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News

For South
Carolina Libraries

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Greenville County Opens 21st Century Library

After 32 years of operation at its former site, the Greenville County Library System (GCLS) dedicated its new main library on October 6, 2002. The new Main building known as the Hughes Library has approximately 119,000 square feet. The facility features 105 rooms including study rooms, a children's program room, large meeting rooms, a computer training lab and many other amenities.

Along with the new facility, the county library system will expand its computer resources with up to 520 PCs for the 12 libraries in the system, working from 12 servers on six platforms.

On the main level, a multimedia exhibit area with touchscreen technology will provide information to the public about events and library functions. The computer training lab contains 25 wireless laptops and cable ready televisions with satellite downlink for distance learning services.

The library also features an expansive audio-visual area, Internet and periodicals section with 60 computers, kid-friendly children's section, multiple study and meeting rooms, a Friends of the Library gift shop, and a café/ coffee shop.



The state-of-the-art Hughes Library offers the community an exciting avenue for exploring the world. *Photo courtesy of the Greenville County Library System.*

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*News for
South Carolina Libraries
can now be viewed online
from the State Library's
web site:
www.state.sc.us/scsl*

FROM THE DIRECTOR.....

James B. Johnson, Jr.



What a difference ten years can make!

The cover story of this issue features the new 119,000 sq. ft. Greenville County Library Headquarters, the latest in a series of new public library construction projects of the past decade. During this period some counties built a single facility, while a number of counties conducted countywide building programs that greatly increased the number of new libraries in their service area. This increase in construction activity occurred in both urban and rural settings.

The building activity continues with a number of projects currently under construction or being considered. Among those in the works are the new headquarters in Florence and McCormick Counties and branches in Bamberg, Beaufort and Horry Counties.

This construction renaissance comes at a time when technology is putting greater demands on library buildings. These buildings are all being built with computer use in mind, many of them have computer training rooms and offer meeting room space with satellite downlink capabilities.

Most of these buildings have been built with local funds; however, some have had state bond funding as well. Despite all this activity, some county public libraries still operate in older, inadequate facilities. For them, funding is a serious issue since the local tax base is not sufficient to finance new libraries. The State Library has in recent years made futile requests for ongoing state construction funds for public libraries. Given the present state of the economy, this is not the year to renew that request; however, when the economy improves the request for state construction funds is certainly worthy of consideration.

Don't wait for the paper issue!!

News for South Carolina Libraries is available in electronic format at the State Library's web site www.state.sc.us/scsl/news/archives/

If you wish to be notified when the latest edition is online, you may subscribe to an e-mail list at the site.

The Caroliniana column is no longer included in this newsletter. Recently published materials pertaining to South Carolina are now featured on the State Library's web site at www.state.sc.us/scsl/caroliniana.html
If you wish to be notified bi-monthly when the list is updated, you may subscribe to an e-mail list at the site.



GCLS Main Fact Sheet



Building Facts

Approximately 119,000 square feet (76,000 square feet in previous Main Library at 300 College Street).
Second largest public library building in the state, second only to the Richland County Main Library in Columbia.

Total cost of construction: 17.8 million dollars.

Project Facts

General Contractor: MB Kahn/Argo Division

Architect: Craig Gauden & Davis Inc. in affiliation with MGA Partners

General Features

Three-story structure with two public floors and one non-public floor dedicated to system support and operations for the entire Greenville County Library System, including the 11 other branches. Design allows addition of fourth floor (an additional 40–45 thousand square feet) when needed.

Technology Facts & Features

Five areas have multimedia capability (cable TV, satellite downlink and computer network access). Includes the boardroom, children's program room, large meeting room, computer training lab and gallery.

766 data drops for computers/telephones.

45 computers located in the Internet area.

16 closed circuit color television cameras for security.

5 wiring closets to accommodate all of the new technology.

180,000 feet (approximately 35 miles) of cabling.

Satellite downlink capabilities for distance learning opportunities.

Interesting Facts & Features

The Library moved 440,000 items from the old Main to the new location.

Approximately 300 parking spaces in the new garage adjacent to the library.

15 restrooms, including one family restroom and a nursing room for mothers – located in the children's area.

Largest South Carolina room for genealogical research.

2 separate closed, climate controlled rooms that house rare materials.

Leadership

Beverly James, Executive Director

Greenville County Library System Board Members:

J. David Sudduth—Chair

Dr. C. Sidney Cates

Douglas A. Churdar-Vice Chair

David Crabb

Robert E. Clark—Secretary

Martha S. White-Chair of Bldg. & Grounds Com.

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Deryl Whetsell

Gary L. Wheeler - Treasurer





South Carolina's Virtual Library

DISCUS-South Carolina's Virtual Library is a vital component of library service for all types of South Carolina libraries. School media center staff are working closely with teachers to incorporate information obtained from DISCUS in the curriculum and instructional program. The following account is provided by Sheila Oliver, School Media Specialist at Broome High School in Spartanburg School District 3.

"The Tapestry of Textiles"

Broome High School has begun a cross-curricular research project on the textile industry that will span the 2002-2003 school year. Through DISCUS our students are locating a wealth of information to support their research. In the first month of this project biology students located information on the textile industry and health related issues. They found articles that link cotton dust to respiratory disorders and clothing dye to bladder cancer. Chemistry students are conducting research on the role of chemistry in the textile industry. Currently they are using **InfoTrac** to locate information on dyes, natural and synthetic fibers, and the role of the chemist in the textile industry.



Student Lauren Guyton receives instruction from Sheila Oliver, Media Specialist, Broome High School (Photo courtesy of Broome High School)

Using **SIRS** social studies students located information on child labor laws and found that nationally renowned photographer Lewis Wickes Hine photographed children working in textile mills in South Carolina. His photographs helped expose the exploitation of children in mills and led to passage of national child labor laws. *by Sheila Oliver*

During the annual EdTech Conference at Myrtle Beach in October, Katie Morgan, Deputy CIO for Administration, Division of the State Chief Information Officer, SC Budget and Control Board, in her keynote address highlighted DISCUS – South Carolina's Virtual Library as an outstanding example of how state government has used technology to improve the delivery of services to citizens. She related how she used DISCUS when helping her children with their schoolwork. She concluded her remarks by saying, "I love DISCUS."

For more information about DISCUS, visit the DISCUS web site: <http://www.scdiscus.org> or contact: Mary Bull, DISCUS Project Director, (803) 737-7736 or email: mary@leo.scsl.state.sc.us



Our Library Leadership



*Janet Boltjes
SCASL President
Library Media Specialist
Gilbert High School*

Greetings from SCASL, South Carolina Association of School Librarians! Our association's main goal is to help our members maintain school library media centers that foster the love of reading and lifelong learning. That goal is similar to goals in other libraries and associations, but our objectives often focus on our teaching role in the media centers. We love to work individually with students, but we also work closely with teachers who are designing research projects for their classes. We work with the planning and implementation of projects, as well as evaluation of the process.

To assist our members in achieving their goals, our professional association serves in several capacities. One is to provide continuing education to our members in the form of conference sessions, newsletters, and meetings. We send representatives to national conferences such as the American Library Association, American Association of School Librarians, and National Legislative Day to assist in our leadership development.

Public relations also play an important role in our association. Budget cuts are having a tremendous impact on us. We are taking a proactive role in sharing research on the benefits of a well-funded and competently staffed library media center with our administrators at the local level and our legislators at the state level. We treasure our partnership with other libraries to provide extra resources to our students. DISCUS – South Carolina's Virtual Library, for example, is a treasure for us. SCASL works closely with our representative at the SC State Department of Education, Martha Alewine, and professors at USC-SLIS to maintain the highest possible standard for our profession.

The best part of my involvement with SCASL was getting to know so many of my colleagues around the state. I have been impressed over and over again with their dedication to our profession and to the students in our state. We are often the only professional librarian in our building, so we depend on each other for support. We also depend on librarians in other career tracks to assist us in our duties and hope that we are returning the favor by teaching our students the value of information literacy.

SCASL Executive Board



President: Janet Boltjes, Lexington School District 1
Vice-President/President Elect: Martha Taylor, Anderson District 5
Secretary: Jennifer Garrett, Greenville County School District
Treasurer: Judy Thomas, Clover School District 2 of York County
Past-President: Claudia Myers, Berkeley School District



E-Rate = Money \$\$\$\$

It's that time of year again— time to apply for E-Rate funding.

The question that we often hear is WHY? "Why should we apply? It takes a long time, a lot of work, and for what? " The main reason a public library should apply is simple – MONEY!

The good news is, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has made great strides in streamlining the application process. The forms are available online, and much of the filing can be done electronically.

The Division of the State Chief Information Office (CIO) applies every year on behalf of all schools and public libraries for discounts on access. For Year 5 (2002), they (and, thus, we) received funding commitments in the amount of \$1,040,292. At 74%, that's a great offset for all of our Internet access cost for the year.

However, CIO only applies for discounts on Internet access. There are other services that qualify for discounts, and these are the ones for which each public library should apply. Every public library in South Carolina should apply for "Telecommunications Services" discounts!

Telecommunications service discounts are discounts on your basic local and long distance telephone service only, referred to as "Tariffed Services" on the application form. The application process for telcomm service discounts does not require a technology plan.

The Form 471 application filing window for Funding Year 2003 (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004) will open at noon EST on Monday, November 4, 2002 and will close on Thursday, January 16, 2003 at 11:59 p.m. EST. Form 470 must be filed 28 days before submission of the Form 471.

The third kind of discount available is for "Internal Connections". This includes a variety of equipment. If you're planning to upgrade your network, be sure to apply for the discounts.

The telcomm service discount has the easiest application process for a great return. We are all pinching pennies these days... now it's time to spend a penny to save a pound.

The Schools and Libraries Division of USAC (E-Rate) maintains a web page with the latest information on dates for filing, information on services, and the forms with instructions.

<http://www.sl.universalservice.org/>

The State Library also maintains a web page with local E-Rate information and points of contact. <http://www.state.sc.us/scsl/erate.html>



NEWSWORTHY

The **Anderson County Library** has opened a Homework Center in the Scripps Howard Children's Library at the headquarters library. The Center's staff provides homework assistance to children in grades third through sixth. The Center's hours are from 3 to 6 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

The Friends of the **Charleston County Library** sold more than 45,000 books during their annual three-day fall book sale. Proceeds topped \$91,000 making it one of the largest Friends book sales in the country.

The new \$900,000, 6,000-plus square foot Blacksburg Branch Library of the **Cherokee County Public Library** was dedicated on September 28, 2002.

The Friends of the **Fairfield County Library** celebrated their 25th anniversary on October 6 with a public reception.

The ground-breaking ceremony for the new headquarters of the **Florence County Library** was held on October 23, 2002, and featured students of various ages from each school district talking about how the library had affected their lives and how they envisioned the new library making a difference.

The **Newberry County Library** received a grant of \$1,000 to purchase books to be used for a reading outreach program for community four-year olds. The Newberry Lumber Mill and Prosperity Bleached Board Division of International Paper jointly funded the grant.

The **South Carolina Book Festival** is planned for February 22 and 23, 2003, at the State Fairgrounds in Columbia. Additional information is available on the web site: www.bookfestival.org

"Music Sandwiched In" is a free lunchtime concert series presented twice a month for the past four years at the **Spartanburg County Public Library**. It has featured several of the finest musicians and ensembles from the region. Celebrate Community is the major sponsor of the event that has resulted in over 3,500 additional people visiting the downtown library.

The **Richland County Public Library** is the first library in South Carolina to offer Live Homework Help, a service for students in grades four through twelve to connect to a tutor for help with a specific subject. The service is available at the Main Library, the North Main Street Branch, and the Northeast Regional Branch. It is also accessible by logging onto the RCPL web site. Service hours are 3 p.m.-9 p.m., Sundays through Thursdays and 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays. The service is funded by an LSTA grant administered by the SC State Library.

FY 02 was a banner year for the **Williamsburg County Library** as more and more people discovered the fine new public library buildings in Kingstree and Hemingway. Use of public computers showed a 33 percent increase. Circulation of books and videos increased by 18 percent.

The Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) held its annual meeting on September 21, at the SC State Library in Columbia. Approximately 80 people representing 23 local friends of the library groups attended. A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the following awards for outstanding support of libraries:

Business Award – **Johnson & Wales University** for their support of the Friends of the Charleston County Library

Outstanding Program Award – **Friends of the Berkeley County Library** for their partnership with adult education.

Library Staff Award – **Faith A. Line** for her support of the Friends of the Sumter County Library.

Trustee Award - **Theresa Arrington Dunn** for her support of the Friends groups in Beaufort County.

Special Partnership Award – **Rowkris Development (StetsonRowles & Michael Kristoff)** for their continuing support of the Friends of the Bluffton Library.

John H. Landrum Library Advocacy Award – **Loa Jane Miller** for her contributions to the Aynor Branch Library of the Horry County Library.



Pat Present (left), President of the Friends of the Hilton Head Library of the Beaufort County Library and Marsha Strong (center), President of FOSCL present the Trustee Award to Theresa Arrington Dunn.





Charleston played host to the joint conference of the South Carolina Library Association (SCLA) and the Southeastern Library Association (SELA) on October 24-26, 2002. At the Awards Brunch, SCLA bestowed the following awards:

Friend of Library Award – Randy L. Akers, Executive Director, Humanities Council SC, in recognition of his support of books and reading across South Carolina.

Outstanding Librarian Award – Mary Bull, DISCUS Project Director, SC State Library, for her contributions to the establishment and direction of DISCUS – South Carolina’s Virtual Library.

Intellectual Freedom Award – Carl Stone, Director of the Anderson County Library.



Randy L. Akers



Martha Stackel (left) presents Mary Bull the SCLA's Outstanding Librarian Award



Carl Stone

(Photos by Curtis Rogers, courtesy of SCLA)

South Carolina State Library

Administration: James B. Johnson, Jr., Director
John H. Landrum, Deputy Director
Library Development: Margie Herron, Director
Information Services: Anne Schneider, Director
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State Library: www.state.sc.us/scsl
Talking Book Services: www.state.sc.us/scsl/bph
DISCUS: www.scdiscus.org
Palmetto Book Alliance: www.palmettobookalliance.org
SC Reference Room: www.state.sc.us/scsl/refdesk

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