recommendations, the process will be refined for the next go-around in three years' time!

Special thanks go to the following people, who so generously gave of their time to participate in the review process for the MeL database program:

Sue Adamczak, Library of Michigan
Jennifer Barlow, Borgess Medical Center
Diane Barr, Armada High School
Denise Bartlett, Superior Central K-12 Library
Rick Bearden, Ferris State University
Karen Becknell, John Page Middle School
Leslie Behm, Michigan State University
Kathy Braund, Canton Public Library
Rhonella Brelinski, Columbia School District
Harvey Brenneise, Michigan Community Health Electronic Library
Carla Brooks, University of Michigan - Dearborn
Shari Buxbaum, Gast Business Library
Regina Calnin, Glerum Elementary School
Nancy Campbell, Niles District Library
Kris Condic, Oakland University
Marney Cooley, Flat Rock Public Library
Jan Dohner, Maltby Middle School
Shirley Dudek, L'Anse Creuse High School
Charlotte Dugas, Munising School Public Library
Ruth Dukelow, Michigan Library Consortium
Judy Dyki, Cranbrook Academy of Art
Jeanine Fletcher, Dexter High School
Anne Foster, Dean C Burns Health Science Library
Evelyn Freeman, Oakland Schools
Kathleen Garland-Rike, Kalamazoo Valley Community College
Jon Harrison, Michigan State University
Donna Hollis, Novi Public Library
David Isaacson, Waldo Library-Western Michigan University
Leelyn Johnson, Library of Michigan
Darlene Johnson-Bignotti, Southfield Public Library
Marjory Johnston, Finlandia University - Hancock
Caroline Jordan, Peter White Public Library
Jim Kangas, Kettering University Library
Walt Lessun, Gogebic Community College
George Libbey, University of Detroit Mercy
Margaret Lincoln, Lakeview High School Library
Jim MacLean, Capital Area District Library
Kathleen McBroom, Dearborn Public Schools
Sandy McCarthy, Washtenaw Community College
Lizbeth Messing, Traverse City Central High School
Betsy Susan Morgan, Glen Oaks Community College
Jill Morgan, Flat Rock Community High School Media Center
Janice Murphy, Library of Michigan
Jim Nazarko, L'Anse Creuse High School
Linda Neely, Library of Michigan
Roy Nuffer, Schoolcraft College Library
Betty Ong, Dondero High School
Rosemary Orlando, St. Clair Shores Public Library
Debra Overbey, Stockbridge High School Library
Maggie Pavelka, Brighton District Library
Kathy Petlewski, Plymouth District Library
Jan Raskin, Marquette Senior High School
Karren Reish, Library of Michigan

Rose Rice-Gutierrez, Bridgeport Public Library
Linda S Richer, W.E. Upjohn Institute Library
Sabrina Riley, James White Library/Andrews University
Kyle Ripley, Library of Michigan
Kathy Ruddick, Kalamazoo Public Library
Marcia Rutledge, Troy Public Library
Suzanne Sawyer, Lansing Community College
Nan Schichtel, Grand Valley State University
Janet Schoettle, Zeeland High School
Sally Schuckel, Kellogg Community College
Mary Margaret Serpento, Kitch Drutchas Wagner
DeNardis & Valitutti
Michael Simmons, Sparrow Health System
Melissa Sissen, Siena Heights University
Kath Swagner, MISD Library
Bonnie Jean Swegles, Macomb County Library
Mark Szidik, Michigan Library Consortium
Eunice Teel, North Central Michigan College
Heather Thomas, Michigan Library Consortium
Jennie Thomas, Albion College
Beth Timmerman, Kalamazoo Public Library
Christine Valentine, Davenport University
Michael VanHouten, Stockwell-Mudd Libraries-Albion College
Richard Vettese, Grand Rapids Public Library
Sharon Vincent, Farmington Community Library
Diana Vollmayer, Bloomfield Township Library
Barbara Walker, Wayne RESA
Diane Warner, Michigan State University Libraries
Kathy Wedyke, Deckerville Public Library
Melissa White, REMC 13
Nancy Whitmer, Library of Michigan
Tim Wiggins, Cass District Library
Terrie Wilson, Michigan State University
Wayne Works, Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative

Black Roots Workshop with Tony Burroughs a Big Success

by Randy Riley, Special Collections Manager, Library of Michigan

The Library of Michigan hosted the Black Roots Workshop on Saturday, February 8, to kick off Black History Month. Over 170 people crowded into the Michigan Library and Historical Center's Forum auditorium to take part in this program discussing African American family history. The Library of Michigan, along with the Lansing Area African American Genealogical Society and Library of Michigan Foundation, co-sponsored the daylong event.

Tony Burroughs, an internationally known genealogist, author and lecturer, was the featured speaker. He detailed ways to improve research methodologies and create strategies for locating elusive African American ancestors. His presentation focused on the topics "Beginning Your African American Genealogy Research," "Researching Vital Records," "Locating Obituaries for African

Americans" and "Identifying Slave Owners." Burroughs teaches genealogy classes at Chicago State University and is the author of the best seller *Black Roots: A Beginners Guide to Tracing the African American Family*.

One attendee summed up the day's event with a single word: "Awesome."

"It was a great day," said Randy Riley, Special Collections Manager. "We had a unique opportunity to show off the diversity of the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection and were able to bring a lot of new users into the Library." If you have questions about African American genealogical resources at the Library of Michigan, you can reach Randy at (517) 373-1300 or librarian@michigan.gov.



Michigan Cemetery Sources Database

by Kyle Kay Ripley, Reference Assistant, Library of Michigan

Thanks to the new Michigan Cemetery Database launched in January, genealogists, historians and researchers all over the world now can easily find information about over 3,700 cemeteries in the state of Michigan.

The information in this database is based on the *Michigan Cemetery Source Book* published by the Library of Michigan in 1994. In addition to the information in that publication, the database includes sources for cemetery transcriptions added to the Library of Michigan's collection for the past nine years. It will continually be updated as the Library receives more sources in the future.

The database is searchable by cemetery name, county, township and keyword, and it also has the capability for wildcard searching. Patrons can see a list of all the cemeteries in a county, in a township or individually by name. Clicking on the cemetery name reveals detailed information on where it is physically located and identifies the sources at the Library of Michigan that include names of persons buried in that cemetery. Transcription sources vary from readings of the tombstones in a cemetery to extensive records from sextons and obituaries. Clicking on the book or microfilm call number

takes you directly to the Library of Michigan's ANSWER online catalog record for a full bibliographic description of the source. Patrons can click on "Copies" at the top of each page for more information about how to borrow or interlibrary loan sources. "Contact Us" and "Help" links are also provided for questions about the database via email.

Future plans for the database include possibly scanning the pages from transcriptions, with the publisher's permission, and linking the name of the cemetery to an online map.

Direct access to the database is at <http://michigancemeteries.libraryofmichigan.org/>. You will also find it at the Department of History, Arts and Libraries Web site at www.michigan.gov/hal. Using the menu on the left, click on Services and Collections, Genealogy, Online Resources, Genealogy Indexes, Cemetery Resources Index.

Programs, Materials and Services for 'Tweens Workshop

by Kristine Tardiff, Youth Services Specialist, Library of Michigan

They're not exactly teens yet, but they don't want to be thought of as "just kids"...they're the 'tweens, and how do you serve them best at your library? Learn how to plan programs and services and offer quality, appropriate materials for children ages 9-12 at the *Programs, Materials and Services for 'Tweens Workshop* being offered by the Library of Michigan around the state this May. Speakers Carol Doll, professor in the Library and Information Science program at Wayne State University; Pam Barron, associate professor in the Department of Library and Information Studies at University of North Carolina at Greensboro; and Rita Soltan, youth services consultant, will focus on serving the 9-12 age group and offering a smooth transition for them as they move out of the children's room and into the teen and adult areas of the library.

The schedule of workshops is as follows:

Monday, May 12	Library of Michigan, Lansing
Tuesday, May 13	North Central Michigan College, Petoskey
Thursday, May 15	Escanaba Public Library, Escanaba

All sessions run from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and are worth 0.4 CEUs (0.4 SB-CEUs have been applied for as well). Registration is \$40, which includes lunch. Watch your mail for the informational flyer and registration form – you won't want to miss the opportunity to learn how to better serve this age group that often "falls through the cracks!"

For more information, contact Kristine Tardiff at (517) 373-4457 or ktardiff@michigan.gov.

2003 Beginning Workshop

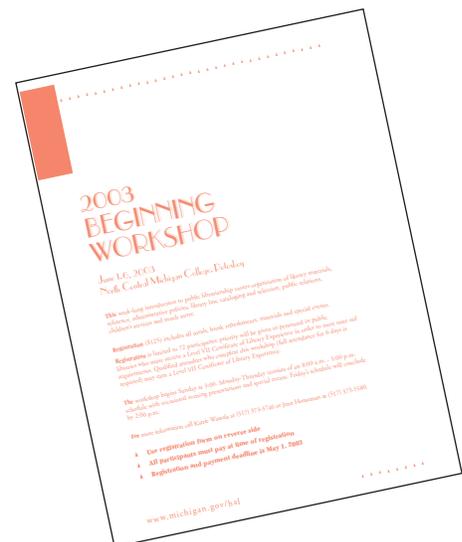
by Karrie Waarala, Continuing Education Specialist, Library of Michigan

It's that time of year again! The Library of Michigan will be hosting the Beginning Workshop June 1-6 at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey. The Beginning Workshop is a week-long introduction to public librarianship that covers topics such as the selection and organization of library materials, reference services, administration, library law, cataloging, public relations, children's services and much more.

Qualified attendees who complete this workshop may earn a Level VII Certificate of Library Experience. Registration is limited to 72 participants, and priority will be given to personnel in public libraries who must earn a Level VII certificate to meet state aid requirements.

Registration is only \$125, which includes all sessions, materials and meals. Best Western Inn of Petoskey is offering reduced group rates; however, workshop participants are free to stay at any hotel and are responsible for making their own reservations. To reserve a room at the Best Western, call them at (231) 347-3925 by May 1, and be sure to mention that you are with the Library of Michigan Beginning Workshop.

Check your mail for an informational flyer and registration form for this workshop. For more information, contact Karrie Waarala at (517) 373-3746 or kwaarala@michigan.gov.



The Library of Michigan Summer 2003 Trustee Workshop: *Roles, Responsibilities, and Reputations*

by Dragomir Cosanici, Library Law Specialist, and Martha McKee, Library Consultant

A public library board's reputation rests on its members both observing the law and behaving in a manner befitting their position of public trust. This summer, Dragomir Cosanici, the Library of Michigan's library law specialist, and Martha Seaman McKee, library consultant, will combine their two successful workshops into one. Their goal is to help library trustees successfully fulfill their crucial roles. The workshop's objective will be to educate library trustees on the primary legal and behavioral responsibilities that their position entails.

But why should trustees attend?

Library trustees are the most important volunteers for any library. Whether elected by the library service area's general population or appointed by a municipal official, library trustees are responsible for the general governance of the public library. They make policies to oversee the everyday operation of the library facility, determine the library's funding, provide adequate staff and materials, and construct or preserve the library building. Their actions must be completed in accordance with both state and federal laws and within generally accepted accounting and ethical principles. The task can be daunting!

Many become library trustees armed with only a vague notion of assuming a public position subject to public accountability and scrutiny and besieged by conflicting expectations and demands. Some library board trustees have prior experience in the private nonprofit sector. They often know how to conduct meetings, work with others on the board and in committees, and report to the members of the organization, but may have little acquaintance with the requirements of running a public board. Such requirements include, among others, the Open Meetings Act, the Freedom of Information Act and the Michigan Library Privacy Act. The same predicament is often true for trustees recruited from the business sector. The valuable perspective that these trustees bring to the library board is often lost when there is confusion about the operation of a public agency in the face of public demands and expectations.

The workshop will focus on six areas of library governance:

- Trustee Responsibilities
- Major Legal Requirements
- Establishment Options
- Library Advocacy
- Funding Sources
- Relations with Director and Staff

The Trustee Responsibilities section will cover board organization, by-laws, resolution of board conflict, policies and issues related to 501(c)(3) status. The Major Legal Requirements portion will include the Open Meetings Acts, the Freedom of Information Act, Michigan Privacy Act, U.S.A. Patriot Act, Conflict of Interest Statements, inappropriate use (or abuse) of power and stewardship of funds.

The Establishment Options section will focus on the various types of public libraries that may be established in Michigan. What type of library you govern determines the extent of your legal authority. The Library Advocacy section will center on the importance and means of public and community relations and will include a discussion on Friends groups and other helpful organizations. Funding Sources will review the various local, state and federal sources for that much-needed library revenue. Finally, the Relations with Director and Staff portion will cover the varying responsibilities of the board and director, how the similarities and differences between board and director roles can sometimes create conflict and how to avoid or resolve that conflict.

The workshop is four hours, with two breaks, and for the Saturday dates, a working lunch. It will be held at seven locations around the state:

Friday, June 20	9:30-2:30	Peter White Public Library, Marquette
Saturday, June 21	10 – 2	Jordan Valley District Library, East Jordan
Saturday, July 12	10 – 2	Grand Rapids Public Library
Saturday, July 19	10 – 2	Genesee District Library, Flint
Friday, August 1	1 – 5	Library of Michigan, Lansing
Saturday, August 2	10 – 2	Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative, Paw Paw
Saturday, August 16	10 – 2	Farmington Community Library, Farmington Hills

The fee for this valuable workshop is \$20.

Watch your mail for registration flyers. We hope to see you there!

SkillSoft Class Schedule

by Carol McAllister, Librarian Trainer, Library of Michigan

The Library of Michigan received a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to help implement a technology-training plan that will impact every librarian and library staff member in Michigan's public libraries. With this grant money, we created the Mi-Lib-Tech Training Center, where public library staff members and trustees can take 10 NETg online classes in topics such as Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Word, among others, at no cost! These Web-based courses are self-paced, with graphics, sound, video and real-world simulations.

Did you know we also have a monthly rotation of online soft skills classes? What are soft skills, you ask? They are Web-based classes (just like NETg) that focus on communication, leadership and other "soft" skills. Wondering what SkillSoft classes are coming next month to the Mi-Lib-Tech Training Center? Wonder no more.

April: *Understanding Technical Professionals and Technology Forecasting*

May: *Time as a Resource, E-mail and Organizational Communication and Participating Effectively in Business Meetings*

June: *An Essential Guide to Giving Feedback and Attracting, Developing and Retaining Generations*

July: *Customers, Conflict and Confrontation and Workplace Diversity*

August: *Difficult People in the Workplace and Working Effectively with Customers*

September: *Leading Change from the Front Line and Competencies for Tomorrow's Managers*

October: *Motivate & Recognize Employees and Delegation Basics*

November: *Teamwork and Results Without Authority and The Path from Pessimism to Optimism*



Library of Michigan Welcomes New SBPH Manager

Susan Chinault was recently hired to manage the Regional SBPH program at the Library of Michigan. Her background includes three years as the director of the public library in St. Marys, Pennsylvania, and four years as the administrator of an eight-member federated library system in Blair County, Pennsylvania. Susan earned an MSLS

degree from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and a BS degree in forestry from Michigan State University. This position brings Sue, a native Michigianian, home after a 25-year absence.

Originally from Sault Ste. Marie, followed by two years of life in Escanaba, Sue's family left the U.P. for Lansing, where she finished high school and went on to Lansing Community College and MSU. She practiced forestry as a professional for six years in Northern California and then moved to Pennsylvania, where she was drawn to a library career while raising three sons.

Sue is eager to travel the state visiting the ten subregional libraries, meeting the people who provide library services to those who are blind or physically unable to read standard text publications and taking in the beautiful Michigan countryside and shorelines. Sue's enthusiasm for the program is growing stronger with each day as she continues her orientation as SBPH manager.

The Library of Michigan's Library Development and Data Services Division

by Casey Kremers, Department of History, Arts and Libraries



With the recent transfer of the state data center and state demographer functions to the Library of Michigan, the former Library Development Division became the Library Development and Data Services Division (LDDS). New staff members State Demographer Ken Darga and State Census Data Coordinator Darren Warner join LDDS, whose mission is to enhance the quality of library and data services statewide and to support library staff in their ongoing efforts to sustain quality service to Michigan residents.

The transfer of the data center and demographer functions brings new responsibilities to the division, including:

quality service to Michigan residents.

The transfer of the data center and demographer functions brings new responsibilities to the division, including:

- developing population estimates and projections,
- working with the Census Bureau,
- providing demographic analysis and consultation to state agencies,
- compiling and analyzing Michigan census data for statewide distribution via the Web, and
- managing the state data center affiliate network, working closely with coordinating agencies to provide outreach, education and consultation about census data resources.

In addition to these new responsibilities, LDDS continues serving libraries around the state in many ways, including providing consultation, support and information on a wide variety of library services to library staff and trustees and coordinating the following statewide activities:

- Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant program – administering the individual grant program as well as funding for statewide projects such as MeL Cat, the school library media study and PLFIG/QSAC.
- Continuing education and distance learning – developing, coordinating and implementing a variety of workshops and training opportunities for library staff, including the Rural Libraries Conference, Beginning Workshop, New Directors Workshop, online training classes and videoconferencing of meetings and programs.
- Certification of libraries and their staff – reviewing applications and documentation for librarian certification and determining eligibility for level I-VII librarians; reviewing public library service area contracts to determine compliance with state laws and guidelines.
- Gathering of library statistics and data coordination – coordinating the collection, analysis and publication of library statistics, including the Michigan Library Statistical Report, and serving as a statewide resource for library statistics.

- State aid distribution – reviewing state aid applications from public libraries, library cooperatives and subregional/regional libraries in order to determine eligibility to receive state aid, preparing vouchers for state aid payment, maintaining service area information for public libraries and producing county population certification reports.
- Youth services programs and consultation – coordinating and assisting in statewide youth services programs, including the summer reading program, and providing consultation and training to library staff who serve children and young adults.

If you would like more information about any of these areas, please contact the following LDDS staff members:

Sheryl Mase, Division Director – (517) 373-4331 or smase@michigan.gov

Ken Darga, State Demographer – (517) 373-9654 or dargak@michigan.gov

Molly Dwyer, State Library Data Coordinator – (517) 373-3828 or mdwyer@michigan.gov

Jolee Hamlin, LSTA/USF Library Specialist – (517) 241-0021 or jhamlin@michigan.gov

Carol McAllister, Librarian Technology Trainer – (517) 373-4836 or cmcallister@michigan.gov

Kristine Tardiff, Youth Services Specialist – (517) 373-4457 or ktardiff@michigan.gov

Karrie Waarala, Continuing Education Specialist – (517) 373-3746 or kwaarala@michigan.gov

Darren Warner, State Census Data Coordinator – (517) 373-2548 or warnerd@michigan.gov

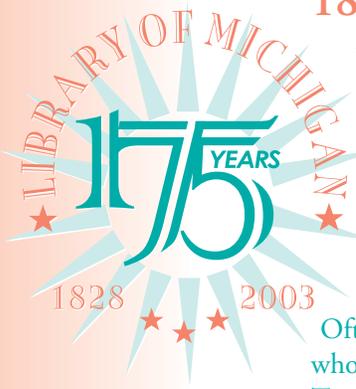
Jan Wisniewski, State Aid Coordinator – (517) 373-7147 or wisniewskij1@michigan.gov

For Michigan census information, please call (517) 373-1300.

You may also call the Library of Michigan toll-free at (877) 479-0021.

Library of Michigan, 1869 – 1893: Approaching the 20th Century

by Jim Schultz, Department of History, Arts and Libraries



It could be argued that the first in any category is usually the most significant - somebody had to break the ground that is often taken for granted by later generations. Often this person becomes a role model for those who follow, for better or for worse. Harriet Tenney, when she accepted an appointment as Michigan's state librarian in 1869, became the first woman to hold this position and started a tradition of female leadership of the State Library that went on for 100 consecutive years and continues to this day.

From 1859 to 1869, Harriet Tenney's husband Eugene served as state librarian. Harriet took advantage of the many opportunities to aid her husband in administering the State Library. When Eugene resigned to pursue other interests and recommended his wife for the position, Governor H.P. Baldwin and the Legislature appointed Harriet Tenney as state librarian.

Combining the knowledge she gained from her husband's decade as state librarian with her own vision, Harriet Tenney had an immediate effect on the State Library. During her first two-year term, the collection grew by 5,000 volumes to 30,097, and popular authors such as Mark Twain and Harriet Beecher Stowe were added to the collection.

That Tenney realized the significance of her position is reflected in use of italics and capital letters in the opening paragraph of her first annual report: "By the advice of the Chief Executive of the State and with the *unanimous* consent and approbation of the Senate, on the 31st day of March 1869, this Library was placed in charge of a WOMAN."

Harriet Tenney's first major tests involved moving the State Library and its collection to two new locations within the first nine years of her tenure. In 1871 the library was moved from the old State Capitol to the new State Office Building. During this time, Harriet worked tirelessly, even denying herself any vacation during the year of the move.

In 1874, Harriet Tenney went before the Legislature with a comparison of states' library budgets as a way of showing that other states

spent far more than Michigan on their libraries. The governor recommended and the Legislature approved a \$5,000 appropriation bill. To keep up with the times, gas lights were even ordered for the State Library.

In 1875, appropriations for the library dipped down to \$500 as all budget and legislative focus was on the construction of the new State Capitol. Although appropriations were reduced, the Legislature's high esteem for Harriet Tenney was apparent, as her salary was increased to \$1,000, making her pay equal to the governor's!

During her tenure, Tenney worked to extend the state librarian's role beyond a mere keeper of books. The first state librarian to be a member of the American Library Association, she attended the ALA annual conference in Philadelphia, coming back to Michigan with many new concepts. As library visitation increased, she formulated plans to accommodate patrons' needs, increased correspondence and began cataloging books with cards, which necessitated major clerical help. Again, Tenney was able to win over the Legislature - an assistant state librarian was appointed and plans for a card catalog system implemented.

In 1878, Harriet Tenney supervised the move to the present State Capitol. A year later, appropriations jumped back to \$3,000, and State Library hours were increased. As the library grew with the new Capitol, Harriet Tenney was able to convince the Legislature to increase the staff and the budget.

Mrs. Tenney was appointed state librarian for 11 consecutive terms by seven governors, serving 22 years before leaving the position in 1891. Her last report lists a collection of over 56,000 books. Assistant state librarian Mary Spencer wrote of her role model Mrs. Tenney that "the library was her life and her joy; she loved the books as the mother does her child, and watched them closely."

Margaret Custer Calhoun, widow of Lieutenant Calhoun and sister of the late General Custer, succeeded Harriet Tenney as state librarian, serving in the position for only two years. Although Calhoun never had the influence of a Harriet Tenney, she actually had several significant accomplishments. She persuaded the Legislature to increase the appropriation Harriet Tenney had recommended by



Harriet Tenney

\$1,000 and to remove all restrictions on employing clerical help, as she maintained that the State Library's patrons deserved skilled labor.

Calhoun also had the good judgment to retain Mary Spencer as assistant state librarian. Spencer, who administered the cataloging during Calhoun's term and was appointed state librarian when Calhoun stepped down, went on to become one of the most influential state librarians in Michigan history.

Both Harriet Tenney and Margaret Calhoun earned the respect of the male governors and legislators with whom they worked, laying the groundwork for an unbroken succession of female state librarians from 1869 to 1968.

Locating Michigan's Literary Links: Find a Speaker for Your Program Using the Michigan Authors & Illustrators Database

by Karren Reish, Michigan Center for the Book Coordinator

The Michigan Authors and Illustrators (MIAI) database lists authors and illustrators born in or living in Michigan or who have written books about or set in Michigan. Available through the Michigan eLibrary at <http://mel.org> or directly at <http://mel.org/miai/miai.html>, the database currently contains entries for about 1,200 authors or illustrators. Each entry includes biographical information, lists of works by the author and about the author, contact information and workshop availability.

You can do a basic or an advanced search in MIAI. The easiest way to search the database is to enter a title or author name in the basic search box. You can then highlight the entry you want from the search results and click "Go to Selected." If you know the exact name of the author, you can enter it in the author name box, last name first. The advanced fields also allow you to enter the city where the author lives, the title of a book, an award or genre type or select whether or not the author is available for workshops. For the author name or book title, you must enter it exactly as it appears in the database to find the record. If you don't get a result from an author name or title search, redoing the search in the basic search will usually find it.

The best search feature is the ability to enter as much information as you want in the

advanced search. If you are looking for a children's author who does readings or workshops in your area, you can enter the city and select children as the genre and yes for workshops to get a list of authors to contact.

The database's best overall feature is that we are continually updating it. Please direct local authors to the Web site for details about how to submit information for inclusion in MIAI. We want to hear from authors who would like to be listed.

The Library of Michigan and the Michigan Center for the Book (MCFB) collaborated with the Michigan Association of Media in Education (MAME) to produce Michigan Authors and Illustrators. The project began with the updating of the third edition of *Michigan Authors*. MAME has since added approximately 500 new authors and is now adding updated materials from the first and second editions of *Michigan Authors*. Authors are providing the information by sending a questionnaire to MAME. Entries on authors who have not returned a questionnaire may contain less information.

If you need further information, please contact Karren Reish, Coordinator of the MCFB, at (517) 373-3891 or at kreish@michigan.gov.

Early Childhood Literacy Ventures

by Valerie A. McNiff, Executive Director, Genesee District Library

Like most library systems, the Genesee District Library (GDL) has always reserved part of its program funding for early childhood literacy. However, our offerings were mostly confined to story hours, a circulating toy library and easy book purchases. A few years ago we began partnerships with other agencies and revolutionized our early childhood literacy services.

A GTE grant of \$14,000 provided interactive literacy activities between parents and their children via story hours, programs and parenting information. The six weeks of workshops offered educational/developmental toys, and the information covered a variety of topics, from child psychology to nutrition. The GDL added many items to its collection and continues to offer the program.

Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) in Genesee County administers "Project Fresh," which teaches low-income families the value of nutrition and how to stretch the food dollar. The recipients all have young families, and many are expectant mothers. As the MSUE office is next to

the GDL Headquarters, a joint project was initiated. When families registered for the nutritional classes, each one was given a voucher for a free gift from the library. All that was required to get the gift was a GDL library card. If the participants showed their library cards, they were immediately given a large tote bag (that could be used for a diaper or carrier bag) containing a parenting book, a hand puppet and a board book. Those without library cards were registered without delay and redeemed their vouchers almost immediately. This is an annual project for the GDL, and one year when there were 50 bags left over, they were distributed to the female inmates of the Genesee County Jail.

Project SKIP (Successful Kids=Involved Parents) is administered by the Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD), and in 2001, the GDL provided its mascot, Book Mouse, for numerous school appearances in Genesee County. Book Mouse also distributed his signature coloring books and other educational handouts. In conjunction with this program, the mascot also visited Head Start classes and nursery schools and participated in kindergarten roundups. In 2002, the GDL, along with several other agencies, partnered with the GISD to obtain an Even Start literacy grant, a federal proposal renewable for nine years.

Another partnership is with the countywide Passport program, which distributes coupon books to families with children from newborn to kindergarten age. When the parents or guardians visited the library, presented the GDL coupon and showed their library card, or enrolled for one, they were entitled to a free backpack complete with a new board book. The colorful and sturdy backpacks were emblazoned with Book Mouse and the GDL logo. Twenty-five of these items were distributed to the women jail inmates in December of 2002.

The GDL still provides many traditional story hours and a very successful summer reading program and now offers a lap-sit program for children newborn through 18 months old. This is a literacy program that most libraries can offer for very little cost. Again, this is designed for parent/caregiver and child interaction and as an introduction to early literacy. Plans are in the works to form a GDL playgroup that meets regu-

larly as an offshoot of this program.

These are some of the early childhood literacy ventures that the GDL has either participated in or sponsored during recent years. As a result, many more people in Genesee County now have new library cards and a world of information at their fingertips!

Web Site-ings

by Kyle Kay Ripley, Reference Assistant, Library of Michigan

Library Programs for All Ages*

*The following list is just a small sampling of the many wonderful programs offered by libraries around the state.

Genesee District Library Programs brochure
<http://www.gdl.falcon.edu/winter031.pdf>

Cromaine District Library Programs
<http://www.cromaine.org/html/programs.htm>

Willard Library Programs - Battle Creek
<http://www.willard.lib.mi.us/programs.html>

Learning More@ the Library of Michigan, Abrams Family History Workshops. Continuing Education for Library Professionals
www.michigan.gov/hal

CADL Main Library Programs
http://www.cadl.org/Events/MN_Jan.htm

Kalamazoo Public Library Programs
<http://www.kpl.gov/programs/programs.html>

MLA Continuing Education (for librarians)
<http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/Workshops/index.html>

Library of Congress Events
<http://www.loc.gov/loc/events/>

Flint Public Library Calendar of Events
<http://www.flint.lib.mi.us/about/calendar/index.html>

Detroit Public Library Calendar of Events
http://www.detroit.lib.mi.us/events/calendar_of_events.htm

Peter White Public Library Computer Classes
http://www.uproc.lib.mi.us/pwpl/computer_classes.htm

Willard Library Partners with Olivet College for Unique Teen Program

Battle Creek area junior and senior high school students are preparing to get slammed. In preparation for the Willard Library's Casual Study Hall Third Annual Poetry Slam on Friday, May 2, the library is sponsoring the Off-The-Wall Creative Arts Workshop. This workshop, presented by the Olivet College *Free Yo' Mind* Mentoring Program, was designed by librarian Pamela Brown Goodacre and Olivet students Jason Meadows and Elliot Hitchcock.

Free Yo' Mind mentors juggle their busy college schedules one Friday each month and drive almost two hours round-trip to share their knowledge and experience with these young people. Although their college majors range from pre-med to law to communications, their commonality rests in that they write, perform or love slam or rap poetry, drama or music or they want to be a part of mentoring young people. The workshop seeks to help the study hall participants in understanding the ins and outs, benefits and effects of writing poetry. Stage presentation, delivery and the healthy art of competing are also demonstrated.

This has been a successful venture – the junior high and high school students who are usually a bit bored with structured environments after school seem to enjoy, and learn from, the relaxed atmosphere and the language used by the *Free Yo' Mind* mentors.

Sterling Heights Public Library Fights Spring Fever with Travel Program

For those who have dreams of traveling around the globe or could just use some inspiration and information, the Friends of the Sterling Heights Public Library are sponsoring the Wednesday travel series, which began March 5 and runs through April 30. All programs start at 7:30 p.m. in the Library Programming Center. The exciting places the program will explore include Alaska, western national parks, New Zealand and Australia, the Galapagos Islands and Baja. The series will also feature programs on cruising, hostelling, women traveling solo and using the Internet for travel.

Grand Rapids Public Library Celebrates Main Library Re-Opening with Special Events

To celebrate the re-opening of its renovated Main Library on April 14, the Grand Rapids Public Library is sponsoring some special free family programs. On Tuesday, April 22 at 7 p.m., the library presents "The Dream Machine," featuring magic, puppets, storytelling and more. "Traditional and Celtic Fiddle," an interactive family concert by Scottish National Junior Fiddle Champion Jeremy Kittel, comes to the library Thursday, April 24 at 7 p.m. And on Sunday, April 27 at 2 p.m., the library kicks off its new adult cultural program series, "A Month of Sundays." All of these programs will be held in the beautifully restored Ryerson Auditorium in the Main Library at 111 Library Street in downtown Grand Rapids.

As this issue of *Access* went to press, grand opening events and activities for the week of April 20 were still being planned. Check the library's Web site at www.grpl.org for more details.



2003 Access Team: Back row - Kyle Rypley, Tim Watters, Casey Kremers, Jo Budler, Linda Neely, Andrew Wilson, front row - Becky Cawley and Karrie Warrala. Not pictured, Marnie Elden and Jennifer Houseman.

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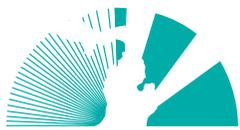
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