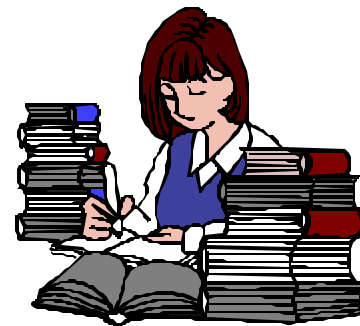


Footnotes



Tennessee Association of School Librarians

Volume 22 Number 1

February 2004 eNewsletter

Record attendance at Franklin

By Nancy Dickinson
Past President

More than 400 persons attended the TASL 12th annual conference, held Nov. 20-22 at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, the highest attendance ever recorded in the association's history.

Worlds Meet @ Your Library began on Thursday evening with registration and a reception for our 36 vendors. The exhibits filled the salon and spilled out into the hallway. As always, the exhibitors presented their products in an enticing manner and provided one of the highlights of the conference. Borders again conducted the bookstore, which freed up our members to enjoy the breakout sessions on both

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Calendar of Events

- March 2 — Read Across America
- March 6 — Regional workshop, Cleveland
- March 18-19 — TLA conference March 17-19, Knoxville
- April 1 — Volunteer State Book Awards votes due
- April — School Library Media Month, National Poetry Month
- Apr. 18-24 — National Library Week

Collaboration begins @ your library: Chattanooga



President Nancy Dickinson greets conference keynote speaker Joseph Bruchac, noted Native American storyteller.

Chattanooga will be the site for next year's TASL annual conference Nov. 4-6 at the Marriott Convention Center. The theme will be Collaboration begins @ your library.

Toni Buzzeo and Bob Berkowitz will headline the more than 25 presenters and speakers planned for the three-day conference.

Buzzeo, a writer and school library media specialist in Portland, Maine, will give the keynote talk on collaboration between librarians and faculty and offer insight and tips about writing.

She is a K-5 media specialist at Longfellow Elementary School in Maine. The author of *The Sea Chest*, *Dandle Duckling* and *Little Loon and Papa* will share her experiences as an author and offer tips for students or anyone who wants to become a writer.

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Karen Lowe will instruct Cleveland library workshop

By Allison Roberts
V-P/Pres-Elect.

North Carolina educational consultant Karen Lowe will present a resource alignment workshop at Bradley Central High School in Cleveland March 6.

Resource alignment, a process that aligns media center resources to the K-12 curriculum, matches data from the shelf list report of any automated system to the Tennessee curriculum. Out-of-date resources are easily identified and gaps in resource support easily spotted. Combined with a first-hand look at the media center collection, resource alignment provides the needed information to develop a five-year plan for bringing the media collection up-to-date. Resource alignment also provides the information needed to prepare budget requests and document needs for grant proposals.

All librarians are welcomed to attend the 9 a.m.-3 p.m. workshop entitled Resource Alignment: Providing Curriculum Support in School Library Media Centers. TASL members will get in FREE and



non-TASL members pay \$10. Participants need to bring either the entire nonfiction shelf list or the most critical sections: 300, 500, 600, 900, and reference.

For more information on the workshop or carpooling to the event, or to sign-up, please contact Allison Roberts at 423-493-0350 ext. 243 or Roberts.Allison@hcde.org.

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Author Laurie Halse Anderson, left, jokes with Middle Tennessee State library science professor Kathy Patten during the Franklin TASL conference. Anderson's novel, *Speak*, won the Volunteer State Book Award in the young adult category. Dr. Patten co-chairs the Volunteer State Book awards committee.

Record attendance noted at Franklin conference

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days, Friday and Saturday.

The breakout sessions were well-received and well-attended, causing the biggest problems with the conference (other than the rather chilly temperature in the facility!). Not enough space in the rooms and the presenters' not having enough handouts were major complaints, which indicated that this conference had indeed exceeded all expectations.

Friday's keynote speech by Joseph Bruchac followed the business meeting where several new TASL projects were announced. Bruchac's insight into the portrayal of the Native American in children's literature, his reading of some of his work, and his musical talents made his address a treat.

The Volunteer State Book Award luncheon was at capacity, and the acceptance speeches by Helen Lester, Vivian Vande Velde, and Laurie Halse Anderson were delightful. Their remarks were insightful and inspiring as well as entertaining.

Also at the luncheon the Clara Hasbrouck Award was presented to Patty Williams of Kingsport for the dedicated work she has done and continues to do for TASL. The Innovative Library Media Award was presented to Andre Crafford of Sycamore Elementary School in Collierville for her *School Wide Immersion Day*. Added to the Distinguished School Administrator Honor Roll were Greg Kettman, Principal of H. G. Hill Middle School in Nashville and Ed Abbott, Principal of Lincoln Elementary School in Kingsport.

Saturday's keynote speech was by Judy Freeman,



Storyteller Joseph Bruchac autographs books during the November TASL conference. Bruchac, the author of more than 70 books, is the winner of a number of awards and honors.

consultant and former school librarian. She inspired everyone with her love of books and eagerness to pass that love on to children. After the keynote, Judy presented two breakout sessions. Other breakouts on Saturday were presented by Terri Kirk, Michael Shoulders, and Dr. Calvin Dickinson and the authors of *Tennessee Tales in the Classroom*.

The conference was a success overall, and the entire conference committee gets the credit. This conference was a statewide effort that was largely accomplished through email and cell phone calls, and it worked. If you are willing to help with an upcoming conference, please do not feel limited by your location. Contact Bruce Hester at AmN2Bks@aol.com. I know he'll be glad to hear from you!

Conference focus research...

(Continued from page 1)

Buzzeo offers a number of workshops for children and professional training in the areas covered in her four books, *35 Best Books for Teaching US Regions*; *Collaborating to Meet Standards: Teacher/Librarian Partnerships K-12*; *Terrific Connections with Authors, Illustrators, and Storytellers*; and *Navigating the Waters of Professional Publishing*.

Berkowitz, who co-created the Big6 research skills approach with Mike Eisenberg, will conduct mini-conferences on how to get students researching effectively.

He is a high school media specialist and advisor in upstate New York and has worked at the elementary, middle, and high school levels in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

To register for the annual conference, visit <http://www.kornet.org/tasl>.

Every student succeeds @ your library

By Diane Chen
President

What message could be more powerful when speaking with administrators, teachers, and parents! How often have you reminded others or yourself that what you do every day makes a difference in student lives? Start now by including this message on every piece of paper, website, and email that leaves your hands.

The American Library Association kicked off its @ your library school campaign in Kansas City during the AASL conference with an emphasis on three key messages which we should be plastering across the state.

- School library media programs are critical to the learning experience.
- School library media specialists are crucial to the teaching and learning process.
- School library media centers are places of opportunity.

During the AASL conference and in San Diego at the ALA Midwinter Conference Affiliate Assembly training session, Allison Roberts and I learned about the recent KRC study and how to help each of you develop Marketing Campaigns on behalf of school libraries.

As the only person in your building, it is easy to become satisfied with status quo and to be overwhelmed with the prospect of proving your worth to the educational community once again.

Yet, you are not alone. Through the Tennessee Association of School Librarians community you are supported, enlightened, motivated, exposed to fascinating and award-winning authors, and trained in new techniques to help you daily. We will be offering professional development sessions this year to help you market your worth and to improve your entire program.

Library Legislative Day

Recently I have attended meetings with the Coalition for Tennessee's Future and with legislators during Library Legislative Day to raise awareness at the state level that student achievement is of vital concern to



President Diane Chen, center, and President-elect Allison Roberts, far right, talk with vendors George Peterson and Gwen Eason at the San Diego American Library Association midwinter conference.

school library media specialists. During Legislative Day I spoke outlining TASL's position on the critical need for a state coordinator of school library services.

Public and academic librarians were unaware we had no leadership at the state level. In the afternoon I met with many senators and representatives to outline our position and to ask for their support in urging the Commissioner of Education Dr. Lana Sievers to include a school improvement line in the Department of Education budget due in February.

My local school representative Ben West called her office while I was there to ask if we would be in the budget. If not, he plans to request an amendment reallocating funds for this position. While this may not happen this year, it is up to us to continue to speak with our local representatives and request their support. My meeting with him took 15 minutes, yet helped him understand our needs and that we are not included as a line item in the state BEP funding.

Speak up to show support

If every librarian in Tennessee contacted their representative and asked them to support school libraries in this first step, we would be able to implement many of the programs needed to help our students. If you are silent, we will not be heard.

(Continued on page 5)

Students succeed...

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While funds are always a barrier to change, the biggest obstacles we face are **apathy, contentment, and inertia**. During this school year, I plan to do all I can to help you shake off the apathy and become involved. Working together we can accomplish great change.

Join or renew TASL

Take the first step of involvement and renew your TASL membership now. At such a low rate of \$20, how can any professional NOT be a member of TASL? When I communicate with legislators and the department of education telling them how many school librarians we represent, this is a powerful number and it has impact. As your representative, I want to increase communication with our educational community.

Let me know

Please email me with your concerns. Volunteer for committee work. Plan to attend the 2004 conference in Chattanooga. But, most of all, renew your membership and invite a friend to join. I am counting on you to partner with all of us in TASL to help every student succeed @ your library.

Research these links

Here are links to the KRC research and the ALA school library campaign:

TASL long-range goals

(developed by the TASL Executive Board)

- Increase membership
- Maintain memberships through renewals during the first quarter of each year.
- Increase interest in being a school librarian.
- Encourage more members to see leadership involvement in TASL.
- Provide annual professional development opportunities.
- Outreach to other organizations during their professional development.
- Advocate on school library media issues.
- Establish a legislative platform and plan of action.
- Network with other professional associations.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/schoollibrary/schoollibrary.htm#research>

Download the full report or view the summaries:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/schoollibrary/schoollibrary.htm>

Continue to read for VSBA; get those votes in!!!



Greeting Volunteer State Book Award authors at the Franklin conference were, from left, Brenda Moriarty of Kingsport, VSBA co-chair Patty Williams, authors Laurie Halse Anderson and Vivian Vande Velde, and Lindsey Anderson of Franklin. The deadline for voting for the 2003-2004 titles is April 1. For ballots and other information, visit the program's website: <http://www.kornet.org/tasl/vsba.htm>

Tennessee Electronic Library has InfoBits, training opportunities

By Marie Jones
TEL Training Coordinator

Have you looked at the new K-5 database now available through the Tennessee Electronic Library? *Kids InfoBits* has an easy-to-navigate graphic interface with straightforward access to all of the magazine and newspaper content that's in *Kid's Edition*, plus age-appropriate reference content you won't find anywhere else.

The database makes it easy to find pictures, maps, flags, seals, charts and graphs, as well. It's recommended that you use *Kids InfoBits* instead of *Kid's Edition*, because its format and content is a great improvement over the older database.

TEL training is available for groups of school librarians and technologists, teachers, or administrators. Remember that any library information center collection can count up to 30 percent of their collection in full-text Internet-based materials if the library media specialist has received the TEL training (only 20 percent can be counted if they have not received the training). To schedule training for your school or school district, contact me at jonesmf@etsu.edu. Also, TEL is always looking for experienced trainers to become part of the training team. Contact me if you are interested in becoming a formal TEL trainer in your county or region.

TENN-SHARE membership continues to grow

By Penny Frere
TENN-SHARE Executive Director

TENN-SHARE reached a membership milestone this year of 435 members. Of these, 227 are school library media centers. As memberships come in throughout the year, we honor those libraries that become the 50th, 100th, 150th, etc member each year.

This year many school libraries were among those honored, most notably Carter Middle School in Strawberry Plains as the 400th member to renew for 2003-2004. Ingram Library Services joined TENN-SHARE in honoring Rebecca Smith, librarian at Carter MS, with a \$200 gift certificate for materials from Ingram.

Other school library media centers and librarians honored include the 350th, Southside High School, Jackson, Judy Barker; 250th, Notre Dame High School, Chattanooga, Nancy Trice; 150th, Melrose High School, Memphis, Frances Gonda; and 100th, Northeast Middle School, Clarksville, Bruce Hester.

The steep discount given by Ingram is just one of the benefits of TENN-SHARE membership for school libraries. Another is free trial access to and discounts on online databases. Yet another is access to our summer workshops at member prices.

TENN-SHARE will again offer a series of summer workshops; two geared especially toward our school

library members. A repeat of last year's popular vendor demo will be held in east, middle and west Tennessee as will training on Gale's TEL databases. Dates and locations will be announced in March.

TENN-SHARE includes among its board members Nancy Dickinson, Hillsboro Elementary School, Hillsboro; and Sherry Ball, Karns Intermediate School, Knoxville; who are both past TASL presidents, and Nan Brooks, Franklin Middle School in Chattanooga.

At www.tenn-share.org you'll find a complete list of our members, benefits, our Board, and the newest information on TEL Phase II and everything else you need to know about TENN-SHARE.

Did you know?

That we want to hear from you! Send your great ideas, news about your library program or just a great technique you would be willing to share with our readers across the state. Contact:

- President Diane Chen at chend@k12tn.net
- Editor Marion Moore at marionm@wcs.edu.

Membership Application for 2004

Membership dues for the year 2004 are payable now. Membership is valid for the 2004 calendar year. Dues for Active Librarians are **\$20.00**.

Dues for Retirees, Students, and Educational Support Professionals (ESP's) are **\$10.00**.

Name _____

Home Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

County of Residence _____

Telephone # (H) (_____) _____ (W) (_____) _____

School System _____

School _____

School Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

FAX Number _____

Please circle any information above that you do not want included in the directory.

Type of Membership _____ New _____ Renewal

Position _____ Active Librarian _____ Retiree _____ Student _____ ESP

Professional Memberships _____ TEA _____ ALA _____ AASL _____ TLA

Other _____

I would be willing to serve on a TASL committee _____ yes _____ no

I would like to be added to the TASL listserv _____ yes _____ no

**Please return this form and your membership dues to:
Terry Depp, 7300 Glastonbury Road, Knoxville, TN 37931**

Checks should be made payable to Tennessee Association of School Librarians

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