

AMERICAN INDIAN LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER



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AILA President's Column

Janice Rice (Ho-Chunk Nation)
AILA President 2007-2008

As I reflect upon the remainder of my term, I view it as a season of celebration—a time of recognition and acknowledgement. We who work with Indian people have so many things to be grateful for this year. As an Indian organization, we are fortunate to have members who provide Indian library services throughout the country. We have members who possess a great sense of commitment to literacy, education, and the goals of Indian librarianship.

Whether we are seasoned librarians or emerging new professionals, our communities now have greater access to literature, information, and technology than in any other period in history. Our services have touched the lives of many people.

Even with funding limitations, dedicated librarians have used creative ways to reach our library users. In Indian country, you will find librarians promoting oral history projects with elders, providing story hours for children, meeting rooms for community leaders, reports for administrators, or creating new and innovative services through collaboration with others. In our respective libraries, we may have staff members or volunteers who support our programs and services. Together we have been able to achieve so much.

In this same spirit of collaboration, AILA members have worked this year to advance Indian librarianship. Through the work of AILA's executive board and the dedicated service of our committees, we have reached some milestones.

This fall we witnessed a seamless

transition as our longtime editor, Dr. Rhonda Harris-Taylor turned over the reins of the newsletter to channel her energies toward new pursuits. AILA appreciates Rhonda's years of service and her leadership as one of our Past AILA Presidents. During Rhonda's years of AILA leadership and her role as editor, Indian library services gained visibility, and AILA established momentum as she helped to keep ideas and issues alive. Our members wish you all the best in your new endeavors, Rhonda. May your heart be light and your journey be blessed with good health, success, and prosperity.

Our AILA listserv instigator and manager, John Berry, has also made a decision to pass the torch. He, too, served as a Past President and used his term in office and subsequent years to
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Indigenous Voices During A Presidential Year

Loriene Roy (Anishinabe)
ALA President 2007-2008

It has been my great honor to serve as the 2007-2008 President of the American Library Association. I am grateful for the kind support of many AILA members. As ALA's first American Indian President, I have tried to infuse

indigenous and international presences into my activities. This was witnessed last June, at the beginning of my volunteer year of service as President, with an Honor Dance at the National Museum of the American Indian and an inaugural banquet during the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington DC. I have been fortunate to visit with

indigenous librarians on the Fond du Lac, Tohono O'odham, and Alabama-Coushatta Reservations, in Oklahoma, Aotearoa/New Zealand, and in Canada. My students and ALA volunteer members have provided me with support to continue our pledge to dedicate a year to celebrating community, col-
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Envisioning the 21st Century Tribal Library

Allison B. Krebs (*Anishinaabe*)
Knowledge River Program, University of
Arizona

As tribal librarians at the beginning of 2008, we find ourselves already rushing into the 21st Century. I urge us to stop for a moment and take time to envision what we hope to see develop for Native American libraries within this century and how we hope to engage our communities. Recognizing the glorious diversity of our tribal communities, I will share my personal vision and encourage you to share yours.

My vision is grounded in teachings I have received regarding my Anishinaabe heritage. Our Anishinaabe worldview is grounded in the concept that this existence we know on Earth is the changing world, that we are in a process of constant transformation and that change is an integral part of our existence. This predominance of change is manifested in the fact that our language is based on verbs (action) not nouns (objects). Our concept of animate is expansive, including “objects” that would be considered inanimate by Western classification. Movement and change are deep roots of our tradition.

The last five hundred years have brought dramatic changes to our environment. Luckily, our teachings are designed to expect and embrace change as natural and fundamental. We have adapted. We are resilient. We are still here.

The tools by which we have maintained our connection with the past have been oral and visual, not textual. While we may be found in library collections in books, photographs and audio recordings, the real information resource of our people has always been the people themselves. The people are the holders of our stories, the keepers of our teachings, the containers which in each generation animate our world-

view and our ways of knowing.

The southwest image of the open mouthed matriarchal storyteller with children running up and down her body and limbs, gathered to listen to her words as she passes knowledge from one generation to the next, is indicative of the essential nature of the human-to-human transmission of knowledge, of information. It is also illustrative of the relationships which revitalize our community as part of the transmission process. We are not, inherently, a people of the book.

Our way of knowing is dramatically different than the way embraced by the classic Western worldview, which have been embedded in the structure and systems of Western libraries. Where libraries today find themselves in a whirlwind of seemingly unexpected change after more than a century of stability, where they may find this change threatening and challenging, Native Americans find reason to celebrate and embrace the new landscapes being created seemingly overnight. The tools which are being created to bring audio, visual, and textual materials to a broader spectrum of the public can be shaped and tailored to create dynamic learning communities within our tribes.

My 21st century tribal library vision is centered within the community, and of the community—it is a vision of a library which provides technological tools and training, and can mobilize resources to help our Native American communities to tell our own story, in our own way, in our own time. This library will be flexible and agile. It is a gathering place, a truly inviting community space that is designed to be actively used in a number of modalities: from living room type informal meeting spaces to high-tech video conferencing rooms, recording studios, storytelling rooms, and spaces equipped with internet access, hardware, and software, to create

original source materials.

This library or center will not only serve the community, it will create, activate, and revive community in new and exciting ways.

To give an example: my own tribe’s service area covers seven counties in the rural Upper Peninsula of Michigan, with five housing sites separated by 3+ hours of driving. Our weather in the winter is extreme; travel is hazardous. Vibrant technologically networked library learning centers will provide ways for community to connect and interact across this most immediate sense of our tribal community. In addition, less than fifty percent of our tribe lives within our service area. The balance is spread across the nation and around the world. An interactive tribal library will allow us to activate this at-large portion of our membership and engage them in community building as well.

In addition to assisting in the creation of information resources rooted in the beliefs of our community, and creating community across space and time, these interactive centers will create the opportunity for nests of cross-generational learning. Learning content can include the transmission of hands-on skills such as beading, regalia making, basket weaving, or cooking of traditional foods. Language learning, revitalization, and use are also vital opportunities for both the physical and virtual space of these library learning centers. Technologically adept youth can train elders in computer use while elders mentor youth in life skills and values.

Native Americans may be thought to be at a disadvantage because of the paucity of current library use. The 21st century opportunity is that if we can overcome negative attitudes towards libraries as repositories of a conqueror’s version of history and embrace the potential of creating library learning centers that suit our own needs, styles

of learning, and classification of the world, our libraries can become central to our communities, to our definition of community, and to our explanation of our communities. They can become dynamic forums where we relearn and reclaim our identity.

Fifty years from now, libraries may not look like what we know as libraries. The bricks and mortar may be gone. But libraries within Native American communities may be more physically active and engaging, creating and reinforcing community as well as generating curriculum and other artifacts whose format we cannot begin to imagine.

In order to achieve these goals, Native American librarians cannot be gatekeepers, we must be gate busters. We

need to work across disciplines, and think outside the box. We have a unique opportunity if we can secure funding from partnerships with tribal, local, state, and federal governments, foundations such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the IMLS, educational institutions such as universities, tribal and community colleges, federal, state and local Departments of Education or schools. We may potentially be able to create entrepreneurial incubators for tribal member initiatives. Native American librarians from casino-based economies should take advantage of the current environment and jump-start the process now. Where we have a will, there is a way. And where there is little current infrastructure, there is potential to employ state-of-the-art infrastructure

to be used in ways not yet imaginable in libraries steeped in tradition and bureaucracy.

In summary, the changing world is home to the Anishinaabe view of life. The political, economic, social, technological and intellectual forces of change that are perceived as producing chaos to the library world are sources of opportunity and innovation for Native American communities and librarians. Our opportunity is knocking. Let's answer the door and embrace the new landscape that greets us. When we do open the door, we will find many of our AILA members who are already making this 21st Century vision a reality for our communities. Let's honor them for their vision and encourage them to inspire ours. Migwetch.

New Resources for Rural, Native, and Tribal Libraries

Sandy Littletree (Shoshone/Diné)
North Carolina State University

Librarians at rural, native and tribal libraries will soon have more resources to help them develop and improve library services.

Revisions to *TRAILS: Tribal Libraries Procedures Manual* will be complete this spring and content is currently going into an online version. *TRAILS* was first produced as part of the original *TRAILS* program, under the direction of Dr. Lotsee Patterson (Comanche), and was originally funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Educational Research and Improvement, Library Programs.

The *Tribal Libraries Advocacy Guide* is slated to be released at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference this June. An online version will be available through the ALA Committee on Rural, Na-

tive, and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds website. The advocacy guide is designed to provide Tribal Libraries with tips and suggestions for getting support from their communities and key decision makers.

These projects have been made possible with support from the American Library Association's Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS), from the Committee on Rural, Native, and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds, and from ALA's 2010 funding.

Please direct any questions about these projects to Sandy Littletree at slittletree@gmail.com.

THANK YOU

**The Barona Band of Mission Indians
for their generous support of the
2008 AILA Youth Literature Awards**

**Alana McGratten, Naomi Caldwell,
and the Ho-Chunk Nation for their
generous gifts for Dr. Kareem
Abdul-Jabbar, presented during
Loriene Roy's ALA President's
Program in Philadelphia on
January 13, 2008**

DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Thursday, June 26, 2008

8 AM–5:30 PM

Preconference to ALA Annual
Conference in Anaheim

Registration Required

ALA/Division/RT Member \$175

Non-Member \$200

Student/Retired Member \$150

Onsite \$200 and up

Are you on the road to success with your diversity initiatives? Whether you need a new game plan, or want to make sure all your bases are covered, join us for this exciting day-long intensive workshop on the fundamentals of diversity. Experts in the field will coach you to break-through success with sessions on effective planning for diversity, benchmarking and assessment, achieving organizational buy-in, designing an effective recruitment plan, and creating partnerships for change. Featuring: Lorlene Roy, ALA President and Professor of the School of Information in the University of Texas at Austin; Clara M. Chu, Associate Professor, UCLA Department of Information Studies; Mark Winston, Associate Professor at UNC-Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science; Tracie D. Hall, Associate Dean, Dominican University, Graduate School of Library and Information Science; Patricia Wong, County Librarian & Chief Archivist, Yolo County Library, Yolo County, CA; Valerie Bell, Chief Librarian, Branch Services, Ocean County Public Library; and Sandra Rios Balderrama, Consultant. Visit www.ala.org/diversity for more information or register through the ALA Annual Conference registration materials at www.ala.org/annual.



Above: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (center) with Janice Rice (left) and Lois Dye (right)

AILA Gifts for NBA Champ

Janice Rice (Ho-Chunk Nation)
AILA President 2007-2008

In the spirit of Indian ways, I was honored to share 4 gifts with NBA champ and author Kareem Abdul-Jabbar at Lorlene Roy's 2008 ALA President's Program. My presentation was followed by BCALA's gift-giving, a warm introduction to Dr. Jabbar's keynote address. AILA honored Dr. Jabbar for his coaching days on the White Mountain Apache reservation, and his contributions to scholarship, education, and wellness. *A Season on the Reservation: My Sojourn with the White Mountain Apache* tells of Dr. Jabbar's days as a history teacher and a coach at Alchesay High School in Whiteriver, AZ.

A heart-felt thank you goes to Alana

McGratten, the Ho-Chunk Nation, and Naomi Caldwell (Ramapough Lenape) for their gifts: two signed poster prints from Lee Marmon—father of author and poet Leslie Marmon Silko; a starburst beaded medallion; and a necklace made from shells which Ramapough Lenape used in making wampum. View the gifts via Jabbar's Q&A: <http://alfo-cus.ala.org/videos/q-kareem>

At the AILA reception later that evening, attendees received a surprise visit from the NBA star and a chance to get acquainted and socialize. When members shared their respective tribal affiliations, Dr. Jabbar proudly announced his West Indies heritage. Our honored guest easily found his place in the circle, surrounded by the warmth and grace of AILA's welcome.

A Short History and Promising Future: AILA Youth Literature Awards

Naomi R. Caldwell (*Ramapough Lenape*)
University of Rhode Island

The AILA Youth Literature Award was created in 2006 to identify and honor the very best writing and illustrations by and about American Indians for today's youth. The initial committee of four (Co-chair Victor Schill, Charlene Engstrom, Gabriella Kay and me) worked hard and happily during 2006, and the inaugural book awards were announced during the first Joint Conference of Librarians of Color in Dallas, Texas. The 2006 award-winning authors received \$500 and a plaque with our award seal, designed by Corwin Clairmont. The Mashantucket Pequot Nation graciously donated funds to produce the plaques as well as brochures publicizing the winners

Since that autumn day in Dallas, AILA, the Executive Board and the Mashantucket Pequot Nation have continued to support the award with word, deed and financial support. As a result, the Committee has grown from four members to seven; several of our new members are practicing librarians who bring added expertise and knowledge to the selection process. In addition, the award announcement is now synchronized with other youth book and media awards announcements that are publicized during the ALA Midwinter conference each January. This change brings more media attention to the award, and the award's recipients. This year's awardees are:

Picture Book

Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom by Tim Tingle, illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridge. Cinco Puntos Press, 2006. (Available in paperback)

A beautifully inspired story of a

friendship between Martha Tom, a Choctaw girl and Li' Mo, a slave boy, and how their relationship brought wholeness and freedom to Mo's family and to many slaves. Bridge's illustrations enhance the story by resonating the joy of friendship, the light of faith, and the leadership of children.

Middle School

Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond, by Joseph Medicine Crow. National Geographic, 2006.

This appealing autobiography of Dr. Joseph Medicine Crow (Absarokee) is a winner with both young and old. The author recounts his adventures and training as a traditional Crow warrior and his service as a decorated World War II veteran. Walk, run, and ride with him as you learn first-hand about life on the Crow reservation before, during, and after encounters with newcomers. In a text that avoids preachiness, but offers an honest read, Joseph Medicine Crow tells how he overcame many challenges to fulfill his role as Chief of the Crow Nation.

Young Adult

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie, Little Brown Publishers, 2007. (Available in paperback)

A realistic, bittersweet yet humorous look at the life of Arnold, a Spokane Indian teenager making his way in life on the reservation while attending an all white high school. Alexie brings to life the challenges many young Native people experience as they learn to navigate and balance Indian life in a modern world. Part autobiography, Alexie's Arnold reminds us of the complexities of coming of age, bigotry, bullies, family loyalty, and the meaning of love.

Please join us for the cultural presentation of the 2008 winners at this year's ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA. Authors will receive \$500 and a custom-made beaded medallion seal designed by Corwin Clairmont and beaded by artist Linda King. The ticketed event presentation is scheduled to occur on Monday, June 30, 2008. ALA President Loriene Roy, who has supported the AILA Youth Literature Award, will be part of our celebration. A special thank you goes to the Mashantucket Pequot Nation for designing and producing the brochures, program and tickets.

As this Award Committee's chair, I am grateful to have the opportunity to work with a wonderful, talented, and dedicated committee. Each member contributed uniquely to the nomination and discussion, and the insights and ideas each brought to the process were valuable. Their consistent support and encouragement have made it a pleasure to work on this project. Special "shout outs" and Anushiik (thank you) to:

Carlene Engstrom, D'Arcy McNickle Library, Salish Kootenai College; Gabriella Kaye, Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center; Lisa A. Mitten, Choice Magazine; Sarah Kostelecky, Institute of American Indian Art; Cindy Carrywater, Montana State Library Commission; and Jolena Tillequots, School Library Media Specialist, Yakima Nation.

As the committee looks to the future, we see an increasing demand for American Indian illustrators and authors who create work for young people, as well as many more smiles on the faces of our children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Join us in celebrating this year's honored award recipients.

What's Happening in Communications and Publications?

AILA's Communications and Publications Committee has been working on several projects this year and 2007-2008 has been a great time of change. One of the biggest changes is how the *AILA Newsletter* is distributed. Beginning with the Fall 2007 issue, a .pdf version of the newsletter will be posted online, available via a website address circulated to AILA members. If you or your institution prefers to continue receiving the newsletter in print, that option will remain available.

The Committee has also been working on a new AILA brochure that we hope to unveil at the AILA's Annual Conference meeting. Many thanks to all those who have provided input and a special thanks to LaVera Rose, AILA Webmaster, for taking the original outline and turning it into something special. The Committee continues to look for pictures of members working in their tribal library to add to the brochure and we welcome your submissions.

On a sadder note: after many years as *Newsletter* editor, Rhonda Taylor has stepped down. The Committee is working on a job description for the position and an open call will be made during ALA Annual for volunteers. In the meantime, Kathleen Burns has agreed to serve as interim editor.

And there is another change. After founding the AILA listserv nearly a decade ago, John Berry has turned over the reins to interim manager Kelly Webster. As with the newsletter editor position, the C&P Committee will work on updating the job description for this post and solicit volunteers at Annual.

I would like to publicly thank both Rhonda and John for the hard work, dedication, and the years of service they have given AILA.

The C&P Committee looks forward to an exciting year ahead, and we welcome your input and participation. If you would like to join the committee or just want to share your ideas, please email me at elperritotravieso@gmail.com. (LJ)

AILA Scholarship News – Apply Today

The American Indian Library Association announces the availability of a scholarship award for American Indian/Alaska Native students who are enrolled in, or have been accepted and will enroll in, an American Library Association accredited master's degree program. The scholarship is designed to encourage the entry of qualified American Indians and Alaska Natives into the library profession. A scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Further details and scholarship criteria, as well as application forms and instructions, are available from the American Indian Library Association's

website at <http://www.ailanet.org>.

Application, references, and other supporting documentation must be postmarked no later than **April 1, 2008** and mailed to:

Joan S. Howland
AILA Treasurer
University of Minnesota Law Library
229 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Donations to the American Indian Library Association Scholarship Fund are welcome. Contributions may be sent to Joan Howland at the address above.

AILA Business Meeting Time Change this Year at ALA Annual

The American Indian Library Association's Business Meeting will be held Sunday, June 29, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., to accommodate the discussion program, "Coming to the Talking Circle," held immediately following the Business Meeting. AILA looks forward to the gathering of our many members, and hopes for safe travel for all. (CE)

Call For IMLS Enhancement Grant Reviewers

The IMLS is looking for new peer reviewers for the 2008 Enhancement Grant Program. Reviewing is a major commitment of thought and time but it is also one of the most effective ways you can contribute to the development of tribal libraries across the country.

Field review is scheduled for May 19-June 16 (ALA is June 26-July 2). We will be using an online review system. This year, instead of big boxes of applications arriving at your door, we will send your assigned applications on a CD with a copy of the Field Reviewer Handbook. All IMLS applications must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov beginning this year. Reviewers are assigned between six and nine applications and receive a \$200 honorarium for their services.

If you have not served as a reviewer and would like to, please contact me at 202-653-4665 or afreese@imls.gov. I can e-mail you a copy of the 2007 Field Reviewer Handbook to give you a better idea of what the process entails and then discuss any questions you may have. (AF)

ALA 2008 Conference Programs to Watch For

Planning on attending ALA 2008 Annual in Anaheim? The American Indian Library Association is co-sponsoring, with the OLOS Subcommittee on Library Services to American Indians, three topical programs you may want to attend.

Digitizing Indian Country will survey and discuss digitization projects by tribal communities, archives, libraries and museums of tribal materials-- including historical documents, photographs, and newspapers-- that seek to preserve American Indian Tribal heritage and histories. The program will also review and analyze collaborative efforts between Tribal entities and other institutions to preserve and make available tribal historical documents. Speakers and topics include: Carlene Engstrom on the *CharKoosta Tribal Newspaper Digitization* project; David Ongley, pro-

viding a survey of digitization projects throughout Alaska; and Jennifer Young, on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's digitization project. This program meets Saturday June 28, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Coming to the Talking Circle: A Discussion, sponsored by the OLOS Subcommittee of Library Services to American Indians. All individuals and ALA units who address American Indian issues in their work place and/or communities, are invited to the Talking Circle, to share their initiatives, thoughts, concerns and questions about where we are today in Library Service to American Indians, as well as future considerations, and possible collaborative endeavors. This discussion meeting will take place Sunday, June 29, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

The Healthy Librarian: Cultivating Wellness in the Workplace will present simple strategies to cultivate wellness in the workplace at your library. Participants will learn skills to manage the challenges of library positions, including emotional patrons and a sedentary job. This interactive session will explore practical solutions including stress management skills, ergonomics, and strategies for incorporating more activity into your day. Cultural components, drawing on rural, tribal and urban values and lifestyles will be emphasized. Examples from various Native American tribes will be included. Lois Dye and Siobhan Champ-Blackwell will be speakers. This program will be presented on Monday, June 30, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. (CE)

AILA SACO/NACO Data Gathering Project

The Subject Access and Classification Committee is beginning an effort to collect information from members with cataloging expertise, especially those who have experience or training in the NACO and SACO programs, in order to have a better understanding of the knowledge base of our members.

We'd like to collaborate with our experts in order to fulfill our charge to "facilitate improved access to information about Native Americans by identifying ways to improve existing subject headings/thesauri and classification schemes, and identifying and developing alternatives to these." We are

currently compiling a short survey for AILA members which will be available on the committee's wiki at <http://aila-sacc.pbwiki.com/>. An announcement will be posted on the AILA email list as soon as this resource is launched. (JS/KW)

Closing the Gap

The American Library Association's Office for Diversity is delighted to announce the topics for the 2008 Diversity Research Grants. The ALA Office for Diversity began sponsorship of a Diversity Research Grant program in 2002 to address critical gaps in the knowledge of diversity issues within library and information science. The Diversity Research Grant consists of

a one-time \$2000 annual award for original research and a \$500 travel grant to attend and present at ALA Annual Conference. Each year the Office for Diversity and the Diversity Research Grant Advisory Committee identify three areas of scholarship where research is needed; typically, one proposal is chosen from within each topic for a total of three awards. The 2008 topics

are: 1) The Impact of Rapidly Shifting Demographics on Information Needs, Services and Strategies; 2) Diversity and Library Services to LGBTQ Communities; 3) The Impact of Library 2.0 Initiatives on Services to Under-Served Populations. The deadline to submit a proposal is April 30, 2008. Please visit www.ala.org/diversity for more information and submission guidelines. (GP)

AILA President's Column

(continued from front page)

develop and manage the AILA listserv, an important communication tool for Indian librarians. AILA members thank John Berry for his courage, leadership, and tenacity. John, you've done us a great service. We wish you the very best as you turn your eyes toward new horizons. May you find peace, contentment, success, and joy in your new endeavors.

It is only proper and fitting that I bring your attention to the outstanding work of AILA committees. Thank you to all the chairs and committee members who contribute and serve. Without your dedication and supportive work, we could not achieve our goals.

As your President, I have two words to describe the work of the AILA executive board and our most active committees: the Communications and Publications Committee, the Development and Fundraising Committee, Children's Literature Award Committee, and the Programming Committee. The words are "inspirational" and "awesome." I am amazed at how AILA members collaborate to create programs, infrastructure, and new ways of sharing information to accomplish our tasks. It's truly remarkable what we have been able to achieve this year. Their enthusiasm and respectful manners are inspiring to all.

I am honored to be your President during the year that the American Indian Youth Literature Awards ceremony comes to ALA. Those who attend the annual ALA conference in Anaheim may enjoy the festivities as the awards are officially conferred upon our illustrious winners. I hope you will be there to join us.

Since AILA's founding, I believe that our organization has been destined to provide leadership in the evolution of library services to American Indians.

In its formative years, AILA sought alliances with ALA and other agencies, while also honoring the government to government relationship that our people have inherited.

We are a professional organization that supports library service to our American Indian communities. Our AILA members serve children and teachers in school districts, public or community libraries on reservations, tribal colleges, faculty and students at universities, public libraries, special libraries, and large research collections. Through AILA, we join forces to make a better life for our communities.

When our ancestors prepared their families for the future, they were creative and resilient. They worked with the resources that the Great Spirit placed before them. I am reminded of the philosophy from our brothers and sisters of the Iroquois Confederacy: "In every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations." In their wisdom, elders and prophets foresaw the changes that were coming and encouraged greater unity for their children.

As you walk with AILA on this journey, I encourage you to send me your ideas. In the coming year, I envision a time of even greater unity among our members. With the utmost feelings of humility and faith, I ask your support. Together, let us design activities and programming which create a balance as we honor tradition and create change.

I welcome and encourage the work of our interim editor, Kathleen Burns, and our listserv manager apprentice, Kelly Webster. It has been a delight to work with them, and I look forward to the fruits of their labor. Through our newsletter and our listserv, we have been able to reach many hearts and hands for AILA. Our friends and colleagues are able to join us in our library service endeavors. We have common threads where we may tell our stories and weave our dreams and ideals with

our fellow librarians and educators. We have found common ground to share, to dream, to philosophize, to implement, and to advocate.

I wish to thank all members of AILA for their inspiration. You have shown your support through new memberships, renewals, attendance at national and regional conferences, contributions to the newsletter and listserv, service as a virtual member of a committee, and through your loyal readership. You have given us your honest feedback, helping to shape and renew our organization.

Please join AILA in this time of celebration, recognition and acknowledgment. Let us walk this journey together as we prepare library services for future generations.

May your library community grow stronger and be a magnet for educational, literary, and cultural encouragement. May your heart be light and spirit burn brightly with many blessings this year.

Indigenous Voices During A Presidential Year

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laboration, and culture. Let me briefly summarize our accomplishments and highlight some activities that will take place over the rest of my year of service and beyond.

We continue to devote our efforts toward realizing three task force areas and launching three demonstration projects. The Supporting LIS Education Through Practice task force hosted an Education Forum on doctoral student research at the 2008 ALA Midwinter meeting. The Forum planned for the 2008 ALA Annual Conference will highlight master's students' involvement in civic engagement. Joe Sanchez,

a doctoral student in the School of Information (iSchool) at The University of Texas at Austin, is chairing the Education Forum Subcommittee. He will restage the two forums in Second Life. Alex Hershey, my assistant, and I are editing a book for ALA Editions titled *The Service Connection*. This collection of essays will describe experiences of students, field supervisors, and faculty in service learning.

The Workplace Wellness task force is planning a Wellness Fair and Exercise Pavilion, both of which will take place on the Sunday of the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The Fair will feature information booths while the Exercise Pavilion will consist of twenty-minute interactive classes on topics such as yoga, meditation and breathing, and Pilates. Handouts from these events will be available on the Workplace Wellness website. The website will also feature useful documents for library workers such as a personal health passport, an environmental scan to assess the workplace setting, and a *Staying Healthy at Conference* handout. In addition, the site will highlight the wellness journeys of selected ALA members, offer examples of how libraries are supporting workplace wellness for their employees, and provide a forum for information exchange. UT-Austin iSchool graduate Henry Stokes is the project webmaster. This content will find its permanent home on the ALA-APA website after the 2008 ALA Annual Conference.

The third task force, the Circle of Literacy, highlights examples of library services for often underserved populations: immigrants, those incarcerated, and indigenous children. During National Library Week, 13-19 April 2008, we are hosting *A Gathering of Readers*, an online celebration of indigenous children's reading and culture. Some fifty schools that serve indigenous children, including schools in Hawaii, Nevada and New Mexico, will share

how they support reading and culture; these examples will be posted on a content-rich website that also features indigenous authors and sample reading promotion activities.

We are also supporting three demonstration projects. We are hosting a discussion about planning national library camps for young students at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference. We are taking the first steps to start a national oral history project of retiring/retired librarians. And we are collaborating with a section of the Association of College and Research Libraries to develop podcasts on meeting effectiveness that can be used by all ALA members. Four Emerging Leaders cohorts are providing much-needed assistance with the task forces and the national oral history project. In addition, we have developed or reinforced collaborations with several organizations. ALA is supporting the Lance Armstrong Foundation in the distribution of two SURVIVORSHIP notebooks to each public library and public library branch in the United States. Reading is Fundamental is providing incentives for tribal schools participating in the Gathering of Readers event. Lastly, we are supporting the Mexican Library Association (AMBAC), realizing an agreement it signed with ALA several years ago.

Each week I respond to up to ten media requests, which have included taped interviews for the NPR program "Tell Me More" every other month, an appearance on the *Today* show for the Youth Media Awards, radio interviews, and numerous print interviews. Coverage of our work in Indian media outlets has included interviews with the *Indian Report*, *Indian Country Today*, *Native NewsWatch*, *Native America Calling*, the tribal newsletter on the White Earth Reservation, and the National Indian Education Association journal. Each issue of *American Libraries*, starting with the August 2007 issue, has featured my President's Message. These mes-

sages are introduced each month by the month's name in the Ojibwe language, from August's Blueberry Moon or Minikie-Giizis to June's Half-Way/Summer Moon or Abitaa-Niibini-Giizis.

The 2008 ALA Annual Conference is just around the corner. A number of planned events will highlight indigenous cultures. A Many Voices/Many Nations ticketed event will take place on Friday, 27 June 2008, and will feature indigenous writers and performers. The theme of the ALA President's Program on Sunday, June 29, is indigenous children's Native and English language literacy which will help us celebrate the United Nation's Year of Language. The program will include an update on "We Shall Remain," the *American Experience* series that will air nationally on PBS in April 2009; the work of WGBH-Boston's Indian Head Start project with *Between the Lions*; activities of the Indigenous Language Institute; and Roy Boney, Jr.'s (Cherokee) claymation/digital animation efforts to document cultural stories with children.

The next several months will be busy. I look forward to seeing ALA and AILA members in New Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska, Louisiana, Minnesota, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Canada, New Jersey, Colorado, and Georgia. I am especially looking forward to seeing old friends at the Tribal College Librarians Professional Development Institute this June in Bozeman, Montana, along with members of Te Ropu Whakahua at the 2008 LIANZA conference in Auckland, New Zealand, and members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Resource Network in Alice Springs in September 2008. Chi megwitch.

American Indian Library Association/ OLOS Subcommittee on Library Services to American Indians Business Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2008 – 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Philadelphia, PA, Four Seasons Philadelphia

Attendees: Lynne Alstatt, Vera Benedek, Kathleen Burns, Demelza Champagne (visitor), Naomi Caldwell, Lois Dye, Carlene Engstrom, Jody Gray, Jolie Graybu, Susan Hanks, David Hurley, Stephanie Joseph, Liana Juliano, Johan Koren, Sandra Littletree, Lisa Mitten, Leslie Monsalve Jones, David Ongley, Janice Rice, Vicky Santana, Elayne Silversmith, Holly Tomren, Kelly Webster, Kimberly Wensaut

I. Call to Order

Carlene Engstrom called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. President Janice Rice was unable to be present at the beginning of the meeting due to a conflict with the ALA President's Program.

II. Prayer

Elayne Silversmith offered the opening prayer.

III. Introductions

All those present introduced themselves.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Kelly Webster moved to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes

Lynne Alstatt moved to approve the minutes. The minutes from the AILA business meeting at the 2007 Annual Conference in Washington, DC were approved unanimously as submitted.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Joan Howland, Treasurer, was unable to attend. Carlene Engstrom provided the Treasurer's Report, submitted via email by Joan Howland, AILA Treasurer.

VII. Executive Board Report

Carlene Engstrom reported on two motions from the Executive Board meeting. The Executive Board moved and approved additional expenditures for the 2007-08 budget: \$146.00 for tax preparation for JCLC, and \$2598.00 for tax preparation for 2003/2004/2005/2006. The \$146.00 will be reimbursed by JCLC. The Executive Board will be asking the Treasurer what the anticipated cost of tax preparation will be in the future so that it may be included in future budgets. More information should be available at Annual. The Executive Board also approved a motion to accept Kathleen Burns as interim newsletter editor and Kelly Webster as interim apprentice listserv manager.

VIII. AILA Committee Reports

a. By-Laws and Constitution

Stephanie Joseph, Chair, was unable to attend. Kelly Webster reported that Stephanie Joseph requested a co-chair for the remainder of the term. Vicky Santana volunteered to serve as co-chair of the committee.

b. American Indian Youth Literature Awards

Naomi Caldwell, Chair, was unable to give her report due to a conflict with the ALA President's Program. Carlene Engstrom announced the award winners for this cycle:

Picture Book

Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom by Tim Tingle, illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridge. Cinco Puntos Press, 2006.

Middle School

Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond by Joseph Medicine Crow. National Geographic, 2006.

Young Adult

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie, Little Brown Publishers, 2007.

The award presentation will be held at Annual on Monday, June 30, 2008, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The presentation will include cultural entertainment. The authors and illustrator will be awarded beaded medallions. The committee hopes that all awardees will be able to attend. The Pequot Museum has committed to printing a new brochure.

c. Communications and Publications

Liana Juliano, Chair, reported that the committee is considering moving the AILA newsletter to digital format. The committee is working on a newsletter editor job description. Kathleen Burns will be working on creating documentation and guidelines for the newsletter. The committee is also creating a listserv manager job description. The AILA brochure has been updated, but the committee is still seeking photographs of tribal libraries to include in the brochure. Please send any photographs to Liana. Kelly Webster will be serving as interim apprentice listserv manager. Due to increased personal traffic on the listserv, the committee will look into changing the default reply-to address to reply directly to the sender rather than to the entire list. The AILA website will be migrating to a new host before Annual.

d. Development and Fundraising

Liana Juliano, Co-Chair, reported that the vendors who made donations for Lorie Roy's inauguration were recognized in the Fall newsletter. The committee is working on an art contest for promotional items and hopes to have these items ready for the Annual conference. The committee has created a fundraising letter template, which is available on their wiki or by contacting Liana or Richenda. The committee is currently fundraising for the American

Indian Youth Literature Awards presentation at Annual.

e. Distinguished Service Awards

There is currently no chair and no work scheduled for this committee. This committee was responsible for the awards at JCLC and will be busy for JCLC II, which as yet does not have a date. Elayne Silversmith volunteered to chair this committee. Elayne will recruit volunteers to serve on this committee.

f. Subject Access and Classification

Kelly Webster reported that the committee is continuing to add content to its wiki (<http://ailasacc.pbwiki.com/>), including a new section for new Indian-related subject headings culled from LC weekly lists. Kathleen Burns successfully negotiated with the AUTOCAT listserv managers to archive discussions relevant to the committee's work. SACC goals for this year include compiling a list of AILA members with NACO/SACO training and continuing to add content to the wiki.

IX. Other Committee Reports

a. OLOS Subcommittee on Library Services to American Indians

Carlene Engstrom, as past president of AILA and chair of the OLOS subcommittee, clarified that AILA is separate from the subcommittee. AILA, as an affiliate, is not part of ALA; its connection to AILA is via the subcommittee. Satia Orange has requested that the subcommittee do more activities that are separate from AILA.

b. ALA 2008 Programs

Carlene Engstrom, as past president of AILA and chair of the program committee, reported on four programs AILA will be holding at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim: American Indian Youth Literature Awards Presentation, The Healthy Librarian, Digitizing Indian Country, and Coming to the Talking Circle. The AILA Business Meeting has been moved from its usual time at 4:00p.m. to 1:30p.m. in order to accommodate the Talking Circle. The Talking Circle will be a discussion of issues that are important in supporting library services to American Indians. There was a similar discussion at the 2007 National Conference of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums in Oklahoma City.

c. Diversity Council

Leslie Monsalve Jones, as the new AILA representative on the ALA Diversity Council, reported that the Diversity Council will be holding a program at Annual tentatively called Diversity 101. The Diversity Council blog and wiki are on hold. The Diversity Council needs names of AILA members who are running for ALA Council.

d. Committee on Rural, Native and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds

David Ongley reported on the committee meeting, held the previous day. Larra Clark of the ALA Office of Research and Statistics discussed the Public Library Funding and

Technology Access report, which is available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/ors/plfias/o6o7report.cfm>. The committee reviewed a resolution from the GODORT Legislation Committee requesting that tribal college libraries be allowed to have federal depository library status. The resolution will be submitted to ALA Council. If approved, ALA will write a letter to GPO to request this status. This may be an opportunity for additional funding for tribal college libraries. The committee formed several task forces, one on advocacy and sustainability, and another to focus on the issue of digital television conversion and its impact on rural communities. Libraries will play an important role in disseminating information about the digital television conversion in 2009 and obtaining converter boxes. Sandy Littletree reported that she is continuing to work on the website for *TRAILS* and hopes to launch the revised *TRAILS* website as well as a new advocacy guide for tribal libraries by Annual.

X. IMLS Report

Alison Freese was unable to attend, but submitted her report in writing. Susan Hanks read the report. Funding for all Native American and Native Hawaiian library grant programs in 2007 totaled \$3,638,000. IMLS awarded \$1.37 million in basic grants: 51 tribes received Basic Library Services Grants, in the amount of \$5,000 each; 186 tribes received Basic Library Services with Education/Assessment Option Grants of \$6,000 each. This year many tribal librarians were able to use these option funds to attend the National Conference of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums in Oklahoma City. In addition, 14 enhancement grants were funded out of 55 applications, for a total of \$1.75 million; and 1 Native Hawaiian Library Services Grant in the amount of \$519,700 was awarded to Alu Like, Inc. of Honolulu. The 2007 Enhancement Grant Information Exchange meeting was held in conjunction with the National Conference on Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums in October in Oklahoma City. This year the meeting will be held in conjunction with the Immersion Institute "Training and Assistance for Indian Library Services" in Tulsa, OK in October 2008. Alison needs volunteers for Enhancement Grant reviewers. Those interested should contact Alison Freese: 202-653-4665 or afreese@imls.gov.

XI. Many Voices

President Janice Rice resumed the business meeting and reported that this program will be called *Many Voices, Many Nations* (it was formerly called *Many Voices, One Nation*), in recognition of the many nations of North America. Susan Hanks and Johan Koren attended the planning committee meeting. There will be a ticketed event at ALA Annual in Anaheim on Friday, June 27, 2008 from 6-9pm sponsored by the ALA Office for Diversity.

XII. JCLC

Naomi Caldwell and Janice Rice are on the JCLC II steering committee. Naomi reported that they will need volunteers; more informa-

tion will be posted on the AILA website. The location, date, and theme of the conference have not yet been selected. Janice and Naomi need feedback for good dates and potential conflicts, as well as suggestions for speakers and activities.

XIII. Announcements and Discussions

a. The AILA reception will be held this evening from 7:30-10p.m. in Lorie Roy's suite at the Philadelphia Marriott.

b. David Ongley reported on the 2007 National Conference of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums; Carlene Engstrom and David were the AILA representatives. An article in the Fall 2007 *AILA Newsletter* reporting on the activities of the conference. There will be three follow-up Institutes at the Cherokee Resort and Casino in Tulsa, OK:

April 15-17 – *Collection, Use and Care of Photographs*

July 15-17 – *Displaying and Caring for American Indian Objects*

October 21-24 – *Training and Assistance for Indian Library Services*

David distributed a flyer; more information is available at <http://www.tribalconference.org/>. The next conference will be held in Portland, OR in 2009. As AILA is the only ethnic caucus not to have its own national conference, David noted that it is important for AILA to support this conference and have a greater presence. The "hot topics" breakfast was well attended and resulted in a list of approximately 35 issues that attendees felt were important to their libraries or to Native libraries in general. David distributed a handout. **ACTION:** Carlene will appoint a task force at Annual to do some long range planning based on the issues identified at the Oklahoma breakfast and at the upcoming Talking Circle.

c. At today's ALA President's Program, Janice Rice presented gifts to Dr. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on behalf of AILA. Alana McGrattan donated two signed poster prints from Laguna Pueblo photographer, Lee Marmon, father of the famous author and poet Leslie Marmon Silko. Naomi's brother Bear Paw Caldwell donated a necklace made from shells which their Ramapough Lenape ancestors used in making wampum. Janice contributed a starburst beaded medallion necklace which was created by Dorothy Young, a Ho-Chunk elder. Dr. Jabbar was very moved by the presentation. Janice thanked everyone who donated gifts.

d. The University of Washington has announced fellowships for four librarians from traditionally underrepresented groups to pursue a Ph.D. in Information Science. Cheryl Mutoyer was not able to attend Midwinter, but she sends her regards to all. Her colleague Cynthia del Rosario will be available at the AILA reception tonight. A flyer was distributed at today's meeting; more information is available at <http://depts.washington.edu/wdi/>.

XIV. Other

a. Sandy Littletree announced that Lorie Roy wishes to thank AILA for its continued support and sends her best wishes.

b. Johan Koren issued a reminder about the National Diversity in Libraries Conference, October 1-4, 2008, in Louisville, KY. Stephanie Joseph volunteered to help Johan recruit native vendors and publishers for this conference. More conference information is at <http://www.librarydiversity.org/>

XV. Adjournment

Naomi Caldwell moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Susan Hanks. The meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Bay Veils

Today, a rainy day,
No mountains on my horizons,
The Bay is veiled,
And gun metal gray.

It fits my mood,
As memory shifts,
With age,
And forgetting begins.

A rainy day on the Bay,
There is calm and quiet,
No parades today,
No wanderers on the streets.

Memory shifts,
To a year I loved someone,
On other rainy days;
A year I buried someone, other veiled days.

Rain is funny,
With its veils of shifts and moves,
Mountains come and go,
Like names now here, now gone.

Rain is needed,
It cleans the scene,
And allows new beginnings,
Winter ends and Spring comes again.

It is good when the veils move,
Good to see mountains,
Without them,
I will become lost.

John D. Berry, Berkeley, 2008

