

Western Kentucky University

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Collections & Connections

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Winter 2008

## UA51/1 Collections & Connections

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WKU University Libraries

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## ***A Star in Each Flag: Conflict in Kentucky*** **Civil War exhibit now open at Kentucky Library & Museum**

Last month, The Kentucky Library & Museum celebrated the grand opening of its latest exhibit, "A Star in Each Flag: Conflict in Kentucky." The grand opening weekend, held October 24th, was kicked off with a Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting in the morning along with a "Bourbon & Belles" reception held later that evening for Friends of WKU Libraries and Museum.

During a visit to the exhibit, visitors can see the strong conflict and opposing views regarding slavery between friends, neighbors, and community members in the state of Kentucky. Guests can also walk through a simulated campsite, view a slave cabin, step into a community post office, and examine period artifacts including John Hunt Morgan's saddle, various medical instruments, Civil War flags, weapons and more.



Families can also visit the Victorian photo studio where they can dress in period clothing and have a picture taken.

"This new ongoing exhibit will illustrate how deeply divided Kentuckians were during the challenging years of 1861-1865," said Timothy Mullin, Head of Special Collections for University Libraries, "We hope to see students and families from every school in the region walk through our doors. There is something for all ages to enjoy and learn."

For more information about the exhibit or to view the new Civil War collections online, go to [www.wku.edu/Library](http://www.wku.edu/Library) and click on "Kentucky Library & Museum Online."

## **Hundreds of students experience new Civil War exhibit**

Within the first two weeks of opening, over three hundred children from surrounding schools have already taken advantage of the Kentucky Library & Museum's new Civil War exhibit. "This exhibit is an excellent educational tool for the schools," says Christy Spurlock, Education Curator for the Kentucky Library & Museum. "This exhibit was specifically designed around 4th and 5th grade Social Studies Kentucky Core Content." For more information, or to set up a field trip, contact Christy Spurlock at 745-6082.





## calendar of events

### November - February

#### EVENTS

**New/Ongoing:** *A Star in Each Flag: Conflict in Kentucky* Civil War exhibit, Kentucky Library & Museum

**December 6:** Christmas in Kentucky, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Kentucky Library & Museum

**January 18:** Side by Side, Very Special Arts Exhibit Opening Reception, Kentucky Library & Museum, 2:00 p.m.

**February 28:** US Bank Celebration of the Arts Opening Reception & Awards Ceremony, Kentucky Library & Museum, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

#### LITERARY EVENTS

**November 14-21:**

Fall into Books, noted authors attend schools daily, a SOKY Book Fest partnership

**November 21:**

Evelyn Thurman Book Awards Luncheon honoring author John Adams & illustrator Barbara Gibson

**December 6-7:** Barnes & Noble Book Fair to benefit Book Fest

**January 19:** Big Read kick off at Barnes & Noble; 2009 Big Read Book - *To Kill a Mockingbird*

**January 30 - February 1:** Macy's Used Book Fundraiser, L & N Depot, proceeds for Book Fest

*This is only a small part of what's happening at University Libraries. To learn more, visit us online at [www.wku.edu/libraries](http://www.wku.edu/libraries) or email us at [libraries@wku.edu](mailto:libraries@wku.edu)*

## Recipients of Evelyn Thurman Book Award announced

Western Kentucky University Libraries has selected the children's picture book, *The Dragonfly Door* written by John Adams and illustrated by Barbara L. Gibson as winner of the second Evelyn Thurman Young Readers Book Award. The national award was created to honor the memory of former WKU librarian, Evelyn Thurman, who made significant contributions to children's librarianship and literacy during her 25 years of service to the university and community. Books eligible for the award must be written or illustrated by a Kentucky-related author or illustrator or have a significant Kentucky-related theme. Author John Adams grew up on a farm in Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

Adam's debut picture book *The Dragonfly Door* is a tender story about loss and change

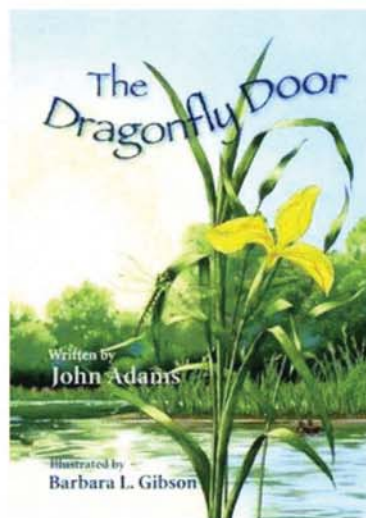
and uses the life cycle of a dragonfly to address the sensitive and difficult topic of death to young children. Gibson uses warm, emotional colors to illustrate the story, which concludes with an educational section on the real life cycle of nymphs and dragonflies.

The author and illustrator will be recognized at an awards luncheon in their honor at the Kentucky Library & Museum later this month. Each will receive a \$500 award and commemorative plaque.

Adams, who currently lives in Minnesota, will also be visiting area schools during his trip to Bowling Green.

His visit will serve as a finale

for the Southern Kentucky Book Fest partners' weeklong Fall into Books program, which brings noted authors to area schools and also provides free books to children.



## Community invited to Christmas in Kentucky

The Kentucky Library & Museum will host its third annual Christmas in Kentucky event on Saturday, December 6 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Children will have a chance to have their picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus, explore the log cabin with open hearth cooking, make special ornaments, walk through the new Civil War exhibit and more! Christmas in Kentucky is **FREE** for the entire family. For more information, contact Christy Spurlock, Education Curator, at 745-6082.

## TopSCHOLAR™ houses its second e-journal

Through a collaborative effort between WKU's Library Technical Services and the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, the second full text e-journal is now being offered online. The latest journal, *Journal of Outdoor Recreation, Education and Leadership*, (JOREL) will be housed on University Libraries' TopSCHOLAR™ platform — a university-wide centralized digital repository dedicated to scholarly research and other creative activity. This journal joins the *International Journal of Exercise Science* which was launched earlier this year to engage undergraduate and graduate students in scholarly activity as authors and reviewers.

"We are pleased to provide this new journal through our database system," said Connie Foster, Head of Library Technical Services. "As part of its benefits, TopSCHOLAR™ serves as a publishing platform for faculty and students. Not only will our campus community benefit from these journals, but so will individuals throughout the world."

TopSCHOLAR™ is the only digital research repository for Kentucky. For more information, contact Foster at 745-6151.



## WKU Librarians Recognized for Achievements



### Davis named Kentucky's Outstanding Academic Librarian of the Year

Rose Davis, Coordinator for Bibliographic Access and Training for the Department of Library Technical Services at Western Kentucky University, received The Outstanding Academic Librarian Award from the Kentucky Library Association (KLA) at this year's annual KLA conference. Davis has held several leadership positions regionally as well as statewide including chair positions for Kentucky Library Association-Academic Section,

Ohio Valley Users Group of Technical Services Librarians, Kentucky Southeastern Library Network Users Group, and Kentucky Virtual Library and Voyager Users Groups.

"Rose Davis exemplifies faculty dedication through her leadership which has spanned decades," said Connie Foster, Head of WKU Library Technical Services, "Her willingness to serve and her leadership in key state positions highlights her contributions to Kentucky academic librarians and reflects well on WKU's reach beyond the community."

Davis is responsible for cataloging and training within the University Library System. She follows a legacy of WKU librarians who have received this honor: Cynthia Etkin (1995), Connie Foster (1999), Elaine Moore (2001) and Rosemary Meszaros (2006).

### Smith to present at London conference and receive recognition on new book

Dr. Charles H. Smith, Science Librarian and Professor of Library Public Services, has been invited to give a presentation on the British naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace on November 22 at a conference at The Linnean Society of London- the world's oldest active biological society. The conference celebrates the double occasion of the 150th anniversary of the first presentation of the theory of natural selection in 1858, and the upcoming publication of Smith's Oxford University Press book on Wallace titled, *Natural Selection and Beyond: The Intellectual Legacy of Alfred Russel Wallace*.

"I'm looking forward to personally meeting several of the people I have been corresponding with over the years," said Smith. "This conference is a great opportunity to share my views on Wallace as well as discuss related theoretical science ideas."

Considered a leading expert on one of history's most influential biology figures, Dr. Smith has reconstructed Wallace's published bibliography and philosophy including making more than 500 of his publications accessible in full-text on the internet. This work has also led to nine published papers and three book projects over the past several years.

Smith was recently nominated for membership in The Linnean Society of London and was made a "Fellow" by vote of Society members on October 9, 2008. While in England, Smith will also be giving a lecture at the Wessex Institute of Technology.



## calendar of events

### LECTURE SERIES

7:00 PM AT BARNES & NOBLE

November 20: Far Away Places presents Robots in Space with Dr. Roger Launius from Smithsonian Institution

December 4: Kentucky Live! presents Traditional Healers & the Folk-Magic Tradition with Jack Montgomery, WKU Libraries

February 12: Kentucky Live! presents Rare Wildflowers of Kentucky with Dr. Thomas Barnes, UK

February 19: Far Away Places presents The Galapagos Islands with Dr. Doug McElroy, WKU

March 5: Kentucky Live! presents The Body Farm Novels with Jefferson Bass; Dr. Bill Bass, UT; and Jon Jefferson

March 19: Far Away Places presents Dead Sea Scrolls with Dr. Joseph Trafton, WKU

### WORKSHOPS

December 14: Sunday Spinners, 1-4 pm; KY Library & Museum

January 10 & 17: Handbuilding Clay Workshop with Davie Reneau

January 11: Sunday Spinners, 1-4 pm; KY Library & Museum

February 7: Basket Making Workshop, 8:30-4:30 pm; Kentucky Library & Museum

### JAVA CITY PERFORMERS 12 NOON-1 PM

November 18: Country Folk Singer/Songwriter Kelsey Waldon

November 19: Well-known folk singer Anne McFie

December 2: WKU Student Singer/Songwriter Lauren Conkin

A subscription to *Collections & Connections* is a benefit for Friends of Libraries & Museum.  
For additional information about Friends of Libraries & Museum, please call  
270-745-4502 or visit our website at [www.wku.edu/library](http://www.wku.edu/library).





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## New IRA law encourages giving

*Tax free distributions from IRAs allowed for charitable purposes*

The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 permits taxpayers who have reached age 70 + to exclude from gross income certain distributions of up to \$100,000 in both 2008 and 2009 from a traditional IRA or Roth IRA that would otherwise be included in income.

A qualified distribution must be made directly by the IRA trustee to charitable organizations like WKU Libraries. Thus, a distribution made to an individual, and then rolled over to a charitable organization, would not be excludible from gross income.

Another important feature for IRA owners who do not need the distributions from their IRAs (e.g., because of a comfortable financial position), but who are required to take distributions under required minimum distribution (RMD) rules, the qualified charitable distribution rules would allow them to satisfy the RMD rules without having to incur a tax liability, at least up to \$100,000 distributed to charities like WKU in 2008 and 2009.

For more information about how you can benefit from WKU Libraries, please contact Carrie Barnette at 270-745-7056 or [carrie.barnette@wku.edu](mailto:carrie.barnette@wku.edu).

*Note: This is simply a brief summary of the new legislation. Please consult your tax adviser if you think you would like to take advantage when considering a charitable gift in 2008 and 2009.*

## Membership fees set at new rates

To ensure continued growth within our membership, the rates for membership fees have been reduced:

\$25 for Individual

\$50 for Family Silver

\$150 for Family Gold

\$300 for Family Platinum

More information will be distributed regarding specific benefits for each category. Be looking for a membership letter soon.

## Mission

WKU Libraries' mission is to contribute significantly to the pursuit and application of knowledge through providing access to, delivery of, and use of quality information. In order to meet and exceed this mission, we depend on financial support from alumni and friends who recognize the value of University Libraries and the services we provide. For more information on how you can support University Libraries, call Carrie Barnette at 270-745-7056.