



Arizona Library Association Newsletter

Promoting library service and librarianship in all types of Arizona libraries.

January, 2005
Volume 38, Number 1

Inside:

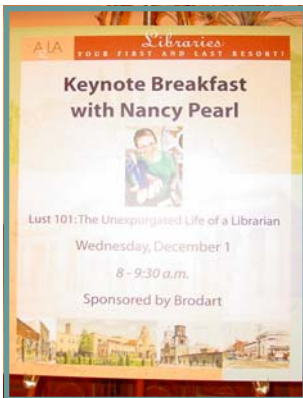
- Election Results, 2
- AzLA President, 3
- Horner Fellowship, 4-5
- Library News A-Z, 6-7
- SLA Student Grants, 8
- Graphic Novels, 9
- CAN, 10
- YA Korner, 11
- Gov Docs, 12
- The View, 13
- Random Thoughts, 14
- PL Road, 15
- AzLA Calendar, 16



Sights and Sounds of the 2004 AzLA Annual Conference!



Photos by Antonio Arroyo, Librarian, Pima Community College–Desert Vista Campus



Nancy Pearl gave the keynote address at the Wednesday morning breakfast.

Performers at the Awards Banquet.

Check back next month for more conference photos!



Christmas in the Exhibit Hall.



A scene from *Ledgers of the Fall: An Interactive Mystery*.





Photos from the Awards Banquet:



To the left is the gala **Awards Banquet.**

Below are **Laura Sullivan, AzLA President-elect**, seated on the left; and, standing at the podium, **Betsy Stunz-Hall, AzLA President.**



Brooke Sheldon [above, far right] receives the **Library Leadership Award** at the banquet.

Nicholas Escalante of Tempe Public Library, receives the **Outreach Services Award** at the awards banquet.



AzLA Officer Election Results

The Elections and Appointments Committee is pleased to announce the newly elected officers of the **Executive Board**. Officers begin terms at the close of the AzLA conference and serve for the 2004-2005 year or longer, depending upon their term. **Congratulations to everyone who ran for office! Your dedication and enthusiasm for our association is appreciated.**

President-elect	Deborah Tasnadi , Maricopa County Library District
Secretary	Louisa Aiken , Scottsdale Public Library System
Southern Regional Representative	Susan Evans , Yuma County Library District
Northern Regional Representative	Mary Roberts , Mohave County Library District
ALA Councilor	David Gunckle , Sierra Vista Public Library

Submitted by Brenda Brown, Chair of the Elections and Appointments Committee

From the President of AzLA. . . .

Welcome to the first AzLA newsletter of 2005. I'm honored and excited to be serving as the president of this outstanding organization, and will do my best to meet the high standards set by my predecessors.

Before looking ahead, I want to acknowledge the excellent leadership that Betsy Stunz-Hall provided during her year as president. For a sense of the overall picture, I encourage you to read the executive board members' annual reports on the AzLA web site.



Laura Thomas Sullivan

A major success was the return of the annual conference to the Tucson area, for the first time in fifteen years. Congratulations to all the conference and program committee members, who contributed blood, sweat, tears and countless hours to this effort. Thanks to everyone who attended, including the many vendors and sponsors who provided such generous support.

I was inspired and energized by the conference. Nancy Pearl shared very poignant reminders of the critical role librarians and libraries can play in a child's life. Such a critical role, in fact, that as an adult she dreams of her childhood library as a safe, welcoming place of refuge. Dr. Robert Martin, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), encouraged us to think about how our evolving understanding of how learning occurs will lead to more changes in libraries and the services we provide. Libraries are social agencies that are vital to creating and sustaining a nation of learners.

I was inspired and very humbled by the impressive accomplishments of all the award winners. They are living proof of the important work being done every day by our colleagues across the state. In all too many cases, their goals are achieved in spite of difficult odds.

For those of you who don't know me, here's a brief summary of my library career. I am a Beta Phi Mu graduate of the 1977-78 Graduate Library Institute for Spanish-speaking Americans (GLISA) at the University of Arizona, and have been employed by the Tucson-Pima Public Library ever since. I've worked as a bilingual children's and young adult services librarian; branch manager; administrator of branches, outreach and youth services; and am currently the interim deputy director. I've been an active member of AzLA, ALA, PLA, and REFORMA throughout my career. I have had the honor of chairing the first Transborder Forum/Foro Binacional in 1991. I am a PLA-trained facilitator for the New Planning for Results process, and have co-facilitated the process for many Arizona libraries.

I know another exciting year lies in store for AzLA. We will continue to take full advantage of technology. We have already transitioned to an online newsletter, voting, and conference registration. Please be sure to subscribe to the AzLA electronic newslist by sending an email to imailsrv@azla.org; in the body, write "subscribe azla newslist – your name." If you have questions, please call our association manager at **602-712-9822**, or email azla.admin@gilstrapmottacole.com. This email list will be used to keep you up to date about the association.

As AzLA president, I welcome your thoughts and ideas. I am particularly interested in exploring ways to increase membership in the association, especially among paraprofessional staff. Here's to a great year in 2005!

**Welcome
to another
exciting
year!**



The Horner Fellowship Committee is seeking the next Arizona Horner Fellow.

The application process has begun to select the next **Arizona Horner Fellow** exchange. Below is information about the **Horner Fellowship**; and on the next page is the application to submit to the committee. Please consider applying!

Charlotte Cohen, Glendale Community College, John F. Prince Library
Arizona Horner Fellowship Committee

Horner Fellowship (An Arizona/Japanese Librarian Exchange Program)

The **Horner Japanese Exchange Fellowship** was established in 1989, under the auspices of the Arizona Library Association through the generosity and foresight of the late **Dr. Layton "Jack" Horner and his wife, Marian**. The mission of this unique fellowship is to foster cultural and informational exchanges between librarians from Japan and from the state of Arizona.

Dr. Horner's lifelong interest in Japan, and his respect and affinity for the Japanese people began during the years 1947-1949. During those years, Dr. Horner was assigned to the Shizuoka Military Government team as Civil Education and Information Officer. As part of this team, Dr. Horner worked with local Japanese officials to reorganize the school system in Kansai Prefecture. An interesting outcome of this sojourn was an English study reader, entitled **Jack and Betty**, written by Dr. Horner and a colleague, Professor Inamura. Later in life, Dr. Jack Horner became a professor of Japanese history and culture, and wrote two insightful books concerning Japanese and American culture, entitled **The Japanese and the Americans** and **On Both Sides of the Pacific**. Throughout their lives, Jack and Marian Horner visited Japan over twenty times; hosted Japanese friends, colleagues and students; and promoted understanding and cultural exchange between the two countries.

The Horner Fellowship continues this tradition. To date, seven Arizona fellows have had the opportunity to experience the uniqueness of Japan's rich and ancient culture and to share information with their Japanese colleagues. As a result, a network of professional and personal contacts has begun to flourish, and librarians in Arizona have had the pleasure of hosting several visits from Japanese colleagues and friends.

To view a festschrift about the fellowship, go to: <http://glory.gc.maricopa.edu/~ccohen/festschrift/>

交際
Friendship

If you've dreamed of traveling to Japan,
this is an extraordinary opportunity for you.

Apply now for a truly remarkable experience.

Horner Fellowship Application Form

An Arizona / Japanese Librarian Exchange

Applicant's Name: _____

Name of Library/Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

Applicants must:

- be an AzLA member in good standing
- be a librarian currently employed in an Arizona library
- have a minimum of three years library experience
- be willing to share their exchange experience with AzLA members in the form of a written report to be published in the *AzLA Newsletter* and posted on the AzLA website
- be willing to make a presentation at the annual AzLA conference
- be willing to serve actively on the Horner Fellowship Committee and to promote the Fellowship

Applicants' Procedures:

Applicants, please send your application packet to the Horner Fellowship Committee contact listed below.

Your application packet should consist of:

- an application form
- a current resume
- a letter of application, which should address:
 - a valid and serious purpose for making the exchange
 - the expected benefits of the exchange for your career development
 - the contribution the proposed exchange will make to Arizona librarians
- the name, address, phone number and e-mail address of three professional references
- a letter of support from your current library director or chief administrator, which should address:
 - the administrator's confidence in the applicant as an exchange fellow
 - a willingness to support a leave of absence for the exchange (if applicable)
 - a willingness to host/support a Japanese librarian exchange in the future

The deadline for application submission is Monday, February 14, 2005.

Your Horner Fellowship contact is:

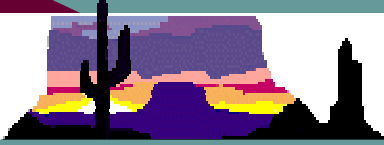
Charlotte Cohen

Glendale Community College, John F. Prince Library
6000 W. Olive Ave.

Glendale, Arizona 85302

Charlotte.Cohen@gcmail.maricopa.edu

623-845-3106 (phone) 623-845-3102 (fax)



Library News from A-Z

AzLA Has Been Host to Several Visitors from Japan

Yachuhiko Uchino visited as the Horner Fellow for 2004

On December 6th, **Mr. Yachuhiko Uchino** arrived from Japan to spend three weeks with Arizona librarians as the Japanese Horner Fellow for 2004. He is a public librarian at a rural library north of Tokyo. His plans were to visit Benson, Flagstaff, Nogales, Phoenix, Sedona, and Tucson.

Dr. Shihota, a long time supporter of the Horner Exchange, spoke at the conference. Several years ago, he took a sabbatical at SIRLS in Tucson. He is a professor of Library and Information Science, Faculty of Business Administration, St. Andrew's University. He has served as a board member of the Japan Association for Librarianship, the Japan Library Association (1985-88), and the Japan Society of Library and Information Science.

Professor Kita, a colleague of Dr. Shihota, is coming to experience Arizona and meet Arizona librarians. He is a professor of Library Science at Osaka City University Media Center. He has served as a board member of the Japan Society of Library and Information Science and the JLA.

David Snider, former director of the Casa Grande Public Library and AzLA activist, has been elected to a seat on the Pinal County Board of Supervisors.

David Gunckel, Sierra Vista Public Library

Maricopa County Library District's Online Novel for Kids is Winning Awards and Is Being Read Around the World!

The Mystery Club of Luna Drive by James M. Deem, is famous!

The Maricopa County Library District was named the winner of **The Highsmith Library Innovation Award 2004** for "creative planning and imaginative execution" of an online novel for kids, ***The Mystery Club of Luna Drive***. The award is sponsored by PLA and includes a \$2,000 check, which was presented at ALA's summer conference in Orlando, in June.

The novel was also named **Best of Category** in the **Libraries Category**, by the **National Association of Counties' (NACo) Achievement Award Program**. The program recognizes counties for improving the management of and services provided by county government.

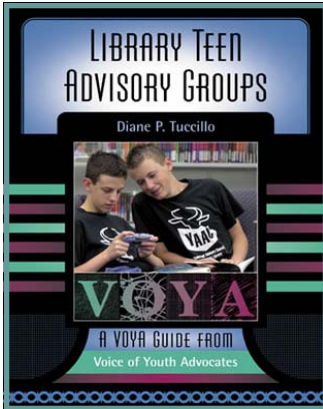
The mystery was solved: The first chapter of ***The Mystery Club of Luna Drive*** went online October 1, 2003; the 12th and final chapter went online October 1, 2004. Readers found out what happened to the three main characters—Luz, Dwight, and Max—who had been through many cliffhanging situations. The exciting conclusion is exclusively on the Library District's website at: <http://mclld.maricopa.gov>.

James M. Deem, award-winning children's author, was commissioned by the Library District to write the mystery novel, which is the first online children's novel of its kind.

More than 20 schools in Maricopa County and schools in 12 other states and Canada are now linked to the *Mystery Club* website. Responses from young readers have been received from across the United States, Canada, and even from China.

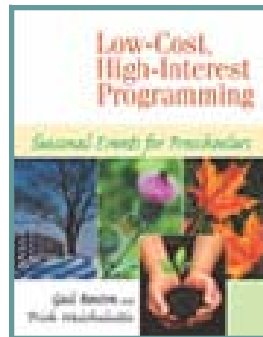
Library News from A-Z continued

Three Authors from Mesa Public Library Have Brand-New Books:



Diane Tuccillo's new book, *Library Teen Advisory Groups*, was published by Scarecrow Press in November, 2004. She will do a book signing in the exhibit hall at ALA Mid-winter, from 2-3 p.m., on Sunday, January 16th.

Low-Cost, High-Interest Programming: Seasonal Events for Preschoolers by Gail Benton and Trisha Waichulaitis, was published by Neal-Schuman Publishers in August, 2004.



An Announcement from the Texas Library Association

The TLA is holding its annual conference on April 5-8, 2005, in Austin, Texas, "a lively, politically charged, and culturally rich city," according to conference publicity.

There will be other events occurring at the same time, including a First Edition Literary Gala and Auction, the Texas Book Festival, and a 50th anniversary gala at the University of Texas for the *Texas Observer*.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.txla.org/conference>
<http://www.texasbookfestival.org>,

Or contact Lynda Becker at: lyndab@txla.org.



Your OCLC Connection

Amigos provides Arizona libraries easy access to the wide variety of programs and services offered by OCLC, including:

- *Connexion (cataloging)*
- *CatExpress*
- *Resource Sharing (ILL)*
- *FirstSearch*
- *QuestionPoint*
- *ILLiad*
- *CONTENTdm*

...and much more

For more information on OCLC services available through Amigos, contact Ramona McKeown, 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2818, or mckeown@amigos.org.

*Amigos Library Services, Inc.
 14400 Midway Road, Dallas, TX 75244-3509
www.amigos.org*

The Special Libraries Association Is Offering Membership Grants to Students

Four grants of \$35 will be awarded to students for SLA membership. The grants will be awarded to students who articulate an interest in a career in special librarianship. The individual must be a candidate for the master's or Ph.D. degree at the University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science and must be a member of the UA SLA student group. Full-time, part-time, and/or off campus students are eligible. Special consideration is given to UA SLA student group officers, past officers or other active members of the UA SLA student group. The award will provide 4 students with a membership in SLA. If you qualify and are interested in the award, or if you would like more information, please contact **Sheila Merrigan**, student group liaison at merrigan@ag.arizona.edu. Use the application form below to apply.

Application Deadline: February 1, 2005.

Criteria for evaluating applications:

- Current SIRLS student
- **Must be current member** of SLA student group (**5 points**>1 year; **4 points**<1 year)
- Current or past officer of SLA student group (**5 points**)
- A statement of why being a member of SLA is important to your career (**up to 5 points**)
- Students may receive the award more than once; however, priority will be given to those who have not previously been given the award.

Application review team: Arizona chapter SLA liaison to the student group; Arizona SLA chapter president; Arizona SLA chapter membership chair; Arizona SLA chapter Tucson networking chair.

- The team will review the student scholarship applications in accordance with the criteria, choosing four recipients and making decisions by April 1st. Recipients will be notified by April 16th.
- Grants will be awarded at the annual business meeting in May. Recipients are strongly encouraged to attend.

Student Application for Special Libraries Association Membership Grants

Students may reapply for the grant, but priority is given to those who have not previously received a grant.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

1. I am attending the University of Arizona SIRLS program. Yes No
2. I am attending classes Part-time Full time
3. I am attending classes On campus Off campus Online
4. If off-campus, please specify where _____
5. I have completed _____ semester hours in this program.
6. I am a member of the UA SLA student group. Yes: number of years ____ ; No
7. I am an officer in an SLA student group: Yes: specify office _____ ; No
8. I have attended and/or coordinated an Arizona SLA student chapter event or meeting, an Arizona SLA chapter meeting or event, or an SLA national meeting or event. Yes No
List any Special Libraries Association events or meetings attended. [use separate sheet]
9. Please provide up to a one-page essay (double-spaced, 12 pt. font), explaining why belonging to SLA is important for your career.
10. List any library employment, volunteer or internship work you have done, including current position, if employed. [use separate sheet]

The Maricopa County Library Council's Continuing Education Committee presents:

Do Graphic Novels bother and confuse you?

Can't find good information about the format?

Mystified by the differences between comics and manga?



Wednesday, January 26th
1:00-4:00 p.m.

Fourth Floor Lecture Room
Burton Barr Central Library
1221 N. Central Avenue
Phoenix

Merideth Jenson-Benjamin and
Kristin Fletcher-Spear present:



Everything You Didn't Know You Need to Know About Graphic Novels

Why Graphic Novels belong in your collection! Where to find reviews!
Publisher and vendor catalogs, demystified!
Cataloging Issues tackled! Mending! Websites!
Challenges! Standing Order Plans! And much, much more!

To register, please visit <http://www.lib.az.us/eventreg>, or e-mail
mimi.aronson@phxlib.org, or call 602-262-6392.

Participants should read a graphic novel prior to attending the workshop. Most of the information presented will deal specifically with teen graphic novel collections; however, those interested in adult or youth collections are welcome to attend.

Children's Author / Illustrator Network

Scheduling Information & Dates



By Appointment (anytime during the year):

- Jean Ekman Adams.** Contact author/illustrator at 480-948-3341.
John Bianchi. Contact at johnbianchi@bigfoot.com or www.johnbianchi.com.
Lynne Cravath. Contact illustrator at lynneavril@cox.net or 480-893-1482.
Pamela Danner. Contact lougold@cox.net or 602-943-6766.
James M. Deem. Contact author at www.mummytombs.com or www.jamesmdeem.com.
Terri Fields. Contact author at www.terrifields.com or dunlapwest@yahoo.com.
Barbara Gowan. Contact author at bgowan54@cox.net.
Conrad Storad. Contact author at cstorad@asu.edu or <http://conradstorad.com>.
Mike Venezia Contact author/illustrator at mike.venezia@comcast.net or www.mikevenezia.com.

Contact **Mary Wong** at 623-486-2582, for information, or to schedule a visit. Leave a message with daytime and evening telephone numbers.

Children + Authors +
 Illustrators = Books +
 Reading + Libraries!

Spring 2005

- January–April**
Feb. 22–25 **Wendy Watson.** By appointment. Contact Mary Wong.
Gloria Skurzynski. Go to www.gloriabooks.com for info. Contact Mary Wong to schedule.
Feb. 28–March 3 **Larry Dane Brimmer.** Contact Mary Wong for info and scheduling.
Feb. 28–March 4 **David Schwartz.** Contact author at www.davidschwartz.com or at david@davidschwartz.com.
March 28–30 **Caroline Arnold.** Go to <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/1264/> for info. Contact Mary Wong to schedule.

Fall 2005

- September 5–30,**
October 17–28,
all of November **Daniel Powers.** Contact illustrator at www.powers-studio.com.
December 5–9 **Jack Gantos.** Contact Mary Wong for information.

Notice: Listed authors/illustrators are not endorsed or sponsored by AzLA or Mary Wong. Listings are provided as a service to teacher librarians interested in scheduling school visits with authors and/or illustrators.

Y K O R N E R

By **Diane Tuccillo,**
City of Mesa Library & ALYAS

A

Putting on a Show: Teen Advisory Boards and Children's Plays by Liz Burks, Guest Author

The **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** at **Apache Junction Public Library** has been putting on a Christmas play for children for about the last ten years. In the beginning, I did not see it as an annual event. When I asked the group, however, if they would like to put on a short play or skit as part of a larger holiday program that the library was presenting, the teens loved putting on a show, and it has become a TAB tradition.

As TAB advisor, I stay in the background. In the fall, a committee of TAB members selects what they will perform. Occasionally, this is a play directly out of a book of plays. Usually, however, the committee selects a children's holiday book and adapts it as a play. They have done this with *The Polar Express*, *The Christmas Cookie Sprinkle Snitcher*, and *The Night Before Christmas*. The committee presents their selection to the TAB group for approval. One TAB member takes on the role of director. This may be the TAB chair; or the TAB chair may appoint the director. As a rule, it is the most enthusiastic TAB member.

My TAB group works independently. The director assigns the parts. Sometimes teens or young children outside of TAB will be asked to participate if there is a role that needs to be filled. The director schedules weekly rehearsals. A committee makes the scenery. The TAB actors put together their own costumes and props.

The TAB Christmas program for children is now the only holiday program the library presents. In addition to the play, TAB includes a sing along and skits as part of the program. One very talented TAB member has written two very funny skits for the group to perform. The elementary school next door to the library brings their first through third grades to the library to see the performance. Two public performances are given.

The Christmas play is a positive experience for my TAB group. The teens use their creativity. Working together on a project bonds them as a group and meets their social needs. The group learns responsibility and the importance of commitment. Finally, in presenting an entertaining program to children, they become role models for children who will one day be TAB members!

I hope you will consider encouraging your teen library advisory board members to try a similar project. If you would like more information, I'll be happy to talk with you. Contact me at **480-474-8567**, or at lburks@ajcity.net.

Liz Burks
Apache Junction Public Library



Dan the GovDocs Man



A Brief Introduction to ~~Sadistics~~ Statistics

Without data, all you are is just another person with an opinion. - Unknown

The United States government is the largest producer, collector, and distributor of data in the world. All manner of information is collected through a decentralized system of federal agencies, bureaus, and offices. Statistical subjects include: agriculture, crime, demographics, economics, education, energy, environment, health, income, labor, natural resources, safety, and transportation. Depending on the data collected, information may be available nationally and/or broken down and reported geographically, chronologically, or demographically. Again, one of the great things about government information is that, because you have already paid for it, most of it is freely available online or through the Federal Depository Library Program.

These data are indicators of where we are as a community, a society, and a nation. Every day we are exposed to statistical news reports generated by government entities about population growth/urban sprawl, unemployment and crime rates, cost of living, the spread of West Nile Virus cases and flu season, to name a few. While the specific reports may not be named in the news, the data is often readily available from the issuing government agency. In addition, agencies also produce and make large data sets available that are used in academic research, historical analysis, government planning, and entrepreneurship.

What follows are some of the major U.S. government statistical web sites:

- **FEDSTATS.** www.fedstats.gov. If you are not sure where to start or can only remember one statistical web site, this is it! FEDSTATS is "The Gateway to Statistics from over 100 U.S. Federal Agencies," and allows you to search by topic, geography, or agency.
- **Agriculture/Food.** National Agricultural Statistics Service (from U.S.D.A.). www.usda.gov/nass.
- **Crime** - Bureau of Justice Statistics (Department of Justice). www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/
- **Demographics, Pop., & Household Economic Topics.** Census Bureau. www.census.gov/population/www/.
- **Economic Data.**
 - Bureau of Economic Analysis (Department of Commerce). www.bea.gov.
 - Census Bureau (Department of Commerce). www.census.gov/econ/www/.
- **Education.** National Center for Education Statistics (Dept. of Education). <http://nces.ed.gov/>.
- **Energy.** Energy Information Administration (Dept. of Energy). www.eia.doe.gov.
- **Health.** National Center for Health Statistics (Dept of Health & Human Services). www.cdc.gov/nchs.
- **Income.** Internal Revenue Service. www.irs.gov/taxstats/.
- **Labor.** Bureau of Labor Statistics (Department of Labor). www.bls.gov.
- **Transportation.** Bureau of Transportation Statistics (Dept. of Transportation). www.bts.gov.
- **Foreign Countries.** CIA. www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook. Dept. of State. www.state.gov/countries/.
- **Statistical Abstract of the United States.** www.census.gov/statab/www. The "Bible" of US statistics in print, this is a bit difficult to use online.

One word of caution regarding statistics: be sure to understand the context in which the data are collected and reported. For example: a report issued in 2004, may use data collected in 2000; certain terms may be defined differently by an agency; and information may not be available for the exact geographic, demographic, or date range that you need. The government collects statistics generally to help it do its job, and often times data on hot topics or advocacy issues are not collected until the bureaucracy catches up.

Dan Stanton, Arizona State University Hayden Library

The View from the (not so) Ivory Tower

by Linda Shackle, ASU Noble Science & Engineering Library



Arizona Library Association Annual Conference: A First-Timer's Perspective

by Katherine Clemens, Guest Author, Arizona State University Libraries

The AzLA conference has a lot to offer academic librarians.

Last month I had the privilege of attending my first Arizona Library Association annual conference. As a new librarian working in the Science Reference department at Arizona State University Libraries, I was eager to attend the conference. I welcomed the opportunity to learn what other libraries are doing and to network with other librarians. I had been told that the conference was not well attended by academic librarians, due to the lack of programming in that area. Clearly, that was not the case this year. When I started planning which conference programs to attend months in advance, I found myself making tough decisions about which ones to sacrifice so that I could attend the others. I was delighted with how much the conference had to offer academic librarians.

The majority of the conference programs I attended were for the College and University Division, although a few were for the Reference, Public Services and Instruction Special Interest Group. There were also several programs in the Public Libraries and Teacher-Librarian Divisions that interested me. I tried to select the programs that would provide me with information that would be relevant and useful for my current position. Each of the programs I attended offered me an idea or some information that I could really use in my job. For those programs that I wanted to attend, but could not due to scheduling conflicts, I was able to get an overview from a friend who attended.

In addition to attending the conference programs, I really enjoyed the other features of the conference, such as the exhibits and poster sessions. Although I would have liked to attend the pre-conference sessions and the meals, they were a bit of a financial stretch for a new librarian. However, this was not necessarily a bad thing, as my meals turned out to be opportunities to socialize with old and new friends. I must say that one of the best things about the conference was meeting so many great people who are doing great things in their libraries.

As I reflect on my first AzLA conference, I am really glad that I was able to attend. I learned quite a bit that will help me in my job; and I came away with new ideas and different perspectives on academic library issues. I also met or reconnected with people I can possibly collaborate with on future projects.

I thought the programming for academic librarians was very appropriate, and I commend the College and University Libraries Division for working to ensure that appropriate programs were available. I am already looking forward to attending next year's conference in Mesa and am tossing around ideas for a conference program or poster.

In closing, I hope that all academic librarians, especially those who are new to the profession, will consider attending the AzLA conference in the future. It offers a chance to meet people who share a passion for libraries, and it presents plentiful opportunities to learn and contribute.



R a n d o m T h o u g h t s ! ? !

by **David Hunenberg**
Peoria Public Library

**Teens
are
awesome,
Dude!**

We were awash in a sea of black. Flecks of silver flashed through the room, adding to the sense of energy. Brilliant reds, greens and magenta made their presence known. The noise level was so many decibels above normal that one was tempted to run for the aspirin bottle safely hidden behind a stack of books. It was difficult to take in all the sensations, to concentrate. The night had finally arrived, October 15th. We were about to experience the grand opening of our new teen center. They would be “kickin it with their peeps”!

**At our new
teen center,
teens are
kickin it
with their
peeps!**

After months of planning and sleepless nights worrying about whether anyone would show up, I stood in the midst of 400 teens. They were solemnly dressed in black, silver rings piercing skin and colorful hairdos worthy of a band of peacocks. Teens packed the stairways, peered over the mezzanine and lounged listening to the three bands playing that night (fortunately not all at once). The night was a total success.

It wasn't the planning that made for the perfect night; it was the teens in attendance. They were polite, considerate and thanked us profusely for the wonderful evening.

The 40-plus pizzas and skyscraper-sized stack of beverages were consumed and properly disposed of. No spills on our new carpet or trash lying around. When ten o'clock arrived signaling the end of the evening, many offered to help clean up and to assist with safely sending the attendees on their way.

I was impressed. I wanted to adopt them all, such a good group of kids. We all hear how tough it is to be a teen today. We recently had a wonderful speaker give a presentation on dealing with teens. The facts she presented were thought-provoking. Teens today spend less than an hour a day with their parents, when 20 years ago, it was several hours. Teen role models are their peers. Education is so compartmentalized by age that teens no longer have the needed interaction with others from different age groups. Mentoring is almost non-existent. The food they eat is filled with so many hormones and other additives, that children are maturing much earlier physically, but not mentally.

I had heard this wonderful speaker once before and I was so impressed with her message, that I based an LSTA grant on a mentoring program at the library where high school students mentor fourth & fifth graders in a book discussion group and homework help program. Attendance more than met our expectations. We partnered with the school district and our after-school recreation program. The teens who participated as mentors were wowed by the younger students; the school wants to do more partnering, and the younger students now want to help mentor others.

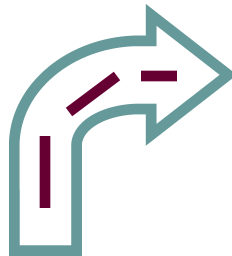
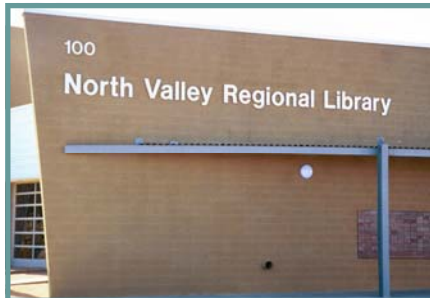
Anyone feeling hesitant about working with teens will be pleasantly surprised to find just how great they really are. Don't let the clothes they wear, the number of piercings they have or the outrageous hairdos they possess deter your commitment to bring them into the library. They are awesome, Dude!

ON THE PL ROAD

with
Louis Howley
Phoenix Public
Library



On Friday, December 10, Evelyn Howley, Eleanor Maxwell and I traveled to **Anthem** to visit the new **North Valley Regional Library**. We took I-17 north to Exit 229, Anthem Way. Driving east on Anthem Way, we turned right (south) onto Gavilan Peak Parkway. The library is located at 40410 N. Gavilan Peak Parkway. We could have taken the Daisy Mountain Road exit earlier on our route, had we known that this also goes through to Gavilan Peak Parkway; it must be too new an access point for the online mapping services.



The **North Valley Regional Library** [above left] is part of the **Maricopa County Library District**. The library is located at **Boulder Creek High School (BCHS)** [above right]. A sign on the library entrance wall commemorates the relationship: "This library was made possible by a partnership between the citizens of Deer Valley School District and Maricopa County. May the knowledge within these walls enrich our community."

The library opened on October 9, 2004. According to the county library website, the library serves the communities of Anthem, Desert Hills and New River. Anthem is a planned community of the Del E. Webb corporation. According to its website, <http://www.delwebb.com/anthemarizona/>, there are two communities: Anthem Parkside and Anthem Country Club. Anthem is currently unincorporated. The 2000 census for its zip code, 85086, places the population at about 8500 citizens. Three years later, there are considerably more people in the area.

BCHS is part of the Deer Valley School District. This year, BCHS has only about 800 freshmen and sophomores attending the school. According to the school's web site, <http://bchs.dvUSD.org/main.html>, all students north of the Carefree Highway, will eventually go to BCHS.

As you enter the school parking lot and go west, you can see the main entrance to the school. On the south side is the library building and on the north side is the BCHS administration building. The entryway between the two leads to what was a locked gate on the day we visited. Beyond this is the main campus, arranged in a circle around a central open space. The west library windows give a good view of the high school.

Since the library serves a high school, it is open on school days before its public hours begin. While we were there, a very loud announcement about school buses boomed into the building. This could be the order of the day for those visiting the library.

The library lobby contains self-check machines and a check-in conveyer belt, which not only accepts items to be checked in, but also prints a receipt for the items. A large service desk is centrally located for convenience. Directly behind it is a space with a high-vaulted ceiling and clerestory windows, which divide the building into two sections. Live plants enhance the décor. The library comprises 23,500 square feet and has over 70 PCs for public use.

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Mountain Plains Library Association

MPLA Jobline: 605-677-5757

AzLA 2005 CALENDAR**January 21****AzLA Orientation/Executive Board Meeting**, Tucson**February 24****Library Legislative Day**, State Capitol**March 6-7****Arizona Convocation 2005**. "Beyond the Five Cs: Cultural Legacies,"
Phoenix**March 17****AzLA Executive Board Meeting**, Maricopa County (tentative date)**March 18****Regional Forum**, Maricopa County (tentative date)**April 2****Arizona Book Festival****April****ONEBOOKAZ**. Go to <http://www.onebookaz.org>.See also www.dlapr.lib.az.us/events/index.cfm, for other events and continuing education opportunities.***Arizona Library Association Newsletter***

Managing Editor, 2004-2005

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**Note the new deadline for
newsletter submissions:
the 10th of the month.**The **AzLA Newsletter** (ISSN:0515-0272) is published 10 times yearly with two combined issues, July/August and November/December. The **DEADLINE** for submission of materials is: **10th of the month** for the following month's issue. **Send items by email (or by regular mail, if necessary) to managing editor above.****Submission guidelines:** All items should be brief; informational; fewer than 500 words; include a title; be written with a library audience in mind [i.e., send articles, not press releases--which are written for the public] and be signed by the submitter's name, library affiliation, and phone number. The editor reserves the right to edit all articles for style, content, and length.