

ST-9

January 4, 2003

Oklahoma Library Association Representative

Basha Hartley

Building Library Communities Conference, March 26-28, 2003

This year's conference will be in Oklahoma City at the Cox Communications Convention Center. Scheduled keynote speakers are Charles Levendosky and John Lienhard. Authors will include Barbara Kerley, author of *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins*. Check out the Oklahoma Library Association's website at [www.oklibs.org](http://www.oklibs.org) for continuing updates.

Oklahoma Librarian will be online in 2003!

OLA's publication, the Oklahoma Librarian will go online this next year. Paper copies will still be sent to institutions as well as to members who request them.

Library Recruitment

Oklahoma Library Association's Navigating the Information Future Committee is working hard to recruit librarians and library staff. Recruiting projects include: regional meetings, conference scholarships for people of color, cable channel publicity on local cable channels, advocacy workshop to encourage librarians, library staff, and library trustees to become active recruiting advocates for the profession, and Job Shadow Day on February 1, 2003. Last year, 15 librarians and library staff from under-represented groups were given scholarships to attend annual conference.

Richard Peck honored by TCCL

The Tulsa City- County Library honored Richard Peck with their Anne V. Zarrow Award on August 23. The Zarrow Award consists of a \$5,000 cash prize and an engraved crystal book. The award is given annually to a nationally acclaimed author who has made a significant contribution to the field of literature for children and young adults.

Report from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries

The Office of State Finance for Oklahoma reports "According to a projection of current fiscal year revenue collections, the forecast FY-03 General Revenue Fund receipts will total \$4.2 billion, which is \$512.6 million or 10.8 percent below the estimate approved by the Board of Equalization last February." This is a challenge for all state agencies including the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. There is not any improvement in the fiscal picture predicted in the near future.

ODL is offering grants to state libraries to buy books and materials in Spanish to reach Hispanic populations in our state. In 2003 ODL will be offering workshops to train librarians in providing service to Hispanic customers.

ODL is again offering competitive Certification Conference Grants to libraries to send staff who have completed their certification to national conferences.

The Youth Services Guidelines have been completed in draft format. Donna Norvell, ODL Youth Services Consultant, will be presenting these guidelines to state libraries in a series of four hearings after they will be sent to the ODL Board .