



Ce qui se passe...

The newsletter of

Ellender Memorial Library

Nicholls State University

volume 3 issue 2

www.nicholls.edu/library

Spring 2007

Library Hours

Monday

7:30 am – 12:00 am*

Tuesday – Thursday

7:30 am – 11:00 pm

Friday

7:30 am – 4:30 pm

Saturday

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Sunday

4:00 pm – 12:00 am

*Reference/Circulation sections only. Others close at 11:00 pm.

Note: For changes to schedule due to holidays or emergency closures, please see the library website. All patrons are asked to leave the library 15 minutes prior to closing. The phone number for library hours is 985-448-4660.

Drop-In Classes

We offer Drop-In Classes in Research Methods, Career Research, Computers and Technology Resources, Literature, Musicology, and Culinary Arts Resources, among others! Contact Melissa Goldsmith at 448-4626 if you have a group of three or more students who would like a session we do not currently offer.

This semester we are offering an encore class in *Becoming a Power User*. We encourage both students and faculty to take advantage of this and learn all about the latest technology the library has to offer.

Library Tip

Ellender Library hosts many cultural events for NSU, including readings and music (and sometimes a combination of both). Details of this semester's events are in this issue.

Library Friends Group Formed

Ellender Memorial Library and the University Library Committee are pleased to announce the formation of a "Friends of the Library" group. An organizational membership luncheon is scheduled from 12:00-1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2007 in the Plantation Suites of Bollinger Student Union. After a brief business meeting, Cliff Theriot, Head of Archives and Special Collections, will present a program highlighting some treasures from the Archives.

The Friends group is non-profit and open to all who value the importance of the Library. Membership forms, which include a reservation to the luncheon, are available at www.nicholls.edu/library/friends.

Membership categories include students (\$15), individual (\$25), sustaining (\$50), sponsor (\$100), and patron (\$1000). Those interested should make checks payable to the NSU Foundation, with "Friends of Ellender Library" in the remarks field. Forms can be mailed to Friends of Ellender Memorial Library, P.O. Box 2028, Thibodaux, LA 70310.

There are various reasons why each and every one of us should support Ellender Memorial Library by joining.

For starters, the Library is a dynamic resource center that supports all academic disciplines on campus. Friends' activities will promote the Library, provide financial support for special projects, help acquire new material, and sponsor culturally enriching programs for the entire community.

Friends can be active volunteers or simply offer financial support by paying their membership dues. Please show your support by becoming a Friend. For additional information about membership, contact Daisy Pope at 985-448-4646.

—Carol Mathias, Director

A Little Night Poetry Beats and Bongos

As part of the Jubilee 2007 Program, two poetry readings will be held in the Archives Department's Ellender Room, on the first floor of the Library.

The first is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m., and will feature award-winning poets Julia Johnson and Jack B. Bedell. Johnson is a three time winner of the Academy of American Poets Prize and is the winner of the Fellowship of Southern Writers' 2003 New Writing Award. Bedell won the 1997 Breakthrough Award for Southern and Southwestern Poets.

The second reading will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18, and will feature Angela Ball and Laura Mullen. Ball has been included in *Best American Poetry 2001*. The widely anthologized Mullen is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, a Rona Jaffe Prize, and several MacDowell Colony Fellowships. **See Story, page 4**

All you cats are welcome to hang at the Library on Wednesday, April 25th. You don't want to be a square and miss our **Beat Poetry Reading and Performance Happening** at 4:30 p.m. in the Archives. We're going to howl in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Allen Ginsberg's *Howl* and powwow on the literature, music, art, and culture of the Beat writers of the 1950s and 1960s. Kerouac, Ginsberg, Burroughs and Ferlinghetti will be there in spirit, and some cats might get hip to Michael McClure, Lawrence Lipton, William Carlos Williams, Diane di Prima and Ann Waldman, maybe even Rod McKuen and Jim Morrison. Nowhere but Ellender Memorial Library at Nicholls State University will offer such a diverse Beat scene, so if you're not there man, you're nowhere.

Come dressed in your favorite 1960s garb, in a suit, or in your best bohemian garb. Bring your own poems, your best finger snapping talents, an appetite for coffee, and your own bongos! You can't play 'em if you ain't got 'em. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Goldsmith (448-4626) or Tony Fonseca (448-4675).

Bienvenu to New Student Library Workers

Maybe you have heard him whistling as he makes his way to work in Serials. Or perhaps you heard him singing as he returns from the post office with the Library's mail cart.

Even if you have not had the pleasure of meeting him in the Library halls, you can find him always upbeat, friendly, smiling face—and off-key singing on the third floor, in the Serials Department. Jeremy Dunn, the new Graduate Assistant in Serials, is a native of Lafayette and a 2004 graduate of LSU. When asked why he didn't attend ULL, his reply was he needed to "get out of town." The same applied when it came time for Graduate School. He chose the Graduate Program at Nicholls, where he is earning a Masters in Marine Environmental Science. This self-proclaimed "fish freak" studies the effects of phosphorus on coral growth and its density.

Jeremy's hobbies include sharing fish stories with his pound rescued dog, Ty, fishing (go figure), and talking to Myris, one of his many fish. He is very active in the Marine Biology program at Nicholls—to the point where if he calls in tardy, his reason for being late is, you guessed it, he's rescuing a fish. Or he will ask to make up time because he has to "babysit" a rare fish while it is awaits being transported to the Aquarium of the Americas. All fish stories aside, Jeremy is a great asset to the

Serials Department and has a wonderful rapport with the student workers and staff. The Serials librarians have already named the aquarium store Jeremy one day will own—Tanks A Million.

The Multimedia staff welcomed a new undergraduate student worker this Spring, Hong Yen Le. Hong is a Sophomore majoring in Nursing. Her family is originally from Vietnam, but they now reside in Jeanerette. Although she has a busy academic schedule, Hong still finds time for her hobbies, reading and surfing the internet. She loves hanging out with her friends and enjoys attending classes to learn new things. Hong's friendliness and professionalism can be seen any time in the Multimedia Department, on the first floor.

The Serials Staff has some new undergraduate members of its team. Casey Guillory, a native of Schriever, commutes to Nicholls, where he is a Junior Accounting major. Casey is a TOPS recipient, carrying a full load of classes as well as taking on the diversified workload in Serials. He was an English tutor for Academic Success until it closed. When time permits between his busy academic and library work schedule, Casey likes music and playing his guitar. If you see Casey delivering the mail or in the department, bid him welcome.

Another Serials Department rookie is Trent Yarbrough. A native of White Castle, Trent graduated from St. John High School in Plaquemine and attended LSU for two semesters before transferring to Nicholls. Trent is a Sophomore Business major, who loves basketball, football and just about any sporting event on television. Like most southern gents, Trent spends his leisure time hunting and fishing. He comes from a distinguished NSU line: his Mom, Regina Yarbrough, returned to college and got her degree in 2000, while his dad, Danny Yarbrough, played football for NSU in 1979 and 1980. Trent is a welcome addition to the department.

Joining Trent and Casey in Serials is Saori Mine, an international student from Kyoto, Japan. Saori is a Senior Environmental Biology major. She received an Associate degree in Japan, but before she could pursue her biology studies in America, she had to work and save money for tuition. Although she enjoys being in a new environment, Saori returns home to visit her family between semesters. She enjoys swimming and finds the South Louisiana culture different, but, as she says, in a good way.

—Sandi Chauvin, Serials

New Documents Staff Member Believes in Aiming High

Working in Ellender Library is a snap for Library Specialist **Ashley M. Kelly**. After all, she has been through training with the United States Air Force, which she joined right out of high school, and her last job was with the Terrebonne Addictive Disorder Clinic. One at first may wonder what those interests have in common, but she explains it in very understandable terms: "I love helping people. Every job I've had has been about helping people. I feel like each and every person deserves some help in life." In short, she sees her new position in the Government Documents Department as a continuation of a route she has been on for a good part of her life.

When Kelly first learned of the job at Nicholls, she had just come to the end of a road: she had been enrolled in the Business Administration program at the Metairie campus of The University of Phoenix, when Hurricane Katrina, in her words, "interrupted those plans." At the time she was living in Houma, and began to get curious about furthering her education here. To her it made sense that the first step towards forming an



educational relationship with the university was joining its staff.

What she finds most interesting in her transition from being a well-traveled Air Force Airman (she has "lived in" Texas,

New Mexico, Florida, Louisiana, and Georgia, and has visited Arkansas and Nevada since 2002) to a stationary library staffer is the fact that she is able to make use of her background as an employee of the U. S. military. It still pleasantly surprises her when students ask about a particular document or governmental program, and she has first-hand knowledge with which to help them. Of course, she admits that going from being a soldier to a becoming a library staff member was a little unnerving. "I didn't know what to expect," she states. The biggest difference for her turned out to be the quiet associated with working in a library.

However, she was able to quickly make herself at home, for, as she states, "somebody here always needs you. And I'm a people person; I enjoy working with and helping people."

A native of Metairie and Gretna, Kelly can be found in the offices of the Documents Department, where she works on discards, and in the Documents workroom, while she learns the ropes. On her off time, she enjoys dancing, music (especially old Rhythm and Blues), and movies (preferably comedies, although she will watch some drama).

—Tony Fonseca, Serials

Library Tip #2

Need to know the meaning of *fucatiuous*, or the difference between *fucatiuous* and *fucaceous*? Check out the **Oxford English Dictionary** in the Library databases (www.nicholls.edu/library/database.htm). You'll have the advantages of not having to handle the unwieldy print version, plus you can access it from home like any other database!

Worried About Dropping Out? Then Drop In!

So there you are, lying awake at midnight, counting sheep—but suffering from insomnia since you're worried about how you're going to learn to use e-books. Making those rubber band balls before bed just can't relax you anymore because you know you will need to find book and article sources concerned with the culinary arts, business, and music. You keep wishing you could obtain research skills that will be useful throughout your academic career....

If this describes you, you might be interested to know that our **Library Drop-In Classes** are linked on the right-hand side of the Library's home page. Classes for this semester include Library 101, Business Resources, Computers and Technology, Culinary Arts Resources, Education Resources, Electronic Books (e-books), Full-Text Online Journals, Literature Resources, Music and Musicology Resources, Nursing and Allied Health Resources, and Web Searching. We also offer Special Topic classes about anything and everything which may interest students.

The Ties That Binds

The **books** you see on the shelves are not **books** at all; they are periodicals—magazines and journals.

This is partly what we tell students who are not familiar with the Serials Department. They come to the department looking for magazines and journals. But when they walk in and look around, they see mostly hard-covered items, arranged by color, and these items closely resemble the books they see on other floors. These seem to line the shelves, stretching out as far as the eye can see. After looking around, a quizzical look appears on their faces, and they often ask, "Where are the magazines and journals?" In the department we jokingly tell each other that when we get this question, which is by the way the most asked query we field, we should simply gesture widely and smile.

The truth of the matter is the real answer to that question has to begin with a complex description of binding and binderies. So instead, we simply explain that the "so-called books" on the shelves ARE actually periodicals—magazines and journals that have been placed in hard-covers.

We also explain that the Serials Department binds nearly all of its journals and magazines, but only when there are enough loose issues on the shelf to compose a complete volume or a full part (periodicals that are bound together, but do not complete a full volume). We collect these, order them, and then send the issues to bindery to be put in hard-bound form. This process begins with contracting with a com-

"Become a POWER User!" will show how to search many databases for articles simultaneously, use Interlibrary Loan, and even make the database software create your bibliographies. Another special topic, "Science Fiction/Fantasy," will explore the literary genre in the Library through finding literature and reviews. "Ego Searching for Experts" will demonstrate how you could obtain higher and more meaningful visibility on the Internet. "So You Wanna Be a Rock-and-Roll Star" will examine resources for songwriters and show how to find out information about popular music.

The classes are designed for small groups or individuals, and can be geared towards the individual user's needs. Interested members of the Nicholls community should visit the Drop-In Classes web page (<http://www.nicholls.edu/library/dropinclasses.htm>) to view the schedule and contact the class instructor. Or they can contact me, Melissa Goldsmith via e-mail (melissa.goldsmith@nicholls.edu) to set up a class time. Groups (fraternities, sororities, honor societies, organizations, and study

groups) are especially welcome. All classes will be scheduled for the Multipurpose Room on the third floor of the Library. If for some reason the room is unavailable, the instructor will notify participants of the different class location.

—Melissa Goldsmith, Reference



Pictured, above: Geno Delafosse & The French Rockin' Boogie will perform Saturday, March 24, as part of the 11th Annual Cajun/Zydeco Festival. Contact Anke Jonn at 985-448-4633 for information. See page 4 for details.

pany that specializes in picking up boxes of tied journal issues, taking these to a factory where they are bound according to our specifications, and then delivering even more boxes of hard-bound serials back to the Library. This process prolongs the life of items. Another advantage of binding is that the Library itself does not need to worry about printing title and call number information on the spines of bound pieces; the contracted bindery takes care of that. Titles, volume numbers, dates of inclusion, issue numbers (when needed) and call numbers are printed on the spines of each bound piece. We do control what we want printed on the spines, and how we want the information printed. When we send the loose issues to bindery, they are like the "ugly duckling". When they return, they are a striking and professional piece of work.

The behind-the-scenes process is a rather intricate one. Once a month or so, a bindery delivery representative stops by to pick up our prepared shipment of periodicals. A month later, he returns to us with the periodicals in bound form. But as this unfortunate delivery person is dropping off a shipment of anywhere from ten to seventy boxes, he has another outgoing shipment waiting for him. During the month, between deliveries, daily bindery groundwork is at hand. We prepare the next outgoing shipment: pulling the loose periodicals off the shelves, entering very specific data (the color of the binding, fonts, size, etc.) into a dedicated bindery computer (yes, the bindery system has its very own computer— isn't it special!), and tying—literally—all the accumu-

lated loose issues of each journal with everyday, run-of-the-mill string. This arduous, repetitive task must be done because rubber bands have a tendency to break, and that would be disastrous since the bindery workers do not know how to match issues and make sure they stay in order. I am just grateful we have student workers who help with the tying part of the bindery process; sometimes I may have as many as 300 pieces going out in one shipment, and were it not for their help, I think I would tie myself silly, since **every** bunch must be tied in exactly one correct way (the stacks look like unwrapped Christmas presents that have string around them instead of ribbons, if you can imagine that).

Approximately once a month, you'll see me with a book cart, walking through the stacks, meticulously hunting down those periodicals in need of binding. No matter where they are, I find them. When the book cart is filled, I get another one and continue to pull periodicals until that one is full. By the time I am finished, I may have between 5 to 7 filled book carts surrounding my desk—appearing as if I had walled myself in and am in need of a catapult to leave my desk. This is Step 1 of the whole process, the final step being "quality control" and deciding whether to renew the bindery contract.

—Danny Gorr, Serials

Visiting Poets to Read at Ellender

Jubilee 2007 will occasion visits from four highly regarded poets. Hosted by the Library's Collection Development Librarian, Jean-Mark Sens, who is himself a published poet, two nights of readings will serve as bookends for this year's festivities. The first, held in the Archives Department's Allen J. Ellender Reading Room, on the first floor of the Library, is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28. The reading will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will feature Julia Johnson and Jack B. Bedell. The second reading will begin at the same time, and will be held in the same room, on April 18, and will feature Angela Ball and Laura Mullen.

Johnson, a native of New Orleans, earned her B.A. from Hollins University and an M.F.A. from the University of Virginia, where she was a Henry Hoyns Fellow. Her poems have appeared in such journals as *Third Coast*, *Poetry International*, 64, and *New Orleans Review*.



Her first book of poems, *Naming the Afternoon*, was published by the Louisiana State University Press in 2002. She has been awarded an Academy of American Poets Prize three times and is the winner of the Fellowship of Southern Writers' 2003 New Writing Award. She has taught as an assistant professor at Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia, the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and elsewhere. She is an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Southern Mississippi.



Bedell was born and raised in Houma. He holds B.A. and M.A. degrees from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, an M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Arkansas—Fayetteville, and a Ph.D. in English/creative writing from the ULL. Currently, he is a Professor of English at Southeastern Louisiana University where he also serves as Editor of *Louisiana Literature*. His poetry, reviews and criticism have appeared in several journals. His chapbook, *Sleeping with the Net-Maker*, was published in 1996 by The Devil's Millhopper Press. His first full-length collection, *At the Bonehouse*, won the 1997 Breakthrough Award for Southern and Southwestern Poets and was published by the Texas A&M Press Consortium. His most recent collections are *What Passes for Love* and *Come Rain, Come Shine*, both published by Texas Review Press. Bedell is also a recent recipient of a Louisiana Division of the Arts Artist Fellowship.

Ball is a prize-winning poet and author of *Kneeling Between Parked Cars*, *Possession*, *Quartet*, and *The Museum of the Revolution*. Her poetry has appeared in numerous journals, including *The New Yorker*, *Partisan Review*, *New Republic*, *Field*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Colorado Review*, *Chelsea*, *Ploughshares*, *Boulevard*, *Poetry*, and *Grand Street*. Her work was included in *Best American Poetry*, and she represented the U.S. at the Poetry International



Festival, Rotterdam, and the Colombian International Poetry Festival, Bogotá. Ball has received grants from the Mississippi Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts. She recently received the national Association of Writers & Writing Programs' (AWP) Donald Hall Prize in Poetry for 2006 for her newest collection of poems, *Night Clerk at the Hotel of Both Worlds*, to appear from the University of Pittsburgh Press in 2008. Ball earned a B.A. from Ohio University, an M.F.A. from the University of Iowa, and a Ph.D. from the University of Denver. She is a Professor of English at the Center for Writers at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Mullen is on the faculty at Louisiana State University, and is the author of five books: *The Surface* (1991); *After I Was Dead* (1999); *The Tales of Horror* (1999); *Subject* (2005); and *Murmur* (2006). She is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, a Rona Jaffe Prize, and several MacDowell Colony Fellowships. Her poetry has been widely anthologized and her prose has appeared in *Civil Disobediences: Poetics & Politics in Action* and *Paraspheres*.



—Jean-Mark Sens, Reference and Collection Development

Library News

Cynthia Dubois, Tony Fonseca, Melissa Goldsmith, and Van Viator will be presenting at the Louisiana Library Association in Baton Rouge. Dubois will present a session entitled "Collecting Gray Literature;" Goldsmith will discuss "The Librarian in General Reference Wonderland: How to Keep Your Scholarly Identity and Build a Niche While Bridging Communities;" and Fonseca and Viator will elaborate on "Escaping the Island of Forgotten Faculty: Optimizing Committee Work, Library Instruction, and Faculty Speaking Engagements." Presentations will be March 7 and 8.

Cynthia Dubois has recently reorganized the Government Documents Department, creating a Louisiana Documents room, and a Rare and Endangered Collection.

Sherrill Fauchaux will be attending the Louisiana Library Association Conference March 8 in Baton Rouge.

Tony Fonseca, Van Viator, and Anke Tonn did an encore presentation of "It's Not Your Parents' Library Anymore" at Faculty Institute.

Tony Fonseca will be presenting a paper on horror fiction and film readership and viewership at the 28th International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Melissa Goldsmith has just returned from presenting on the *L.A. Free Press's* view of Jim Morrison at the Southern Chapter of the American Musicological Society. She will be presenting on a William S. Burroughs' recording of REM's "Star Me Kitten" at the Women and Gender Studies Conference at LSU on March 9.

Newsletter staff: Tony Fonseca, Managing Editor; Sandi Chauvin, Editor; Danny Gorr, Editor; Jeremy Landry, Consultant. Please e-mail comments and/or suggestions to Tony Fonseca (tony.fonseca@nicholls.edu). The statements and opinions included in these pages are those of the newsletter staff only. Any statements and opinions are not those of Nicholls State University or the University of Louisiana System.

Get Your 2-Step On

The 11th Annual Cajun/Zydeco Festival will be held in Ellender Memorial Library from Wednesday, March 14 until Wednesday, March 28. The event program will be held on March 21, when the Library invites participants and guests to a reception and awards ceremony from 5:30-7:00 pm. Festivities will also include artist awards, refreshments, and live music. Tab Benoit and Waylon Thibodaux, Louisiana's "rockin' fiddler" will perform.

The program continues in the Cotillion Ballroom of the Student Union from 7:30-8:00 pm, with a lecture / presentation on Louisiana Swamp Culture, by Nicholls' own Dr. Quenton Fontenot. Afterwards, there will be a dance featuring more of the live music of Benoit and Thibodaux. For more information, contact event coordinator Anke Tonn at 985-448-4633.