ALASKA’S DIGITAL PIPELINE: HOW IS IT DOING?

Alaska’s libraries and library patrons have been using the periodical databases and other resources available through the Databases for Alaskans, recently renamed as the Digital Pipeline, since 1998. EBSCO and Gale and Homework Help are names we throw about with abandon in meetings and at conferences. Ten years into this statewide project seems like a good time to look back and assess how we are doing with these expensive resources.

A service that may seem free to library patrons through SLED is actually pricey: the University spends $412,000 and the State Library spends approximately $150,000 every year to buy the statewide licenses to the 28 databases available from EBSCO (including Academic Search, Business Source, Auto Repair, Consumer Health, NoveList and Small Engine Repair), the Facts on File and Oxford Premium Reference resources, Live Homework Help, and Teaching and Education Resources.

Management of these resources has been decentralized. The Databases Steering Committee with Steve Rollins as chair looks at the current mix of databases and evaluates and makes recommendations for adding new resources and deleting little-used resources. State Library staff have provided training, done some marketing, set up an 800 number to access passwords, and have compiled usage statistics on these resources. Kerri Canepa, the Alaska Library Network coordinator, has begun to coordinate group purchases of databases for different groups of interested libraries. She has also created or gathered bookmarks, brochures, posters, and other printable items that publicize these resources and put them up on her web page at: http://alaskalibrarynetwork.org/ (under Products and Services). Kerri and Ian Chan, formerly of UAA, took suggestions from school and public librarians to redesign the access page for the databases and to rebuff the former Databases for Alaskans as the Digital Pipeline.
Dear AkLA members,

Wow! F2F aka Face-to-Face. This working meeting of the E-Council is a marvel. We ran through a busy agenda like a train barreling along the tracks. It was our last meeting with Kay Shelton as State Librarian, so it was a little bittersweet. Her gentle guidance, good nature and always appropriate advice will be missed.

Over a full day and a half we worked on: budgets for AkLA over the next year and for Conference 2009 in Kodiak, legislative priorities for this session, and we reviewed the Association goals and objectives. With more than 20 representatives of chapters, roundtables and officers at the table, you might imagine the lively discussions. Thanks to Robert’s Rules of Order we managed to keep from descending into chaos. I encourage everyone to get more involved with the Association; it’s not hard and it can be very rewarding. Of course, the best part is interacting with each other and working with your peers to improve library service to all in the state.

Please consider running for office in AkLA. We are in the process of re-structuring and hope to transition to a President-Elect/President structure instead of the current President/Past-President structure which should make it a much smoother transition to the office of President. If you or someone you know is interested in leading the Association, please get in touch with Jane Furstenau who is heading up the Nominating Committee this year.

What a lot of attention Alaska libraries and especially the Wasilla library had over the last few months! K.J. Martin-Albright tells us she no longer has to explain to people where Wasilla is in Alaska! I am sure that she and her staff did their best with grace under pressure dealing with the national media. In case you missed it, or do not subscribe to the listserv, remember that as a nonprofit, 501(c) (3) educational association that supports quality library and information services and public access to information, the Alaska Library Association and its representatives speaking on its behalf are not allowed to take a position on political candidates and strive to be nonpartisan in their activities.

(Cont. on pg. 5)
AKLA CONFERENCE IN KODIAK

In just a few months The Alaska Library Association membership will be convening in Kodiak for the annual conference. The conference committee has been working hard to make your visit to Kodiak an educational and enjoyable experience. For the latest conference information, please check the conference web page on the AkLA web site. There you can find information about accommodations, local attractions, travel, grants to attend conference and much more.

Just to whet your appetite for things to come, here are a few of the featured speakers you can look forward to when you visit “Alaska’s Emerald Isle” in March:

- **Willie Hensley** is the keynote speaker for the Kodiak conference. Mr. Hensley served four years in the Alaska House of Representatives and six years in the Alaska State Senate. He was also president of the Alaska Federation of Natives and worked with NANA Regional Corporation, the United Bank Alaska, the Alaska Department of Economic Development, and the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. A paper he wrote in 1966 entitled “What Rights to Land have the Alaska Natives: The Primary Issue” encapsulated the land claims issue and provided the background that many Native Alaskans needed to take action to begin the land claims process. His book *Fifty Miles from Tomorrow: A memoir of Alaska and the Real People* will be released this January.

- **Will Manley** is our endnote speaker. Mr. Manley has furnished provocative and amusing commentary on librarianship in his columns “The Manley Arts” and “Will’s World” for over 25 years. He is the author of nine books on the lighter side of library science including *Snowballs In the Bookdrop, The Manley Art of Librarianship, The Truth About Catalogers*, and *Unintellectual Freedoms*.

- **Roland Smith** is the featured speaker at the Authors to Alaska Luncheon. Mr. Smith worked as a zookeeper for over twenty years in Oregon and Washington, and he came to Alaska in 1989 to help save endangered animals from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. His books blend action and adventure with scientific detail and have been praised by both critics and young-adult readers alike. Just a few of his many award winning fiction and non-fiction titles are *Sea Otter Rescue* (based on his experiences with the oil spill), *Journey of the Red Wolf, Thunder Cave, Jaguar, Sasquatch, Cryptid Hunter, Zach’s Lie*, and *The Last Lobo*.

Well, I don’t know about you, but I’m sure excited by that line-up. And there are many more intriguing speakers that will be presenting in Kodiak. Add in some fine entertainment, tours around our beautiful island, and a few surprises and you should have a conference to remember. Hope to see you all this March.

*Joe D’Elia,*
*Local Arrangements Chair*
In the ten years since its inception, resources on the Digital Pipeline have been searched nearly 10 million times with 4.2 million items retrieved. The EBSCO databases receive the lion’s share of usage. In FY1999, library patrons performed 240,000 searches and retrieved 62,000 full-text articles. During FY2008, nearly 1.6 million searches netted 516,000 full-text articles. Just over 4 million articles have been retrieved from the EBSCO databases alone during the past ten years.

One new addition to the EBSCO databases is Small Engine Repair Reference Center, a companion database to the popular Auto Repair Reference Center that has been available to Alaskans since 2004. Since March, over 400 users of the Small Engine Repair have retrieved nearly 1,000 full-text repair articles on ATVs, generators, boat engines, motorcycles, outdoor power equipment, and snow machines. As money gets tight for everyone, the value of Auto and Small Engine Repair can only grow.

Live Homework Help has been a popular service since it was added in 2004. Over 32,000 Alaskan students have received nearly 12,000 hours of one-on-one help during the past four years. The fun part of Live Homework Help is reading the comments that these students record as they sign-off, such as: “This service is DA BOMB!” and “Whatever you pay my tutor is not enough” and “I really love Homework Help, but I don’t dare tell anyone else in my class because then they will start getting A’s like I do now.”

If you buy Peterson’s guides to colleges or any test preparation guides, then you need to take a close look at Gale’s Testing and Education Resource Center. This is a truly rich resource that is not heavily used, with just over 9,000 sessions since 2005. Students can search for colleges and universities that offer undergraduate and graduate studies and can search a database of scholarships. The section on specialty and career education helps users find vocational-technical schools and private high schools, as well as programs in information technology and nursing and schools that offer distance education or business training for executives. Patrons can set up free accounts to take a wide variety of sample tests in the education and career fields. They can access 65 e-books, including Peterson’s guides on preparing for educational exams such as the GED, SAT, ACT, AP college credit, GRE, and LSAT and guides to the civil service, military aptitude, and citizenship tests.

Steve Rollins likes to point out that the resources found on the Digital Pipeline are an information dividend for every Alaskan with an annual cost of just 76 cents per person. The statewide licenses that purchase these resources are a cost-effective measure that benefit Alaska libraries and library patrons by providing a safety net of information that anyone can access through the Web. Here’s to ten more years of information dividends for all Alaskans! 

Patience Frederiksen
Alaska State Library and
Talking Book Center
ALASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
2008 AUDREY P. KOLB PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE AWARD

AkLA welcomes nominations for the 2008 Audrey P. Kolb Public Library Service Award. The Kolb Award was established in 1991 and named in honor of the first recipient in recognition of her outstanding contribution to public libraries in Alaska. This is an opportunity for recognition of librarians, library staff, volunteers, advocates, or library board members who have made a significant contribution in the form of staff support, administrative support, funding, or special programs for libraries statewide in Alaska.

The award will be presented at the annual AkLA Conference.

Members of AkLA, library staff, board members, library advocates and volunteers are all eligible and may submit nominations. For information or nomination forms, contact Aja Markel Razumny at the Alaska State Library, P.O. Box 110571, Juneau, 99811-0571. Phone 1-888-820-4525. Complete nominations must be received by January 15, 2009.

Patty Christensen
Talkeetna Public Library

(President’s Letter - Cont. from pg. 2)

It was a distinct pleasure to meet so many other Alaskans at the Turning the Page symposium held in Washington State in conjunction with the Gates Online Opportunity Grant program. This valuable advocacy training is something we should share with all of our colleagues who were not able to attend.

Remember to join or renew your memberships in AkLA. You can do it online this year! And, make those reservations for conference in Kodiak. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,
Mary Jo Joiner
2008 AkLA President
The Elegance of the Hedgehog, by Muriel Barbery, 2007. The hidden autodidactic life of a concierge who manages an exclusive Paris apartment building is the backbone for this quirky novel. Renee Michel keeps a TV playing game shows loudly in the front room of her apartment so that she fits the stereotype of a concierge held by the wealthy residents, while she reads Tolstoy, and Proust, and listens to Mahler in the back room. Her secrets are discovered by an intelligent 13 year old girl who lives in the building and by a shrewd Japanese gentleman who moves into the building. The story is told in alternating chapters by the concierge and the girl. This is an unusual book I shall think about for a long time. (Patience Frederiksen, Alaska State Library)

I have just finished reading The Shack, by William Paul Young, 2008. For a book that starts with such a horrific story, it is surprising to finish it feeling so loved. This is a book to keep by one’s bedside just for re-reading passages. It reminded me of reading Jonathan Livingston Seagull (oh, so many years ago!) in that it transports the reader from the mundane to the sublime. (Barbara Deardorff, McGrath Community School Library)

The Unthinkable: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes and Why, by Amanda Ripley, 2008. The author, a Time Magazine journalist, has covered many major disasters by interviewing survivors and learning about the differences in thinking, personality and behavior of survivors vs. non-survivors. The Unthinkable offers fascinating stories of human response during disasters. This book is important because “nine out of ten Americans live in places at significant risk of earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, terrorism, or other disasters.” (I do wonder where that tenth American lives…) (Sylvia Burns, retired, Fairbanks)

Eat Here: Reclaiming Home-grown Pleasures in a Global Supermarket, by Brian Halweil, 2004. This is a wonderful, practical, hopeful book that describes how people all over the world have improved their health, income, and meals by buying and selling food locally. In the modern food industry, food typically travels 1,500 to 2,600 miles from farm to dinner plate. This world-trotting generates incredible costs and pollution and

(Cont. on pg. 7)
erodes food security, community self-sufficiency, and knowledge of where and how food is grown. Halweil does a magnificent job of describing how this dysfunctional system hurts us and details myriad solutions: farming cooperatives, community shared agriculture, school lunches and gardens, slow food, markets, and so on. It’s a great book, interesting, well-written, and I can’t recommend it highly enough. (Deirdre Helfferich, John Trigg Ester Library)

How Far Is the Ocean from Here, by Amy Shearn, 2008. The awe factor of a pregnant woman is high. Onlookers can only guess at the circumstances and decisions that created the child and hypothesize the outcome. Shearn’s book deals with a common, albeit contemporary, set of circumstances: a couple tries numerous times to get pregnant, fails, weighs options and hires a surrogate to carry their baby. As the story begins, Susannah is rethinking her decision to become a surrogate, pondering her future in “otherhood.” Amy Shearn writes as the situation dictates, thoughts racing through Susannah’s mind, everything just slightly out of control. Fast read, quirky and humorous, yet events and characters will remain with the reader long after the book has been finished. Highly recommended! (Patty Linville, Seward Community Library)

The Boys’ Crusade: The American Infantry in Northwestern Europe, 1944-1945, by Paul Fussell, 2005. The best, and perhaps smallest, book about the average young infantryman’s experience in WWII. With a father who was seventeen at the Battle of Guadalcanal, I’ve read scads of books about the war to try to understand him better, and Fussell, professor emeritus of English at the University of Pennsylvania, is as eye-opening a historian as he is erudite. A great Christmas book for WWII buffs. (Greg Hill, Fairbanks NSB Public Library)
bad Garrison Keillor is too shy a person and wouldn’t cooperate! (Larry Hibpshman, Alaska State Archives)

"Lake Wobegon: Autumn" by Terrance J. Mueller

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Baseball in Blue and Gray: The National Pastime During the Civil War, by George Kirsch, 2003. How the “New York Game” superseded all other forms and became the National Pastime. I would have preferred more on the war and less on the game, being a Civil War Buff, after all! Still, Kirsch makes a good case that the war was a prime factor in making the game “national” in reconciling all sections of the country and that baseball has become a recognized primary way to express national pride and commitment. (Larry Hibpshman, Alaska State Archives)

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Loving Frank, by Nancy Horan, 2007. This historical novel focuses on the relationship between Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Cheney while both were married to other individuals. Horan does a splendid job depicting the private and professional lives of these two people and provides insight into the grief experienced by their families. She describes Frank’s career in architecture and shows Mamah’s fascination with women’s role studies as a translator of important works in Swedish. I did not feel sympathy for the main characters, but I was intrigued with the complexities of their decisions in life. This is the only novel this author has written and it is wonderful. (Ruth Jean Shaw, Anchorage School District)

Twisted, by Laurie Halse Anderson, 2007. In this 2008 Teacher’s Choice Selection, Anderson doesn’t pick easy topics to write about. Tyler is a social misfit who is treated as a “problem,” so, not surprisingly, he acts out. He makes one poor decision and explodes in violence. While learning to accept the consequences for his actions, Tyler discovers that he needs to make his own decisions rather than continuing to twist under other peoples’ toxic opinions of him. This book deals candidly with the issues of integrity, emotional abuse, self-identity, rage and violence. Tyler’s humor, though increasingly dark throughout the book, and his very realistic voice made me cheer for him all the way through. Highly recommended for high school. (Ann Morgester, Anchorage School District)

(Cont. on pg. 10)
Earlier this year the AkLA Cataloging Roundtable applied for an Interlibrary Cooperation Grant from the Alaska State Library to offer cataloging training in Anchorage and Fairbanks. Happily, the ILC grant was approved and was funded with money from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The grant paid to bring instructor Deborah Fritz, owner of The MARC of Quality, to Alaska to teach three cataloging workshops, one for more experienced catalogers and two for folks who are newer to working with cataloging records.

The grant also covered travel expenses so that interested people could attend the workshops even if their libraries could not afford to send them. Fifty-four participants came from all over the state for the training—from Ketchikan to Barrow and many places in between, including Anchorage, Big Lake, Cordova, Delta Junction, Fairbanks, Healy, Homer, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Palmer, Seward, Talkeetna, Wasilla and Willow.

On August 21 and 22, 17 experienced Alaskan catalogers met in Anchorage at the UAA/APU Consortium Library for the Book Blitz II workshop. Book Blitz II covered tricky cataloging topics such as parallel titles and language codes; set titles, series titles, part titles and when to use which; corporate and conference headings; and uniform titles. Time was also spent on the many recent changes to series titles and discussion of the expected future changes in all of these areas with the impending implementation of the new cataloging rules, Resource Description & Access (RDA).

This class was a follow-up to Book Blitz I which was offered in Anchorage in 2002 and which received an overwhelmingly positive response. The reaction to Book Blitz II was just as enthusiastic and attendees are already asking for Book Blitz III.

On August 25-27, two separate workshops geared towards staff without much (or any) training in cataloging were offered on the UAF campus: MARC21 in Your Library and Just for Copy Cats. Thirty-one people attended the first workshop, which covered basic information about MARC (Machine-Readable Cataloging) and its importance in making library online catalogs function properly. Just for Copy Cats taught its 33 attendees how to find appropriate MARC records, how to match MARC records to a specific book, special “problem areas” to watch out for when examining a prospective record and how to spot errors so that they can be fixed before or after copying a record into your own library’s online catalog. Both classes were wholeheartedly praised and, as with Book Blitz II, attendees already want to tackle the next class in Deborah Fritz’s cataloging training series (in this case, Book Blitz I).

The reaction to the workshops was overwhelmingly positive. Deborah Fritz is a wonderful teacher: she is very knowledgeable and passionate about her subject (yes, people really do get passionate about cataloging!) and she strives to show people the whys of cataloging:

- why data needs to be entered in a particular way,
- why bad data affects a catalog’s ability to find materials, and why all library staff should care.

According to workshop evaluations, that message got through to many attendees who noted that

(Cont. on pg. 10)
they now understand, or are starting to understand, the effect that the quality of their cataloging data has on the performance of their library’s catalog. Several people also commented on how they will be able to apply their knowledge to other parts of their job, such as on the reference desk and as library directors, and that they will be sharing information from the workshops with their co-workers.

The Cataloging Roundtable would like to thank the Alaska State Library and IMLS for the funding that made the workshops possible, as well as Deborah Fritz and all the volunteers and attendees that made them a success. And a success they were: workshop participants left brimming with new knowledge and buzzing with ideas for applying their new skills—and with requests for more training soon!

Saint Minutia, Patron Saint of Catalogers

Jude Baldwin
Fairbanks North Star Borough Public Libraries

Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer, by Lynne Cox, 2005. Cox discovered early that she loved swimming in the elements, had loads of endurance, but not much speed. As a natural at swimming for hours in open water, her list of long-distance swims includes the Catalina Channel from LA to Catalina Island, the English Channel, the Cook Strait in New Zealand, the Bering Strait between the Diomede Islands, the shark-infested Cape of Good Hope, Glacier Bay, and Lake Baikal. Going to extremes, she raced in the Nile River and endured the life-threatening cold waters of Antarctica. I don’t usually like biography, but I was sucked into this book from the first page. Cox shares her fears, her determination and her triumphs with a humble spirit and with sincere acknowledgment of all the people in her life who have supported and encouraged her to follow her very extreme dreams. A fabulous read! (Ann Morgester, Anchorage School District)
BIG LAKE
49-Star State Flag

Representative Mark Newman presented a framed 49-Star State Flag to the Big Lake Library Advocates, their board President Julie Busch, and to the Big Lake Librarian Jo Cassidy, on Monday October 20th, at 6 p.m. The library now proudly displays this flag in their front entry.

Representative John Coghill donated 49-star flags to libraries in Alaska as a way to celebrate Alaska’s 50 years of statehood. The flag is one of thousands purchased by JC Penney during original statehood ceremonies to pass out to its customers to celebrate statehood. The left over flags were then given to the Boy Scouts across the state to raise money. The flags were then sold to a gift shop in Juneau by a Scout leader leaving the State years later and were recovered recently and purchased by Rep. Coghill who then donated them to select libraries across the state.

Jo Cassidy
Big Lake Public Library

KETCHIKAN
Kids Pick the President at the Ketchikan Public Library

In early October, children from all over Ketchikan began pouring into the public library to vote for President of the United States. The “Kids Pick the President” campaign was the brainchild of annex staff members Vera Freeman and Debbie Gravel. They put hours of work into coming up with a concept, creating a display, making ballots and picking out the special prize for all the participants.

The voting was open to children ages eighteen and under who could write their first and last name. We wanted the kids to be old enough to understand what they were doing and to recognize that they are learning about our democracy and how elections work.

Press releases went out to all the schools, radio stations and the local newspaper about the program. The children’s librarian also made a catchy audio public service announcement for the public radio station which aired frequently.

Library staff created a special voting area in the library, made simply out of hanging crepe paper in a quiet corner where a computer terminal usually sat. Pens and pencils were in ample supply for the voters and no one had to wait more than a few minutes to enter the booth.

When children arrived in the library, they signed in at the library desk in a heavy notebook adorned with numbered spaces and sparkly star stickers on each numbered line.

Once they signed in, the kids were given a ballot made of heavy paper. There was a place on the ballot where children could write in a candidate. The write in’s included Ralph Nader, Bob Barr, Joe Jonas, Elmer Fudd and Sarah Palin.

Junior High teacher Mr. Pennino also got a shout out which was appropriate since he personally walked 45 kids to the library one rainy day so they could vote.

(Cont. on pg. 12)
After voting, children received a box of Cracker Jacks from the library desk adorned with a custom made “I Voted at the Ketchikan Public Library” sticker with the “Duck for President” logo. The prizes were purchased with Friends of the Library store credits at a local grocery known as the 1% program.

So who won? Barack Obama by two votes! The final tally was 148 to 146 for McCain with 40 write in votes and six questioned ballots. Like the rest of the country, the kids of Ketchikan were looking towards the future with hope in their hearts.

Charlotte L. Glover
Ketchikan Public Library

(Chapter News - Cont. from pg. 11)

In September, we created a brochure to give the basics of the novel - three main characters and the setting of Generaltown, Washington. The T.A.G. decided on Washington rather than Somewhere, Alaska so that the characters could easily go to a mall, a concert, or a KFC - something that the creators thought was vital. The brochure also included guidelines for the paragraphs, rules for the writing (keeping it PG was important to us), and due dates. All the information was also posted on T.A.G.’s web page and blog.

Several T.A.G. members created a short skit to promote the novel—this was put on disc and given to English teachers, school librarians, and the local TV channels. We also had PSAs for the radio stations and notices in the local papers.

To cap off this wonderful accomplishment T.A.G. hosted a Reading of the Novel at the
MUSEUM’S LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES TEMPORARILY CLOSED

The Anchorage Museum’s library and archives will be closed Jan. 1 through May 30, 2009.

During that time, the library and archives will be prepared for relocation to the museum’s new expansion building, which is slated to open May 30, 2009. Upon re-opening, the museum’s library and archives will be known as the Atwood Resource Center.

In the meantime, historical photos and information can be found online through the Alaska Virtual Library and Digital Archives: http://vilda.alaska.edu/index.php.

Researchers also may consult resources and staff at Loussac Library; University of Alaska Anchorage’s Archives and Special Collections Department; Alaska State Library, Juneau; and University of Alaska Fairbanks’ Alaska and Polar Regions Department.

For more information, call Museum Archivist Kathleen Hertel Baker at 343-6189 or Chief Curator Marilyn Knapp at 343-6155.

Teressa Williams, Anchorage Museum, Library and Archives

(Chapter News - Cont. from pg. 12)

UAS-Ketchikan Campus Library. It was the same evening that the Chancellor of UAS, John Pugh, was visiting town and he stayed for the program. The idea of our Reading inspired another activity that began the evening; Clare Bennett worked with T.A.G. members and college students for several weeks to create an Improv, storytelling and game activity. The program then moved on to the Reading of the completed Community Novel.

With the audience sometimes laughing and sometimes groaning, T.A.G. members read the Novel a chapter at a time. Jasmyne Johnson acted as MC for the Reading and introduced each reader. At the end of each chapter, the authors of the paragraphs in the chapter were also read aloud. It was a great wrap-up for a very unique program.

Jasmyne, Master of Ceremonies

Kelly Johnson
Ketchikan Public Library
Alaska Librarian’s Book—
A Fundraiser for Fairbanks Library


This book is a compilation of his columns from 2006. According to an October 20 article in the newspaper, the local Library Foundation received a donation that would cover the cost of publishing 50 columns in book form. Dixon Jones of Rasmuson Library designed the book, Sue Sherif of the State Library indexed the book, and cartoonist Jamie Smith provided the cover art.

If you have never read one of Greg’s columns, simply think in terms of three-somes and stream of consciousness. His columns start at the library by delving into one fact, then flow outward into the universe through another related fact, and in an oxbow-stream fashion, turn around and float on the back of a third fact toward the library. His subjects are way beyond eclectic, as shown by a few column titles: Paddywhacks, Pleonasms, and Wikipedia; Serendipity, the Sassanids, and Bugs Bunny; and Greatest American Novels, NeglectedBooks.com, and Georgine Olson’s Readable Books for Summer.

Books Range is a fundraiser for the Fairbanks Library Foundation. The entire purchase price of $29.95 goes to the Foundation. Copies can be purchased at Gulliver’s Books and at Noel Wien Library, 1215 Cowles, Fairbanks, 99701, 459-1022.

Patience Frederiksen
Alaska State Library and Talking Book Center

General guidelines to publication in NewsPoke, Alaska Library Association newsletter:

Not accepted: paid advertising; material intended to “sell; make a profit” rather than to “inform.” Submissions viewed as advertisements, unless item is of particular interest to Alaska, Alaskan patrons, libraries, or is submitted by an AkLA member.

Accepted: Alaskana—books, book reviews, or articles relating to, or of interest to, Alaskan librarians and/or their patrons. Informative material related to libraries and librarianship, especially in regard to Alaska.

Most anything submitted by AkLA members—reasonably “tasteful and well-written,” of an appropriate length (much leeway here); author is willing to submit to possible editorial changes. This may include perhaps length, spellings, downsizing of convoluted sentences... (Editor will make every effort to let the author know of, and pre-approve, any significant changes before the material is published in NewsPoke.)

Other—determined on an individual basis by “the committee” (defined as a group of at least three people, composed of AkLA members). If the NewsPoke editor or the individual submitting has questions or concerns about any submission, the matter will be sent on to the NewsPoke Committee.
Membership Application/Renewal

Please fill in the form below. This is how your entry will appear in the Alaska Library Directory. Copies of the Directory are sent to each individual, institutional and commercial member of AkLA. Although the Association does not sell membership lists, the Directory is available for purchase. If you do not wish personal information (i.e. home phone) to be included, you may omit this information.

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Position or Title: __________________

MEMBERSHIP TYPE and DUES:

☐ Associate Member $30
Trustee, friend, unemployed or retired Alaskan Librarian

☐ Library Member
Any person directly engaged in library work in Alaska
Library Salary Under $20,000 $30
$20,000 - $29,999 $45
$30,000 - $39,999 $60
$40,000 - $49,999 $75
$50,000 - $59,999 $90
$60,000 and over $110

Dues.............$____

☐ Check
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☐ Visa
☐ Mastercard

Signature: ____________________________
Card Number: ____________________________
Card Expiration Date: ____________________________

AKLA’s Scholarship Fund
Every year AKLA awards a scholarship to assist a member in obtaining a Masters Degree. Since 2001, with the help of the State Library, we have also been funding an additional scholarship for school library certification. Please help us make these scholarships self sustaining by contributing to the Scholarship Fund. THANK YOU!

Scholarship Donation.....$____
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Executive Officer             Mary Jennings                       aklalist@aklal.org
E-list                        http://www.akla.org
Website

CALENDAR

Audrey Kolb Award--Nomination Deadline Jan. 15, 2009
American Library Association (Midwinter Meeting), Denver, CO Jan. 23-28, 2009
     Seattle, WA
American Library Association (Annual Conf.), Chicago, IL July 9–15, 2009