



NCLA
Children's Services

Volume 62, Spring 2008

Chapbook...

**Quarterly Journal of the Children's Services Section
North Carolina Library Association**

Message from the Chair

Hello Fellow Chapbook readers,

Here in Hickory, North Carolina summer reading registration has begun and the kids are already swarming like bees. I am sure the same thing is happening at the libraries where you work. Let the summer fun begin as you help those kids "Catch the Reading Bug!"

In our last issue of Chapbook I had the pleasure of introducing myself to you as your new chair. I shared a little bit about my life being married to a Lutheran minister. Since that time my life has begun an interesting new chapter. My husband has accepted a new call to serve a church in Cypress, California. (near Anaheim where the ALA conference will be held) He has already moved and I am still working here and trying to get our home sold. When that happens I will join him in California. At the March 17th meeting of the YSS board I resigned as the board chair. While I am not sure exactly when I will be moving I felt it was important for the board to have consistent leadership these months before the retreat in September.

I am thankful to have had the opportunity to serve on the YSS board for many years. I have welcomed the challenge of planning retreats and conference programs but most of all I have enjoyed working with many dedicated and creative people on the board.

Lara Luck, from Forsyth county, our former chair elect will serve as the new board chair. She will do an excellent job and I know you will all welcome her. Read her introduction article next.

Best wishes to you all. I will miss North Carolina.

Debbie Oldenburg



Message from the (New) Chair:

Hello! I'm starting out my first column with some sad news: Debbie Oldenburg has stepped down as Chair of the YSS Board as of our March board meeting. But until her BIG MOVE, she is still

helping us out on the YSS Board (a small ray of light peeps through). She will be sorely missed, but I guess our loss is California's gain and of course we all wish her the very best out there in Never Never Land.

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Lara Luck and I work for the Forsyth County Public Library system, currently at the Central Library in beautiful downtown Winston-Salem. I'm a Virginia native (Go Hokies!), but have been residing in my adopted state for 15 years now (Go Deacs!). I got my start in the library working as a page over 12 years ago and have worked my way up to Department Supervisor. One of the highlights of my career so far has been that I have had the opportunity to work in 11 of the 12 branch locations that FCPL has had as both a paraprofessional and a professional. (I still haven't given up on a possible 12 for 12). So, I literally feel as if I have really done it all. It has been a lot of fun and has afforded me the chance to work with most of our system's terrific staff. I love this kind of networking!

Working on the YSS Board along with attending the NCLA conferences and our non-conference year retreats has also allowed me to meet some great colleagues from all over our beautiful state.

I would like to encourage all members of our section to attend these conferences and workshops and take advantage of the many opportunities and benefits that belonging to the Youth Services Section of NCLA offers you. If you are not a member of NCLA yet, join up! You not only see advantages for yourself, but you become a part of an organization that advocates and supports your career and profession on a local, state and national level.

Remember, you also have the chance to get involved by letting us know how we can help Youth Services staff around the state. Or if you're interested in being on the YSS Board, contact us anytime (luckla@forsyth.cc). Another way to let your voice be heard, network, and share ideas, is to contribute an article to *Chapbook*. *Chapbook* is a great way to publish your accomplishments or share a terrific program idea. If you are interested in contributing something, all you have to do is get in touch with the Chapbook's editor, Loretta Talbert (ltalbert@plcmc.org).

Finally, the YSS Board has been busy planning this year's fall retreat, "All Ages Served: A Workshop for Those of Us Who Serve the Entire Community-- Children, Teens and Those Who Care for Them". It will be held at the (centrally located) Caraway Conference Center in Sophia, NC (<http://www.caraway.org>) on September 18th and 19th, the perfect time for a fall break. So remember to plan ahead, save the date, and join us for a fun and informative time.

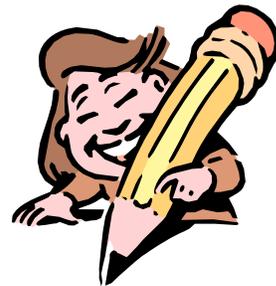
Lara A. Luck
YSS Chair

From the Editor.....

I invite our readership to submit articles to the Chapbook; to share your tried and true special programs, or interesting projects, or upcoming events whereby all readers may be informed or even motivated to try something new. There is no deadline.

Send as a single-spaced, 1-4-page word attachment to:

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SAVE THE DATE

Now is the time to mark your calendar and put in a request so that it is in your budget for 09.

The Youth Services Section of NCLA will hold its biennial retreat on September 18-19, 2008 at **Caraway Conference Center, Sophia NC.**



The title of the program is **ALL AGES SERVED: A Workshop for Those of Us Who Serve the Entire Community—Children and Teens and Those Who Care for Them.**

The program is planned to provide a lot for everyone who attends: gizmos (the latest electronic devices), jazzy story time suggestions, sessions on improvisations and time management plus our own Caldecott/Newbery committee members and stories about the 2008 award winners. Weather-permitting, there will be a story swap around a campfire beside the lake. And yes, there IS time to go for a walk in the woods and network with your colleagues.

The registration fee is \$130 per person, double occupancy only. That includes an overnight stay and three meals. Registration will open July 1 and will close September 5.

If you have attended a YSS retreat in the past you know that it provided great sessions as well as some R&R. If you have never attended a YSS retreat, then this year is the time to start. The facility is comfortable, the location is serene and beautiful, the food is delicious and the company outstanding.

The YSS Board invites you to be there in September.

The fee is \$130 per person, double occupancy only.
Makes checks payable to: **NCLA/Youth Services Section**
Please include payment with this registration form.

Deadline: September 5. No refunds after September 5.

To register, please complete, one per person, and mail before September 5, 2008 to:
Jacky Miller, Rockingham County Public Library, 527 Boone Road, Eden NC 27288

PLEASE PRINT IN INK

Name _____ Title _____

Library _____

Mailing Address (Street or Box) _____ (City) _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

Email _____

Confirmation will be by email unless you indicate otherwise

Roommate Request _____

Office use only: rcv'd _____ check # _____ confirm sent _____

Horton Hears a Who
Review by Claire Ramsey

"On the fifteenth of May, in the Jungle of Nool,
In the heat of the day, in the cool of the pool,
He was splashing...enjoying the jungle's great joys...
When Horton the Elephant heard a small noise."



So begins Horton Hears a Who -- a nearly universal favorite from Dr. Seuss's extensive collection – and so also begins the movie. That is, Horton is definitely splashing in the pool as the metaphorical curtain rises. Jim Carrey (Horton) and Steve Carell (the Mayor) charm in this admittedly quite extended version of the original story. It is also nice to hear Carol Burnett's dulcet tones from the throat of the Big Kangaroo (one is reminded of Miss Hannigan from *Annie*.)

Those significant story extensions appear, for example, when the "Little Kangaroo in [the Big Kangaroo's] Pouch" has a mind of his own rather than simply agreeing with everything his mother says (character development). Or when the Mayor of Whoville suddenly has to contend with the Whoville Town Council which, by insisting that everything in Whoville be serene and conflict-free, goes a long way to providing the conflict that directors Jimmy Hayward and Steve Martino decided was necessary to make this loving story fill 1 hour and 30 minutes.

And conflict and character development there was! However, my overall impressions and conclusion were that – well, perhaps there is a more appropriate way to tell you. And yes, there are spoilers if you know neither the book nor the movie...

On a Friday in March, at a drive-in up north
a reviewer was waiting for films to burst forth
across the screen... awaiting the start of a flick
she feared could make even a flu virus sick.

For she had seen one she was sure wouldn't be
awful or heinous, but merry and free –
'cause this movie was based on a wonderful book
'bout a Cat and a fish and a dress on a hook
But Oh No! she realized in horror and shame
The Cat she'd expected was just not the same
(and the actor Mike Myers was partly to blame!)

So 'twas trepidation she felt there that night...
Would the movie be good? Or would it be a fright?

And would it have a Mayor? A Horton? A 'Roo?
With Carrey as Horton, who knew what he'd do!
And Whoville! It's buildings, its bikes, and its tech—
Is it there? All secure on its clover-borne speck?

Oh bliss! There it was! The Mayor – the speck –
And the Elephant Horton – he too was on deck!
The story was longer – well, duh! After all,
A book's not a film – it's a little too small.

The changes included a homeschooling 'Roo –
Her freethinking baby named Rudy came too –
Plus a Whoville Town Council who bothered the Mayor
And his 96 daughters – you count them, they're there!

"Well?" you might think. "Some small changes are fine.
But the message? The Suess-ness? The true bottom line?
And is Horton a deity? Is that for real?"
An overtone only – it's not a big deal!

The real deal is this – this movie is awesome!
The families I watched with found *Horton* "applause-some!"
While purists might fuss about Jojo, the son
Of Steve Carell's Mayor, who knows it's no fun
To have to be Mayor when you prefer art
(The book's Jojo had a much tinier part)
Though no less important – both rose to the top
And rescued fair Whoville with their famous "Yop!"

Important as YOP to the movie's conclusion
(which if ruined would bring on horrendous confusion)
was the moment of heartrending, breath-holding fear:
would the Seuss book be honored, or be turned on its ear?!!
The moral be modernized? Changed in some way?
Together we watched Carrey's elephant say –
And the words that he quoted elated us all –
"A person's a person, no matter how small!"

Claire Ramsey
Story Teller
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**Wake County Public Libraries
Student Poetry Contest 2008**

Since 2005, Wake County Public Library has sponsored a Poetry Contest for Wake County students in grades 6-12. This year marked the third Student Poetry Contest. 423 middle and high school students representing 53 Wake County public, private, charter and home schools submitted original poems. To illustrate the growth of this event, in our first year 90 students representing 20 schools submitted poems.

Local librarians, writers, and a teacher have served as judges. The panel of judges consisted of local poets, scholars and library staff. The 7 winners and 7 runners up chosen were invited to read their poems at a Poetry Jam on Sunday, April 27 at the Cameron Village Regional Library. 12 students presented their poems to an audience of over 50. Each student was presented with a certificate and gifts of appreciation. All 14 poems were published in a "chapbook" and will be posted on the library's web page.

This poetry contest has become a wonderful venue to reach young adults and has continued to grow in popularity. Audiences including family, friends and teachers of the winners have commented on how pleased they are that the library offers this venue for young teen poets.

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December 2007

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