

# Libraries & Archives Monthly

**News from the Kentucky Department  
for Libraries and Archives**

**January 2012**

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## **New Directors Orientation Provides Vital Information**

By Paige Sexton  
Communications Officer  
KDLA

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) held a New Public Library Directors Orientation session in December. The orientation was attended by four new public library directors: Lisa Wegner, Trimble County Public Library; Dana Belcher, Fleming County Public Library; Nellie Jordan, Carter County Public Library and Aimee Newberry, McLean

## **Library Program Lets Literature Lovers Share Books, Friendship**

By Mary Meehan  
Lexington Herald-Leader

After they met as Book Buddies, Tom Johnston and Shirley Rainwater became fast friends.

"On the first day, we spend about a half an hour talking and visiting," Johnston said, sitting in Rainwater's cozy loving room on a blustery morning in Lexington.



Shirley Rainwater, Lulu,  
and Tom Johnston

Sure, Johnston and Rainwater share a love of books. But they talk about family and friends and dogs. Lulu, Rainwater's constant companion, turns into a tail-wagging love machine at the sight of Johnston, who responds with an affectionate scratch behind Lulu's ears.

"Every time I visit, I find out we have more in common," he said. "I just love Shirley. I love coming to visit her. We know everything about each other."

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## **Invention Guru Wows the Crowd**

By Linda Bartley  
Youth Services Manager  
McCracken County Public Library

The McCracken County Public Library was looking for a program to excite patrons about the holidays but did not want a specific holiday themed program. We thought a program about gadgets and technology would be perfect. Patrons of all ages are looking at various gadgets as gifts this year and a program between Thanksgiving and Christmas would be appropriate. We contacted Elsen Peter Paul Niemann,



County Public Library.

State Librarian and Commissioner Wayne Onkst welcomed the group, saying "I don't know of anything more important to the success of the library than the director. We want to do everything we can to give you the tools to be successful."

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Productions, whom we have employed before, and asked if they had a program that would meet our wide expectations. the 'Invention Guru'

Invention Mysteries was suggested and after reading about the program on their website we decided it was exactly what we were looking for. Young patrons love to read the Guinness World Records and other fun facts books and this is what Paul Niemann, the Invention Guru, shares with his audience - little known true stories behind well-known inventions.

[Read more...](#)

## Friends of Kentucky Libraries Award Program

By Mary Lynn Collins  
Mentoring Chair  
Friends of Kentucky Libraries

The Friends of Kentucky Libraries are pleased to announce our first ever awards program. The group would like to honor and recognize the contributions of our local Friends chapters by establishing the awards.

The Friends of Kentucky Libraries are now accepting nominations for two awards this year: **Outstanding Friends of Library Chapter** and **Outstanding Friend**. Please consider nominating your local Friends Chapter and/or your Outstanding Friends member.

You can find the nomination form on the [Friends website](#).  
**Nominations must be**

## An Annual Affair

By Suzi Bartholomy  
Messenger-Inquirer

The Christmas tree exhibit on the second floor of the McLean County Library is on its way to becoming a tradition.

This is the second year for the trees, said Ann Trimble, who coordinated the decorations. "We had more trees this year, and I think that sparked more interest. And some went out a little more in their decorations," she said.

The trees have a theme. For example, Livermore dentist Ralph Thacker has tooth ornaments and his angel topper is holding dental tools. The tree is swathed in white feathers that might have belonged to the tooth fairy.

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Tina Dame, circulation clerk at the McLean County Public Library. Photo by Gary Emord-Netzley

## The Geek's Garage

By Jim Peterson  
Technology Coordinator  
Goodnight Memorial Library

## submitted by February 1, 2012.

The awards will be announced at the Friends annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the Kentucky Public Library Association meeting (April 11-12, 2012) in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

If you have any questions contact Mary Lynn Collins [MaryLynn41@hotmail.com](mailto:MaryLynn41@hotmail.com) or by calling 502-319-5509.

## Trustee Connection

By Paul M. Poland  
Chair, KLTRT  
[pmpoland@roadrunner.com](mailto:pmpoland@roadrunner.com)

A very important date to remember for the upcoming new year is March 7, 2012. That is the Kentucky Public Library Legislative Day in Frankfort, Kentucky. On that day we'll have an opportunity, as a stateside group, to discuss public library issues with our state elected officials. We can let our legislators know all the great things we do for the citizens of our respective communities and what our needs and concerns are as well.

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## KDLA Congratulates New Certification Holders

KDLA would like to

Hello again! I hope you had a safe and happy holiday season! It's January 2012, which means it's cold outside and we are all spending more off time indoors doing nothing. Well, at least *trying* to do nothing! I thought briefly about doing a tech article on indoor exercise equipment that would accommodate your tablet or laptop while you are stationary cycling or walking nowhere on a treadmill, but it didn't feel right writing about something I don't do myself. Besides, that New Year's resolution loses its resolve rather quickly. So what did I come up with this time? I thought I might run down a couple of things I've been working on that are of benefit to everyone, one of which you don't even have to be a library patron to appreciate.

One of the areas in which there is going to be exponential growth in 2012 is in eBooks and eReaders, like the [Kindle Fire](#), the [Nook](#), and [different tablets](#). There are plenty of other devices on which one can read an eBook; I've even done it on my smart phone! How can I read on my smart phone? Easy - I use the Overdrive Media App from the Android App Store. The app is also available for the Apple iOS devices (iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad) as well.

[Read more...](#)

## Sister Library Relationship Doubly Beneficial

By Earlene Arnett  
Director, Scott County Public Library; and  
Becky Reid  
Director, Nicholas County Public Library

In November of 2011 the Scott County Public Library Board of Trustees and the Nicholas County Public Library Board of Trustees signed an agreement to become sister libraries. Nicholas is among the smallest with a population of under 7,000 and a staff of two! Scott County has a population of over 45,000 and a staff of 25 but both libraries will reap the benefits of sharing ideas and learning from each other.



The first project has developed from communicating what is happening in Scott County. Scott County is part of the *One Book, One Bluegrass* project that was initiated last year by staff from Madison County.

[Read more...](#)

congratulate these newly certified library employees:

- Sarah Shuffett-Todd, Green County, Paraprofessional
- Carrie Green, Jessamine County, Professional I
- Heather Angel, Madison County, Paraprofessional

### **KDLA Welcomes New Trustees**

KDLA would like to welcome the following new trustees:

- Stephen McCauley, Harrison County
- Lisa Thomas, Trigg County
- Chris Gooden, Robertson County
- Theresa C. Lyons, Boyd County
- Melissa Boggs, Boyd County
- Linda Myrick, Crittenden County
- Phillip Groce, Clinton County

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### **Archival Photo of the Month**



Kentucky Highway Department at work on a snowy road, ca. 1949-1950.

Source: Public Information Photo Collection, Public Records Division - Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives helps libraries provide equitable access to quality library and information resources and services, as well as helps public agencies ensure that legislatively mandated documentation of government programs is created, efficiently maintained and made readily accessible. For more information, visit <http://www.kdla.ky.gov> or call 502-564-8300 ext. 315.

Please send questions, comments and story ideas for Libraries & Archives Monthly to editor Paige Sexton at [paige.sexton@ky.gov](mailto:paige.sexton@ky.gov) or call 502-564-8300 ext. 315.

## **Full Articles Beyond This Point**

**Library Program Lets Literature Lovers Share Books, Friendship**

After they met as Book Buddies, Tom Johnston and Shirley Rainwater became fast friends.

"On the first day, we spend about a half an hour talking and visiting," Johnston said, sitting in Rainwater's cozy loving room on a blustery morning in Lexington.

Sure, Johnston and Rainwater share a love of books. But they talk about family and friends and dogs. Lulu, Rainwater's constant companion, turns into a tail-wagging love machine at the sight of Johnston, who responds with an affectionate scratch behind Lulu's ears.

"Every time I visit, I find out we have more in common," he said. "I just love Shirley. I love coming to visit her. We know everything about each other."

The two met through the Lexington Public Library's program that matches home-bound adults with volunteers who bring them reading material from the library. There are about 115 Book buddies volunteers serving 105 patrons, but there is always a need for more help, program coordinator Annette Mayer said.

Volunteers don't read to the patrons. They pick up and deliver books or books on tape. They also sometimes make recommendations on what to read.

Rainwater and Johnston get together a couple of times a month. It varies depending on how quickly Rainwater finishes the books on tape that Johnston brings. "She's a fast listener," he said.

The program has been a lifeline for Rainwater, an active and outgoing retired nurse who has been an avid reader all her life. She was devastated when macular degeneration started to weaken her eyesight, making reading a challenge, she said. "I could read everything since I was six years old, and now I can't read anything," said Rainwater, 76, who was referred to the Book Buddies program by a friend.

The onset of the disease was quick. "When it started going bad, it went bad fast," she said.

A visiting nurse for many years, Rainwater said she had no qualms about inviting a stranger into her home as part of the Book Buddies program. But, she said, like Johnston, she didn't expect to find a pal.

Rainwater makes requests to Johnston, who searches the library stacks for books on tape. He tries to find titles she might enjoy, and he occasionally passes along some of his favorites. Most recently, the retired chef and actor suggested *Following Atticus: 48 High Peaks, One Little Dog and an Extraordinary Friendship* by Tom Ryan.

The true story about a mountain-climbing schnauzer led to a conversation about the relative health of both of their dogs, with the chat eventually meandering back to what other books Rainwater might enjoy.

Johnston said he would like more Book Buddies to work with. Aside from taking classes through the Osher Lifelong Learning Center at the University of Kentucky, Book Buddies is one of the primary ways he spends his time now that he is retired.

That would be OK with Rainwater, too, as long as Johnston keeps her titles coming.

"I go a little crazy when I don't have a book," she said.

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## **Invention Guru Wows the Crowd**

The McCracken County Public Library was looking for a program to excite patrons about the holidays but did not want a specific holiday themed program. We thought a program about gadgets and technology would be perfect. Patrons of all ages are looking at various gadgets as gifts this year and a program between Thanksgiving and Christmas would be appropriate. We contacted Elsen Peter Productions, whom we have employed before, and asked if they had a program that would meet our wide expectations.

Invention Mysteries was suggested and after reading about the program on their website we decided it was exactly what we were looking for. Young patrons love to read the Guinness World Records and other fun facts books and this is what Paul Niemann, the Invention Guru, shares with his audience - little known true stories behind well-known inventions. The Invention Guru also tells about several "kid inventions" such as the popsicle, ear muffs, the calculator, the TV and more.

This program has something for everyone - stories about kid inventors, a step-by-step overview of inventing basics and goal setting. During the overview he explains how to begin creating your own invention, how to apply for a patent, build a prototype, and gives tips on marketing inventions.

The Elsen Peter Production website divides the programs by age group, which is helpful for a school setting. The challenge with the public library setting, however, is that we serve all ages and the number of people who will attend is unknown. The Invention Guru was able to break his show up into two parts because we had young children and adults in the audience. He let the audience know that the first part of the show was for the kids and the second part would be more interesting to teens and adults.

Afterward patrons expressed how much they enjoyed the show. One gentleman said his favorite part of the show was the part for kids! Mr. Niemann was not only entertaining but was also very knowledgeable. He even stayed after the program to answer questions.

If your library is looking for a program that is both entertaining and engaging to patrons of all ages I highly recommend the Invention Guru!

<http://elsenpeterproductions.com/talent/the-invention-guru.html>

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## **Trustee Connection**

A very important date to remember for the upcoming new year is March 7, 2012. That is the Kentucky Public Library Legislative Day in Frankfort, Kentucky. On that day we'll have an opportunity, as a statewide group, to discuss public library issues with our state elected officials. We can let our legislators know all the great things we do for the citizens of our respective communities, and what our needs and concerns are as well.

We'll be meeting in room 113 in the Annex Building behind the Capitol on that morning prior to your pre-set meetings with your Senator and/or Representative. We also plan to have a *Rally for Libraries* in the Rotunda in the Capitol at noon with legislators speaking about what libraries mean to them.

For those who drive in early or live close to Frankfort we have something new this year. We plan to offer the opportunity to get continuing education credit for attending a class or session the evening prior to Legislative Day. The specifics for this activity are still in the planning stages and I'll send more information as it becomes available.

Trustees, staff, friends and patrons are encouraged to attend. If we show a united group with large numbers it truly can make a difference. If you've never attended the event and have concerns about what to do just call your neighboring county and team up with them and we'll all learn together!

So mark your calendars...set your appointments...wear yellow...and say library!!

Paul M. Poland  
KLTRT, Chair  
[pmpoland@roadrunner.com](mailto:pmpoland@roadrunner.com)  
859-552-8903

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## **An Annual Affair**

The Christmas tree exhibit on the second floor of the McLean County Library is on its way to becoming a tradition.

This is the second year for the trees, said Ann Trimble, who coordinated the decorations. "We had more trees this year, and I think that sparked more interest. And some went out a little more in their decorations," she said.

The trees have a theme. For example, Livermore dentist Ralph Thacker has tooth ornaments and his angel topper is holding dental tools. The tree is swathed in white feathers that might have belonged to the tooth fairy.

Trimble was born and raised in McLean County and lives in Island. She moved away when she got married and lived in a number of U.S. cities and in Germany. Her husband was in the military, and when he retired they moved to Island in 1980. She helped organize an opening gala for the tree exhibit that attracted 150 people.

"I was pleased they came and lingered and visited with one another. Whenever the community reaches out it's a good thing," she said.

Dianna Hoover, who is president of the Livermore Woman's Club and chairman of the library trustees, said members like showing off the library, and the tree exhibit is a good reason to get McLean residents into the building on East Second Street in Livermore, which is more than 100 years old and on the National Register for Historical Places.

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## **Sister Library Project Doubly Beneficial**

In November of 2011 the Scott County Public Library Board of Trustees and the Nicholas County Public Library Board of Trustees signed an agreement to become sister libraries. This "match" was recommended by the regional librarian in region number six. This region serves fifteen libraries.

Nicholas is among the smallest with a population of under 7,000 and a staff of two! Scott County has a population of over 45,000 and a staff of 25 but both libraries will reap the benefits of sharing ideas and learning from each other.

The first project has developed from communicating what is happening in Scott County. Scott County is part of the *One Book, One Bluegrass* project that was initiated last year by staff from Madison County. Yes, Nicholas County considers themselves part of the Bluegrass and are excited about joining in this project. With the addition of Nicholas County, 10 counties will be participating this year. Watch for the announcement of the book in March of 2012! Staff members from all 10 counties are planning great activities to go along with this book, and we think it will appeal to everyone!

The staff at the Scott County Public Library is excited about visiting Nicholas County. Needless to say, many cannot believe this library is operated by two staff members. They can't wait to see just how this works! Perhaps they will see some techniques that will help with time management! Staff is also eager to have their sisters observe children's programming.

### **From the directors' point of view**

"I have worked for the Scott County Public Library since 1969. I have seen lean times and I have seen good financial times. I admit, as it should be, my community comes first and I want the best for everyone in my community. But through our growth and success, and perhaps my many years of just living, my eyes now see beyond my community. I want the best for all citizens of Kentucky. I attend legislative day each year with the message to my legislators that I want every county in Kentucky to have what Scott County has. And now, the Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA) has opened a window to do more than just advocate. I and my staff can share our years of experience and perhaps help make a difference beyond our community. But we are not in this alone. We know statistics say we are the big sister but in our minds we are equal. We look forward to learning from our sister just as every relationship has give and take." -- **Earlene H. Arnett**

"We are looking forward also to working with the Scott County Public Library. Although

we cannot implement all the programs and activities that they do, I know that we can learn from each and every one of their staff members and apply to Nicholas County what will work here. We are excited about being part of *One Book, One Bluegrass*. Our books are on order and programming planning is underway. Being part of a larger group of libraries is one of the best ideas I have had the privilege to be part of. We are especially fortunate that we were paired with Scott County. Our children's librarian is planning to schedule a time to visit Scott County's children's programs. Before the public schools began accepting all three and four year-olds into their preschool program, we had a large Story Time program for ages three to five. We currently offer Tot Time for ages two to three. Our children's librarian is hoping to get some ideas for a lap-sit program from Scott County." -- **Becky Reid**

Ours is the fifth official sister library partnership to be formed between Kentucky public libraries. Others include:

- Campbell County - McLean County
- Kenton County - Carter County
- Madison County - Estill County
- Boyd County - Elliott County

The year 2012 looks to be an exciting year of sharing and learning from each other. We think Santa left a great gift in November for Scott and Nicholas Counties! We look forward to using this gift to benefit our communities.

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## The Geek's Garage

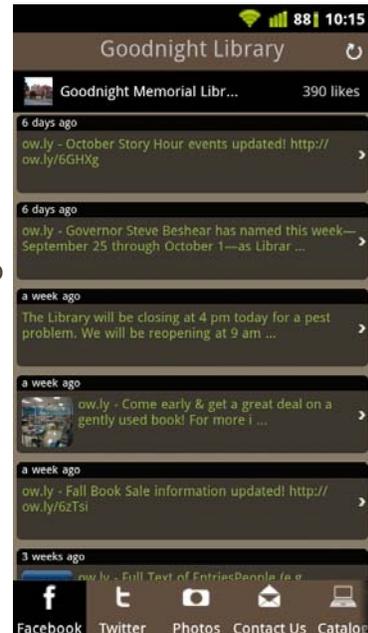
Hello again! I hope you had a safe and happy holiday season! It's January 2012, which means it's cold outside and we are all spending more off time indoors doing nothing. Well, at least *trying* to do nothing! I thought briefly about doing a tech article on indoor exercise equipment that would accommodate your tablet or laptop while you are stationary cycling or walking nowhere on a treadmill, but it didn't feel right writing about something I don't do myself. Besides, that New Year's resolution loses its resolve rather quickly. So what did I come up with this time? I thought I might run down a couple of things I've been working on that are of benefit to everyone, one of which you don't even have to be a library patron to appreciate.

One of the areas in which there is going to be exponential growth in 2012 is in eBooks and eReaders, like the [Kindle Fire](#), the [Nook](#), and [different tablets](#). There are plenty of other devices on which one can read an eBook; I've even done it on my smart phone! How can I read on my smart phone? Easy - I use the OverDrive Media App from the Android App Store. The app is also available for the Apple iOS devices (iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad) as well.

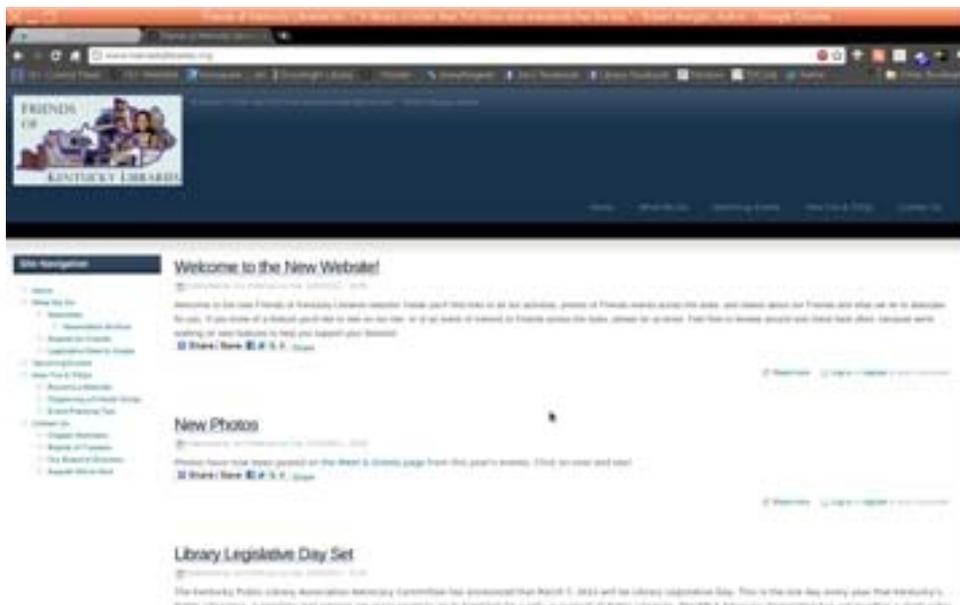
Even though there has been quite a row on about how publishers are squeezing libraries out of the eBook picture, there are still some good options for folks who favor digital books on a single device over lugging around (usually) heavier and bulkier print books. And, I'm sure that several of you out there have recently taken the wraps off of a shiny new eReader in December. In anticipation of that, I am also sure that your local library, if they are partnered with *any* eBook provider, has been busy ordering new titles for you to read on your new device! I know we have, and the eBook sellers obliged by holding sales, so you can probably see new titles on your library's catalog.

Here at the Goodnight Library, we ordered over 350 new titles just for our patrons through the OverDrive Advantage program, an offshoot of the [KY Libraries Unbound program](#).

Another thing we've done here is to produce a mobile app for smart phones and tablets that allow our patrons to access various sites and services our library provides. For instance, with our app, our patrons can access our Facebook feed and like posts and respond to posts; they can see our Twitter feed, and our Flickr Photostream; send us an email, reach our catalog and access their accounts and even hit our Worldbook Online service. It's just another way to make it more convenient for our patrons to keep in touch and still be able to use our services from anywhere. For now, it's only available for Android phones, but you can still browse from any mobile device with an Internet browser as well. For more information, please visit our [E-Resources page on our website](#).



Finally, I have to tell you about the new [Friends of Kentucky Libraries website](#). I was elected to their Board of Directors in July 2011, with the expectation that I would be taking over the technological aspects of the organization. Part of those responsibilities included a full makeover of the website. I chose an open source solution called [Drupal](#) for the actual site itself, and we host our site on [1and1.com](#). It's a very affordable combination for most any organization, and the Drupal platform is flexible, scalable to any size, and offers so many features and customization capabilities that it really deserves a look if you or your library are getting ready to redesign or start a website.



So what will 2012 bring? Well, I am still planning on getting [the Goodnight Library's](#)

[website](#) overhauled, so it looks more cohesive and professional, rather than just a page with a bunch of random boxes and buttons. I realized that *I* am the one who made it look the way it does, but to be honest, I've been disappointed with the outcome since I finished it. Don't get me wrong, it was a major improvement over what our ILS provider gave us, but it never really suited me. A website never truly is finished - there's always something to be added or changed. I just think it needs a big change.

Will the world end in 2012, as allegedly [predicted by the Mayan calendar](#)? Of course not. Marty McFly traveled to 2015 in [Back to the Future Part II](#)! Just kidding. Really, it's not for anyone to know. But in the meantime, we should all live each day like it's our last!

'Til next time...

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## **New Directors Orientation Provides Vital Information**

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) held a New Public Library Directors Orientation session in December. The orientation was attended by four new public library directors: Lisa Wegner, Trimble County Public Library; Dana Belcher, Fleming County Public Library; Nellie Jordan, Carter County Public Library and Aimee Newberry, McLean County Public Library.

State Librarian and Commissioner Wayne Onkst welcomed the group, saying "I don't know of anything more important to the success of the library than the director. We want to do everything we can to give you the tools to be successful."

Field Services Division Acting Director Charlene Davis and Continuing Education Consultant Beth Milburn planned a full agenda that included information important for new directors to know as well as covered the many services and resources that KDLA offers.

"It was our goal for the library directors who attended the orientation session to leave knowing they have somewhere to go for assistance," said Milburn. "KDLA has staff available for consultation services and materials to lend to service their customer's needs."

Topics included compliance issues, trustee certification, public library certification and continuing education. Attendees were given an overview of the KDLA web site and Facebook pages (Kentucky Talking Book Library (KTBL) and State Library Services.) The new directors learned about the many kits and circulating collections that KDLA offers and the procedure for checking them out. During lunch the group learned about advocacy from Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA) Advocacy Committee chair J.C. Morgan, and heard about the benefits of KPLA membership from the organization's chair Martha White.

After lunch the directors took a tour of KTBL and the State Library Services areas of KDLA, and met the agency's statewide consultants. Each consultant spoke to the group about their area, such as construction, tax rates, the Annual Report and statistics, e-rate, and children & youth and adult consultation.

"I thought the orientation session was very beneficial," said Aimee Newberry. "I've

been on the job since May, but there are always little things here and there that I can use help with. I also enjoyed putting names and faces together for the statewide consultants."

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