

**C**hapbook... **Volume 40** **Summer 2002**  
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**Section**  
**North Carolina Library Association**

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**From the Chair: From Celluloid Horrors  
to Screen Heroes**

By Mel Burton, Children's Information Specialist, Public Library of  
Charlotte and Mecklenburg County



Think you work in a profession where your image is that of a milquetoast? If you go by how librarians are portrayed in early movies, your thoughts would be confirmed. Take heart, though, the naïve, shy, demure, shrinking violet image as portrayed in films has taken a beating in the more up to date movies that are watched.

One of my favorite movies, *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946), also has one of my least favorite scenes.

George Bailey makes the comment that he wishes he had never been born and his guardian angel, Clarence Oddbody, takes him up on the suggestion. George finds out what life would have been like if he had never been born. The druggist he had worked for is a drunk, the housing that the building and loan had financed didn't exist, and taverns were in abundance. However, when George asked about his girlfriend, Clarence shrunk back from revealing what she was doing. When George forced the issue, the angel finally told him that, horror of

horrors, she was working at the library! When the camera is focused on Mary, she has the timid, deer “caught in the headlights” look. The image portrayed of librarians must have been fairly universally accepted at the time for that occupation to have been picked to show the despairing situation she had descended to. Another movie that came out just the year before in 1945 was *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* contains the short scene of the officious and uncaring librarian that Francie goes to at the library in Brooklyn. Although uncredited, the librarian is portrayed by Lillian Bronson.

Probably the most well known librarian name is Marian, the name of the librarian in *The Music Man* which came out in 1962. The librarian is a conservative woman, but on the plus side there is some romantic appeal for the lead male character, Harold Hill. Male librarians don't get a very good reputation in the movie *You're a Big Boy Now* produced in 1966. The main character is Bernard Chanticleer who works for his father at the library. Bernard is oversheltered by his parents and at the age of twenty is just beginning to discover girls. Special librarianship gets its time in the movie, *Desk Set*, which stars Spencer Tracy and Katherine Hepburn. The two of them clash in the movie over his proposed computerization of the research department. Just as in their other movies, there is witty repartee. A search of the term librarian on the Internet Movie Database revealed eighty entries for male characters and one hundred eighty-eight for female characters. So librarians have been portrayed in movies, maybe not in the most appealing way.

Chin up, though, because in 1978 Goldie Hawn played a not so retiring librarian in the movie *Foul Play*. The movie even includes a race for her life through the library. A guilty pleasure is *Party Girl* which came out in 1995. Mary is a free spirited young woman whose godmother is a librarian. She ends up working as a library clerk to repay a loan and falls in love with the Dewey Decimal System. Perhaps the height of change for librarian portrayal is in *The Mummy* which premiered in 1999. There is no doubt that the main female character is a librarian since the opening scene has her teetering on top of bookcases. Any thoughts that you may have had of the librarian being timid are quickly put to rest, as she becomes involved in an Indiana Jones style adventure.

The librarian named Evie Carnahan, played by Rachel Weisz, is attractive, athletic, intelligent and courageous. While the librarian does not play a big role, I do need to mention the movie *Pleasantville* which effectively shows what reading can do to change your life in a dramatic way. Moviemakers may have been paying attention to us since the way librarians are portrayed is not the same as it was fifty years ago. The next time you hear someone talking about librarians being naïve or timid, ask them if they've been to the movies lately.

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**From the Editor:**

Recently we've been deemed an important resource for education students at Appalachian State. I extend a welcome to these students and hope this link will prove useful for their teacher preparation programs.

I invite our readership to submit articles to the Chapbook. Share your special programs or projects, or upcoming events whereby all may be informed or even motivated to try something new.

There is no deadline.

Send to: Loretta Talbert, Chapbook Editor

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Or, preferably: [www.ltalbert@plcmc.org](mailto:www.ltalbert@plcmc.org) as an attachment.



**LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION**

**RESPONDING TO NEW CHALLENGES**

**A workshop featuring: Hispanic stories, grant writing, stress management and more.**

OCTOBER 21-22, 2002

**The Summit Conference Center, Brown Summit NC**

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**A Workshop for: Librarians, Paraprofessionals, Media Specialists and Those Who Work With Children in Libraries**

The Children's Services Section is sponsoring its eighth biennial workshop October 21-22 at The Summit Conference Center in Brown Summit NC. The title of the workshop is "Library Services for the Next Generation: Responding to New Challenges". Topics include story telling for the Hispanic audience, grant writing, stress management and an author presentation. The cost is \$90.00 per person, double occupancy only, and that includes the overnight stay, three meals, and all conference materials.

Presenters are members of Hispanic Library Services Committees at PLCMC and Forsyth County. In addition, Kathy Beach, of PLCMC, will talk about grant writing. Massage therapist Josh Herman will give ideas on how to reduce work-related stress. NC author Clay Carmichael will demonstrate how she got her books written, illustrated and published. Additional activities include two fund raising projects: selling CSS Logo sweatshirts and t-shirts as well as a silent auction featuring items donated by the CSS Board.

The Summit Conference Center is a retreat facility set in an out-of-the-way forest location. This is a great opportunity to connect with other librarians who work with young people, to get away from the stress at work, and to get some great new ideas. The workshop is open to all who are interested in library services to children. Members of CSS will get a registration blank in the mail (if the address is correct on the NCLA database).

For further information, contact Jacky Miller, Rockingham County Public Library, [jmiller@library.rcpl.org](mailto:jmiller@library.rcpl.org) or phone 336-627-1106.

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## ITINERARY

Monday, Oct 21	Time	Monday, cont.	Time
Registration	11:00-12:00	“Leyendas con Titeres”	7:00-8:45
Lunch	12:00-1:00	Wine, cheese & More	9:00-
Welcome & Overview	1:00-1:15		
“Cuentos Bilingues”	1:15-2:15	Tuesday, Oct 22	Time
Go for a Walk in the Woods	2:15-2:45	Breakfast & Checkout	7:30-8:30
“Cuentos para Ninos”	2:45-3:45	We’ve Got Issues	8:30-9:45
How to Publish a Book	3:45-4:45	Break	9:45-10:00
Money Under a Rock	4:45-5:30	Is Your Job a Pain in the ?	10:00-11:00
Flexible Overtime	5:30-6:00	Wrap up & Door Prizes	11:00-11:30
Dinner	6:00-6:45	Lunch On Your Own	Drive Safely

## PRESENTERS

Hispanic Services Committee of FCPL “Cuentos Bilingues”	Librarians who serve the Hispanic community of Forsyth County
Clay Carmichael Author of BEAR AT THE BEACH	The hard word of getting a book published: writing, illustrating, editing, marketing
KI-KIRI-KI “Cuentos para Ninos”	Librarians from PLCMC that present Spanish/English programs & share ideas with one another
Josh Hermen, ATC-L, LMBT	Nationally certified and NC licensed massage therapist who is also a certified trainer/physical therapy aide
Karen Beach, PLCMC Main Library	Grants officer for PLCMC, she is responsible for trying to generate extra funding for library projects.
The CSS Board & Members of the Audience “Leyendas con Titeres”	Who better to present stories with puppets than those who do it best: NC youth services librarians

**REGISTRATION FORM** (Please print page, complete, detach & mail.)

The fee is \$90 per person, double occupancy only.

Make checks payable to: NCLA/Children's Services Section

Please include payment with this registration form.

To register, please complete, one per person, and mail before Sept. 20, 2002 to:

Jacky Miller, Rockingham County Public Library, 527 Boone Road, Eden NC 27288

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

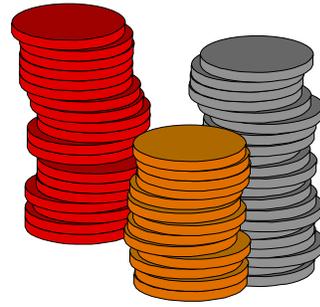
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Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate request: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Use Only: Rcv'd \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Confirm sent \_\_\_\_\_

**See You There!**



## From the State Library

By Jim Rosinia, Youth Services  
Consultant

In July, the State Library announced the recipients of the 2002-03 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants. One hundred thirty-seven applications were considered in eight categories and a total of 122 grants have been approved for funding. Eighty School Library Collection Development Grants were awarded for a total of \$566,623 and, since this program requires a dollar-for-dollar match, the funded school libraries have successfully leveraged an equal amount of funding from local sources.

There is another grant program of the State Library that uses LSTA money to ensure that “children and teens in North Carolina benefit from the combined resources and efforts of a community focused on education and the healthy development of youth” – the Powerful Partners Collaboration Grants. This year, six awards were made to public libraries and school library media centers across the state for a total of \$181,385. As these grants require matching funds of at least 10% of the grant amount requested, \$20,670 was leveraged from local sources to support library service to youth.

The following LSTA Powerful Partners Collaboration grants were awarded this year.



The Avery-Mitchell-Yancey Regional Library received \$42,307 for “Discovering Ourselves Through Powerful Partners: An Educational Adventure for Home Schooled Youth.” The public library will be working with the Yancey County 4-H, local arts councils, and the Penland School of Crafts to better serve over 350 home schooled youth in these three mountain counties. Having identified needs through a survey of home schoolers, the collaboration plans to respond by purchasing materials for the libraries in the system and scheduling “book club” meetings that target home school children; by offering trips that will take advantage of hands-on art activities; and by conducting a tri-county science fair for home schoolers.



In the fall of 2002, people across Forsyth County will be reading the same book – *To Kill A Mockingbird* – as part of “On the Same Page”, a project that involves a variety of community organizations, businesses and schools. The Forsyth County Public Library, lead agency of the project, plans to use their \$39,357 Powerful Partners grant to involve young adults in the program through special activities and targeted outreach. The Library also plans to use this

opportunity to develop Teen Central, “a teen led focal point . . . in downtown Winston-Salem – a place to go for activities, learning and conversation.”



The High Point Public Library, Family Service of the Piedmont, United Way of Greater High Point and Fairview Elementary School will partner to make the resources of the public library more accessible to inner city children and teens that cannot visit the public library regularly. The “TAP Into the Library” project will assist young readers living in the Southside neighborhood to select material from the online catalog; deliver these materials to the project site; develop on-site programs; and provide real-time, interactive reference service over the Internet. The High Point Public Library was awarded \$36,508.

Three recipients of 2001-02 Powerful Partner grants applied for second year funding to continue their projects in 2002-03.



The Northwestern Regional Library received \$22,735 to build upon the progress made last year in their “Success 101” project. This project is “providing teens in a predominantly rural four-county area (i.e., Alleghany, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin counties) with increased access to information and preparation to make sound career, educational, and life choices.” The partnership includes the Library, county schools, a community college, and various other community partners.

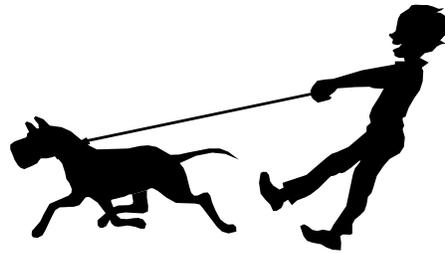


A grant of \$16,403 will enable the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County to expand on year 1 of “Project Interact”, a collaborative partnership of the Library and the Children’s Theater of Charlotte in cooperation with “Supporting Our Students”, a program of the YWCA Central Carolinas that serves community sites targeting at-risk children ages 10-15. Project Interact “connects the written and spoken word” through storytelling and theatrical activities. Project staff will also continue to create “Bring Stories to Life” kits, which will be available through the Library to any after-school program or community group.



Wiley International Elementary Magnet School in Raleigh will support the second year of their “Web of Support” project with a grant of \$24,075. Wiley’s powerful partnership with the Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh seeks to prevent school failure and close the achievement gap for the 10 to 15 percent of Wiley’s students who are not at grade level in reading and math. The project includes an after-school tutoring program and an extensive in-school Tutor/Mentor program as well as parenting enrichment programs. In this second year of the project, the collaboration will strive to ensure the sustainability of the “Web of Support” beyond 2003.

More information on the Powerful Partners grant program and other LSTA grant programs is available online at < <http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm>>.



**Who Let the Dogs Out?!!**  
**or**  
**The East Regional Library Pet Show**

By Carol Laing

East Regional Library had its first Pet Show/Parade ever and everyone had a "howling" good time. Youth Services and Adult Services cooperatively planned this event to help kick-off our youth and adult summer reading clubs. It was held on the lawn of ERL on Saturday, June 8th at 10:30am and what a day it was!

Guests registered their pet (live, stuffed, or imaginary) and received a nametag that had been numbered for door prize purposes. We had ferrets, baby turtles, kittens, dogs, bunnies, stuffed bears, toy dinosaurs and more. We had heard rumors that some goats or sheep were going to come, but they were a no-show. There was a big book display with lots of stuffed animals next to the registration table.

After registering, the contestants were encouraged to visit the collection of booths that had been arranged to border the side of the library facing the "pet corral". There was a table full of pet information pamphlets, Scooby snacks (dog biscuits in bags), fun pins, stickers, and coloring sheets. Other booths included a reptile table (local pet store), a caricaturist who drew pet and owner (he stayed for 1 hour at no charge), a face painting table staffed by teen volunteers, a pet bandana-necktie making table, a munchies table that held bags of popcorn and cups of Kool-Aid (oh, so cheap!). There was a water station for the pets as well. We had other ideas for booths, but we decided to keep it simple. The final touch was the music. We made a compact disc compilation of all of the pet songs we could find, and played it continuously throughout the show.

At 11:00 am we started rounding up the critters. We had made a corral by using stakes and a line of flag pennants. The judges had a table near the entrance into the corral. The emcee announced the name of the pet contestant and owner over the PA system and the duo began the circuit around the corral. There were some gut wrenchingly funny moments. When they had gone full circle, the emcee, who kept up a hilarious commentary, asked each owner what they liked best about their pet. We had one little dog owner try to get her pal to sing by howling into the microphone. Others tried to get their pets to do various tricks.

While that ruckus was going on, the two judges scrambled to come up with an instant certificate of award. We had made certificates the day before and all that was left to do was fill in the "Best in Show" line. A dog might get the best-dressed award certificate if it had on a little skirt and bow. If there wasn't something that just begged to be made the "Best of", then we waited to hear what the child said about their pet and used that.

The child and pet came to the judges' table after talking to the emcee and picked up their certificate and ribbon. Applause and laughter abounded. Afterwards, the booths remained open for those who had arrived late.

We were lucky that it was a beautiful, breezy day. (There was a rain date scheduled.) However, I should note that two staff members managed to wrangle up three big tarps. Two tents were secured from Wake County General Services. Another tent was supplied by a business an employee had a connection to. We would have melted if not for these tents. Fliers and posters encouraged participants to come prepared with beach towels and pooper-scoopers. The newspaper arrived as anticipated. They wrote a wonderful article with lots of photographs.



Speaking of photographs, we took some of our own. We made a bulletin board from them and the newspaper clippings. Patrons were welcome to take home the extra copies. Kids and adults alike are already asking about next year's Pet Show. They thought this year's show was the "cat's meow".

Big thanks go to the people who made the Pet Show happen: Bob Morrill, Janet

Morley, Angie Stephens, Nicole Ealy, Sandy Apthorpe, Jane Wolfe, Celia Glenn, Melissa Kendrick and several of the staff's significant others.

Carol Laing  
Youth Services Librarian  
East Regional Library  
Wake County Public Library System



## Preschool Outreach

By Debbie Oldenburg, Hickory Public Library

Preschool Outreach Coordinator

Knock-Knock. . . Who's there? Not the little preschoolers who used to be here!

That's one of the things that happen when there are more than 212,000 young children enrolled in regulated child care every day in North Carolina. We won't even mention all those thousands of preschoolers who attend a non-regulated half-day program or an unlicensed home. North Carolina has one of the highest percentages (67%) of working mothers in the nation. No wonder there are so many young children NOT showing up for our cleverly planned, carefully prepared preschool story times!

It doesn't make for a very funny knock-knock joke, or any kind of joke for that matter. Who is going to reach these little ones? Who is going to share all those wonderful stories contained in beautiful picture books? Who is going to implant in the hearts of the next generation a love of story, reading and books? Will it be the tired working parent(s), the harried many-times -overwhelmed child care teacher, or YOU? It could be all of these and not necessarily in that order.

I know that you care about these children because that is what you and I do. It's an ingrained need in all of us who work with little children to want to share all the books we have, to show the beautiful or funny pictures, and to lay the foundation for future reading. So we struggle to reach every child we can. Even in these trying times of budget woes, and staff cut-backs we do the best we can with what we have because we know the power of the story and the secret of the book.

This is a good time to tell you how I define Preschool Outreach. It's necessary because after asking many, many librarians what they thought it was, I received a whole host of answers, most of them in conflict with my interpretation. I was surprised. Many people

responded to me by saying "it was visiting preschools and doing storytimes or delivering books". In my humble opinion it is so much more.

**Preschool outreach is simply reaching out to preschool children and their families, instilling a love of books, encouraging reading, and helping them discover how libraries can be a valuable asset in their lives.** Period. Does it really matter where it takes place, in or out of the library? At the Hickory Public Library we practice Preschool Outreach everywhere we can and as often as staff scheduling and staff energy allows.

Under the direction of Hannah Owen, our Youth Services Supervisor and Deputy Director of our library, we offer a wide array of in-house preschool outreach programs. Some of the programs held weekly include “Sing and Play”, “Baby Time”, “Kids Make Music”, and “Storytime.” Also included is at least one special weekend program each month, usually for children but sometimes for the whole family. Special mini-programs are also held periodically, including a very special “Spanish for kids” (all ages). This was amazing as some of our Latino patrons attended the program and helped out!

“**Sing and Play**” is offered on Tuesday mornings at two different times, because attendance is great! This program for toddlers – three year olds is very informal. Songs are sung accompanied by guitar, a story is read and then the kiddies play, on all kinds of fun in-door toys. It’s really a time for moms to visit and network. Then after class they visit the Parent Resource Collection, select board and easy books, use some of our toddler software on our computers and just enjoy the library and the time away from home.



“**Babytime**” as you can tell by the name is offered for babies (newborns & crawlers) with a caregiver of some type. It’s a bonding class with lots of rhymes, songs, baby massage, actions and a story. We hope they will bond to the library as well as to each other.

**“Kids Make Music”** is for three year olds (we hope) and up. It is really *Kindermusic* in disguise as we are all trained *Kindermusic* instructors. We use songs, scarves, balls, egg shakers, bells, rhythm sticks, drums and anything else we can think of in this class. It is a favorite and fills up quickly.

Our regular **“Preschool Storytime”** is geared for 2-5 yrs. but Hannah states that the group gets younger and younger each year, with a wide variety of ages. A lot of music and action is packed into this special book sharing time.

With all the energy generated by these in-house outreach programs, we just had to do something for all those little ones who don't have the daily chance to get to the library because they are in day care. Therefore, we go to them during the day and encourage the parents (through handouts sent home with the children) to bring them to the library whenever they can.

It is my privilege to coordinate our out-of-house preschool outreach. Most of our preschool outreach was initially funded by Smart Start dollars, which was very beneficial. I don't think we could have accomplished all we did without their support. Unfortunately for us, in Hickory and for others in Catawba County, we have not received Smart Start funding for library outreach the last two fiscal years and our program had to drastically change. For those of you who still receive local Smart Start money, start planning now for how you will be able to continue those programs if your money is cut! The most difficult thing to get is funding for staff to do outreach. It is often seen as “unessential,” and I have to admit in these economically challenged times, it is a luxury. We were very fortunate to have been able to buy books to be used for outreach and a vehicle to deliver them when we had Smart Start money. (I wish it had been a bookmobile but our mini-van is adequate.)

In Hickory we still visit 36 child care programs each month, do over 50 story time programs for 1050 children in centers, and deliver anywhere between 2500-3500 books, puppets and videos. The library has funded my salary but for each of the past two years I have had to raise the money to fund materials and a part-time outreach worker. It

has been a real challenge! Preschool teacher training is another area in which we participate. They are very active partners in our program.

Another popular outreach is the “**Books for Baby**” program. It is a program designed to give a board book, parenting information on early literacy for babies, and library information to new parents in the hospitals. We have run this program for many years with Smart Start funds. Unfortunately this program is in peril of being dropped unless I can find funding.

We tried something new last year to reach centers we could no longer visit and to provide a field trip opportunity for centers. This program, called “**Day Care Days at the Library**”, was held in the library meeting room one morning each month.



All child care programs in the County were offered the chance to attend if they desired. We limited participation to 50 children each month. It was successful! The program ran from 9-11a.m. As the children arrived, they filled out a nametag, then had the opportunity to browse through big books until all

pre-registered classes arrived. We then shared stories, sang songs, did group activity games, toured the library, participated in a craft to reinforce our theme of the day and to learn skills. Then we shared a snack and wrapped up the morning by sending them home with information about their visit!

Out of the 10 sessions offered, we only had one that had 26 children attend. The rest averaged 50+ children. Many times after the program we would see parents bringing their children back to the library. The kids had so much fun they wanted to come back! There was only one problem with this program. Parents called, thinking it was a time that they could drop off their children, like a mothers-morning-out. Many moms were disappointed when I explained the program was

for childcare classes to attend together as a group. We did encourage home-provider participation.

We attend many community functions, set up displays and do storytimes whenever there is a group of preschoolers around. We just remind parents that the library is here for them to use, how important reading is to their young child, and that it is not only a fun place, but also a free place to take children. What could be better?

Once we get the family to the library we want them to feel comfortable. With a lot of Smart Start money, we have developed a Parent/Teacher resource center for them, a diverse multi-cultural collection with many bilingual books, circulating software and music CD's, special preschool computers with age appropriate software, themed backpacks filled with books, board books, big books and an exciting duplo table to play with.

All these outstanding collections started with preschool outreach ideas and working hand-in-hand with Hannah Owen, who maintains a wonderful children's book collection. Together we were able to develop outreach that is truly in-house and out-of-house preschool outreach.

All these special mini collections continue to be used and maintained with library money and are making our library environment better for families in our community. Friendly, helpful staff makes it a great fun place to visit and to work.

Knock-Knock. Who's there? The Library that's who!

**NCLA CHILDREN'S SERVICES SECTION BOARD 2002 (8-02)**

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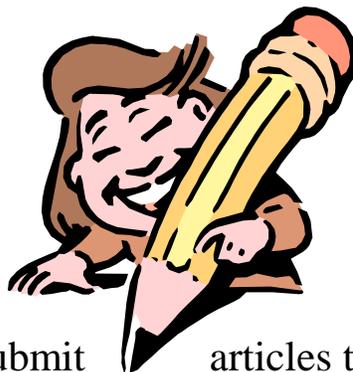
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### **From the Editor.....**

**I** invite our readership to submit articles to the Chapbook; to share your tried and true special programs, or interesting projects, or upcoming events whereby all may be informed or even motivated to try something new. There is no deadline.

Send to:

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Or:...(preferably)....

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