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**C**hapbook...

Volume 67, Summer 2009

## Quarterly Journal of the Youth Services Section North Carolina Library Association

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### Message From The (Incoming) Chair

The children are back in school and Summer Reading 2009 is over. For our library this has been one of the most difficult summers I have experienced. The stress level in libraries across the state has been extremely high with loss of jobs, cuts in pay, furloughs and the ultimate unknown: the budget and that is inside the library. Even the stress of our patrons affects our everyday work place. We have made it through and must look forward in our planning to do things differently, more effectively, sharing resources and talent.

Now is the time to take full advantage of your NCLA membership. The wealth of knowledge spread across North Carolina is enormous and tapping into that knowledge is everyone's best bet for working smarter. We **WILL** get to the other side of this economic downturn. Let us work together sharing our collective knowledge at the conference, answering those pleas for help on NCKids, joining the specialized blogs on Ning (thanks Lori) and networking whenever and however possible.

As I am looking forward to "NC Libraries: Serving Knowledge...Serving You", I remember my first NCLA conference in October 2005. I spent a wonderful Thursday networking with other children's librarians, programmers and specialists, beginning with the Children's Services Section breakfast with Janice Del Negro. It was there that I met Carol Laing McNeill, the outgoing Chair. I expressed an interest in getting involved and was invited to join the NCLA-CSS board as a Director. Here, four short years later I will be stepping into the Chairman's position at the conference in October.

I began my career at Appalachian State University where my favorite class was Children's Literature. I earned a double major in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. After teaching and subbing in the Guilford County School System for years, I accepted a position with the Greensboro Public Library as a part-time children's programmer. Now I am one of two full time Children's Specialists at the Hemphill Branch Library in Greensboro. For more info about Hemphill and its unique arts-based programming, see the Spring 2006 issue of *Chapbook*. My specialty is outreach with an arts focus with the community and afterschool programs. I also coordinate a large teen volunteer program with 30-40 active volunteers during the summer.

I look forward to serving NCLA-YSS as Chair and please feel free to let me know if you have suggestions or comments for the YSS Board.

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## **NC Libraries: Serving Knowledge... Serving You**

### **The 2009 NCLA Conference in Greenville, NC**

#### **By Lara Luck**

Please join us October 6-9, 2009 for the 58<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Library Association Biennial Conference at the Greenville Convention Center in Greenville NC. Greenville, the county seat of Pitt County is the health, entertainment, and educational hub of North Carolina's Inner Banks and in 2008 was listed as the 10<sup>th</sup> largest city in North Carolina. In January 2008, Greenville was named one of the nation's "100 Best Communities for Young People" by the America's Promise Alliance. The YSS Board is excited that Greenville was chosen to host the NCLA conference this year because we will have a new city and venue to explore!

The Youth Services Section Board has spent the past year lining up some speakers and programs that we think you will really enjoy. Here are some highlights of the upcoming YSS sponsored sessions:

- The YSS sponsored programs begin Wednesday with a TBA presentation followed by our own Brandon Bensley's "Children's Programming 101." These sessions are designed to help give anyone, beginner to pro, helpful advice on planning and presenting great young adult book talks with an emphasis on new books or storytimes, family nights and after school programs.
- We will hold our customary Thursday morning breakfast/Section meeting with two guest speakers this year, Beth Krommes and Kerry Madden. Illustrator Beth Krommes will speak about her experience of winning the 2009 Caldecott, and author Kerry Madden will talk about her creative process and inspirations in writing the Maggie Valley series. There will be longer session for both speakers later in the morning and afternoon.
- Jana Guitar will bring us "The Manga Experience," demonstrating how you too can become a manga artist and pass it on to your younger customers.

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- Other sessions include “Gaming as a Service” (even on zero funds) and “Developing Collaborative Partnerships.”

Check out the NCLA Conference website, <http://nclaconference2009.pbworks.com/>, for more information on sessions, events, registration information, accommodations and much more.

Between these programs, the other NCLA Sections’ sessions and speakers and the great all-conference events, we have planned a great time for you. Make sure you stop by the YSS table to say “Hi”, and let us know how we are doing. See you in Greenville!

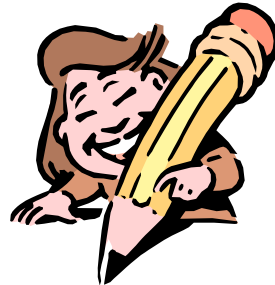
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**From the Editor.....**

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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### North Carolina Children's Book Award-

The North Carolina Children's Book Award (NCCBA) is sponsored by the North Carolina School Library Media Association and the North Carolina Association of School Librarians and the Children's Services Sections of the North Carolina Library Association. The purpose of the award is to encourage students in grades K-6:

- o to become better acquainted with the best writers and illustrators of contemporary books with outstanding literary appeal.
- o To broaden students' awareness of literature as a means of personal satisfaction and lifelong pursuits. (Picture Books)
- o To promote reading aloud with students in the early grades as a means of introducing reading as a pleasure. (Picture Books)
- o To promote reading aloud with students as a means of extending the concept of reading for pleasure; (Junior Books)
- o To give recognition and honor to their favorite books, authors, and illustrators.

The first Picture Book Award was given in 1992 to *In a Dark, Dark Room and other Scary Stories* by Alvin Schwartz and the first Junior Book Award was given in 1995 to *The Boys Start the War* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor.

For more information about the NCCBA you can visit Bookhive at:

<http://www.plcmc.org/bookhive/NCCBA/>

or contact:

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#### Activity Ideas:

This year the NCCBA committee has created a new site

<http://nccbaactivityshare.wikispaces.com/>

At this site we encourage you to post any new ideas you may use when sharing the nominated titles with children.

#### The NCCBA Nominations for 2009-2010 are:

##### Picture Book Category

*Abe's Honest Words: The Life of Abraham Lincoln*  
by Doreen Rappaport  
*The Doghouse* by Jan Thomas  
*Katie Loves Kittens* by John Himmelman  
*The Little Bit Scary People* by Emily Jenkins.  
*Night Boat to Freedom* by Margot Theis Raven.  
*Nothing but Trouble: The Story of Althea Gibson*  
by Sue Stauffacher  
*Sally Jean, the Bicycle Queen* by Cari Best  
*Splat the Cat* by Rob Scotton  
*Traction Man Meets Turbodog* by Mini Grey  
*Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival* by Kirby Larson  
*A Visitor for Bear* by Bonny Becker  
*When Dinosaurs Came with Everything*  
by Elise Broach  
*Wind-Wild Dog* by Barbara Joosse  
*Woolbur* by Leslie Helakoski

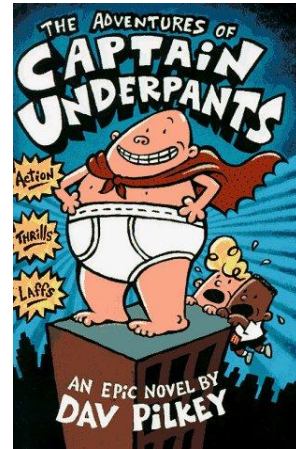
##### Junior Book Category:

*Cracker!: The Best Dog in Vietnam*  
by Cynthia Kadhota  
*Diamond Willow* by Helen Frost  
*Edward's Eyes* by Patricia MacLachlan  
*Extreme Animals: The Toughest Creatures on Earth* by Nicola Davies.  
*Found* by Margaret Haddix Peterson  
*Frogs* by Nic Bishop  
*Hate That Cat* by Sharon Creech  
*The Long Gone Lonesome History of Country Music* by Bret Bertholf  
*Moving Day* by Meg Cabot  
*Savvy* by Ingrid Law  
*This is Just to Say: Poems of Apology and Forgiveness* by Joyce Sidman  
*The Willoughbys* by Lois Lowry

**“Boy” Programs at the Hickory Public Library  
by Hannah Owen, Youth Services Librarian**

Two Captain Underpants programs for rising 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up boys were big hits. We found great ideas on the Scholastic and the Dav Pilkey websites, and the PUBYAC listserv. A large mobile of wire paper hangers and underwear publicized the event. It was quite eye-catching. Children’s staff wore the underwear over their clothes (also very eye-catching).

To keep boys happy include lots of running around. Use a microphone or a loud male for instructions because if you have a successful program, you will have lots of noise. Boys of this age have very differing physical abilities. Include easy, not too competitive activities. See that everyone gets some kind of prize.



Start off with an activity that will keep the kids occupied while getting settled. The boys used colored markers, glue sticks, and underpants cut-outs to decorate brown paper grocery bags. The bags also served to haul their loot home. For the second program we gave them each a disposable diaper. The boys had to put their names on them and wear them as hats. This was WAY more fun.

We purchased 2 toilet seats, plungers, packages of tighty-whities, packages of boxer shorts, and 2 cases of toilet paper. We put a strip of paper around each TP roll making it “Official Captain Underpants” Paper.

We did not do all of these activities at both programs, but all were fun.

- Professor Poopypants Re-name Game: re-named everyone using the chart found in the Perilous Plot book.
- Read “The Hallo-Wiener”-my all-time favorite book.
- TP Bowling: stacked rolls of toilet paper as high as possible. Made “bowling lanes” with tape on the floor. Tried to knock down stacks of TP by bowling rolls of TP.
- Underwear Fling: how far can you shoot tighty-whities using waistbands as slingshots?
- TP Toss: threw rolls into the toilet seats placed over waste cans.
- Booger Blow: gave each boy a plastic straw and one Styrofoam packing “peanut” (some colored with green crayon). Raced to see who could blow the boogers across the room. VERY fun.
- Plunger Derby: teams had to move toilet paper from one side of the room to another using only the plungers.
- Boxer Race: 3-legged race with 2 boys in one boxer leg.
- Boxer Relay: one by one had to put boxers on, run around toilet seats, take boxers off, hand them to next boy on team.

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Crafts:

- Captain Underpants Balloon Character: boys used black Sharpies to draw a CU face and underpants on inflated white balloons. The tied end of the balloon went through a slit in the center of a white foam plate. They drew feet on the plate and taped a red paper napkin on the balloon for a cape. It was an easy, fun craft and surprisingly pleasing.
- Paper Airplane Toss: we made paper airplanes and flew them off of our balcony into our rotunda. FUN! We were very surprised to find out that some of the boys DID NOT KNOW HOW TO MAKE ANY KIND OF PAPER AIRPLANE!!! (What in the world ARE they learning in school these days?) So we performed a public service by teaching them.

Refreshments:

Make-your- own sundaes are always a hit with boys. Be sure to buy twice as much whipped cream as you think you will need.

Prizes:

- The best prize was the Whoopee cushions we purchased from Oriental Trading. Apparently you are never too old a male to be thrilled by a Whoopee cushion. Our husbands whimpered until they got one, too.
- Tootsie Rolls were great prizes, too. They look like dog-doo.
- Captain Underpants Toilet Paper: the boys could take home as much toilet paper as they could carry. One mother of 4 boys said it was truly the finest prize they had ever won.



**Jeff Kinney, author of The Diary of a Wimpy Kid Books**

Another boy-oriented program we did was for The Diary of a Wimpy Kid books. Since girls like these books, too, we did not make it a boys-only program, but mostly boys came. We limited it to rising 4<sup>th</sup> graders and up. We re-used many of the props from the CU programs. We bought some socks and got t-shirts from home. For the opening activity we copied the pages from the Wimpy Kid Do-It-Yourself Book that predicted what you would be when you grew up. We gave each kid a pencil and a dice. They worked on this activity while everyone got settled. They read the results out loud. It was pretty funny.

Activities:

- Laundry Sorting: bought laundry baskets. Teams had to pair up and roll socks, fold t-shirts and underpants and put them in the baskets. The team

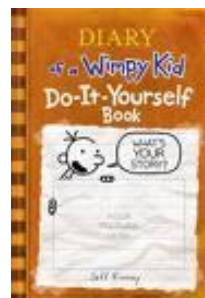
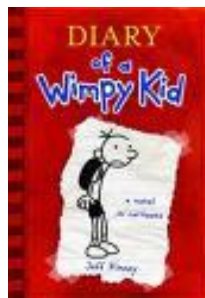
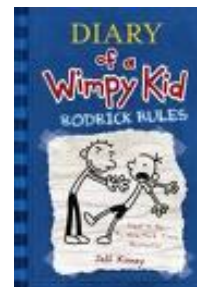
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that finished first won. Amazingly, many of the boys had no idea how to pair and roll socks. Their mothers were THRILLED that we taught them.

- What Was Under Roderick's Bed: brought an old bed frame from home. Put junk such as candy wrappers, earphones, books, pencils, old soda cans, etc. and covered them up with a sheet. We uncovered it for 30 seconds and kids had to write down what they remembered. Fun.
- Snack Food Hunt: had to search for pictures of snacks. Snickers bars, potato chips, etc. Gave them a list of clues which led them to things in the library that were related to the books and that we wanted them to know. For example, find a picture of Doritos by the cartooning books. Find a picture of cheese crackers by the Shel Silverstein poetry books. When they found all the pictures, they pasted them on a paper and received a bag of snacks as a prize.
- Refreshments were really easy. They ate their bag of snacks. This was the best idea we ever had.
- Prizes: we gave out the leftover Whoopee cushions. Every child received a really scary picture of Shel Silverstein. Also we raffled off the Do-It-Yourself Book.

We were prepared for 50 boys at each program. We had about 35 show up, which was very do-able.

You can e-mail Meg Sandner at [msander@ci.hickory.nc.us](mailto:msander@ci.hickory.nc.us) if you have questions.



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## West Regional Library's Annual Story Writing Contest



West Regional Library, located in Cary, NC, recently hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Story Writing Contest. The contest opened during National Library Week and concluded during Children's Book Week. We were very excited to receive 42 entries which doubled from last year. All participants were honored at a ceremony on May 31, 2009 and each participant received a certificate. Prizes were awarded in two age categories: ages 7-9, and 9-11, for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Since there were so many wonderful stories this year, we decided to include 2 Honorable Mentions.

This program has been highly welcomed by the community and even the schools. We had a first grade teacher submit stories from each of her students! The guidelines for entries that we followed stated the stories must be handwritten and no longer than 3 pages. Children could include illustrations as well.

This is a great opportunity for kids' creativity to shine and the parents love seeing their child on stage reading their story. We look forward to next year's stories and hopefully we'll double the entries again!

Debra Gilbert  
Youth Services Librarian



## Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince Review

by Claire Ramsey

Dark clouds. The lightning-jagged Harry Potter title flashed on the screen, this time followed by 'and the Half-Blood Prince.' Ah, here we are again, in Little Whinging, this time at the train platform where our hero (Daniel Radcliffe) sits in a grimy little cafe. There is no sign of Harry's Dursley relations; instead, the Muggles are represented by a sleek waitress making eyes at Harry, who is himself not-so-subtly cataloging *her* charms.

Harry Potter has done it again, and so has director David Yates. Harry has made the cover of The Daily Prophet (the waitress is quick to notice), and David has made another Harry Potter movie in what I am beginning to think of as the grand old tradition of Chris Columbus, the first Harry Potter director.

Harry is no longer the fresh-faced neophyte wizard we met in 'Sorcerer's Stone'. 'Half-Blood Prince' introduces us to a taller, ganglier, and thinner-faced Harry who is clearly not only learning upper-level magic but is also thinking different thoughts about Ginny Weasley, his best friend Ron's (Rupert Grint) younger sister. Ginny always had a crush on Harry and it is becoming clear that Harry is beginning to reciprocate her feelings. There is just one problem: Ginny is now dating Dean Thomas.

This film has to be one of the best Harry Potter films yet offered to fans and rank-and-file moviegoers alike, with more character development and still plenty of action to keep the blood racing. Look out for actor Ralph Fiennes' (Voldemort) nephew in the role of Voldemort's younger self, orphan Tom Riddle (Hero Fiennes-Tiffin.) Look for a great new addition to the Harry Potter family in Jim Broadbent as *potions* master Horace Slughorn, a terrifying mission for Draco Malfoy (Tom Felton), a dream come true for Prof. Snape (Alan Rickman), and cameos by all our old favorites Prof. McGonagall (Maggie Smith), Hagrid (Robbie Coltrane), Mrs. Weasley (Julie Walters), Remus Lupin and Tonks (David Thewlis and Natalia Tena), and many more.

But most of all, sit back, relax, and enjoy the installment of this book- and movie-saga which might as well be titled 'Harry Potter and the Hot-Blooded Teens...'

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2007-2009 Biennium

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