



NCLA
Children's Services

An Investment in Our Future

Chapbook...

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North Carolina Library Association**

Message from the Chair..... by Lara Luck

Hello Fellow Chapbook Readers:

As the summer winds to a close, I'm sure many of you are breathing a sigh of relief as you wrap up another successful Summer Reading Program. Wasn't this year's theme lots of fun to program for? And next year's theme will definitely allow us to express our inner "creativity!" Still, that's later and right now we can look forward to the fun things that come with Fall.

Autumn is my favorite time of the year, especially for story times and fun programs. With the turning of the leaves comes the opportunity to plan some great adventures both outside and inside, and even in a book. Whether it's leaf twirling, apple picking or a spooky Haunted Library for Halloween, we can always create a fun (and educational) opportunity for our customers.

Sometimes it is much harder to find these chances for ourselves though, but that is where the Youth Services Section Board comes in. One of the adventures the YSS planning board has come up with is the Fall retreat, "All Ages Served," in September. We are also looking ahead to next year's NCLA conference and have started to work on ideas for professional development sessions to present. Remember to let us know if you have any great ideas or areas that you would like these sessions to focus on; after all we are here to serve you!

Before, I sign off I would like to welcome some new members to our Youth Services Board. Meg Smith joins us from the Cumberland County Public Library. She will be taking over the Director spot that was vacated when Cindy Dye became Vice Chair/Chair Elect.

In the other Director position is Debra Gilbert from the West Regional Library in Cary, who joined the Board last fall.

Also joining the YSS Board is Joan Sherif from the Northwestern Regional Library in Elkin. Joan is serving as a liaison to the Public Library Section (and its young adult services).

Jane Deacle from the Cameron Village Regional Library in Raleigh also joined us late last year as the new NC Book Award Representative. I want to thank all of these ladies for joining us!

Have a great Fall,

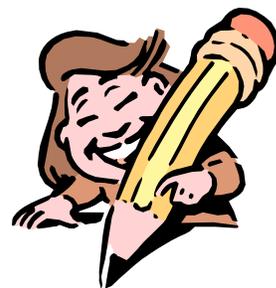
Lara A. Luck

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 readers may be informed or even motivated to try something new. There is no deadline.

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Meet Meg Smith, Director on the YSS Board

I'm sure many of us share a similar story. We remember our favorite, most cherished books from our childhood and the amazing impact those stories and knowledge, had in our lives. I devoured the adventures starring Laura Ingalls Wilder and Caddie Woodlawn, imagined my own Narnia as my teacher read aloud C. S. Lewis's *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* and scrambled to read all the Judy Blume and Lois Lowry I could find.

While I loved children's literature, I initially stumbled across a career in our field. As a high school student, I volunteered at our local public library in Cedar Falls, Iowa and assisted with children's programming and Summer Reading Clubs. Volunteering turned into a part-time job through college. While I loved working with children and books in the public library, my major was pre-law, though I slowly realized I had no growing interest in the legal world.

When I complained about the course work, my supervisor, our Youth Services Manager simply said, "Why don't you consider attending library school?" That encouragement and direction opened my eyes to all the possibilities within public libraries. I graduated from the library science masters' program from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and happily traded blustery Midwest winters for sunny North Carolina.

I have now worked for the Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center for two and a half years in Fayetteville as the Headquarters YS Manager. I enjoy collection development, reviewing for *Kirkus Reviews* and *School Library Journal*, and served on the 2008 Caldecott Award Committee. My service on the Managing Children's Services Committee for the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) has given me a fresh perspective on the role of children's managers across our country. I am excited to be a new member of the North Carolina Children's Book Award Committee.

Most importantly, I hope to encourage the life-long love of reading in children, whether it's recommending an unfamiliar reader to Narnia's struggles or the crude (and hilarious) antics in *Captain Underpants*. As an incoming Director of our YSS Board, it's evident that North Carolina Youth Services librarians have innovative ideas to shape the lives of children and young adults. I look forward to meeting you and learning how your libraries are impacting young readers and their books.

North Carolina Children's Book Award

The North Carolina Children's Book Award (NCCBA) is sponsored by the North Carolina School Library Media Association and the North Carolina Association of School Librarians and the Children's Services Sections of the North Carolina Library Association. The purpose of the award is to encourage students in grades K-6:

- o to become better acquainted with the best writers and illustrators of contemporary books with outstanding literary appeal.
- o To broaden students' awareness of literature as a means of personal satisfaction and lifelong pursuits. (Picture Books)
- o To promote reading aloud with students in the early grades as a means of introducing reading as a pleasure. (Picture Books)
- o To promote reading aloud with students as a means of extending the concept of reading for pleasure; (Junior Books)
- o To give recognition and honor to their favorite books, authors, and illustrators.

The first Picture Book Award was given in 1992 to *In a Dark, Dark Room and other Scary Stories* by Alvin Schwartz and the first Junior Book Award was given in 1995 to *The Boys Start the War* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor.

For more information about the NCCBA you can visit Bookhive at

<http://www.plcmc.bookhive.org/nccba>

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The NCCBA Nominations for 2008-2009 are:

Picture Book Category

Big Bad Wolves at School by Stephen Krensky
Dogku by Andrew Clements
An Egg is Quiet by Dianna Hutts Aston
Henry's Freedom Box by Ellen Levine
Hey, Mama Goose by Jane Breskin Zalben
Knock, Knock by Saxton Freymann
Lily Brown's Paintings by Angela Johnson
Marimba!: Animales from A to Z by Pat Mora
Millie Waits for the Mail
by Alexander Steffensmeier
Mr. Pusskins: A Love Story by Sam Lloyd
The Perfect Nest by Catherine Friend
Previously by Allan Ahlberg
Snow Day! by Lester L Laminack
Who is Melvin Bubble? by Nick Bruel
Wolf's Coming by Joe Kulka

Junior Book Category:

Birmingham 1963 by Carol Boston Weatherford
City of Dogs by Levi Michael
Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
Dogs and Cats by Steve Jenkins
Hey There, Stink Bug! by Leslie Bulion
How to Steal a Dog by Barbara O'Connor
Lawn Boy by Gary Paulsen
Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale
by Carmen Agra Deedy
Night of the Howling Dogs by Graham Salisbury
One Thousand Tracings: Healing the Wounds of
World War II by Lita Judge
Paint the Wind by Pam Munoz Ryan
Peak by Roland Smith
The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters,
Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy
by Jeanne Birdsall
The Road to Paris by Nikki Grimes
Rules by Cynthia Lord

**NORTH CAROLINA CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD
PAST WINNERS**

PICTURE BOOK AWARD

- *1992 (First Award) *In a Dark, Dark Room and other Scary Stories*
by Alvin Schwartz
- *1993 *The Seven Chinese Brothers*
by Margaret Mahy
- *1994 *The Stinky Cheese Man*
by Jon Scieszka
- *1995 *The Rainbow Fish*
by Marcus Pfister
- *1996 *The Man Who Tricked a Ghost*
by Laurence Yep
- *1997 *Officer Buckle and Gloria*
by Peggy Rathman
- *1998 *Roses are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink*
by Diane DeGroat
- *1999 *Verdi*
by Janell Cannon
- *2000 *Ghost of Sifty Sifty Sam*
by Angela Shelf Medearis
- *2001 *Hooway for Wodney Wat*
by Helen Lester
- *2002 *Bad Case of Stripes*
by David Shannon
- *2003 *More Parts*
by Tedd Arnold
- *2004 *Take Me out of the Bathtub and other Silly Dilly Songs*
by Alan Katz
Illustrated by David Catrow
- *2005 *Bad Boys*
by Margie Palatini
Illustrated by Henry Cole
- *2006 *My Lucky Day*
by Keiko Kasza
- *2007 *Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude*
by Kevin O'Malley
- *2008 *Scaredy Squirrel*
By Melanie Watt

**NORTH CAROLINA CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD
PAST WINNERS**

JUNIOR BOOK AWARD

- *1995 (First Award) *The Boys Start the War*
by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *1996 *My Teacher Fried My Brains*
by Bruce Coville
- *1997 *Wicked Jack*
by Connie Woodriddle
- *1998 *Shiloh Season*
by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *1999 *Frindle*
by Andrew Clements
- *2000 *Crash*
by Jerry Spinelli
- *2001 *Tornado*
by Betsy Byars
- *2002 *Salt in His Shoes*
by Delores and Roslyn Jordan
- *2003 *Fearless Jack*
by Paul Brett Johnson
- *2004 *The Secrets of Ms. Snickle's Class*
by Laurie Miller Hornik
- *2005 *The Secret Knowledge of Grown-Ups: The Second File*
by David Wisniewski
- *2006 *Togo*
by Robert J. Blake
- *2007 *A Dog's Life*
by Ann M. Martin
- *2008 *Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich*
by Adam Rex

Teens: Give Them a Challenge!

By Cynthia Dye



The “Ten 4 Teens Winter Read-a-thon” kicked off on December 14, 2007 at the Greensboro Public Library. The first goal was to read ten books in ten weeks. The second goal was to get teens interested in new YA fiction and keep them reading over winter break. More than fifty interested teens attended programs and read during the two and a half month long winter reading challenge. We were pleasantly surprised at the attendance since this was the first time a winter reading program for teens was attempted.

Programs took place at the Hemphill, McGirt-Horton, and Glenwood branches of the Greensboro Public Library where book talks were presented by Teen Librarians Ricky Baker and Brandon Bensley, as well as teen volunteers from the Hemphill Branch. Door prizes donated from area businesses were given out at each of the five programs where books were discussed and pizza and wings were consumed.

The book list was recommended by Baker & Taylor and Penguin Books as part of their Young Adult New Fiction Sweepstakes. At the final meeting on February 21st, each reader voted for their favorite title. The clear favorite was *Dream Factory* by Brad Barkley and Heather Hepler. However, *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher, a book about teen suicide, generated the most dialogue. Then the ballots were collected and sent to Baker & Taylor for the sweepstakes.

Subsequently, Greensboro Public Library-Hemphill Branch won an impressive book display full of books celebrating the first and second titles in *The Looking Glass Wars* series by Frank Beddor and ten new YA titles from Penguin Books.

Another benefit of the Read-a-thon was book review slips which each teen filled out for the books he or she had read. These slips were used for the prize drawings at the final meeting for movie passes, theatre tickets, and free ice cream coupons. The book reviews then made their way to GPL’s Cool Books for Teens weblog, developed and maintained by Robbie Owens, an information specialist and high school liaison for GPL.

After feedback was given to Baker & Taylor on GPL’s teen programs and interest levels, a new partnership was born which has already benefited this Children’s Specialist and her reading teens.

Cynthia Dye
Hemphill Library

Prince Caspian - Review of the May 2008 Movie by Claire Ramsey



It is a unique moment in my experience: movie makers take a story with severe sequel-itis and create a movie without it!

Sequel-itis (*n*): a common condition that strikes authors and movie makers after a very successful first offering, usually the result of trying to recapture the fire in the bottle. The response from the fan base is generally letdown and, potentially, loss of interest.

See Gimmick, Repeated Jokes, Bigger is Better, Longer Action Sequences.

C. S. Lewis published the very popular *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* in 1950. *Prince Caspian*, published in 1951, has never been one of my favorites in the series. Had I read it when

it came out, I would definitely have diagnosed sequel-itis -- it is so leisurely (dull?) compared with its predecessor. (And yes, folks, we are listing the series in order of PUBLICATION, not chronology... bah! newfangled chronology...)

I am justified in doing so, however, since director Andrew Adamson is presenting the movies, so far, also in publication order. *Prince Caspian* the book is an awkwardly written story with the majority of the action being told in flashback by Trumpkin the dwarf (great acting by Peter Dinklage, by the way) and only one major action sequence happening in the present. Not only that, but there is an extended siege in the book (which would have had the movie reviewers, who griped about the length of the movie battle, snoring in their popcorn.) Had *Prince Caspian* the book been lifted whole cloth into the script, this would have been one boring movie.

However, joy! Adamson and fellow script writer Christopher Markus clearly saw the problem right away and set about making changes that purists probably deplore but which made for a much better movie. Long flashback series caused by Caspian blowing Queen Susan's horn right before the end of the story? Nope -- Caspian blows the horn right at the beginning, yanking Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy (rulers of Narnia from *Lion*) right off their subway platform and into a Narnia 1300 years later than the one they ruled.

The Telmarines have conquered Narnia and driven all the fauns, dwarfs, centaurs, and talking beasts they didn't destroy into hiding. The walking trees have gone dormant, though the Telmarines still fear them greatly, and the original Narnians have hidden so well that they are by then only legend. Miraz the murderous regent, then king, is busy building bridges and bringing "civilization" and industry to Narnia. Above all the Telmarines hate and fear the sea, for Aslan comes to Narnia across the sea...

Instead of the book's endless siege where the Telmarines defeat the Narnians again and again, Adamson has substituted a pithy attack on Miraz's stronghold, recklessly ordered by again-High King Peter who has been spoiling for a fight. The Narnians are rebuffed soundly and must retreat to their stronghold where the Stone Table from *Lion* once stood and where a great mound, Aslan's Howe, has been raised to mark the spot.

Beyond the plot contractions and improvements, though, are the details that honor the story and truly make this movie worth seeing: inside Aslan's Howe are 1300 year old drawings of Peter, Edmund, Susan, and Lucy from when they ruled in the past. Tilda Swinton's White Witch gets a cameo as Caspian's more dubious allies attempt to raise her from the dead. A big improvement over *Lion*, the dryads, or tree-people, actually WALK in *Caspian* rather than just moving as clouds of blossoms (and are much more awesome than the ents from *Lord of the Rings*.) And when Aslan finally arrives, my favorite parts of the story were not abandoned in favor of a shorter film -- hallelujah! The river god rises from the Fords of Beruna and breaks his chains (the bridge), the trees drive away the frightened Telmarine army, and the valiant warrior mouse Reepicheep (a brilliant combo of art and Eddie Izzard's voice) loses his tail in the battle only to have it restored by Aslan.

OK, I experienced a pang or two over the completely unnecessary hints of romance between Susan and Caspian (and what was that SONG at the end?!?) and the absence of Bacchus and the Maenads in the retaking of Narnia, but overall this was a movie I was happy to pay full price to see. If this is what Adamson and Markus can do with the weak *Prince Caspian*, than I am going to be there on opening day to see the much more fun *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader!*

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