

**C**hapbook...      **Volume 44**      **Summer 2003**  
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**North Carolina Library Association**

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**Letter from the Vice-Chair.....**

**By Carol Laing**

As many of you know, Mel Burton stepped down from his position of Chair on the CSS Board because of a career change. Little do we know what lies ahead of us in life. Last year Mel was a full-time Librarian and this year he is a Minister. A year and a half ago I was a Children's Librarian in downtown Winston-Salem. Now I am the Manager of Youth Services for East Regional Library of Wake County Public Library System. Four years ago I was in charge of the By-Laws Committee for the Children's Services Section. Now I am about to become the Chair.

And this is such a great board! We are always in the midst of planning retreats and conferences. What could be more exciting than trying to figure out what author or illustrator we want to ask to speak at the next NCLA Conference?

If any of you have ever thought it might be fun to serve on the CSS Board and you have the time to commit to a state board, please let us know. One way we gain new members is from noting their interest on the evaluation form at the NCLA/CSS Author/Illustrator Breakfast. Whenever we have an opening, it is nice to know who is interested ahead of time.

Where have you come from and where are you going? I hope some of your futures include serving on the CSS Board!

**LIBRARIES - A North Carolina Value**  
**ENRICHING \* INCLUSIVE \* ESSENTIAL**  
NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 55th Biennial Conference  
September 23-26, 2003  
Benton Convention & Civic Center, Winston-Salem

## NCLA Conference Chat

There are lots of great things going on at the conference this fall, so don't forget to mark your calendars! Plan to be at the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem September 24 – 26, 2003.

The Children's Services Section is sponsoring a breakfast event  
**"From Soup to Crazy Cakes" featuring acclaimed illustrator Jane Dyer.**



You'll remember Jane's illustrations from books such as *Time for Bed* by Mem Fox, *Sophie's Masterpiece* by Eileen Spinelli, *I Love You Like Crazy Cakes* by Rose Lewis, and *The Girl in the Golden Bower* by Jane Yolen. A New York Times best-selling illustrator, Jane will discuss the imaginative process by which her illustrations develop and the research that she must do in order to achieve the finished sketches and paintings.

By means of a slide show, she will tell the story of how she came to be an illustrator. After the breakfast, Jane will sign her books and sell some of her (hard to find) prints. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the artist behind a well-loved collection of stories.

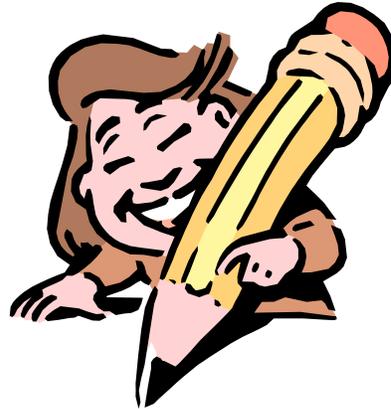
**NOTE:** "Jane resides in Northampton, MA and is inspired in her art by her family, friends, cats, and dogs. Her original illustrations are exhibited and sold at galleries throughout the country. Registration is required; ticketed event. Fee of \$18.00 is to be paid with registration."

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If juvenile and teen book clubs is more your thing, than you'll be interested in the program CSS is offering a little bit later in the morning. **"NEWSFLASH: Kids Make a Mockery of Book Clubs"** is a program designed to let you see how one public librarian built a highly successful middle school Mock Newbery book club after serving on the National Newbery Selection Committee. Find out how a book club started for middle schoolers naturally led to the creation of a book club for teens – a Mock Printz book club. **Teresa Brantley**, formerly of the Eva Perry Regional Library in Wake County, will share how her Mock Newbery book club was so successful that its members won a trip to an American Library Association conference. Teresa is a dynamic speaker who has worked many years in public libraries, but is currently working in a middle school as a Media Specialist where she continues to feed her passion for book clubs. If you have ever wanted to start a book club but were not sure how, this program will give you the information and inspiration to go out and do it!

If you haven't already checked out the North Carolina Library Association's updated website ([www.nclaonline.org](http://www.nclaonline.org)), than this is a great time to do it. The site has tons of conference information on it including the schedule for all the events at the conference. Hope to see you there!

Carol Laing, Youth Services Manager  
East Regional Library of Wake County Public Library System



### **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.

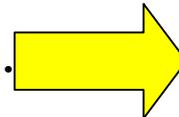
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(.....More articles..





## From the State Library...

by Jim Rosinia, State Youth Consultant

In July, the State Library of North Carolina announced the recipients of the 2003-04 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants. One hundred and five applications were considered in eleven categories and requests for funds totaled \$1,884,040. Ninety-one grants were eventually approved for funding totaling \$1,604,625.

Fifty grants were awarded as part of the School Library Collection Development program for a total of \$421,930. The impact of this grant program went beyond that amount. The program required a dollar-for-dollar match from the funded school libraries which meant that these grants had successfully leveraged an equal amount of funding from local sources.

As you may know, the State Library has another grant program that uses LSTA money to ensure that “children and teens in North Carolina benefit from the combined resources and efforts of a community focused on education and the healthy development of youth” – the Powerful Partners Collaboration Grants. This year, two awards were made – one to a school library media center and one to a public library. Each grant was for the maximum amount – \$50,000. These grants required matching funds of at least 10% of the grant amount requested, so an additional \$37,515 was leveraged from local sources to support library service to youth.



A grant to the **A.B. Combs Leadership Magnet Elementary School** in Raleigh will support their partnership with **AventWest Children’s Mentoring (AWCM)**, an after-school tutor/mentoring program operating under the umbrella of the non-profit AventWest Community Development Corporation. Combs and AWCM have had an informal working relationship over the past four years with teachers, and school social workers, to pair students with tutor mentors. Quoting from their grant application: “This grant opportunity will give the Combs Library Media Center a visible role as a strong and vibrant leader in the community and a means for communicating the value of library services for teachers, mentors, parents, children, and teens.”

Specifically, this partnership has developed a “four-prong strategy” to reach the 90 academically at-risk students in their community:

- Provide small group tutoring/homework assistance two nights a week during the school year;
- Empower parents and caregivers, especially ESL and non-native speakers, through parent enrichment programming and language classes to increase their involvement in their children’s education;
- Provide access to a print-rich, professionally staffed school media center after school hours to support tutors and student needs; and,

- Broaden teachers' understanding of cultural differences and assist the faculty in efforts to develop strategies for effective cross-cultural communication with the at-risk and/or non-English speaking student and his/her family.

The partnership is working to build additional relationships with other community organizations focused on the healthy development of area children, such as the Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department. Again, quoting from their grant application: “We seek to build a seamless bridge of communication and support for the students and their parents that spans the school/classroom teacher, after-school tutor/mentoring program, and the family.”

The grant to the **Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County (PLCMC)** will support a powerful partnership with the Youth and Family Service (YSS) Division of the Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services. These agencies are developing a unique program model that will use books and book related activities to provide opportunities for foster and birth parents to work together in the best interest of their children and to create stronger community and neighborhood support for children and families in the child welfare system.



“*Continue the Contact . . . Read Together*” will provide training and materials to approximately 200 foster children, their birth parents, and foster parents. Quoting from their grant application: “Our goal is to use the simple act of reading together as a catalyst for better foster and birth parent relationships . . . . By increasing the utilization of the library’s reading materials, resources, and presence in the community, “*Continue the Contact . . . Read Together*” aims to establish the library as part of the network of support for foster children and their foster and biological parents and to improve communication and relationships between foster parents, biological parents, and foster children, thereby ultimately resulting in faster reunification.”

“*Continue the Contact . . . Read Together*” will focus on all children entering or currently in foster care whose home of origin is in one of the “fragile target zip code areas” identified by the “Communities for Families and Kids” initiative, a project sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the State of North Carolina to develop more community based child welfare services. Approximately 200 children will receive a backpack filled with high quality, age appropriate books; a reading journal; Parent Activity sheets; a bookmark; crayons; an activity pad – and a library card. To encourage use of neighborhood branches, libraries will be used as the sites for weekly, court-ordered visits between birth parents and children. These libraries will also receive enhancements for their parenting collections.

Through this, the first partnership between PLCMC and YSS, the organizations “recognize their shared mission of and devotion to encouraging the development of skills, the involvement in activities, and the practice of strong communication that result in faster reunification between foster children and their biological parents.”

More information on the Powerful Partners grant program and other LSTA grant programs is available online at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm>>.

## Harry Potter Party

by Angela Arnold, Young Adult Information Specialist  
North County Regional Library, PLCMC

A Harry Potter Party is a great way to attract children and young adults to the library. These parties can be as large or small, as you like. It is even possible to have a party at no cost!

To begin the party, children are assigned to one of the four houses. This sorting hat ritual can be very simple. I have found that letting children draw a house from a wizard hat the easiest.

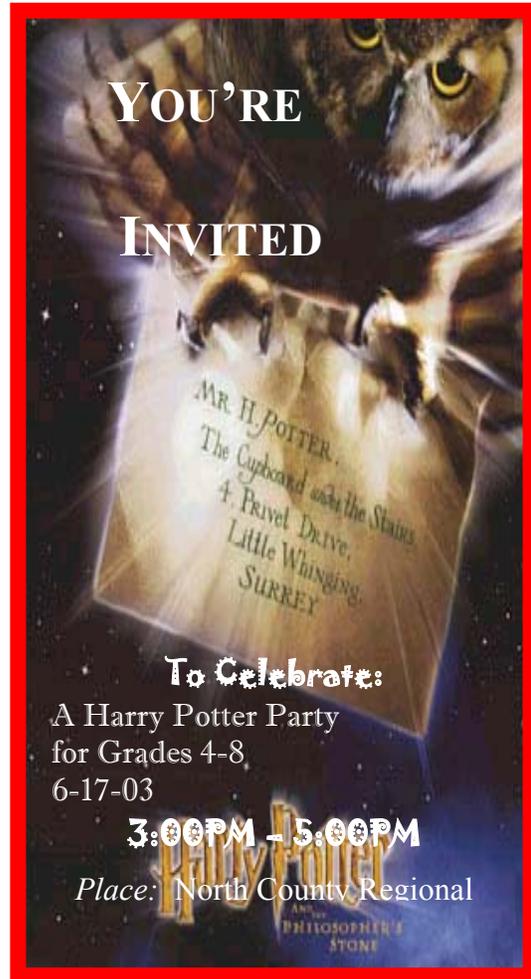
To have wands or not have wands, that is the question. If one can find really cool sticks, they make great wands. However, when wands are being used be sure to give a small talk about the proper use of wands (i.e. they are not to be used to hit others).

Since the children are in four groups, there are four activities

Potion class has been the favorite at many of the parties. The potion that was created was slime. It is really an easy recipe. Weeks after the party, you will hear about how wonderful the slime was!

### You will need:

- Foam cups, 2 per guest
- Masking tape
- Pen
- Measuring cup
- Measuring spoon
- ½ cup water, plus 2 oz. per guest
- 1 ½ tsp. of powdered Borax (laundry detergent)
- Popsicle sticks, 1 per guest
- White liquid glue, 2-oz. per guest
- Food coloring (green looks good)
- Zippered plastic bags, 1 per guest, for taking the slime home



**What to do:**

1. Using masking tape, label ½ of the foam cups "BORAX" before the party.
2. During the party, pour a ½ cup of water into each guest's labeled "BORAX" cup.
3. Add 1 1/2 tsp. of Borax to the water and stir with a Popsicle stick. Set mixture aside.
4. Pour 2 oz. of glue into the other foam cups.
5. Add 2 oz. of water to the glue and stir with the Popsicle stick.
6. Add a few drops of food coloring to the glue and water mixture and stir well.
7. Add 2 oz. of the Borax solution to the glue mixture and stir until the mixture solidifies. If necessary, add more Borax solution.

Every good wizard or witch needs an owl. There are a number of origami owl directions available in books and online. However, if you are like me and can't fold paper to fit in an envelope you can create owls out of lunch bags.

Depending on the age of the children at the party, they can cut feathers, ears, feet, etc. out of construction paper. It is wonderful to see how creative everyone can be. One person even had their owl holding a Howler!

Mirror of the Erised. Ever wonder what you can do with those AOL CDs that come with magazines? This is a cute, simple craft that can take those CDs off your hands. Have children attach a craft stick to the back of the CD with glue (make sure the shiny side is facing out). Then decorate with sharpie pen, ribbon, and glitter.

Trivia. Having the houses compete against each other works well. There are a number of Harry Potter trivia questions available on the Internet. Two really excellent sites are KidsRead ([www.kidsreads.com/HP/games/index.asp](http://www.kidsreads.com/HP/games/index.asp)) and Scholastic ([www.scholastic.com/harrypotter/home.asp](http://www.scholastic.com/harrypotter/home.asp)).

One of the best tips is to have volunteers! This is a great time to have teens work with younger children. Volunteers are able to help with crafts, food or just crowd control!

Have fun. Use your imagination! Once you see how well the first party goes, you won't be able to wait to have another!

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