

Libraries & Archives Monthly

News from the Kentucky Department
for Libraries and Archives

November 2009

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Summer Reading Program Well Received

By Nikole Wolfe
Regional Librarian, KDLA

Every year the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives conducts an evaluation of the summer reading program in public libraries. KDLA would like to share the results of the 2009 survey. The theme used by most libraries was the Arts. Libraries took the opportunity to focus on programs that brought out the creativity and special talents in participants of all ages.

Libraries conduct summer reading programs for many reasons. Some of the main ones include:

KDLA Awards Library Grants

By Michael Jones
Library Branch Manager, KDLA

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) grant program provides grants to libraries across the state to help them meet the needs of their customers. All Kentucky public libraries are eligible to apply for the competitive grants. The grant monies fund library programs, automation, innovation, assistive technology and equipment. For 2010 KDLA received 71 grant applications across the five categories. This included 26 applications for programming, nine for innovation, eight for automation, five for assistive technology and 23 for equipment. A total of 29 grant applications were funded.

Library Programming grants provide funding for public libraries to provide, enhance and expand programming that will meet the specific needs of their community. For 2010 KDLA awarded 10 Library Programming grants, totaling \$55,850, to nine Kentucky public libraries. [Read more...](#)

New LFPL Series Helps Patrons Cut Costs

By Paul Burns
Louisville Free Public Library

Most good library programs are in response to the interests and needs of the patrons we serve. During this difficult recession, a group of Louisville Free Public Library's (LFPL) staff saw a need to help people in Louisville cut their costs. Not just saving money by offering our usual free services, but through programs that would help our patrons make changes in their spending habits, lifestyle choices, as well as creative ways they could earn some extra cash. The LFPL *Cut Your Costs* series was the end result. The series presents methods for patrons to stretch their dollars by exploring everything from selling items on eBay, cutting coupons, borrowing money wisely to eating on a budget.

The idea was to provide as many related programs as possible, covering a wide-range of cost saving ideas. Programs employ the skills of both community experts and library staff. [Read more...](#)

preventing summer learning loss in school age children, introducing library services to new users, and encouraging voluntary reading for pleasure. [Read more...](#)

Trustee Tip

By Paul M. Poland
President, Scott County Board of Trustees
pmpoland@roadrunner.com

Are **YOU** a member of the Kentucky Library Association? They are known as KLA and every trustee in the state of Kentucky should be a member!

The annual cost for each trustee is \$25, which includes membership in your state association (KLA) plus the Public Library Section, Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA), and the Kentucky Library Trustee Round Table (KLTRT). This is truly a bargain at such a reasonable cost and an expense that should be covered by your library. If the budget is tight and all trustees can't become members, one trustee can obtain membership and share the knowledge with others.

I would encourage at least one trustee from every county in Kentucky that has a public library to become a member. If you are not a member...talk to your director and ask why not. [Read more...](#)

Lexington Fundraising Effort

Program Brings Community Together

By Heather Mitchell
Woodford County Library

It's Wednesday night at the Woodford County Library, and gathered around a long table in the library gallery, lights dimmed, budding young poets and veteran fiction writers scribble furiously to finish a timed writing exercise. This is the library's writers group, which began in July 2008 as part of the Adult Summer Reading Program.

From the group's inception, Sylvia Baber, the group's moderator, recognized how writing brought people from the community together. "The writers who come to the weekly meetings are varied in age and backgrounds but blend seamlessly with each other when we gather around the table. Each brings a unique viewpoint." [Read more...](#)



Veterans Receive Digital Talking Books and Players

by Barbara Penegor
Library Branch Manager, KDLA



The Kentucky Talking Book Library (KTBL) is proud to introduce digital Talking Books and players to our users who are military veterans. The digital Talking Books (DTB) will eventually replace the current cassette Talking Books and players that have been in use since the late 1970's. The new format uses a flash memory cartridge that is roughly the size and shape of a cassette tape. The players are smaller and lighter than our special cassette players, and have new features and improved sound.

KTBL staff and patrons alike have been anxiously awaiting the arrival of this new format that has been in development for the last decade. Our veterans are the lucky first recipients because the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) was originally developed for them in 1931. [Read more...](#)

Photo: Digital Talking Book player with digital Talking Book

Research Opportunities in the State Archives: Auditor of Public Accounts

By Tim Tingle

Under Way

By Doug Tattershall
Lexington Public Library

The Lexington Public Library Foundation has embarked on a \$537,288 fundraising effort to rehabilitate and maintain the Central Library's massive ceiling clock and Foucault pendulum and to transform the library theater into a state-of-the-art facility for free arts and community events. The effort is anchored by a recently received challenge grant from the W. Paul and Lucille Caudill Foundation.

The Little Foundation has awarded the Library Foundation a \$268,644 challenge grant for the project. The challenge calls for the Library Foundation to raise an equal amount by July 2010.

The project will establish a \$100,000 endowment to repair and maintain the clock and pendulum that Mrs. Little donated to the library eight years ago and set in motion the eve of New Year's Day 2002.
[Read more...](#)

KDLA Welcomes New Directors and Trustees

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives would like to welcome the following new directors:

- Glenn Kahmann,
Estill County Public
Library

Public Records Branch Manager, KDLA

The office of Auditor of Public Accounts was created by one of the first acts passed by the state legislature in its initial session in June 1792. The Auditor was appointed by the General Assembly until the third constitution in 1850 made it an elective office. The specific functions of the office changed repeatedly over the years, but in general the Auditor was responsible for the oversight of the fiscal activities of state government. In consequence, this office created and maintained a number of different types of financial records. These records can be quite detailed and are invaluable to any study of the day-to-day workings of state government.

The activities of the Auditor's Office are documented in a number of different series of records, which can contain overlapping information. These include Day Books, Warrant Registers, Ledgers, and Journals. [Read more...](#)

Kentucky Book Fair

by Judith Gibbons

Plan to attend the 28th annual Kentucky Book Fair at the Frankfort Convention Center on Saturday, November 7th. Admission is free and the hours are from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

"Librarians and library supporters have always been an integral part of this rich Kentucky literary tradition," said Kentucky Book Fair Manager, Connie Crowe. "This year, political opposites are our headliners but we are also showcasing a wide variety of new and well-known authors."

George McGovern, the 1972 Democratic Presidential nominee is the author of a new book about our 16th president called *Abraham Lincoln*. *Publisher's Weekly* says "...McGovern's Lincoln is a smart, ambitious striver who overcame humble origins, repeated setbacks and spells of depression. He is an idealist who, though burdened with the racial prejudices of his day, embraced the principle of equal opportunity..." [Read more...](#)

Archival Photo of the Month

Capitol Pediment
designed by Charles
H. Niehaus and
sculpted by Peter



- Rene Lester, Hardin County Public Library

Rossak (from Austria) 1906-1907.

The figure with raised arms represents Kentucky, with "Progress" kneeling to her right pushing a winged wheel and "History" to her left holding a writing instrument.

KDLA would also like to welcome the following new trustees:

- Shela Vincent, Edmonson County
- Teresa Betts, Calloway County
- Joberta Wells, Casey County
- Sandy Cavanah, Christian County
- Ben S. Wood, III, Christian County
- Beverly Garnett Riner, Christian County
- Marcella Mountjoy, Whitley County
- Geneva Duncil, Lee County
- Mahala Frazier, Letcher County
- Carl Banks, Letcher County

Note smaller version of "History" on platform below winged wheel, partially covered with canvas - probably the sculptor's working model.

From Creative Services Photo Collection, Public Records Division - Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives provides equitable access to quality library and information resources and services, as well as helps public agencies ensure that legislatively mandated documentation of government programs is created, efficiently maintained and made readily accessible. For more information, visit <http://www.kdla.ky.gov> or call 502-564-8300 ext. 315.

Please send questions, comments and story ideas for Libraries & Archives Monthly to editor Paige Sexton at paige.sexton@ky.gov or call 502-564-8300 ext. 315.

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Article Continuations ONLY Beyond This Point

KDLA Awards Library Grants

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) grant program provides grants to libraries across the state to help them meet the needs of their customers. All Kentucky public libraries are eligible to apply for the competitive grants. The grant monies fund library programs, automation, innovation, assistive technology and equipment. For 2010 KDLA received 71 grant applications across the five categories. This includes 26 applications for programming, nine for innovation, eight for automation, five for assistive technology and 23 for equipment. A total of 29 grant

applications were funded.

Library Programming grants provide funding for public libraries to provide, enhance and expand programming needs that will meet the specific needs of their community. For 2010 KDLA awarded 10 Library Programming grants, totaling \$55,850, to nine Kentucky public libraries. Jessamine County Public Library received the largest grant. The \$13,330 grant was awarded for a project entitled *Work Launch @ JCPL*. The grant will enable JCPL to partner with the Kentucky Works Program to provide job search training to the residents of Jessamine County through workshops on the how to's of resume writing and cover letters, online job searches, and online application submission. Funds will be used to purchase equipment, software, supplies and publicity. The other Programming Grants awarded to public libraries are:

- Carter County - Carter County Memory Project - \$9,020
- Daviess County - Conquer the Computer - \$4,190
- Gallatin County - Children's Authors Come to Gallatin County - \$5,550
- Garrard County - After School Gaming - \$1,884
- Grant County - Gaming's Not Just for Kids - \$4,342
- Mason County - Web Workshops for Job Seekers - \$5,500
- Meade County - Generation Gamer - \$2,900
- Trimble County - Connecting Trimble County to the Global Marketplace - \$8,134
- Trimble County - Young Adult History Series - \$1,000

Library Automation grants are provided to assist libraries with automating their systems. For 2010 KDLA awarded \$93,932 in Library Automation grants to five public libraries and one academic library. The largest grant was awarded to Robertson County Public Library. They were awarded \$25,000 to upgrade an outdated library automation system. Funds will include equipment, software, and consultant services. The other Library Automation grants awarded to libraries are:

- Fulton County - District Wide Automation Upgrade - \$20,282
- LaRue County - Atrium Automation Upgrade - \$6,370
- NKU (Campbell County) W. Frank Steely Library - Library Digital Storage Initiative - \$9,000
- Rowan County - RFID Implementation for New Library - \$18,180
- Washington County - ILS System Migration Update - \$15,100

Library Innovation grants encourage innovative and creative solutions to patron service problems encountered in Kentucky's libraries. For 2010 KDLA awarded one Library Innovation grant. The \$12,150 grant went to Bullitt County Public Library to install an electronic control modular access unit (materials drop box) in the unincorporated city of Nichols, in order to provide county residents access to library materials. Funds will be used for equipment, installation and promotion.

Library Assistive Technology grants provide funding to public libraries for technologies that assist patrons with special needs. For 2010 KDLA awarded \$6,952 in Library Assistive Technology grants to two public libraries. Grant County was awarded \$3,022 for Visual Technology Assistance. This will enable the library to install a computer workstation equipped with reader and magnification software to provide access to library resources for the visually impaired. Funds will be used to purchase equipment and software. Morgan County was awarded \$3,930 for Technological Assistance for the Visually Impaired. This will enable the library to install text magnification equipment and software at a public access terminal to provide greater access to information resources and materials for visually impaired patrons. Funds will be used for equipment.

Library Equipment grants provide funding necessary to replace, upgrade or add new equipment in order to improve patron access to information and resources or

enhance library services. For 2010 KDLA awarded \$72,537 in Library Equipment grants to 10 public libraries. Montgomery County Public Library was awarded the largest grant. The library was awarded \$9,910 to purchase seven new desktop computers and PC, reservation and print management software for forty computers in order to provide improved network access and an upgraded computer check-out system for patrons. Funds will provide equipment and software. The other Library Equipment grants awarded to public libraries are:

- Boyle County - Library Microfilm Access Project - \$9,095
- Breckinridge County - Programming Projector and Screen - \$2,054
- Clinton County - Children's Programming Laptop, Projector and Screen - \$3,210
- Fulton County - Public Computer Expansion - \$6,525
- Garrard County - Microfilm Reader/Printer - \$9,098
- Jessamine County - Microfilm Reader/Scanner - \$8,610
- Knott County - Are You Being Served? - Faster and More Efficient Data, Acquisition, Entry and Storage - \$9,222
- Owen County - Kids Disc-over Technology! - \$8,055
- Trimble County - Library Equipment - \$6,758

In all, KDLA awarded \$241,421 in LSTA grants. Each year more Kentucky libraries apply for grants, making the process more competitive. But the highly competitive process has resulted in a group of projects that will provide a wide range of innovative services for the communities they serve.

Federal grants are made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

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Summer Reading Program Well Received

Every year the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives conducts an evaluation of the summer reading program in public libraries. KDLA would like to share some of the results from the 2009 survey. The theme used by most libraries was the Arts. Libraries took the opportunity to focus on programs that brought out the creativity and special talents in participants of all ages.

Libraries conduct summer reading programs for many reasons. Some of the main ones include: preventing summer learning loss in school age children, introducing library service to new users, and encouraging voluntary reading for pleasure.

Statewide a total of 141,449 children ages birth through 18 registered for the summer reading program at their local public library. The breakdown in ages is:

Birth-Kindergarten: 47,744 - 33%
Entering Grades 1-3: 43,496 - 30%
Entering Grades 4-5: 26,730 - 18%
Entering Grades 6-8: 17,551 - 12%
Entering Grades 9-12: 5,928 - 4%

But numbers only tell part of the story. The last question on the survey asks the librarian to share an anecdote about the positive impact of their summer reading program. Here are just a few of the powerful and heartwarming stories...

Adair County: Several of the parents told us how their kids would repeatedly ask if it was time to come back to the library for another program and to check out more books.

Clark County: We have two high-functioning autistic patrons, one a pre-schooler and one a teen, who simply LOVED the creativity theme, and utilized it, and read more/were read to more, as a result of growing to love their library!

Crittenden County: I believe this was the biggest turn-out that our library has had in years. We were shocked! And we were so pleased with our Talent Show. The kids really stepped up and we had a great turn-out!

Grant County: One family I hadn't seen before attended regularly, they had a child in every age group except baby and teen. They really seemed to enjoy it and you could see that they didn't realize what there was in a library and how much it had for them. I think in the beginning they came for food but stayed for the fun.

Jefferson County: We have a school that for the last three years has managed to convince all of their students to complete summer reading during the summer. The principal mails home reminders and mails a form to every registered incoming kindergarten student. This year all but 31 had completed summer reading at the beginning of school.

Lewis County: Our overall winner was a young boy, who was being raised by his father with his two sisters. His mother had left several years ago and was not involved in their lives. His dad worked at a factory and the children were being watched by Grandma. She was the one who brought them to the library almost weekly. When he found out he had won the lap-top computer his eyes got so big. "I wanted a lap-top for my birthday but Dad couldn't afford it," he said. He had a grin from ear to ear and his sisters were just as excited. "We can take it to Grandma's and hook it up to the Internet," they said.

Martin County: I have a story that I would like to share about a middle school child. He recently lost his father in an automobile accident. His mother said that he did not seem to be very interested in anything. I watched him go from sitting alone to participating in the group and actually laughing and having fun. He won a prize at one of our sessions and he seemed so happy. He gave me a book list and I was so happy to give him his medal for it. To me, watching this boy becoming part of the group and participating in our activities was one of the best parts of the Summer Reading Program this year.

Metcalf County: We have formed a Teen Advisory Council with teens that participated in Summer Reading.

Perry County: I had several parents tell me their children looked forward to summer reading. Some say the children hate reading during the school year but love to come to the library and read. One parent said she had been worried that her child would miss out on summer fun because her husband had lost his job. She said the library was a blessing because everything is free and we had so much to do.

Pike County: I had two teens that were visiting their Grandmother and would not leave to go back home until after the last day of the Family Cooking School, because they were having so much fun making the food plus painting chef hats, aprons and picture frames.

Rowan County: Several children that are reluctant readers gained confidence this summer during the reading program and have visited the library more often this summer.

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New LFPL Series Helps Patrons Cut Costs

Most good library programs are in response to the interests and needs of the patrons we serve. During this difficult recession, a group of Louisville Free Public Library's (LFPL) staff saw a need to help people in Louisville cut their costs. Not just saving money by offering our usual free services, but through programs that would help our patrons make changes in their spending habits, lifestyle choices, as well as creative ways they could earn some extra cash. The LFPL *Cut Your Costs* series was the end result. The series presents methods for patrons to stretch their dollars by exploring everything from selling items on eBay, cutting coupons, borrowing money wisely to eating on a budget.

The idea was to provide as many related programs as possible, covering a wide-range of cost saving ideas. Programs employ the skills of both community experts and library staff. Because of the timeliness of the series, LFPL was able to generate media interest, garnering articles in several local papers and blogs.

Since beginning in September at library locations throughout Louisville, the *Cut Your Cost* series has been extremely well received by participants. One of the first programs offered received a wide array of interest: *Selling Personal Items for Maximum Profit*. The program was a crash course in using online resources to generate income. Taught by LFPL reference librarian Rob Gieszl, the program focused on eBay and Craigslist, but the strategies and techniques covered can be applied to the selling of any item on most online market websites. "Feedback from participants was very positive," said Mr. Gieszl. "Many of those in attendance had never even used eBay or Craigslist, but all came away with something useful. Most of the participants were definitely motivated by the desire to earn some extra money."

Throughout September and October, programs ranged from clipping coupons to preparing low cost, healthy meals and managing a budget. *Coupons: Snip and Save* was taught by WAVE 3 television's Rhonda Dockery. An avid coupon clipper herself, Rhonda brought a wealth of knowledge and a little star-power to the program. *Low Cost and Healthy Meals* was presented by the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and showed ways to create healthy meals without breaking your food budget. The Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service was an invaluable resource for both programming ideas and expert people to lead them. In addition to *Low Cost Meals*, they conducted programs on budget planning and strategies for saving.

The Library's *Cut Your Cost* series is now scheduled through March with new offerings such as *IRA Help!* and *Finding Scholarships and Grants*. Other programs will cover topics like cell phone plans, television options and low-cost vacation ideas. Because response to the series has been so positive, LFPL will continue offering the Cut Your Costs series as long as our patrons need it.

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Program Brings Community Together

It's Wednesday night at the Woodford County Library, and gathered around a long table in the library gallery, lights dimmed, budding young poets and veteran fiction writers scribble furiously to finish a timed writing exercise. This is the library's writers group, which began in July 2008 as part of the Adult Summer Reading program.

From the group's inception, Sylvia Baber, the group's moderator, recognized how writing brought people from the community together. "The writers who come to the weekly meetings are varied in age and backgrounds but blend seamlessly with each other when we gather around the table. Each member brings a unique viewpoint," said Baber.

The group blossomed as part of the *Finding the Writer Within* workshop series funded by a grant from the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA). The project was made possible by the Institute for Museum and Library Services and the funds were administered by KDLA. Beginning in February 2009, the *Finding the Writer Within* workshop series featured six prominent Kentucky authors: Gwyn Hyman Rubio, George Ella Lyon, Jane Gentry Vance, Neil Chethik, Kirby Gann and Crystal Wilkinson. Each month featured a different author who presented a writing workshop and a public lecture on a specific topic. A variety of topics were presented, including how to write poetry, memoir, short stories and nonfiction, how to create realistic characters, how to write in an adolescent voice, and how to edit your work.

Authors passed out their favorite writing exercises in the workshops and gave one-on-one advice to the writers who attended them. Neil Chethik, author of *Fatherloss* and writer-in-residence at the Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning in Lexington, led a workshop on writing creative nonfiction.

"A lot of people feel daunted by writing," Chethik said. "They want to write a book but don't have a lot of confidence...I tried to name four or five of the most common problems people have in their writing, how to grow as a writer really fast - things you can do almost immediately and see the results...which makes it easy to grasp for the average person."

Chethik said he too was inspired by the program. "I really loved it mostly because the group was enthusiastic. [The Woodford County Library] made it free so everyone could come and it was very accessible. What I get out of teaching is the enthusiasm and the passion. I got confirmation of how many people see writing as inspirational," Chethik said.

Alexis Tillet, a library patron and writer, was thrilled to have the prominent authors come to the small town of Versailles, and was impressed by the workshops the authors held. "I had tried those [types of] exercises in other workshops and was not impressed. However, these authors' lists contained emotion words, not 'snow' or 'blue' or something that led to memory or abstract writing snips," Tillet said. "Concentrating on an emotion word made me think deeply about ways to show, not tell about, emotion. I was amazed at how following that up with a quick writing exercise could immediately pull out a character's actions, activities and responses due to the emotion...I already have some short stories that I am re-writing using what I have learned in the workshops."

Woodford County librarian John Crawford attended Crystal Wilkinson's short story writing workshop in July 2009 and used her teachings to improve his writing. "In one exercise, she had us write down things that a dead family member would say about

us; one thing that they liked about us and one thing they may have disapproved of. We learned that the things that they didn't like about us were always more interesting because they had tension. I rewrote my short story to try to add more tension," said Crawford. "But perhaps most importantly, she reminded us to set aside time every day to just write. Don't get bogged down in outlines. Just write."

The Woodford County Library selected 19 pieces submitted by patrons who attended the workshop series for a *Finding the Writer Within* book that will be published and added to the library's collection in December of 2009.

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Veterans Receive Digital Talking Books and Players

The Kentucky Talking Book Library (KTBL) is proud to introduce digital Talking Books and players to our users who are military veterans. The digital Talking books (DTB) will eventually replace the current cassette Talking Books and players that have been in use since the late 1970's. The new format uses a flash memory cartridge that is roughly the size and shape of a cassette tape. The players are smaller and lighter than our special cassette players, and have new features and improved sound.

KTBL staff and patrons alike have been anxiously awaiting the arrival of this new format that has been in development for the last decade. Our veterans are the lucky first recipients because the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) was originally developed for them in 1931. The establishing Pratt-Smoot Act states that preference shall be given to blind and other physically handicapped persons who have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States. After all veterans have received digital machines, we will loan them to 10-Squared Club members (who are over 100 years old), and those with physical disabilities that make it difficult for them to use their hands or arms. Next will be patrons who have called to be placed on a waiting list, and finally we will distribute them to all patrons according to how long the person has been a registered KTBL user.

Approximately two-thirds of our veterans have received a digital player and talking book and the reviews have been favorable. What do they like best? It could be the fact that virtually every book will be contained on one flash cartridge that can be played straight through with no interruptions. No more turning tapes over, pushing side selector switches, moving to the next tape, or rewinding when finished. Many have enjoyed the new sleep feature, which will automatically turn off the machine after a predetermined time. Some patrons have mentioned that the sound is much clearer and louder - a plus for those with hearing difficulties. Others like the fact that the built-in battery will play for close to 30 hours, but only takes 2.5 hours to charge. Solid state composition with no moving parts means fewer chances for damaged tapes or broken machines.

Perhaps the most exciting feature for some patrons is the ability to download Talking Books directly from the NLS Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) website. Those who have a computer with a high-speed Internet connection can choose from over 15,000 titles available online. No more waiting for a popular book to arrive in the mail; users are able to choose what they want, when they want 24/7. Digital rights management is included in book files, and the permissions are in the machine, so users must download books to a thumb drive or blank NLS cartridge and play them on the NLS machine. Within two weeks, nine veterans had signed up to use the NLS BARD download program.

One user said, "This is the best thing to happen for blind people in the last 50 years!" He has already written a letter to his congressman to demand more funding for the Talking Books program. Another patron claims it 'does everything but fix dinner' for her. Virtually all have said it was easy to use, and they cannot wait to get more digital books. Out of 130 machines shipped, only one was returned with a note from the gentleman saying he prefers to use cassette books.

He will have that choice for at least the next few years. KTBL is receiving new digital books every day, but it will take a couple of years for us to build a sizable collection. In the meantime, patrons will continue to receive most of their Talking Books on cassette. As the digital collection grows they will get fewer cassettes and more digital books. By 2011, NLS will no longer produce new books in cassette format. Many titles from the existing collection will be reissued as digital books, but most will not. Those readers who prefer cassette tapes may continue to read older books from our cassette collection for as long as the tapes and machines hold out.

The Kentucky Talking Book Library provides library service to those who are physically unable to read standard print because of visual or physical disabilities. If you would like more information about the Talking Book Library or digital Talking Books, or know someone who might be interested in applying for service, please call us at 1-800-372-2968 or 502-564-8300 ext. 276. You may also email us at ktbl.mail@ky.gov or visit our website at <http://kdla.ky.gov/collectionsktbl.htm>.

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Research Opportunities in the State Archives: Auditor of Public Accounts

The office of Auditor of Public Accounts was created by one of the first acts passed by the state legislature in its initial session in June 1792. The Auditor was appointed by the General Assembly until the third constitution in 1850 made it an elective office. The specific functions of the office changed repeatedly over the years, but in general the Auditor was responsible for the oversight of the fiscal activities of state government. In consequence, this office created and maintained a number of different types of financial records. These records can be quite detailed and are invaluable to any study of the day-to-day financial workings of state government.

The activities of the Auditor's Office are documented in a number of different series of records, which can contain overlapping information. These include Day Books, Warrant Registers, Ledgers, and Journals. A Day Book is basically a daily log of financial activities as they occur, and includes the amount of the transaction and the name of the person receiving funds or paying into the system. The Warrant Register is a sequential listing of warrants issued by the state for disbursements made for any reason, and includes the warrant number, date, amount and to whom paid.

In general, a Ledger is arranged by subject and a Journal by date, but they are usually cross-referenced and may contain more detailed information than the Day Books and Registers. For example, the Ledger for 1816-1818 contains several entries under the heading "Negroes Executed." On May 8, 1818 warrant #580 was issued for the sum of \$650. The entry lists a reference to page 320, which leads to the corresponding Journal for that date. The Journal entry states that warrant #580 was issued for payment of \$650 "to William Stith for the value of a Negro man named Reubin hung

by order of the Hardin County Court on March 14, 1818." The state was therefore reimbursing a slave owner for the value of his "property" lost as a result of a verdict of the court.

Most of the entries are more mundane, but can still hold interesting information. An entry for March 31, 1817, documents the payment of \$899.90 to Governor Gabriel Slaughter to cover "a fractional part of his 4th quarter salary for 1816 and his 1st quarter salary for 1817." Among the hundreds of other entries from 1817 are records of military expenditures, payments to individuals for the upkeep of "lunatics," and bounties paid for the return of escaped criminals.

The records series described above are available in one form or another for the years 1792-1939, although there are significant gaps in each series. Similar records are also available for the Office of Second Auditor, which was created in 1839 to help relieve the Auditor of the burden of some of his extensive duties. The position of Second Auditor was discontinued after the passage of the third constitution in 1850, although a few records were still created for several years thereafter as the office gradually turned its functions back over to the Auditor.

Researchers may find the records of the Auditor of Public Accounts and of the Second Auditor to be an important and largely untapped source for unique information concerning the workings of Kentucky state government and the varied activities of its citizens.

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Trustee Tip

Are **YOU** a member of the Kentucky Library Association? They are known as KLA and every trustee in the state of Kentucky should be a member!

The annual cost for each trustee is \$25 which includes membership in your state association (KLA) plus the Public Library Section, Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA), and the Kentucky Library Trustee Round Table (KLTRT). This is truly a bargain at such a reasonable price and an expense that should be covered by your library. If the budget is tight and all trustees can't become members...one trustee can obtain membership and share the knowledge with the other board members. I would encourage at least one trustee from every county in Kentucky that has a public library to be a member. If you are not a member...talk to your director and ask why not.

Some of the Benefits of membership are:

- updating your skills and knowledge
- adding your voice to the collective voice of librarianship (especially in legislative efforts)
- meeting others working in your type of library setting to share common problems and solutions
- receiving association publications such as *Kentucky Libraries* and *In-Focus*
- the opportunity to receive grants and scholarships developed just for trustees
- contributing to the profession on a professional level
- belonging to a special interest group such as trustees, genealogy, etc.
- networking with your peers

A strong membership in the Kentucky Library Association helps give us all a united voice in concerns pertaining to libraries. Not just public libraries, but all types of libraries in Kentucky. Together we can help our state offer the best library services we possibly can for all of our citizens.

Paul M. Poland
Chair, Kentucky Library Trustees Round Table (KLTRT)
Cell: 859-552-8903

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Lexington Fundraising Effort Under Way

The Lexington Public Library Foundation has embarked on a \$537,288 fundraising effort to rehabilitate and maintain the Central Library's massive ceiling clock and Foucault pendulum and to transform the library theater into a state-of-the-art facility for free arts and community events. The effort is anchored by a recently received challenge grant from the W. Paul and Lucille Caudill Little Foundation.

The Little Foundation has awarded the Library Foundation a \$268,644 challenge grant for the project. The challenge calls for the Library Foundation to raise an equal amount by July 2010.

The project will establish a \$100,000 endowment to repair and maintain the clock and pendulum that Mrs. Little donated to the library eight years ago and set in motion the eve of New Year's Day 2002. The installation includes a digitally-controlled lighting system and other equipment that requires regular upkeep.

The remainder of the funds will be used to overhaul the Central Library Theater. When completed, the theater will have updated sound and lighting booth equipment, more efficient and effective stage lighting, surround-sound, backstage dressing rooms, a film screen at the front of the stage, and staggered seating for improved visibility.

The Central Library Theater is a 144-seat facility that draws an audience of about 13,000 people each year to a variety of free programs, including plays, live music, film festivals, dance and literary readings, as well as a number of community meetings.

Performances last year in the theater included stage productions by the School for Creative and Performing Arts and the Bluegrass Community and Technical College Theatre Department, a documentary premiere by KET, films as part of the One World Film Festival and the Southern Arts Film Festival, dance by Kentucky Ballet Theatre and the Lexington Vintage Dance Society, and music sponsored by the Jazz Arts Foundation and the John Jacob Niles Center for American Music.

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Kentucky Book Fair

Plan to attend the 28th annual Kentucky Book Fair at the Frankfort Convention Center on Saturday, November 7th. Admission is free and the hours are from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

"Librarians and library supporters have always been an integral part of this rich Kentucky literary tradition," said Kentucky Book Fair Manager, Connie Crowe. "This year, political opposites are our headliners but we are also showcasing a wide variety of new and well-known authors."

George McGovern, the 1972 Democratic Presidential nominee is the author of a new book about our 16th president called *Abraham Lincoln*. *Publisher's Weekly* says "...McGovern's Lincoln is a smart, ambitious striver who overcame humble origins, repeated setbacks and spells of depression. He is an idealist who, though burdened with the racial prejudices of his day, embraced the principle of equal opportunity. Most resonantly for the author, he is a brilliant politician who, combining pragmatism with high purpose, steered a crooked course through ugly political realities to end the intractable curse of slavery."

Dan Cherry, former Kentucky Secretary of the Justice Cabinet, is a Viet Nam era veteran. His book explores an unlikely friendship. The unique story begins with a dog fight between a North Vietnamese and American pilot. The aftermath is an unusual international friendship documented in the new book, *My Enemy, My Friend*.

The line-up also includes many perennial favorites. David and Lalie Dick bring their latest collaboration from Bourbon County, *Outhouse Blues*. Former Kentucky First Lady, Phyllis George, presents *Never Say Never - Yes You Can!* George examines the many life lessons that constitute the fabric of life. Charles Bracelen Flood chronicles the last full year of Abraham Lincoln's life in *1864: Lincoln at the Gates of History*. Bestselling fiction author, Karen Robards tells a suspenseful tale about contemporary life in Washington, DC called *Pursuit*.

With almost 200 authors attending, there are books for every age and interest. American history fans will marvel at *The Shipwreck that Saved Jamestown* by Daniel Blake Smith and Lorri Glover. Exercise enthusiasts can find ways to expand fitness levels with Joel DiGirolamo's *Yoga in No Time at All*. *Tea & Etiquette* is a cultural hallmark from tea experts, Bruce and Shelly Richardson. David Domine combines architecture, history and the supernatural in *Ghosts of Old Louisville: Gilded Age Ghosts and Haunted Mansions in America's Spookiest Neighborhood*.

Since it's inception in 1981, the Kentucky Book Fair has awarded more than \$300,000 to Kentucky libraries. This year, a \$7,500 grant was awarded to the Louisville Free Public Library to purchase children's books for the Newburg Branch. Louisville's Main Library sustained more than \$5 million in damage as a result of flash flooding caused by torrential rains in August, 2009. The 100 year-old facility experienced more than six feet of water in its operations center and lost nearly 60,000 books and nearly 200 computers.

In addition to the opportunity to contribute to library development, meet authors and purchase autographed books, the Kentucky Book Fair has a tremendous line-up of free events. A series of author symposiums will be held in the Convention Center. Authors will be reading from selected works at the nearby Capital Plaza Hotel. A day-long series of programs focused on "Military History in the Making" will be cosponsored by the Kentucky Historical Society and the Kentucky Book Fair at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History.

For over 28 years, the Kentucky Book Fair has stayed true to the mission:

- Honoring the profession of writing in the form of a one day celebration
- Providing a venue for authors to meet the reading public
- Raising funds through the sale of books and donating the profits to mostly school and public libraries throughout the Commonwealth

The complete 2009 Kentucky Book Fair catalog is available at

<http://www.kybookfair.org/>.

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