



Volume 8, Issue 4  
December 2010



**YSS Newsletter**

## From the YSS Chair

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Well, it is November 24, Thanksgiving Eve. There was snow in northern and western Iowa last week and, just this morning, there was a crack of thunder followed by hail in Des Moines. There is no school today so there was a small turnout for the story time at the Central Library. My drive downtown to work was short and there wasn't the usual group of office workers walking over to Starbuck's on their morning break today. All of which are definite signs that we are in pre-holiday mode. Tomorrow I will officially start my holiday season with a drive to my mother-in-law's in Manilla, the big feast, and the annual viewing of *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* (not colorized). Then I can start watching all of those holiday movies on the Family Channel! Once again, I didn't follow my neighbors' leads of putting up the Christmas lights during those wonderful fall weeks, and I will now have to freeze my fingers off putting everything up in the cold. I think I will skip the penguins this year, as last year two of them disappeared under mounds of snow until the first thaw and all you could see of the third one was his red bow tie!

Technically, this should be my "Farewell" letter as chair of this fun subdivision but due to Karen Randleman's retirement, I am staying on another year as chair. I am very thankful to Zach Stiers of Bondurant Public Library for stepping up as chair-elect for 2011, to Danielle Day of Carnegie Stout Public Library in Dubuque for taking on the role I should have moved into as Awards Chair and to Anna Hartmann of Council Bluffs Public Library for taking over Danielle's secretarial duties. Many thanks go out to Debb Green of the Iowa City Public Library, who served for more years than she expected to as chair-elect, chair and Awards chair; to Katie Dreyer of Pella Public Library and Jerri Heid of Ames Public Library who continue to lend their support and expertise to those of us trying to figure out what we are doing; and to our Executive Board liaison, Karen Davidson of Northeast Iowa Community College. An extra special kudos to Natalie Struecker, who continues to be a member of ILA and of YSS **AND** still volunteers to be editor of our quarterly newsletter even though she now works at the Rock Island Public Library. Natalie is a true Iowa girl and wants to keep her roots here. We hope she is back here working again soon! I also want to thank Laurie Hews in the ILA office for answering many questions for me over the last year – I hope she enjoys her retirement.

A few things to note this quarter – ILA was awesome, we had a graphic artist design the cool new YSS logo you can see on our masthead above, we will be sending out a new award proposal on which you will need to cast your vote, and we've turned in 16 activity sheets to the ILA Planning Committee for all of the activities we plan to conduct as a subdivision next year – including proposals for five sessions sponsored by YSS and a preconference workshop. Once the Planning Committee selects the sessions and workshops for 2011, we will be sure to let you know what you can look forward to learning about in Council Bluffs next October!

It looks like I am out of space for this issue of the newsletter. Hope you all enjoy a wonderful holiday season and best wishes for a great 2011!

Audrey Jones \* YSS Chair  
Youth Services Coordinator \* Des Moines Public Library

## Business Meeting Minutes 2010

### Iowa Library Association – Youth Services Subdivision

#### Annual Business Meeting

October 14, 2010

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. on October 14, 2010.
2. Introduction: Chair Audrey Jones introduced officers.
  - a. Audrey Jones- Chair
  - b. Karen Randleman – Chair Elect (absent)
  - c. Danielle Day – Secretary
  - d. Debb Green – Awards Chair
  - e. Natalie Struecker – Newsletter Editor
3. Motion to approve the agenda: A motion was made to approve the agenda by Jerri Heid and seconded by Barbara Pedersen.
4. Read and approve 2009 YSS Business Meeting minutes: Danielle Day read 2009 YS Business Meeting minutes. Katie Dryer moved to approved the minutes and they were seconded by Susan Blythe
5. Elect new 2010 YSS officers:

Discussion was held regarding the open position of Chair Elect due to Karen Randleman's retirement. Zachary Stier volunteered to take Karen's place and become Chair Elect, Danielle Day has agreed to take the position of Awards Chair and Anna Hartman has volunteered to be the new YSS secretary. Motion was made to approve the election officers by Debb Green and seconded by Katie Dryer
6. Approved Slate of YSS officers for 2011
  - a. Audrey Jones- Chair
  - b. Zachary Stier – Chair Elect
  - c. Anna Hartman – Secretary
  - e. Danielle Day– Awards Chair
  - f. Natalie Struecker – Newsletter Editor
7. Presentation of the 2010 YSS Awards – Debb Green

Debb Green talked about the YSS Awards. It was agreed to hold off on awarding the National Conference award based on receiving no application and the amount not being sufficient to cover the majority of amount needed. Rick Eugene Brammer received the Quality Time Award. No applications were received for the ILA Conference (Mr. Anderson) Award. There was discussion regarding sending a nomination and application requests through the listservs.

## 8. YSS Goal setting committees and Progress report

We need a representative from each library region for the 2011 goal setting meeting.

Goal 1: YSS will provide funds for a youth services staff member to attend the Leadership Institute in the summer of 2010.

Goal 2: YSS will continue to provide quality programs at the ILA Conference by scheduling and funding a national level speaker; and by staffing its own ILA booth with interactive tools, a YSS handout, a game, giveaway or drawing.

Goal 3: YSS will provide funding for a first time attendee for a day at the State Library's Kids First Conference in the Spring of 2011.

Goal 4: YSS will introduce new youth services staff throughout the state to the subdivision by sending welcome letters and describing what YSS is and some of the fun opportunities for Youth Services staff, such as subdivision meetings, Kids First, and the listserv.

## 9. Report on finances and membership

We are the 5<sup>th</sup> largest subdivision of ILA with 96 members.

Our balance in the budget as of 8/30/2010 was \$2,578.31.

## 10. State Library news – Merri Monks

Merri mentioned the upcoming Summer Reading Workshops and hopes that everyone can attend.

She reminded everyone to email her if you received a manual without the CD's. Merri is looking forward to Kids First which will be in Des Moines this year. Many great speakers and programs are in the planning stages.

## 11. Other announcements from members

- Katie Dryer shared her thanks to Debb Green for her four years of service to the YSS subdivision. She thanked everyone who wore a cape at Dan Wardell's keynote address. It was well received.
- Mention was made of YSS efforts to design a logo and order t-shirts.

12. Many door prizes were given out.

13. Audrey Jones made a motion to adjourn 2010 YSS business meeting, was approved by Susan Mast and Seconded by Suzy Piel.



Submitted by:  
Danielle Day  
YSS Secretary  
Youth Services Coordinator  
Carnegie-Stout Public Library

## Meet Our New Officers!

### Zachary Stier

I am a Youth Services Librarian at the Bondurant Community Library. My library journey started at Kirkendall Public Library in Ankeny when I was about sixteen years old. Looking back at my childhood I realize that my passion for reading started early. I can remember the times my father took me to the public library and did not set a limit for how many books I could have.

Today, I enjoy performing weekly storytimes to children of all ages and going to local preschools and a daycare to read to those children. For me it is about having fun and at the same time putting a focus on the six early literacy skills to help the child transition to kindergarten. Currently, I am working on my Masters in Library Science at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve as **Chair-Elect** of the Youth Services Subdivision to connect with other librarians who serve children to share ideas and stories.

Zachary Stier  
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 Bondurant Community Library  
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### Anna Hartmann

Hidy-ho from your new YSS secretary! I am the Teen Services Librarian at the Council Bluffs Public Library. I've been in Council Bluffs since May 2009, having packed up my moving truck exactly one day after my last library school class at the University of Illinois. Since arriving in Council Bluffs, I've been working hard to build up a dedicated Teen Department, including a new teen space, Teen Central, which opened in February 2010. The last 18 months have been pretty incredible--I love being a librarian even more than I thought I would and now that I'm feeling settled into my library here in Council Bluffs, I'm looking forward to being a part of YSS and working with and getting to know all of you!

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## 2010 YSS Awards

The Youth Service Subdivision has for years given special awards at the Iowa Library Association's annual conference. Some have been monetary grants to help members attend either a national or ILA conference. Another long-standing tradition is the Quality Time Award, which is a special engraved clock given to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to library service to young people on a regional, state-wide, or national level. Notification of the deadlines for submitting an application or nomination occurs in late summer through the YSS Newsletter.

It is with pleasure that we announce that Rick Eugene Brammer was chosen to receive the 2010 Quality time Award from YSS. As many youth librarians from across Iowa know, Rick is a book sales representative of The Book Farm as well as a wonderful magician who performs shows in libraries of all sizes. He was nominated by Tami Finley of Bettendorf Public Library who had this to say about Rick:

*"He is always interested in what libraries are offering for programs and displays and then carries that message along with him to his next sales calls. If he hears that a library has received a grant or special funding, he inquires about it for other libraries and then carries all of the contact information as well. He is so genuinely interested in helping out the libraries and librarians and ultimately their patrons. Many of you may not know that Rick has been helping libraries through his book sales as well. He offers a free magic program to any library that purchases books from him – whether it is 1 title or 100! He travels extensively through several states providing these free programs. And what fabulous programs they are. Anyone who has been a recipient, I'm sure will tell you that Rick is not only a talented magician, but also an accomplished presenter. He loves what he does and it shows both in his presentation and his desire to continue to find new ways to engage the audience."*

In 2010 there were no applications for the \$200 state level ILA conference grant. YSS had also decided to hold off awarding national level conference grants at its 2009 ILA conference business meeting. It was felt that interest had declined since a \$300 grant was no longer enough to fully pay cover expenses for travel, lodging, and attendance at a national conference. In 2011, YSS hopes to offer a replacement award in its stead. This would be given to support a YSS member's first-time attendance at the Iowa State Library's Kids First conference which is held every other year. Watch for more information on this new award (and how to apply for it in 2011) soon!



Submitted by  
Debb P. Green  
2010 YSS Awards Chair  
Children's Services Coordinator,  
Iowa City Public Library

## The Teacher-Librarian Perspective...

Today I'm working on revising a timeline that our world history teacher uses with his sophomore students. In the semester-long project, pairs of students study an era of their choice, learning what was going on culturally, economically, politically and socially during that time. They discuss what they're learning in blog entries and share a project that explains how their era was affected by or affected another era. After listening to their classmates' projects, the students complete the timeline, set up as wiki, using arrow graphics to link one era to others. It's a visual, collaborative expression of their learning.

So how does a teacher librarian get involved in all this? I'm there from start to finish.

Choosing appropriate resources, and tracking and organizing the information they gather are skills I've been teaching the students since they were in elementary school. I carry that forward into high school, reminding them that they're developing a useful skill. They don't always buy that line, but I'm pretty stubborn about it! In addition, I help my teacher partner by setting up the blogs and testing the best way to offer the timeline wiki. We've been doing this project for several semesters, and have found that the software changes often. I do my best to troubleshoot. I'm pleased that I grade the students' efforts at gathering and organizing information, and their blog entries. It's exciting to talk to them about what they're learning.

This is a very different animal than the term papers we taught five years ago. Not only have the sources of information changed, but how they share that information is also different. Blogs and wikis are shared with the entire class, not just the teacher, and projects in the form of podcasts, videos or slideshows are responded to through the timeline. There's collaboration not only between student partners, but between teachers, and teachers and students.

It's a messy process, and I get just as frustrated with students who turn in late work as their teacher, but I also get to enjoy the 'light bulb' moments. Finally, I'm always challenged to learn 'the next new thing'. Maybe it will stave off the memory loss!



Marsha Hauser  
K-12 Teacher Librarian  
Edgewood-Colesburg CSD

# Books about Books & Reading

Compiled by DANIELLE DAY, YOUTH SERVICES MANAGER

CARNEGIE-TOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY, DUBUQUE, IA

## **It's a Book by Lane Smith. ISBN: 9781596436060.**

A wry exchange between an IT-savvy donkey, a book-loving ape and a mouse forms this playful and lighthearted examination of print as a medium in the digital age. With a subversive and signature Lane Smith twist, this satisfying, perfectly executed picture book has something to say about the importance of reading to children and adults alike.

## **Dog Loves books by Louise Yates. ISBN: 9780375864490.**

A picture-book treat for the youngest dog lovers. Dog loves books SO much he opens his very own bookstore. At first he's short of customers. But that's all right, because when Dog is surrounded by books, he is never short of friends—or fun. And when customers begin arriving, he knows just which books to recommend.

## **How Rocket Learned to Read by Tad Hills. ISBN:9780375858994.**

This sweet picture book starring an irresistible dog named Rocket and his teacher, a little yellow bird, is perfect for back-to-school! Follow along as Rocket masters the alphabet, sounds out words, and finally . . . learns to read all on his own.

## **No T-Rex in the Library by Toni Buzzeo. ISBN: 9781416939276.**

It's a quiet morning in the library until a little girl roars out of control! Tess resigns herself to a time-out, but finds that she must be the one who has to maintain order when T. Rex leaps from the pages of a book into real life. Books scatter, knights clatter, and a pirate brandishes a sword as T. Rex leads the charge to the stars.

## **I Love my Little Storybook by Anita Jeram. ISBN: 9780763648060.**

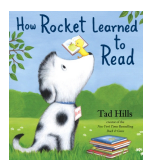
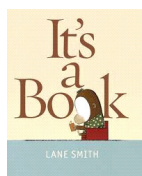
An eager little bunny lies on the grass and opens his book, and within moments, the story he's reading comes alive in fascinating detail. As the bunny reads on—lazing back against a tree root—Anita Jeram quietly ushers children inside the pages of a fanciful story. Exquisite watercolors capture a classic storybook world of enchanted forests, gentle lions, stomping giants, and sleeping princesses, offering just a glimpse of the any adventures waiting to be discovered through the magic of books.

## **The Wonderful Book by Leonid Gore. ISBN: 9780545085984.**

"What is this?" the bear asks. "It looks like a wonderful hat for me." And he puts it on his head. One by one different animals find the object and transform it into whatever they need it to be. But it's not until the little boy comes along and knows exactly what it is. It's a wonderful book! And all the animals gather around to share the truly wonderful story that's inside.

## **Alfred Zector, Book Collector by Kelly Dipucchio. ISBN: 9780060005818.**

In his warm, weathered house, stuffed in crannies and nooks, were heaps, rows, and stacks of beloved bound books. The only thing that brings Alfred Zector joy is collecting books. And so he sets out on a mission to collect every last one, until his home on the hill is stretched at the seams with books big and small. But what happens when the rest of the townspeople have nothing left to read? In this clever rhyming story, Alfred Zector discovers what it means to find true joy in a good book.



## From the State Library...

### Meet Merri Monks

Merri Monks, new **Youth Services Consultant at the State Library of Iowa**, brings 20 years of experience in the library world to her new position. Merri has an MLS from Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science, in River Forest, Illinois. She is a former publications manager for the Young Adult Library Services Association and the American Association of School Librarians, both divisions of the American Library Association. She has been a school librarian (Chicago Public Schools), an academic librarian (Stanford University; American College of Education), a developer of educational software (San Francisco and Silicon Valley), and a youth services consultant with the Metropolitan Library System, one of Illinois's regional library systems. She also served for three years as one of two academic librarians on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Library System. In her pre-MLS days, before finding her path as a librarian, she was a computer programmer and an advertising copywriter.



### 2010 Summer Reading Program Workshops Wrap-up

During the last week in October and the first week in November, a four-woman crew packed themselves, their luggage, and their displays into the State Library of Iowa's van and traveled around Iowa. Their journey was a joyful one, meeting over 500 of Iowa's finest—children's and teens' librarians who attended the State Library-sponsored Summer Library Reading Program workshops. The four-woman crew was comprised of this year's two presenters—Missy Mayfield-Cook, Director of the Winthrop Public Library, and Cathy Shaw, Director of the Edgewood Public Library—and Carol Simmons and Merri Monks of the State Library of Iowa.

Missy and Cathy presented wonderful workshops on the 2011 themes, "One World, Many Stories" for kids, and "You Are Here" for teens—with many innovative ideas for using library print and media collections, programming and crafts, and tailoring the program to individual libraries and communities. Carol and Merri attended to administrative details, and made sure each attendee had what he or she needed to have a successful workshop experience. Sites on the tour included Marshalltown, Oelwein, Coralville, Oskaloosa, Red Oak, Johnston, Cherokee, and Clear Lake.

Merri, with help from State Library staff members Carol Simmons and Fran Fessler, is now planning next year's Summer Library Reading Program workshops.



## New YS Books at the State Library

Here are some great new books available for you from the State Library! Call Rinda at 1-800-248-4483 or email her at [Rinda.Kramme@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:Rinda.Kramme@lib.state.ia.us) if you're interested in checking them out!

Barr, Catherine (2008). ***Best new media, K-12: A guide to movies, subscription web sites, and educational software and games.*** Westport, Connecticut: Libraries Unlimited.

*Best New Media* has been developed to help librarians working with children and young adults to identify suitable new media--including software and computer games--for collection, access, and circulation.

Bodart, Joni Richards (2010). ***Radical reads 2: Working with the newest edgy titles for teens.*** Lanham, Maryland: Scarecrow Press.

Bodart continues where *Radical Reads: 101 YA Novels on the Edge* left off, examining more than a hundred titles published since the previous edition. The books featured are engaging and tough, yet well written and accessible to readers.

Collins, Joan (2008). ***Motivating readers in the middle grades.*** Columbus, Ohio: Linworth Books.

Inspire your middle school readers with these awesome reading motivation programs and sure-to-please book recommendations for hard-to-motivate middle grade students. This book is a resource for the librarian who responds to the tween or teen who asks, "Do you have any good books?"

Flowers, Sarah (2011). ***Young adults deserve the best: YALSA's competencies in action.*** Chicago: American Library Association.

The first book to thoroughly expand on the document "Young Adults Deserve the Best: Competencies for Librarians Serving Youth," *Young Adults Deserve the Best* is a key foundational tool for librarians.

Ford, Deborah B. (2010). ***Scary, gross, and enlightening books for boys grades 3-12.*** Santa Barbara, California: Libraries Unlimited.

This book surveys the latest and greatest titles aimed at boys in both elementary and secondary grades, including nonfiction, graphic novels, mystery and adventure, sports, sci-fi and fantasy, humor, history, books made into movies, read-aloud titles, and classic works.

Low, Elizabeth Cothen (2009). ***Big book of animal rhymes, fingerplays, and songs.*** Westport, Connecticut: Libraries Unlimited.

This versatile volume provides librarians with an A-to-Z guide to traditional children's rhymes, songs, and fingerplays that are based on animals, from alligators to zebras. Also included are musical scores and instructions for action rhymes and fingerplays.

Nicholson, Scott (2010). ***Everyone plays at the library: Creating great gaming experiences for all ages.*** Medford, New Jersey: Information Today, Inc.

If you are interested in the why, what, and how of library gaming, Nicholson shows how gaming programs can be successfully implemented in school, academic, and public libraries, covering all types of games for all age groups.

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# It's Time for... **SHOW and TELL**

Your chance to preview new programming opportunities!



**9:30 am - 4:00 pm**



**Friday, January 21**

**Bettendorf Public Library**

**Saturday, January 22**

**Ames Public Library**

(Snow dates: February 25 in Bettendorf and February 26 in Ames.)

Each entertainer will have a 15-minutes slot on stage and then will be available for additional information at table space throughout the day. There will be a wide variety of entertainers.

Registration is required beginning November 1st. Contact your location for registration information.

Cost is \$10 which will include a box lunch.



For more information:

Tami Chumbley Finley, 563-344-4194

Jerri Heid, 515-239-5644 or Rick Brammer, 309-945-3414



# THANK YOU



We want to take this opportunity to thank all of YOU, the Youth Services Librarians and Teacher Librarians who take the time to read the newsletter each month, submit your experiences and programs, and of course, pay your \$5 dues to be a member!

We look forward to spending another year with you in 2011!

## Something New This Year

Every year we want to make the YSS Newsletter better.  
This year, I'd like some feedback from our readers!

Please let me know what you like or don't like about what comes out in the YSS Newsletter every quarter.

Is there more information you wish we did include?

Something we've missed you felt we shouldn't?

Do we need to include more information about what's going on in libraries around Iowa?

Is the newsletter too big? (As I'm on page 10...that might be a 'YES'!)

What other comments or questions might you have?

You can email me with your opinions, or fill out the survey at this link:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MPCSTRR>

**Natalie Struecker**

**Newsletter Editor**

**natalie.struecker@gmail.com**

Thank you for your input!

