

Spring 2003

Collections & Connections

Roxanne Spencer

Western Kentucky University Libraries, roxanne.spencer@wku.edu

Katherine Pennavaria

Western Kentucky University Libraries, k.pennavaria@wku.edu

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Recommended Citation

Spencer, Roxanne and Pennavaria, Katherine, "Collections & Connections" (2003). *Collections & Connections*. Paper 12.
<http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/collcon/12>

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Collections & Connections

 Westen Kentucky University
Libraries Newsletter
www.wku.edu/library/c&c

Co-Editors

Roxanne Myers Spencer
Katherine Pennavaria

Associate Editor

Jonathan Jeffrey

Layout and Design:

Roxanne Myers Spencer

Web Design

Haiwang Yuan

Editorial Committee

Nancy Baird
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Heather Slack-Ratiu
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Sandy Staebell
Jue Wang
Haiwang Yuan

Photography

Earlene Chelf
Sandy Staebell
Connie Mills

Contributors

Nancy Baird
Laura Harper Lee
Sue Lynn Stone
Lynne Ferguson
Connie Mills
Jayne Pelaski
Katherine Pennavaria
Larry Snyder
Sandy Staebell

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Up & Coming...



Southern Kentucky Festival of Books 2003 Bigger & Better than Ever!

The 2003 Southern Kentucky Festival of Books – the fifth annual celebration of reading and the love of books – will be April 11 & 12. In just two days, we will host a highly impressive list of over [200 authors](#). Some of America's finest writers will not only meet the public and sign books, but will hold speaking sessions, giving readers an opportunity to hear them talk about their books and learn more about them. Headlining our festival this year are David Baldacci, Robert Morgan, Nick Clooney, Cassandra King, Silas House,

and Romano Mazzoli.

Children's Day on Friday the 11th is devoted entirely to schoolchildren, and is an amazing day filled with learning, discovery and fun. We will officially kick off the festival with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, and we'll announce the winners from our "Write the Writer" contest. The festival gets into full swing with Newbery award-winning author Avi, who will sign his books and give the children a chance to meet him... Along with Avi, over fifty other [children's authors](#) will be participating in the festival, including Jared Lee of the Black Lagoon series and Father Goose. The fun continues with performances by the Western Kentucky University Children's Theater, the Bowling Green Youth Orchestra, plus storybook characters, the C-SPAN School bus, all new make-and-take activities, and much more. Most of the Children's Day activities will be repeated on Saturday.

A new tradition for the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books is the Kentucky Literary Awards. Over thirty writers were nominated for excellence in nonfiction and fiction publications. The winners will receive a cash prize of \$1,000 and will be announced at the "Meet the Authors" reception held on Friday, April 11, at the Kentucky Building.

On Saturday, the largest literary event in the state continues by featuring our adult authors and presentations. Attendees will be able to mingle with over 200 authors and enjoy the break-out sessions– all under one roof! Another addition to the festival will be exhibitors representing major publishers, regional publishers, and



book-related non-profit organizations. The highly successful film/video competition will return to the festival and showcase some extraordinarily talented high school filmmakers and their winning entries.



The festival organizers, Western Kentucky University/Kentucky Museum, Bowling Green Public Library, and Barnes and Noble Booksellers acknowledge with appreciation the contributions of hundreds of volunteers who make the festival an enormous success.



For more information about the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books, please visit our web site at: www.sokybookfest.org or call (270) 745-6261.



Jayne Pelaski

Behind the Scenes



Jonathan Jeffrey

Through his work with local and state historical organizations and with patrons using historical materials, Jonathan Jeffrey, Special Collections Librarian in the Kentucky Library, knows something about traditions. Recently he and the organizers of the Southern Kentucky Festival of Books established a new tradition: the Kentucky Literary Awards. "We noticed that a number of states were giving Literary Awards," Jeffrey said, "and we saw a need to recognize the outstanding achievement Kentucky has made and will make to America's literature."

Writers will be recognized in fiction and non-fiction categories. Authors must be a native of the Commonwealth or currently reside in the state, or the book's theme

must be significantly related to Kentucky. In its inaugural year, over 30 nominations were made for the awards. The award is for literary merit, and the nominations represent a number of disciplines and genres: archaeology, biography, ecology, education, fantasy, history, mystery, reference, and science. The 2002 awards, which include a handsome certificate and a \$1,000 prize, will be given at the Festival's "Meet the Author" reception on April 11 at the Kentucky Building.

Ellen Micheletti

Ellen Micheletti, Senior Library Assistant at the Educational Resources Center, has worked at Western Kentucky University for twenty-two years. In her spare time, she reviews books for the [All About Romance](#) web site. Ellen became interested in romance novels several years ago when she joined an Internet forum where fans of romance novels could discuss their favorite stories.



Ellen now contributes reviews and articles to the All About Romance web site. Romance novels regularly outsell all other kinds of genre fiction, but are seldom reviewed or treated seriously. To date she has written over 300 reviews for the site, along with short articles about people, places and things found in historical romances.

Ellen's promotion of romance novels through her reviews and articles has earned her the esteem of those who write the books: recently, a character named Ellen Micheletti showed up in Barbara Samuel's book *No Place Like Home*. In addition, Beverly Barton's book *On Her Guard*, which had a heroine named Ellen Denby, was dedicated to her.

Ellen says, "If you still think that romance novels are nothing but bodice rippers, I invite you to visit the All About Romance web site and check out the reviews. You may be surprised! And if you would like to begin reading romances, get in touch with me--I have lots of suggestions."



Jack Montgomery

Jack Montgomery has been with Western Kentucky University Libraries for five years, working in Collection Development, Gifts and Acquisitions. He has had a long-term professional research interest in the issues surrounding management and supervision and has just completed a book manuscript on conflict management for the American Library Association. Twenty years ago, Jack's first library supervisor at the University of Virginia Law Library advised him to "always have a life outside

work." He took her advice to heart and worked at developing his personal as well as professional interests. Jack has been a musician since adolescence; he plays the guitar, bass, mandolin, harmonica and writes his own songs.

Over the past two years, he has performed with the local Celtic folk band Lost River, which was recently featured on KET's Mixed Media program. In August of 2002, he released his first musical CD, *Onward to Avalon*, which has currently sold over 300 copies in the U.S. and Europe, and which features the other members of Lost River.

Jack has also had a lifelong interest in folklore. He is currently under contract for a book entitled "American Shamans: Journeys with Traditional Healers" for BUSCA, Inc. Press. This title will recount his years of fieldwork with folk healers in the Appalachian, German and African-American communities. Jack also enjoys swimming, art, buying and selling antiques, and cooking with his wife, Lesley.

Jennifer Small

Working as a graduate assistant for the Kentucky Museum has been a learn-as-you-go experience. Most of her duties, such as creating lesson plans and educational guides, have been new to her. But turning those guides into a web site was a different matter entirely. With the assurances of the education coordinator that she had complete faith in her learning abilities, she began a project for which she was totally unprepared, with no prior experience in web page design whatsoever.



It can be demoralizing to know that one has absolutely no idea what one is doing. It can be even more demoralizing to know that everyone else realizes it. The fact that this web site even exists, she said, "is a testament not just to my willingness to take a long time to correct many mistakes, but also to the kindness of those who advised me."

The education web site currently contains two guides: "The Quonset," featuring two lesson plans on music and segregation in Bowling Green and & "History and Folklife of the Kentucky Frontier," an extensive site including several lessons from A Teacher's Guide to Frontier Life in South Central Kentucky. The latter is an excellent resource by Nancy Baird and Carol Crowe-Carraco. The museum's education web site can be found at: www.wku.edu/Library/museum/education.

**It's the People Behind the Scenes That Make It All Worthwhile...
Meet Some of Our Backstage Talent:**

Giving & Receiving



Letter to Friends of the Libraries & Museum

Dear Friends of WKU Libraries & Museum

Are you interested in making a gift to Western's University Libraries and Kentucky Library and Museum, increasing your annual income, and receiving a tax deduction all at the same time?

In planning for your retirement, you may be considering options to maximize your income as well as contribute to your philanthropic interests. With the economy and the stock market, many donors are considering the Charitable Gift Annuity to create endowed funds to maintain the collections

of the Libraries and Museum in perpetuity.

The Charitable Gift Annuity is a contract between you and the University. In exchange for a gift of cash or securities, the Western Kentucky Foundation or College Heights Foundation agrees to pay you or another beneficiary income for life, regardless of stock market fluctuations. The level of annual income will never change. Further, it also provides you with a charitable deduction for income tax purposes of 20-55% of the gift amount.

The amount of the annuity is determined by two factors: the age of the donor and the size of the donor's gift.

Sample Age of Donor Rate of Return as of January 1, 2003

Donor's Age	Rate of Return
60	6.0%
65	6.3%
70	6.7%
75	7.3%
80	8.3%
85	9.7%
90+	11.5%

Estate planning vehicles such as the Charitable Gift Annuity often provides an immediate and substantial income tax charitable deduction and possible savings on capital gains taxes and gift and estate taxes. Further, the donor has the right to have another beneficiary receive the annuity for life as their survivor, and increase their spendable income through either immediate or deferred payments.

For additional information on the Charitable Gift Annuity or other estate planning vehicles, I welcome the opportunity to speak with you and can be reached at 270-745-7056 or toll free 1-888-958-2586.

*Heather Slack-Ratiu
Director of Development*