

Virginia Libraries

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94th Annual Conference Report

Interview with ILLiad Creator Harry Kritz

Internet Reference Resources

Virginia Books

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*On the cover: Donald McCaig,
popular storyteller at this year's
annual conference.*

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Virginia Libraries is a quarterly journal published by the Virginia Library Association whose purpose is to develop, promote, and improve library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to advance literacy and learning and to ensure access to information in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The journal, distributed to the membership, is used as a vehicle for members to exchange information, ideas, and solutions to mutual problems in professional articles on current topics in the library and information field.

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Items for publication and editorial inquiries should be addressed to the editor. Inquiries regarding membership, subscriptions, advertising, or claims should be directed to VLA, P.O. Box 8277, Norfolk, VA 23503-0277. All personnel happenings and announcements should be sent to the *VLA Newsletter*, Mary Hansbrough, P.O. Box 90001, University Libraries, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24062, (540) 231-8832, fax (540) 231-3694, e-mail maryhans@vt.edu. *Virginia Libraries* is available by subscription at \$20 per year.

The guidelines for submissions to *Virginia Libraries* are found on page 8.

OPENERS

Money Won't Be Enough

by Cy Dillon

By the time you read this the Virginia library community should be less confused about the fate of "Infopowering the Commonwealth," the effort to put a variety of electronic resources in all public libraries. The current confusion is caused by mixed signals from Richmond. In the last session of the General Assembly, money was allocated to begin planning for the ambitious project, and the Library of Virginia was designated as the planning agency. Hopes were high for millions in legislative funding. Then, the first draft of Governor Gilmore's budget was said to only partially fund the project, but the Governor presented Infopowering as his own proposal in the annual State of the Commonwealth speech.

Let's be optimists and expect the issue to be resolved in favor of funding this most worthy of library projects. Will the information needs of Virginia citizens be met because of funds provided by a wise legislature and a governor who wants Virginia to take a place of national leadership in the information age? Will "Infopowering" immediately begin to save public libraries money comparable to the \$30,000,000 claimed for VIVA? Not necessarily.

Those of us who have worked through the first five years of VIVA, the well-funded initiative to give Virginia's colleges and universities the very best in electronic resources, know all too well that funding is only part of the process. According to a 1998 presentation by Kathy Perry, VIVA's internationally known Director, over seventy-five people

are involved each year in the vital committees that make the consortium run. In addition the State Council of Higher Education, the various state-supported institutions, and Virginia's private colleges and universities all have to work in concert to identify, evaluate, and purchase resources. Several institutions provide computer support of various kinds, and others handle

I wish Virginia's public librarians the best in funding, and I warn them to hang onto their hats when the ride begins.

the financial transactions associated with spending over two million dollars per year with a wide variety of vendors.

For example, Sweet Briar College acts as the financial agent for all the independent institutions, billing us as appropriate and paying vendors or reimbursing VIVA as needed. While their costs are covered for this service, it is remarkable that they are willing to undertake this additional burden. Everything VIVA has accomplished has been the result of unusual and unflinching cooperation among its members. How much work has that been? Take a look at the VIVA Outreach Committee's web page (<http://libra.jmu.edu/viva/outreach/>). Under "Publicity and Promotional

Materials" you will find a set of articles and talks that present a history of the organization since it was an idea of Charlene Hurt and Dennis Robison in the early 1990s. Look carefully at these materials and you will be amazed at the number of librarians who have invested significant amounts of time and effort in every phase of the organization's progress.

My own experience with VIVA has included literally weeks of work getting our private institutions ready to participate in VIVA's contract with Dow Jones Interactive. But, I count those hours among the most productive I have ever spent when a student or teacher at Ferrum tells me what they were able to accomplish with the resource.

Kathy Perry has said that "We now strive to operate in a more connected, matrix-management environment with links to other players within VIVA. Not exactly [the painter] Matisse's "Nasturtiums with Dance"—but something similar to a circle dance—a continuous activity involving many key players along the way as we purchase the resources, address technical issues, train the librarians and faculty, evaluate the statistics, evaluate the product, communicate with the vendor and the librarians, and renegotiate with the vendor to improve the product. And of course, all of this is to be repeated at least annually for what we hope is an ever-improving service for our members." The magic of VIVA is that this is done with a tiny central staff and with totally committed librarians scattered around the Commonwealth.

So, in that spirit of optimism mentioned earlier, I wish Virginia's public librarians the best in funding, and I warn them to hang onto their hats when the ride begins. They will, if they are to be successful in getting the most out of the state's investment, be challenged both to cooperate like never before and to work on difficult and demanding projects whose outcome often depends on individual initiative. The alternative is to create a potentially pointless and ineffective level of state bureaucracy that can all too easily lead to one-size-fits-all decisions and budget busting spending on staff and offices. Don't let that happen to the libraries and citizens of Virginia. You public librarians have the vision and the energy to manage the information resources that will become the heart of libraries of the future. Virginians are counting on you.

Virginia Libraries on the Web

According to statistics from the Virginia Tech Digital Library and Archives, *Virginia Libraries* was requested from their server 20,718 times between April 28 and December 31, 1999. The resulting average of 83 sessions per day translates into over thirty thousand per year. We are also still published by the H. W. Wilson Company in Omni-File, and various articles are posted as reprints on sites such as VIVA's Outreach Committee Page. **VI**

VLA wishes to thank the following for their support of the VLA Conference

Baker & Taylor

Cambridge Scientific Abstracts

EBSCO

Gale Group

ICI (Mid Atlantic Bookbindery)

Library of Virginia

Recorded Books

SWING

(South West Information Network Group)

Virginia Center for the Book

Virginia Coalition for Open Government

Yankee Book Peddler

Interview: ILLiad Creator Harry Kriz

by Nan Seamans

VL What brought you to the world of interlibrary loan? Was this a planned career move or something you fell into?

HK Certainly it was nothing I planned. I don't have that much foresight. I was assigned to be head of interlibrary loan when Dean of Libraries Eileen Hitchingham noticed that interlibrary loan was becoming increasingly important. She decided early in 1996 that organizing ILL as a separate department would facilitate further development of the service. Up to that time I rarely, if ever, thought about ILL. Soon after getting involved in ILL I was delighted to learn from colleagues at many institutions that ILL is where the action is in libraries these days. So the past three-and-a-half years have been invigorating for me, and I hope for those I've worked with.

VL What exactly is ILLiad? How long has it been in use? How widely is it now being used?

HK ILLiad is an interlibrary loan and document delivery system. We launched ILLiad's borrowing functions on March 17, 1997. Then we started electronic delivery of photocopies through ILLiad on July 4, 1997. On March 10, 1999, we began automated lending to other libraries. And just on September 6, 1999, we automated document delivery to Tech's extended campus



Harry Kriz

community, which extends across North America, even into Alaska.

ILLiad is now installed at about 20 library systems around the country. I like to say that ILLiad extends from coast-to-coast and border-to-border. There are installations from upstate New York to southern Florida and from Virginia to California and Washington state's Canadian border.

In describing what ILLiad is, I have to distinguish it from the simple interlibrary loan management systems that are available. We really don't think of ILLiad as merely a management system. In fact it's fair to say that the staff doesn't so much use ILLiad as service its needs. It's really our customers who use ILLiad to accomplish their goals. The ILL staff is here to assist ILLiad in accomplishing its tasks. And ILLiad is a demanding taskmaster that alerts us when we fall behind in our obligations.

Those who are interested in the details of ILLiad's borrowing functions should read the article I wrote with Jason Glover and Kevin Ford entitled "ILLiad: Customer-focused Interlibrary Loan Automation" [*Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery & Information Supply*, Vol. 8, No. 4, pp. 31-47 (1998)]. You can download a preprint of the article from the Tech ILL web site at <http://www.ill.vt.edu/>. Look for the About ILLiad link on our home page to get to more information.

VL Tell us a little bit about the circumstances that led to the development of ILLiad. What were some of the obstacles that you faced with the development?

HK I think it was on the first day I walked into the ILL office, May 1, 1996, that the staff started

telling me about the overwhelming amount of paper generated by the ILL process. They thought a database would help. Well, I just love computers and software, so this was music to my ears. I successfully argued that we should fill one of the positions in ILL with a programmer. My own considerable experience writing database applications had convinced me that today's technology is so complex and changing so rapidly that it's a full-time job just keeping up with the software tools. So I hired Jason Glover, the library's shelving supervisor, to be the ILL programmer. Jason knew the library and he knew technology. Most important was that he knew how to work with people to create usable and effective software.

Perhaps the greatest obstacle to building a complex system like ILLiad is understanding what you are trying to accomplish. I was not interested in doing a technology demonstration, I was interested in improving ILL. And Jason saw the futility of merely building a database to manage our data or a utility to perform some clerical task. This led us to a total process solution interfaced directly to the ILL customers. So Kevin Ford led the borrowing staff to flowchart and refine our borrowing process. Once the process was modeled as a flowchart, Jason implemented the process in the software we called ILLiad.

VL *Does Virginia Tech provide an atmosphere that promotes innovative solutions like ILLiad?*

HK I guess I can say it has worked for me. At Tech we are fortunate to have ample computer hardware and software and excellent network connectivity. If you believe as I do that these are the fundamental tools of the librarian's trade, then you are in heaven. If you don't believe it, then please read my essay entitled "Why Computers?" [*Virginia Librarian*, Vol. 30, No. 5, p. 93 (September-October 1984)].

**I was not interested in
doing a technology
demonstration,
I was interested in
improving ILL.**

As a manager, the rest of the atmosphere is up to me. My job is to create the conditions that make success possible. That means developing a supportive, learning environment by reducing fear, supporting training, and fostering a joy in learning. I described my methods in an article I wrote with Vicki Kok nearly 15 years ago that we titled "The Computerized Reference Department: Buying the Future" [*RQ*, Vol. 25, No. 2, pp. 198-203 (Winter 1985)].

VL *What are your goals for ILLiad? Do you see it changing?*

HK I don't have goals for ILLiad so much as I do for the Tech ILL

department. That goal is to ensure that the department remains capable of providing high quality service in the face of extraordinarily rapid growth in demands for our service. So far ILLiad has enabled us to adapt to these demands without increasing our staff. Anyone who thinks computers don't improve productivity is welcome to visit our department where we will prove them wrong.

My goal in 1996 was to have Tech commercialize the product so as to assure its continued development. University campuses are replete with software developed locally that becomes unviable as soon as the developer leaves. Thanks to the support of Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties, Inc., ILLiad has thrived, and our ILL department is assured of software support for the foreseeable future.

VL *What is the potential market for ILLiad?*

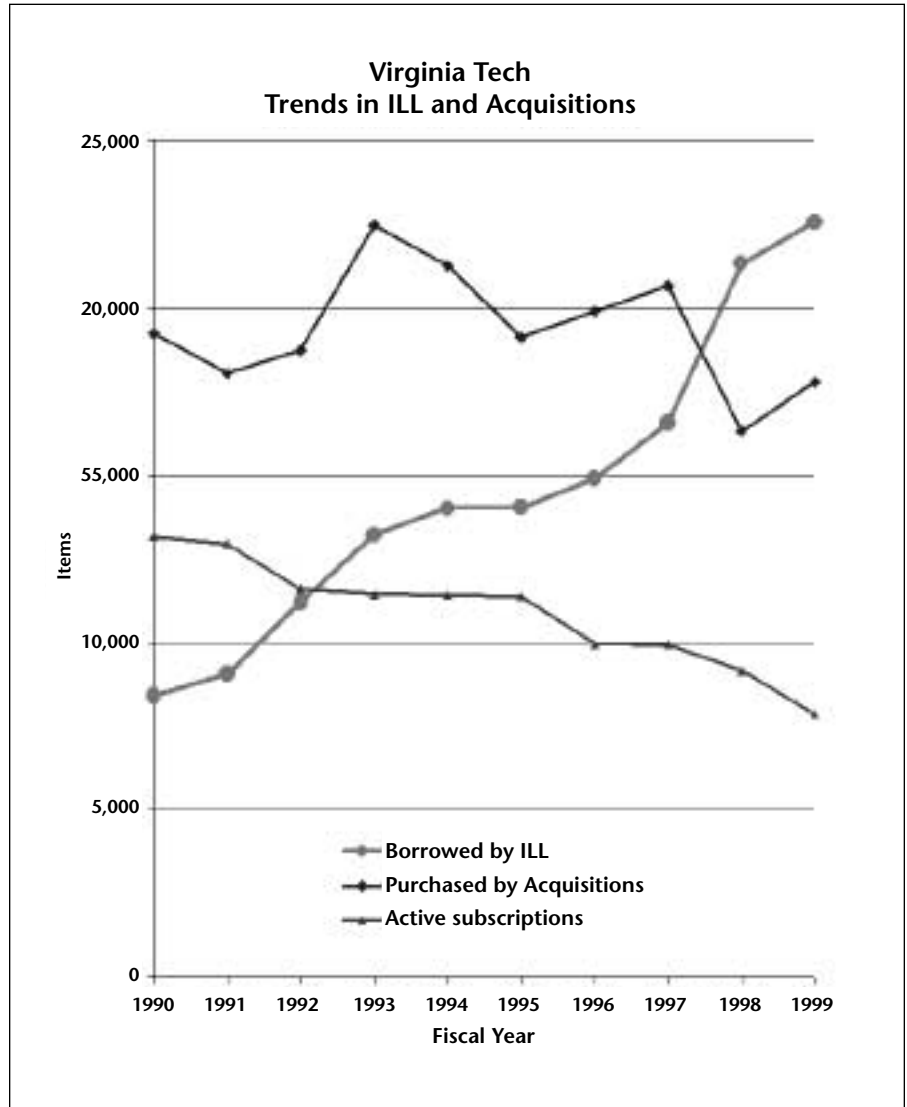
HK Every ILL librarian who visits Virginia Tech and sees ILLiad in action says "I've gotta have it." Of course the market depends on the importance attached to ILL by library administrators and the ability of libraries to work in modern, networked environments. ILLiad is installed at several large research libraries and also at smaller academic and government libraries. With such a broad range of applicability, there could be a large potential market.

VL Do you see ILLiad spawning a company as VTLIS did?

HK In a way it already has. Jason Glover continues to work with his partners at Atlas Systems, Inc. [<http://www.atlas-sys.com/>] to develop and support ILLiad. We work with them on design and testing. One of the great benefits of commercializing ILLiad is that Virginia Tech is providing new and better services to the Tech community as ILLiad is expanded in response to needs of new customers.

VL Can you project a little for us? What will ILL functions, operations look like in 5 years? Do you anticipate changes?

HK I've read that prediction is difficult, especially when it involves the future. My personal experience is that most things that are predicted never happen, and that most things that happen are never predicted. Thus I'm not embarrassed to say that I don't know what ILL will look like in 5 years. And I don't know anyone else who does either. I am sure of one thing however, and that is that everything is going to change at a pace that will make many of us uncomfortable, maybe even hysterical. Since we never know what is going to happen next, I just try to wake up every morning thinking about the joy I'll feel in learning new things and adapting to or causing change. That's what makes work and all of life interesting. We need to be always learning, and that will keep us prepared for whatever opportunities, like being assigned to work in ILL, may come along. **VL**



Internet Reference Resources

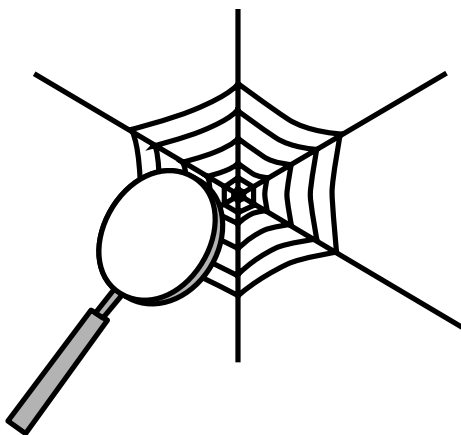
by Scott Silet

Beginning with this issue, *Virginia Libraries* will be running a regular column highlighting free ready reference resources on the Internet. Keeping current with useful new Internet sites is a Sisyphean task, and this column will attempt to make that process a little easier for librarians around the Commonwealth. A cumulative list of these resources will be available from the VLA homepage sometime early next spring. Please direct any questions or suggestions for inclusion to Scott Silet (silet@virginia.edu).

1. Congressional Directory of the United States

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/congress/cong016.html>

"Your official guide for contacting members of congress, their staffs and committees, and key officials throughout the Federal Government." This is an online edition of the venerable print publication. Search or browse for information about House and Senate members since 1995 (104th Congress). Entries include biographical highlights of members, listings of staff members and office addresses (state- and DC-based), listings of Congressional committees by member, and members by Congressional committee. Additional information includes Executive branch departmental directories (Department of State, Defense, Justice, etc.) in text and .pdf formats. Produced by GPO Access (U.S. Government Printing Office).



2. BestPlaces.net

<http://www.bestplaces.net>

Compare crime, housing, economy, education, health, and climate information for hundreds of cities across the country including 16 locations in Virginia. All comparative data include national averages. Detailed climate and crime data available for more than a thousand locations. From Fast Forward, Inc.

3. Uniform Crime Reports: County Data

<http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/crime>

Detailed statistics on nearly 50 categories of crimes from 1990–1997 for counties in all 50 states and Washington DC (including 41 independent cities in Virginia). Browse by all crimes committed or specifically by adult or juvenile offenses. Includes arrest data as well as total number of crimes reported. Compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

4. Petersburg Public Library Newspaper Index, 1797–1877

<http://image.vtls.com/collectionsV/PN.html>

This is one of the few historical Virginia newspaper indexes available free on the Internet. Originally compiled as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project, this 40,000+ entry index covers over 30 newspapers primarily from Petersburg, but also includes selected papers from Richmond and Washington, DC (though only 9 titles have more than two years of coverage). Browse for article citations within hundreds of handy categories including personal names, general subjects, geographic locations, etc. Articles, unfortunately, not available online. A digital project of the Library of Virginia.

5. Ad*Access

<http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/adaccess/search.html>

Search or browse this database of over 7,000 advertisements printed in U.S. and Canadian newspapers and magazines between 1911 and 1955. Subjects include radio, television, transportation, beauty and hygiene, and World War II. Entries include brief bibliographic descriptions and full-color .jpg images (72- and 150-dpi) culled from dozens of sources like the *New York Times*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Time*, *Life*, *McCall's*, and *Ladies Home Journal*. Includes useful illustration index (e.g. African-Americans in illustra-

tions, French language advertisement). Compiled by the Duke University Special Collections Library.

6. United States Military Academy Atlas Index

<http://www.dean.usma.edu/history/dhistorymaps/Atlas%20Page.htm>

Online companion to *The West Point Atlas of American Wars* (1959, 1995 eds.). Contains over 320 moderately detailed maps of U.S. war campaigns with additional atlases of The Napoleonic Wars, Wars of Modern China, and selected wars and conflicts abroad since 1958. Not all campaigns included in the print editions are covered. Only 58 of the 138 atlases of the Civil War are found in the online edition, and the accompanying historical narrative is also lacking. From the Department of History, U.S. Military Academy, West Point. **VI**

Guidelines for Submissions to *Virginia Libraries*

1. Virginia Libraries seeks to publish articles and reviews of interest to the library community in Virginia. Articles reporting research, library programs and events, and opinion pieces are all considered for publication. Queries are encouraged. Brief announcements and press releases should be directed to the VLA Newsletter.
2. While e-mail submissions are preferred, manuscripts may be submitted as text files on 3.5-inch computer disks. Both manuscripts and disks become the property of Virginia Libraries upon publication. Unpublished articles will be returned within one year.
3. Illustrations, particularly monochrome images and drawings, are encouraged and should be submitted whenever appropriate to accompany a manuscript. Illustrations will be returned if requested in advance.
4. Bibliographic notes should appear at the end of the manuscript and should conform to the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style.
5. Articles should be 750-1250 words.
6. Submit manuscripts to:
Cy Dillon
Ferrum College
P.O. Box 1000
Ferrum, Virginia 24088
cdillon@ferrum.edu
7. Deadlines for submissions are: December 15 for January/February/March; March 15 for April/May/June; June 15 for July/August/September; September 1 for October/November/December. **VI**

Electronic Notebooks for Internet Study and Research:

Making RAISENs, Research and Internet Study Electronic Notebooks

by Tony Krug

In the age of paper documentation, library research meant use of print books, references, and journals. Notebooks (often spiral bound or three-ring binders), legal pads, or index cards absorbed such voluminous annotations writer's cramp was the researcher's nemesis.

In this digital age references, journals, even some books, are on the Internet. The keyboard takes the space a notebook, legal pad, or index cards want. We have learned to word process instead of type, but who can predict if there will be a word processor on a research computer? If so, will it be one I know how to use, or will read my file from the last computer I used? And, if so, will the computer be sufficiently robust to operate both a word processor and a browser without crashing?

What about tracking my Internet research? Browser bookmarks don't move, but people do. How do I get back to where I was to check or follow up on my earlier research?

Consider making RAISENs.

RAISENs (Research And Internet Study Electronic Notebooks) essentially are very basic Web pages. RAISENs do not require a Web editing or authoring package. RAISENs take advantage of text editors found on all Windows and Macintosh computers.

Text editors are basic software the computer and operating system vendors use to communicate their notes to the new owners of their software and equipment, so they are ubiquitous. In some computer lab settings, the Start menu may be "locked out" and inaccessible, or WordPad may not appear in the Accessories menu. The program which underlies the WordPad

...electronic notebooks for Internet research records are simple and easy to set up

choice in the Start/Programs/Accessories menu is really quite small (5K). It easily can be copied to a floppy disk and run from the floppy. To copy the program from a computer which has WordPad in the Accessories menu, look on the C drive, in the Windows folder, for a program named "Write" and copy it to your floppy in the usual way. Using the program in this way should be within the copyright law, since WordPad (or Write) is a standard part of the Windows operating system installation. Should it not

be available, the omission is almost assuredly an inadvertent deletion. Running Write from the floppy will not adversely affect the computer you are using.

For the Macintosh, SimpleText is the current text editor; TeachText was an earlier version. While these programs are larger than Write's 5K, they still fit easily on a disk, allowing space for many electronic notebook pages. Note that a PC formatted disk will also be recognized by nearly all Macintosh machines. The text files can be read across platforms by WordPad and SimpleText—possibly with a little minor editing for the comfort of the note taker when going from WordPad to SimpleText, or vice versa.

Text editors have very few features (compared to a word processor, for example), so they are easy to use and very similar, if not the same, from one machine to the next. The few features also mean text editors take little computing resource, so they can operate easily along with a browser and create small files. Text editors save in basic text file format—the essence of Web pages.

RAISENs use text editors to build simple Web pages that can show notes, links and graphics through the use of a few basic HTML tags. HTML (HyperText Markup Language) is the tagging system that

tells the Internet browser (Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator) how to display text, links, and graphics. The instructions are given with “tags” inserted into otherwise normal, basic text. A tag is set apart with “less than” and “greater than” symbols (shift-comma and shift-period, respectively, on the keyboard). For example, the tag “<p>” indicates a new paragraph is needed.

The browser knows to look for HTML tags in files which have been given a special suffix “.htm,” as in *filename.htm*. Sometimes there are variants of these suffixes, such as “.html” or “.shtml.” These suffixes indicate a file is a Web page.

So, RAISENs are simple Web page files (ending in “.htm”), made with text editors, using a few basic HTML tags. With this information, one can start making RAISENs with only six essential steps.

Six Essential Steps

Step 1—Launch Text Editor

Windows—Start/Programs/
Accessories/WordPad

Macintosh—File/Find/SimpleText

Enhancement—Go ahead and start a browser. Find a good page to start an electronic notebook. In Windows, one can switch between the text editor and browser by using the task bar. While one can use the applications menu that way on the Macintosh, it may be easier to overlap the text editor and browser slightly on each side so one can “flip” back and forth on the screen.

Step 2—Set a link

A primary point to the electronic notebook is recording links. The link tagging has three components: the opening tag and address, the link name, and the closing tag.

The opening tag starts with a tag name (“a,” as in “anchor”), a space, tag function (“href=,” as in “hyper-text reference”) and the address for

the link inside quotation marks. So, an opening tag to go to the ACL homepage would be Note: The only space allowed in this tag is between the tag name and tag function, <a href...>. Also, tag elements may be capitalized or not, as desired, except the URL in the address must be exact.

Following the opening tag is the link name. One can capitalize and use spaces without restriction. The link name need not be tied to the address in any direct way. So, the link name for the ACL homepage could be added to the opening tag as: Association of Christian Librarians. Note: This is the part one actually sees on the page, so be sure it is clear.

The link must have a closing tag. The closing tag is the tag name (a) preceded by a front slash(/), to be . Adding the closing tag to the link for the ACL Homepage finishes the link. Association of Christian Librarians. Note: Without a closing tag, all the words from then on become part of the link name.

Step 3—Save the page as a text file with a file name ending in “.htm.” On Windows computers one will have to specify saving as a Text Document. Be sure to add the .htm suffix, or else a .txt suffix will be added and the file will not work as a Web page. On Macintosh computers, SimpleText saves the file as a text file automatically, without specification, though one still must be careful to add the .htm suffix.

A good file name for a Bible study on Acts might be “Acts.htm.” Note: Good file names may use capital and lower case letters, numbers, and most punctuation marks. Avoid spaces, apostrophes, and colons as these may be confusing when translated into an address. For example, space translates as “%20.”

Note: Be sure to save to the notebook floppy disk (Drive A on Windows, Floppy disk icon on Macintosh).

After the electronic notebook is saved, the browser should open it. File/Open File (Internet Explorer) or File/Open/Page in Navigator (Netscape Navigator) should now be able to open the electronic notebook page. Test the link set in Step 2 to be sure it works. Go back and forth as you add to the notebook page.

Step 4—Type notes. Separate with paragraph tags <p>.

The browser responds only to tags. It does not observe carriage returns or spaces. Paragraph tags are “singleton” tags, in that they may be used singly and need not be paired with a closing tag. The paragraph tag skips a line and starts a new line.

“First sentence. <p> Second sentence.” prints as:

First sentence.

Second sentence.

Note: Often text can be copied and pasted directly from the Web page into the notes in the electronic notebook.

Enhancement—Sometimes the note taker might want a new line, without the double spacing. A line break tag
 will provide that.

Note: A text heavy screen is difficult to read, so the block paragraph layout is standard. One can indent a paragraph though by using the <dd> tag. This is an appropriation of a tag for another purpose and not intended for indenting, but it should work.

Step 5—Snag an image.

When a Web page contains an image to add to the notebook, save it to your electronic notebook floppy with a “right click” (Windows) or a “click and hold” (Macintosh). An action menu will pop up.

Nearly all Web images will have

a file name suffix of ".gif" or ".jpg" (sometimes ".jpeg"). Often the images will have a difficult name to remember. Feel free to change the name to the left of the period for the suffix. Always be sure to leave the ".gif" or ".jpg" in the name as it was.

Step 6—**Show the image** in the notebook.

Be certain of the image saved. Sometimes the image saved may not be as initially expected. Generally, one can open a gif or jpeg image with the browser. However, to make notes in the electronic notebook having the image on the page should be very helpful. To show the image, use the "img" tag, as follows: ``

Note the tag name is "img" (for "image"), while its function is to find the source, "src=." The source is the file name (or address) of the image. The image tag also is a singleton, with no closing tag.

Note 2: If the notebook is moved or copied to a different disk, be sure also to move all images "sourced" in the electronic notebook to the same floppy or file that houses the notebook file. The image file can be inserted as a file (Insert/File...) or as a picture from file (Insert/Picture/From File...) into Microsoft Word and most other applications where images are used.

To conclude, electronic notebooks for Internet research records are simple and easy to set up. Only 6

steps, incorporating 3 HTML tags, are required. Obviously, there are other HTML tags one might find useful in developing more complex ideas. Others may want to do the electronic equivalent of doodling to decorate their pages for rapid recognition such as putting a color background in for each project or subject. The purpose of this article is to suggest the use of local, floppy disk based Web pages to create an electronic notebook. To continue with notebook enhancements feel free to check the RAISEN Web site, http://library.cn.edu/~RAISENS/*Index.html or email the author at krug@cncacc.cn.edu. VI

"Libraries are my 'ears on the world.' As a deafened adult I rely on visual information and libraries are my main source of entertainment and education.

Libraries help me 'hear'

what is happening in my world and
make me glad to be a part of it."

Joan Cassidy, Sterling, Vir.

Libraries change lives.
Support your library.

American Library Association

94th Annual Conference Report

Opening General Session

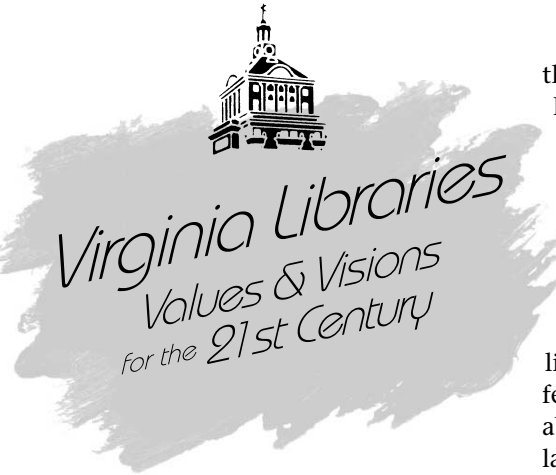
Virginia Libraries: Values and Visions for the Twenty-first Century began on Thursday, October 28, with an Opening Session featuring Ann Symons, Immediate Past President of the American Library Association and a school librarian from Alaska.

VLA President Sandy Heinemann began the general meeting with a recognition of the importance of the Conference theme. "We must have a vision for our professional future," Heinemann asserted, and she praised the VLA Executive Committee, especially Conference Chair Mary Meyer-Henley, for putting together a provocative set of programs in "the best place to meet in all Virginia."

Sandy then announced the winner of the Jefferson Cup Award,



Ann Symons, Immediate Past President of ALA, spoke at the Opening Session.



given by the Youth Services Forum. This year's committee reviewed 422 books and selected *Soldier's Heart* by Gary Paulson as the best book for young readers. Paulson combines careful research and powerful story telling in this novel about a boy who lies about his age to enlist during the Civil War.

From this fitting recognition of a fine book, the program turned to Ann Symons presentation. She began by describing her trip to a public library to find suitable quotations from Thomas Jefferson to embellish a talk to Virginians, and reminded us of his role and those of other Virginians in fighting censorship over the years. Symons feels a kinship with the early advocates of free speech who had to endure hardships in founding our country. She has been branded a "porn queen" by proponents of censorship simply because she led ALA during a time when the organization resisted efforts to limit Internet access. This experience led her to reflect on the role of librarians in linking patrons to the wealth of information on the Internet without losing the respect American society has developed for libraries.

Symons noted that research by

the Annenberg Center for Public Policy indicates that most parents with Internet access at home are worried about its impact on their children, that the media constantly emphasize the danger associated with the Internet, but that most Americans have a high opinion of their local public library. Add to this the marked difference between public reservations about freedom of expression and laws that favor the least possible restriction, and libraries are finding it quite difficult to connect patrons with the information they need. Still, Symons notes that "For me being a librarian is better than being president of a bank. I get to share the wealth."

From the perspective of history, access to information has often been a problem in the United States. Censorship battles over children's books have ranged from *Little Red Riding Hood* to *Harry Potter*. In the nineteenth century children of twelve could not get into libraries, but they could put in long days working in factories. In spite of the complexity of the Internet access situation, Symons believes that "time, experience, and new technology will successfully address the issues." In the meantime, libraries should emphasize their role in bridging the "digital divide" and continue to show our patrons that "we care deeply about children."

Virginia interests Symons because of its focus on children and pornography long before access is available to all citizens, and she indicated that court decisions such as the ones involving Loudoun County will have an impact on libraries around the country. In spite of the Federal Communica-

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Yes, it really is The Homestead.

tions Commission's apparent push to get filters on home computers, most parents do not filter home access, and there is still no software that only filters material that is illegal for children. According to Symons, parents can best protect children by learning about the Internet themselves and setting rules for their children.

In closing, Symons reminded us that today's young children will not remember a time without the Internet or e-mail, and she called us to a vision of Virginians visiting their public libraries to see how Internet resources can be best used.

After her talk, Ann Symons patiently answered a number of questions about current problems

for libraries related to Internet access and free expression issues. She pointed out that in some states access decisions are already out of librarians' hands, especially in school libraries. Filtering may well be a threat to teaching because "You can't teach kids how to think critically if they can't have access to a wide variety of materials." Finally, she agreed that librarians have a fear of censorship of books, too. A controversy over *Daddy's Roommate* was very troublesome in her public library district.

—by *Cy Dillon*

Expanding Electronic Communication: Preprint Archives and Scientific Journals

Ellen Wertman of the Annandale Library of Northern Virginia Community College presented the results of her fascinating study of new methods of scholarly communication to a small but appreciative audience on Friday morning. According to Wertman, the high costs and excessive delays associated with traditional methods of publishing the outcomes of scientific research—particularly in the discipline of physics—have recently led to significant challengers to the 300-year-old tradition of peer



Donald McCaig is a spellbinding storyteller.

Lucinda Roy was the star of the author's luncheon.



reviewed journal articles.

Traditionally scientific journals have provided a forum to reach a consensus in the scientific community, they have served as an archive of knowledge, they have given accepted theories the stamp of approval, they have conveyed prestige and recognition to scientists, and they have established priority of discovery.

Wertman explained preprints, the early drafts of papers circulated for comment before submission, as they developed at Johns Hopkins in the 1970s. This method of self-publication got refereeing from a community of scholars, overcame the lag time of traditional publishing, established priority, and reflected dissatisfaction with the journal system.

It is easy to see how this practice led to "e-prints" once the Internet was available. The first archive of self-published e-prints had 2,000 readers in the first 16 months, and dating and numbering articles imposed an order that presented a very real threat to the traditional publishers. Some journals reacted by accepting nothing circulated as an e-print, and others treated e-prints as if they were conference presentations. Not all

response from journals has been negative, however. The Lancet plans to experiment with an electronic archive for articles on biomedicine.

Professional organizations also have had a variety of responses. The American Chemical Society condemns the practice, though chemists have begun using personal Web sites as an alternative. Physicists and biomedical researchers, on the other hand, have found e-print archives to be an answer to the problem of timeliness. Electronic peer review can often occur in only three weeks, compared to months for the traditional process.

With the growing acceptance of e-print archives in the scientific

community, library staff will have to learn to locate and use these resources to meet their patrons information needs. So far, the potential economic advantages have not materialized for libraries, but the rise of e-archives may well change the way we purchase scientific information within the next few years.

—by *Cy Dillon*

Donald McCaig

In a conference filled with memorable programs, Donald McCaig's reading stands out as an hour of pure enjoyment for the attendees.

Legislative liaison Phil Abraham brought lawmakers to address our questions on this year's session.



Introduced by VLA Treasurer Terry Sumey as “a master storyteller” and “something of a character,” the Highland County author proved to be the best of both. Beginning with a recollection of his childhood reading in Butte, Montana, McCaig’s clear, slightly nasal delivery and vivid descriptions were like listening to an old friend around the stove in a country store. Time ceased to matter for a while, and we let his imagination feed our own.

McCaig’s description of the Butte library and its formidable librarian, Molly McGuire, was an obvious and welcome tribute to the power of a public library for a child who craved reading. Granted an adult card at age eight, McCaig found the librarian to be a fount of knowledge on the books that would most appeal to him, and he found that she would allow him to check out as many volumes as he could carry in the basket of his bicycle. She even allowed him access to the many years of back issues of maga-

zines such as *Harper’s* and *The Strand* shelved in a secluded basement. McCaig clearly links the development of his imagination to this early reading, and thus to open library access for young people.

Next he read a description of lambing on his nearby farm. The richness of setting and imagery in this short piece was both striking and indicative of the nature of most of what followed. McCaig read from *Jacob’s Ladder*, a new novel about a group of black soldiers during the Civil War, and the passage describing a reading by one of the soldiers of Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address kept the listeners nearly breathless for a quarter of an hour. This was followed by more passages about farm life, all reflecting an attention to detail and a sensuality that lift an author a level above the ordinary.

McCaig’s down-to-earth manner and willingness to give time and attention to his audience were evident throughout the reading and the lengthy signing session after-

ward. The long line for signatures was the best indication of his appeal to our group.

—by Cy Dillon

VIVA Users Group Meeting

The third annual VIVA Users Group meeting was opened by Roy Strohl, Chair of VIVA’s Steering Committee, and Kathy Perry, VIVA Director. Signs along the room walls indicated new databases that were added throughout the year—*America: History and Life*, *CIS*, *ACM Digital Library*, *CINAHL*, *BIP with Reviews*, *ERIC*, *MLA*, *PsycINFO*, *Harp-Week-The Civil War Era*, *Historical Abstracts*, and *Sociological Abstracts*.

Kathy and Roy summarized the year’s activities including the recent reorganization and downsizing of committees, new timetable for budget requests, VIVA’s review by the Resources Committee of SCHEV, and the status of *Britannica*, currently under review by VIVA. Jane



Steve Helm ponders a response at the Council Luncheon.

approaches by institutions' access to electronic journals from aggregator sources; and sharing cataloging of electronic resources. Everyone was reminded to review the VIVA pages at: <http://www.viva.lib.va.us/>, and members were urged to post questions as needed to VIVA's discussion list.

—by Pat Howe

An Author Speaks Out: Intellectual Freedom

(Sponsored by the VLA Intellectual Freedom Committee)

Sally Reed, director of the Norfolk Public Library, presented a lively talk on the history of intellectual freedom in America and the writing of her new book, *Speaking Out! Voices In Celebration of Intellectual Freedom* (American Library Association, 1999). She described the writing of *Speaking Out!* as a reaffirmation of personal and professional principles. An unexpected but very welcome addition to the program

was the presence and participation of co-author Ann Symons, immediate past president of ALA and the first ALA president to choose intellectual freedom as a presidential year theme.

The speakers reminded the audience that "language is power" and has special protection under the First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution. The book is a compilation of commentaries on intellectual freedom by well-respected individuals from librarianship, government, publishing, and other fields, who all submitted favorite quotations on the book's theme. Ms. Reed and Ms. Symons shared some of their favorites with the audience, reflecting that much of the book's content echoes how often the 1990s have brought challenges to intellectual freedom, and how many times librarians and others have faced up to and held firm against attempts at censorship. (Virginia libraries have a very good record on responding to challenges).

Schillie, of the Resources For Users Committee, announced that VIVA conducted a survey of training needs, held a statewide Training Fair in March, collected use statistics at the end of semesters, and offered trial access to several databases.

Product vendors representing Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, Chadwyck-Healey, Dow Jones Interactive (Bell & Howell), FirstSearch, the Gale Group, HarpWeek, OVID, Project Muse, and CIS were introduced. Each had time to describe their resources, introduce new developments, and answer questions about Z39.50 standardization, direct access from citation to full-text, and increasing timeout functions.

Future projects include the addition of selected full text journals from Highwire Press, which was just approved; a forum on diverse



Concurrent sessions are often the heart of a successful conference.

Bath County hospitality included a welcome from the high school's stage band.



Ms. Reed reviewed some historical highlights related to intellectual freedom in the United States, including the 1870s Comstock movement against “inappropriate speech,” which produced some enduring restrictive legislation; the political censorship of the World War I era, supported by ALA and the Librarian of Congress; the case of James Joyce’s *Ulysses* in 1933, which moved us away from always using children as the common denominator in defining obscenity; the establishment of the ALA Bill of Rights in the late 1930s; censorship resulting from the 1942 Taft Amendment; self-censorship in film, publishing, and libraries during the Cold War; and the social and political tensions of the 1960s and 1970s. The relative quiet of the 1980s changed with the advent of the Internet and the many new questions about free and open access it has engendered during recent years.

Ms. Symons asserted that the

more court cases affirming intellectual freedom, the better, as it is really case law that supports our principles. Responses from the audiences generated a spirited back-and-forth discussion for the remainder of the program. Following the presentation, the authors signed copies of their book, with part of the proceeds going to the Freedom to Read Foundation.

—by Starr E. Smith

Virginia Vignettes

Inspired by the history-laden Homestead, Barbie Selby’s presentation, *Virginia Vignettes*, examined Virginia’s past by looking at official state publications. Beginning with an examination of educational practices in Bath County, as gleaned from the Superintendent of Public Instruction’s Annual Report of 1885, she moved on through Annual Reports of the Eastern and Western

Lunatic Asylums, General Assembly laws, turn-of-the-century promotional brochures, Board of Censor’s reports, and Commission of Constitutional Government publications.

A few highlights:

- Causes of insanity as reported in the 1851 Annual Reports of the Eastern and Western Lunatic Asylums: “domestic troubles,” “disappointed love,” “jealously,” “religious feeling,” “study,” “masturbation,” “desertion by husband,” “bilious fever and desertion by husband,” and “unrequited love.”

- Description of Virginians from *Virginia: Information for the Homeseeker and Investor* published in 1904: Our people are a homogenous people—a law-loving and law-abiding people—a reading people—a religious people—hospitable, kind, generous, neighborly—and they are now aroused to the fact that we

need more help—fresh energy—a new life infused into our rural districts. To accomplish this we must have new settlers. There are therefore prepared to welcome with open arms those who can fill the measures of their needs. [p.17]

- Description of Virginia's climate from the same publication: The rainfall, while liberal, and well distributed throughout the year, reaching nearly 50 inches per annum, gives us nearly 6 inches for July and the same for August, and *falls largely between the hours of 6pm and midnight*. This is not the result of accident or chance, but is the result of fixed laws, beyond the control of man, and yet so manifestly in his favor as to attract attention, and make us feel profoundly grateful and thankful to the "Hand of providence" which is so kindly stretched out towards us. [p.54] [emphasis added]

- A law from 1910 indexed under "Railroads" with the tag line of "Promoting order and comfort of passengers at stopping places of ..." which in fact made it a crime for someone to sit in a seat other than the one assigned by the conductor based on race. This law also empowered conductors as special policeman to enforce this law.

- A 1793 law in which the town of Hot Bath in Bath County was incorporated. While the town is now known as Hot Springs according to the indexes to the *Acts of Assembly* the name may never have been legally changed!

—by *Barbie Selby*

How Do You Manage—Intellectual Freedom?

Modeled after the popular *Library Journal* series, three case studies were presented for a panel discussion of thorny intellectual freedom issues

with audience participation. Panelists, each leading the discussion of one issue, were Edwin S. Clay (Fairfax Public Library), Ruth Arnold (Staunton Public Library), and Linda Farynk (Radford University). The session was moderated by Tim Coggins of the University of Richmond School of Law.

Issue 1. The Wild World of the Internet

Linda Farynk presented the case study of a library at a mid-sized public university that has no formal Internet policy. A female student approaches the reference desk with a complaint about another student accessing sexually explicit pictures. Suggestions included acquiring privacy screens, developing a clear Internet policy for use, and building upon the Library's existing circulation and resources use policies.

Issue 2. The Donors

Sam Clay presented the case study of a large public library system serving a culturally diverse population that has an offer from a Christian related community group, offering to "fill gaps" in the library collections. The donor group states that the OPAC reveals an "unfair" balance between Christian and non-Christian materials in the library. Suggestions included relying on a carefully crafted gift policy and reviewing the template for general selection. The questions of balance should be essentially seen as a "red herring." The thrust of the discussion was largely to be faithful to the Library's collection development policy, upholding the collection integrity.

Issue 3. PCU

Ruth Arnold presented the case study of a small university library which has accepted a 19th century children's literature collection. The collection reveals its time of authorship and has many items which can only be seen as racist in 1999. A

college group discovers an offensive title and with some faculty support is demanding the collection be removed from the Library collection. Suggestions included involving faculty and campus groups early during the acquisitions process to build consensus and explain the research value of the collection. Perhaps an opportunity for teaching exists in working with students explaining "what is a library." Again, being faithful the Library's collection development policy is a must.

—by *Ted Hostetler*

Second General Session

This Friday afternoon program began with Sandy Heinemann's recognition of the outstanding job done by the VLA Conference Committee, and proceeded to the introduction of this year's VLA Scholarship winners, Carolyn Gardner and Louise Taylor. An announcement was made that both Blackwell North America and Information Access Company had committed to funding scholarships for three more years. The generosity and dependability of the corporate donors to VLA can hardly be exaggerated, and perhaps no sponsorship is more deeply appreciated than these scholarships which have a long and rich history of promoting career development.

Next the Intellectual Freedom Committee presented the biennial SIRS award to Douglas Henderson, Director of the Loudoun County Public Library. Doug, who was nominated by his staff, received a standing ovation in recognition of his dedication to upholding the values of the profession during the controversy and court battle over the filtering policy passed by the county's politicized library board. His ability to keep the library system functioning for its patrons and to avoid outright battles with the board give

Blackwell North America and Information Access sponsors the VLA Scholarships.

Doug Henderson of Loudoun County won the Intellectual Freedom Award.



us at least one example of staying focused on mission in spite of the heat of the filtering debate.

The session speaker, Carol Tenopir, is known to most VLA members as a *Library Journal* technology columnist and a professor in the University of Tennessee Library and Information Science program. Tenopir began with the welcome announcement that the University of Tennessee's distance education program would begin taking students again in the fall of 2000, and admit up to 35 students per year. The program will gradually rely more on Web-based instruction,

making it even more attractive to Virginians. She also announced the creation of the John Tyson Minority Fellowship, named for the former Virginia State Librarian.

Tenopir, who said John Berry convinced her to try writing a column for a month or two—seventeen years ago—began with a description of a typical research session for her at the University of Tennessee library. She challenged us to count along as she recited 28 different systems and databases she consulted in that one ninety minute period. Research such as this, impossible only a few years ago, is, accord-

ing to Tenopir, something we now take for granted just as we do the power company or cable television. In fact, she stated that this level of dependability for electronic data is the most dramatic change in library research in the past twenty years. Computers and Internet research are as ubiquitous and as accepted as automobiles: "There are one or two in every garage, and every teenager drives."

Responding to this state of affairs, Tenopir made predictions for the future concerning five areas of impact for libraries.

First, patrons will have higher expectations for interaction with librarians and for help in navigating the Internet. Currently 43% of households have access, but only about one-third of the United States population uses the Internet regularly. Tenopir predicts that libraries will be called upon to help patrons who are at home and want to use Web based information resources.

Because libraries have been so successful in providing access to networked information, the public has developed a taste for instant gratification. Expectations are high, and staff members themselves are usually confident they can provide answers on the spot. This climate



Left, Tom Hehman proved that VLA members are often the best presenters.

Right, Linda Hahne had good news for us about the state of the Association.

Below, Sam Clay reported for the Legislative Committee.



will keep pressure on libraries to provide appropriate hardware and resources to keep up with the rapidly progressing computer environment.

A third area of impact is information overload. Libraries have become so good at providing information that patrons can be easily confused about which items are best. This is a battle we have won for years in collection development, but we have to fight it again with the new media. Too much information can be worse than too little, and the staff is also burdened with maintaining old materials and methods as we learn the new. Selection of resources and practice in using new materials are concerns that cannot be neglected in scheduling staff time.

Computer systems begin to take on a personality for their users, and libraries have the chance to create humanized spaces in the Web. Through appropriate design and interaction with users we can prove the "importance of a librarian's touch in a successful search," and libraries' systems can become part of the daily lives of patrons.

Finally, having resolved the ques-



tion of providing a variety of means to access information, we have to address issues that have become problematic recently. They include copyright, filtering and setting standards for appropriate use, and working with patrons outside the library walls. Tenopir sees our roles shifting toward education and training, toward qualitative analysis of information, toward working with patrons at a distance, and toward fighting for fair prices for resources. We can expect backlash on any and all of these issues, but the prospects for libraries as institutions are bright.

—by Cy Dillon

Business Meeting

The annual business meeting began on a positive note with word from Treasurer Terry Sumey that the association had met its annual budget, and that the organization's reserve fund was back above the target amount. He indicated that both the Paraprofessional Forum Conference and Annual Conference had operated in the black this year. Executive Director Linda Hahne followed with a report that membership stood at 1180 as 1999 ended, and that the Annual Conference had 425 registrants, 354 of whom signed up for the full conference.

After Tom Hehman announced the results of the election for the 2000 VLA officers, Sam Clay gave us an update on the activities of the Legislative Committee. This group of twenty-one held two meetings and five conference calls, participated in both the Virginia Legis-

Leaders of the Paraprofessional Forum received well-deserved recognition.

Robin and Linda Williams seemed right at home at The Homestead.



lative Day and the federal Legislative Day sponsored by the American Library Association, and worked with our legislators and legislative liaison to produce a good year for libraries in the General Assembly. Local control for Internet filtering was affirmed, \$2.8 million was set aside for State Aid to Public Libraries, \$500,000 was added for Infopowering the Commonwealth, and VIVA funding was maintained at a high level. Sam and the Legislative Committee were presented a commendation from the VLA Council by President Sandy Heinemann.

In addition to the awards and scholarships listed elsewhere in this

issue, the business meeting included the recognition of the Paraprofessional of the Year, Patricia White, as well as a recognition of the contributions of the Paraprofessional Forum to the association over the past twenty years.

—by *Cy Dillon*

Robin and Linda Williams Concert

Friday evening's concert by Robin and Linda Williams "and Their Fine Group" was a conference highlight worth far more than the ten-dollar ticket fee. Set in the Homestead's intimate meeting room, the event

matched a quartet of exciting musicians and a patient and enthusiastic audience for ninety uninterrupted minutes of traditional American music at its best. The group played a diverse selection of old time and traditional country music, but the hits of the show were new songs written by Robin and Linda and just released. Poetic lyrics and sincere delivery combined to give the conference audience a memory worthy of association with the mountains and the history of the old resort.

Closing General Session

President Sandy Heinemann began the Closing Session by presenting two awards. The first recognition went to Linda Farynk, Director of the Radford University Library, who was lauded by the Executive Committee for her role in hosting the successful VLA Web site and for her work on the conference committee. The Virginia Library History Award, sponsored by the Library of Virginia and carrying a \$1,000 prize, was then presented to Kevin J. Hainer for his book *The Library of William Byrd of Westover*.



President Sandy Heinemann completed an exemplary year.

Carolyn Barkley, VLA President for 2000, then introduced the novelist David Baldacci, the speaker for this final session. Baldacci is a Richmond native who graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Virginia School of Law. He is at work on his fifth novel, has written four screenplays, and has seen his work translated into 29 languages and 70 countries.

Baldacci proved to be a personable and good-humored speaker who entertained us with personal anecdotes without seeming at all self-centered or arrogant. In fact, many of the anecdotes he told made fun of his status as a very successful author. He said that his family helped keep him humble. "My daughter, until she was three and a half, thought I made my living as a professional book signer."

On the other hand, Baldacci reflected a sincere respect for the craft of writing, and emphasized the struggle he had before realizing any success. "It took me twelve years before I sold anything," he asserted. The author told of writing from

10:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. for nine years while practicing law full time during the day. He also explained the challenge he faced in writing screenplays after years of concentrating on short stories.

Additional anecdotes about titling books, going to a kindergarten class, and dealing with Hollywood personalities retained the tone of humility. Perhaps the best of his stories explained that he had to choose a pen name to publish in Italy because "Italians don't think other Italians can write." Settling on "Ford," he was able to introduce his real name gradually as his other books were translated. His closing line for this episode was "Thank God we didn't own a Hundai when they called me for a last name."

Baldacci explained his current life as a celebrity, emphasizing that he enjoys the chance to do volunteer and charity work when he has time. He also discussed his new novel, *Saving Faith*, and explained that he was at work on a book about the Southwest Virginia his mother remembered from the 1930s. The work, which he hopes will be simi-

lar to *To Kill a Mocking Bird*, will be a challenge for him because it is different in character from his novels so far. His audience left with the conviction that Baldacci was just beginning to realize his potential as a writer—and as a Virginia treasure.

—by Cy Dillon

President's Remarks

Incoming VLA President Carolyn Barkley addressed the Conference, sharing her thoughts on libraries and the human need for information.

National Public Radio's *Morning Edition*, this past Monday, cited a U.S. Census Bureau report which stated that information is now America's business. This fact, scribbled hastily on a 7-11 napkin while at a stop light so that I wouldn't forget it before I got to work, brought together the as yet unorganized thoughts I wanted to share with you—made me ponder our collective journey from a nation of farmers to one of information brokers, providers, organizers, and seekers. Heady thoughts for 6:30 a.m.

An individual's need for information is no greater today than it was 1000 years ago. We may now need information more to improve and enjoy our lives personally and professionally, than to survive, but need information we do. I believe that the entire course of human history has been a journey propelled by the need to share, record or access information: cave paintings, the Rosetta Stone, the printing press and other such milestones in world history come to mind. Roads in the colonies were created less as a means of transportation than as a way for King Charles to move mail, and thus information, more rapidly up and down the eastern seaboard on the King's Highway. The Pony Express moved mail—and information—more rapidly across the

Carolyn Barkley began her term as president with a call to shape the library services of the future.

David Baldacci proved to be as gracious as his books are suspenseful.



West. Railroads, the invention of the telegraph, the telephone and other communication discoveries increased the speed with which information could be made available to individuals across this country and around the world. Our more recent history with its proliferation of Internet service providers and the explosion of Internet users and online information is the latest manifestation of both the need to provide information and the need to access it quickly and conveniently.

Over the doors of the National Archives building in Washington, D.C., is the phrase "Past is Prologue." This phrase reminds me of the concept shared with us by the Benton Foundation speaker at last year's VLA conference in Virginia Beach when he shared with us research indicating that our library users want "their grandmother's library...and more."

To me, libraries are about information, about service, and about

people. If information is the business of this nation, then we are the heart of that business. We are the facilitators of the process, the vital links between individuals and information. As such, the demand for our expertise will increase. Our unique position impels us to preserve the past, our grandmother's library, and to move forward assertively to provide the library of the future. In doing so, we must preserve the balance between our visual love for the printed word, our tactile enjoyment of a much-loved volume, and our fascination with the seemingly unlimited possibilities of digital information. I cannot think of a more exciting time to have the opportunity to work with each of you and to celebrate the fact that Virginia's libraries make a positive difference in the lives of her citizens.



Left, David Burns manned the TLC booth and was also a session presenter.

Below, The Homestead's exhibit hall was the ideal place to chat with librarians.



Vendors and the VLA Annual Conference

While the hard work of VLA officers and the Conference Committee is publicly recognized during our sessions, the contributions of participating vendors can be easily overlooked. We are fortunate to have a faithful core group of sponsors who fund scholarships, pay exhibit fees, sponsor events, and invest many hours in talking to our members. A list of exhibiting vendors (next page) and a shorter list of eleven major sponsors (page 3) is included in our conference issue so that VLA members have the opportunity to thank and patronize the businesses and organizations that support our activities.

The VLA Executive and Conference Committees are exploring ways of making more time available during Annual Conference for vendor-member interaction. We realize that this contact is important to both parties, and we want to demonstrate a willingness to give our sponsors good return for their fees and donations. Individual VLA

members can also play a role in keeping our current sponsors and recruiting new ones. If you thank a participating vendor, you have helped VLA preserve the level of quality we expect from Annual Conference. If you ask a vendor to consider beginning to participate, you have helped us prepare for a better future. It is as simple as that. **VL**

Thanks to Our Exhibiting Vendors!

Ameritech Library Services

400 Dynix Drive
Provo, UT 84604-5650
(800) 228-8020

Apple Book Catalog

(A Division of Scholastic Book Fairs)
P.O. Box 217156
Charlotte, NC 28221
(704) 596-6641

Association Book Exhibit

639 South Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 519-3909

Baker & Taylor

2709 Water Ridge Parkway
Charlotte, NC 28217
(704) 329-9042

Bell & Howell Information

and Learning
300 North Zeeb
Ann Arbor, MI 48106
(800) 521-0600

Blackwell's Book Services

6024 SW Jean Rd. Bldg. G
Lake Oswego, OR 97035
(503) 684-1140

John F. Blair, Publisher

1406 Plaza Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
(336) 768-1374

The Book House, Inc.

208 W. Chicago Street
Jonesville, MI 49250
(800) 484-1146

Brodart Co.

500 Arch Street
Williamsport, PA 17705
(800) 233-8467

Bound to Stay Bound Books

1880 West Morton
Jacksonville, IL 62650
(800) 637-6586

Book Wholesalers, Inc.

1847 Mercer Road
Lexington, KY 40511
(800) 888-4478

Cambridge Scientific Abstracts

7200 Wisconsin Ave. #601
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 961-6751

CBA/Charlotte, Inc.

3849 Silverbell Drive
Charlotte, NC 28211
(704) 365-333

Chadwyck-Healey

1101 King Street
Suite 380
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 683-4890

Checkpoint Systems

101 Wolf Drive
PO Box 188
Tharofare, NJ 08086
(800) 257-5800

Chesapeake Low Vision, Inc.

505 County Walk Ct.
Bel Air, MD 21015
(410) 515-0536

Children's Literature

7513 Shadywood Rd.
Bethesda, MD 20817
(301) 469-2070

Children's Plus, Inc.

3311 Holeman Ave. #1
South Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 755-4747

Congressional Information Service

4520 East West Hwy.
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 951-4520

W.T. Cox Subscriptions

201 Village Road
Shallotte, NC 28470
(910) 754-3145

Davidson Titles, Inc.

P.O. Box 3538
Jackson, TN 38303-3538

Delta Graphic, Inc.

P.O. Box A. J.
12532 Branders Bridge Rd.
Chester, VA 23831
(804) 748-6448

The Design Collaborative

2940 N. Lynnhaven Rd.
Suite 210
Virginia Beach, Va. 23452
(757) 321-0044

Digital Access Control

4433 E. Brookfield Corp. Dr.
Chantilly, VA 20151

Dorling Kindersley Family Learning

5541 Brookwood Road
Crozet, VA 22932-9369
(804) 823-5541

EBSCO Information Services

P.O. Box 2543
Birmingham, AL 35202
(800) 633-4604

Education Station

2824 Forge Road
Glasgow, VA 24555
(540) 258-1965

Electric Library

900 West Valley Road
Suite 1000
Wayne, PA 19087
(800) 860-9227

Encyclopedia Britannica

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VLA Awards & Scholarships

George Mason Award

The George Mason Award is awarded to the Williamsburg Regional Library for the establishment of a unique resource for cancer patients and their families, both on the Virginia Peninsula and nationwide, through the Phillip West Cancer Resource Center. The Resource Center includes circulating and reference materials, pamphlets, pathfinders, video and audio tapes, and journals designed to accommodate the needs of a wide range of patrons. One of the most innovative aspects of this program has been the creation of a web site as a cornerstone of the West Cancer Resource Center. By hosting the web site the Williamsburg Regional Library gives access to the public during all the hours the library is open and web access 24 hours a day. The Phillip West Cancer Resource Center is the result of an innovative partnership between the Williamsburg Regional Library and a variety of community organizations. Janet Crowther will accept the award on behalf of the Williamsburg Regional Library.

Friends of the Library Award

The Friends of the Library Award is awarded to the Friends of the Virginia Beach Public Library for overall commitment to the Virginia Beach Library. The Friends contribute approximately \$50,000 to the Library for many various activities such as authors, summer reading programs, newsletters and special programs such as FRED (Families Reading Every Day). Of particular interest are their community activities such as a sleep-over at the Cen-

tral library for children from target, at-risk neighborhoods, their work in the United Way Campaign through the Library Department, and awarding eight high school seniors with \$500 scholarships. During the legislative sessions they spoke before the General Assembly delegation for full funding of state aid and technology and help educate the local citizens on the Library Referendum.

Trustee Library Award

The Trustee Library Award is awarded to Linda Conti-White of the Loudoun County Public Library for her continuous effort to defend the rights of all citizens to have open access to information. Linda Conti-White worked as a tireless advocate for the libraries, effectively communicating her vision for the best public library service and her commitment to open access. She never backed away from her position on restoring the American Library Association Bill of rights to the Loudoun County Public library. She has provided leadership and guidance to local advisory boards, worked closely with local funding authorities and advocated for public libraries at the state level. She has been a member of the Loudoun County Public library Board of Trustees since 1991 and has worked continuously for the good of the library and the community.

Honorary Life Member Awards

Rebecca "Becky" Laine has been a member of VLA since 1966. She has held the following offices or worked on the following committees in the association: Chair of Region II,

Member of the Continuing Education Committee, Member of the Nominating Committee, Assistant Editor of the VLA Newsletter, Editor of the VLA Newsletter, Chair of the Publications Committee, and the Virginia Libraries Editorial Board. In 1996, she interviewed children's author, Tasha Tudor, for the winter issue. She has worked diligently in her various capacities serving VLA over the years, but equally important was her encouragement of the Longwood Library staff to participate in the association. She has retired from Technical Services at Longwood College Library effective June 30, 1999.

Ruth J. Turner, previously of the Fairfax County Public Library System for 22 years, has been active in VLA since 1984. She has served three terms as Treasurer of the Paraprofessional Forum. During her tenure the first Paraprofessional Conference was held. She served on VLA's Nominating Committee in 1995 and on Local Arrangements Committee for the 1997 Annual Conference in Crystal City. Although Ruth retired in 1995, she has continued to be active on the Paraprofessional Board and the conference committee. Her enthusiasm for the association and its members continues to be strong, despite her "retirement."

Scholarship Recipients

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the two recipients of the 1999 Virginia Library Association Scholarships. Both recipients were awarded \$2,000 to assist them in pursuing Master's degrees in library science.

VLA congratulates Carolyn and Lou and wishes them well in their studies.

Carolyn Gardner currently works for The Mariners' Museum Research Library and Archives in Newport News, where she answers research requests, provides description writing for special museum exhibits, and works in Acquisitions. She has a BA in English from Christopher Newport University and an MA in Victorian Literature from Old Dominion University. Carolyn will be attending the Florida State University's library program and hopes to eventually focus on library conservation projects and research.

Louise Taylor is currently employed by the Johnson Center Library at George Mason University in Fairfax. She has undertaken a variety of roles in the Circulation and Cataloging departments, and currently

works as a reference and instruction assistant who manages the library's electronic classroom. Lou received a BA in Environmental Science from the University of Virginia and will be attending the library program at the University of Maryland, College Park, in the fall. She would like to continue to work in an academic library as a science reference librarian.

These scholarships are made available this year through the generosity of Blackwell North America and the Information Access Company. The Scholarship Committee gratefully acknowledges this support.

1999 Jefferson Cup Award Winner

Gary Paulson's *Soldier's Story: Being the Story of the Enlistment and Due Service of the Boy Charlie Goddard in*

the First Minnesota Volunteers (Delacorte) is the winner of the 1999 Jefferson Cup Award.

Soldier's Heart makes an incredibly powerful contribution to children's literature, telling the story of the young Charley Goddard's experience as a soldier in the Civil War. Desiring to be a part of the anticipated short shooting war against Johnny Reb, Charlie lies about his age and enlists. His naive excitement vanishes after he experiences the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War combat. Although he survives the actual battles, the price of war leaves him with a "soldier's heart," today known as post-traumatic stress disorder, and he dies at age twenty-three. Because of Paulson's extensive research and attention to details, *Soldier's Heart* captures the horrific history of Civil War battles with realism rarely experienced in books for young adults. ❖

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All Geographic Areas Welcome!

Virginia Books

Reviews prepared by the staff of the Division of Publications
and Educational Services of the Library of Virginia
Julie A. Campbell, Editor

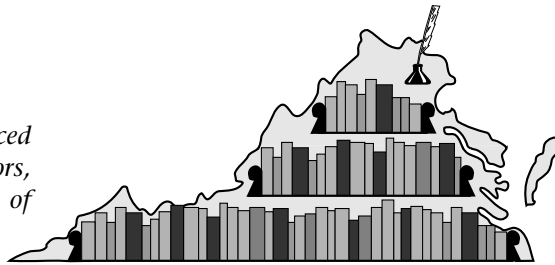


Woody Holton, *Forced Founders: Indians, Debtors, Slaves, and the Making of the American Revolution*

in Virginia. Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1999. xxi + 231 pp. \$39.95 (hardcover), \$15.95 (softcover).

Woody Holton, a Virginian who teaches at Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania, seeks to answer the question, "Why did Virginia participate in the American Revolution?" The standard explanations concentrate on the colony's gentry, confidently speaking for the lesser Virginians, who deferred to their authority. Enslaved Virginians and Indians are little more than spectators. Holton emerges from more than a decade of research in sources here and abroad with a different, larger, and highly persuasive explanation for Virginia's participation in the American Revolution. He does that by looking carefully not only at the gentry, but at all the people who made the American Revolution.

For example, the book begins with the controversy engendered by the British proclamation that restricted Virginians' access to the lands west of the Appalachian



Mountains. Holton shows how efforts by Indian leaders to forge an anti-British alliance across tribal lines caused British officials to avoid a costly frontier conflict by thwarting the colonists' designs on the Indians' lands. The restrictions fell

Holton emerges from more than a decade of research...with a different explanation.

hardest on the land speculators, Washington and even Jefferson prominent among them, who often needed to sell their claims quickly to escape their own debts. The settlers pouring into what is today Kentucky, for their part, recognized the British policy as an opportunity to occupy lands without paying the speculators. Their incursions made Indian leaders even more determined to resist.

Holton makes similar complex analyses of all the spiraling conflicts

of interest that led to war and independence. Some issues, such as continuation of the British slave trade, divided the gentry, whose opposition to the trade is stated in Jefferson's Declaration of Independence, from the farmers, whose ambitions depended on acquisition of slave labor. Other issues, such as restricting exports of tobacco, unified farmers and the gentry in the interest of higher prices for the staple that they all produced.

Virginia slaves recognized their own opportunity for rebellion in the conflicts between white Virginians. Lord Dunmore, the royal governor, who was desperate to assert his authority in 1775, appropriated that desire for freedom and encouraged slaves to join his forces. His action, however, created greater unity among fearful and outraged whites. The swift move to declare independence and to create a state government in 1776 occurred partly because of support from gentry with loyalist leanings. More than independence, they feared the unsettled conditions in Virginia society, manifested for them by the enthusiasm of the common folk for independence.

A short review cannot do justice to the subtlety of Holton's interpretation and the breadth of his vision. Happily, he is a fine teller of stories,

Julie A. Campbell is editor of Virginia Cavalcade magazine. She works in the Publications and Educational Services Division at the Library of Virginia. Staff members from other divisions of the Library occasionally contribute to "Virginia Books" and are so noted in their bylines.

and the narrative is highly readable. The people who made the American Revolution in Virginia — gentry, British officials, merchants, farmers, slaves, debtors, creditors, Indians, and all the others — have their chronicler. This is an important work of scholarship as well as a familiar story made fresh and enthralling.

—reviewed by John T. Kneebone,
Director, Publications and Educational
Services Division



Timothy S. Huebner, *The Southern Judicial Tradition: State Judges and Sectional Distinctiveness, 1790–1890*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1999. viii + 263 pp. \$45.00 (hardcover).

This volume, part of the Studies in the Legal History of the South series, treats several important interpretive themes that currently abound in the literature of southern history. It does so by presenting biographies of six nineteenth-century southern appellate court judges and links them by analyzing their opinions on a series of interrelated topics: federalism and the respective roles and powers of the national and state governments; southern violence; race relations; and economic development. The author considers one judge each from Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and Texas. As the subtitle indicates, one interpretive thread is the old question of whether, or if so to what extent, the South was really different from the rest of the nation.

The book begins with Virginia's Spencer Roane (1762–1822), who served on the Virginia Court of Appeals from 1789 until his death and was during much of that time one of the most famous and influential state judges in the United States. He was the direct opposite in many respects of Virginia's best-known judge, Chief Justice John Marshall.

This was most pronounced in the different ways that Roane and Marshall understood the relationship between the state and national governments. Marshall might be said to have been the principal expounder of a political and legal theory that envisioned a large role for the national government, whereas Roane was certainly the most forceful early judicial advocate of the states'-rights philosophy that such Virginians as John Taylor, of Caroline, and John Randolph, of Roanoke, espoused in politics, and that John C. Calhoun and later advocates of Southern nationalism developed further.

Huebner's study, which examines some judges who served until

Cornell concludes that the Anti-Federalist tradition of political dissent is as strong as ever.

nearly the end of the nineteenth century, suggests that in spite of Roane's great initial influence, the course of southern legal history during the nineteenth century gradually brought the practice of law and the workings of the state judicial systems more into line with national developments. Perhaps this is best symbolized by the odd fact that when the Supreme Court of the United States first ruled on the constitutionality of conscription during World War I, it cited state supreme court cases that southern judges had written during the Civil War to justify the Confederacy's draft law.

This rich book illuminates a number of important trends and themes in southern legal and social history.

—reviewed by Brent Tarter, Assistant
Director, Publications and Educa-
tional Services Division



Saul Cornell, *The Other Founders: Anti-Federalism & the Dissenting Tradition in America, 1788–1828*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1999. x + 327 pp. \$55.00 (hardcover), \$19.95 (softcover).

Saul Cornell's *The Other Founders* examines Anti-Federalist rhetoric during the ratification of the federal Constitution and its influence on American political dissent during the next forty years. Dissenters feared that the new national government would arrogate political power into its hands, thereby threatening liberty. Anti-Federalists therefore countered Federalist arguments for a strong national government with their own for a limited central government and a strictly construed constitution. Cornell contends that Anti-Federalist writings are as legitimate sources for constitutional interpretation as Federalist writings and demonstrates how the Democratic-Republican opposition to the Federalist party in power in the 1790s reinterpreted the *Federalist Papers* as a strict constructionist document.

In the first two-thirds of the work, Cornell presents a wide array of mainly northern Anti-Federalist thought, from elitist through middling democratic and populist to radical localism. Disparate advocates of localism offered a wide variety of arguments, first against the constitution, and then for its strict interpretation. As the new national government expanded its authority in the 1790s, culminating in the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798, these strands of Anti-Federalism coalesced into the Democratic-Republican opposition, resulting in the first American party system.

The last third of the *Other Founders* addresses southern Anti-Federalism and dissent and their evolution into states' rights. Cornell also details how this southern dissent complemented and contrasted with northern dissent during con-

stitutional crises between 1800 and 1828. Lastly, he examines how the Anti-Federalist tradition of dissent remained alive in the American political spirit even when historians and political scientists dismissed its rhetoric. Cornell concludes that the Anti-Federalist tradition of political dissent is as strong as ever.

—reviewed by Trenton Hizer, *Private Papers Archivist, Description Services*



Stephen Cushman, *Bloody Promenade: Reflections on a Civil War Battle*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1999. xiv + 320 pp. \$29.95 hardcover.

Early in May 1864, Ulysses S. Grant began his assault against Robert E. Lee in the scarred battleground between Fredericksburg and Richmond. Beginning with the Battle of the Wilderness on 5 and 6 May, their armies fought each other without ceasing for forty days. At the end of the campaign, Grant had failed to crush Lee's army or capture the Confederate capital of Richmond, but in the process both armies had lost about forty-five percent of their strength. Some of the worst fighting came at the Wilderness. Grant lost fifteen percent of his army and Lee twelve percent of his.

Stephen Cushman, a critic, poet, and professor of English at the University of Virginia, resides near the Wilderness battleground. Like another author, Peter Svenson, who lived at a farm on the Cross Keys battlefield, Cushman was emotionally affected by his proximity to the scene of so much carnage. Unlike Svenson, who wrote *Battlefield: Farming a Civil War Battleground*, Cushman has explored the various ways that people before him have written about the battle. Examining not only contemporary newspapers, diaries, letters, periodicals, and memoirs, Cushman also delves into fictional accounts, poems, and

the approaches to reinterpretation that modern-day reenactors and Civil War buffs (a term he explores) take.

At the same time, however, Cushman has inserted himself into the writing, so that he could "balance subjectivity with objectivity, engagement with detachment." What he calls the "unapproachable" nature of some of his sources also compelled him to use the first person. "If I were a novelist or a better writer," he explains, "I might have found a way to introduce sub-

**Cushman was
emotionally affected by
his proximity to the scene
of so much carnage.**

jectivity apart from myself." The approach leads him to, among other things, compare what he learned about the conflict as a child with what his young son is absorbing from Virginia's standards of learning. He also ponders historical preservation: "It's much easier to persuade someone young of the importance of May 1864 when you're both standing in the quiet woods along the Mill Branch of Wilderness Run than it is when you're shouting at each other to be heard above six lanes of traffic roaring past Salem Church." He ends his musings with a few of his own poems.

As Cushman weaves together his new perspective on the Wilderness, he gives readers familiar with the battle "another approach to what they already know." For those with no knowledge of the event, he includes a brief description of the battle so that they will appreciate the significance of that cataclysmic event.

—reviewed by Emily Salmon, *Senior Copy Editor*



Robert Francis Engs, *Educating the Disfranchised and Disinherited: Samuel Chapman Armstrong and Hampton Institute, 1839–1893*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1999. xx + 207 pp. \$32.50 (hardcover).

Samuel Chapman Armstrong, son of white missionaries, was the first principal of Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, which opened in Virginia in 1868 to educate African Americans. In this first scholarly examination of Armstrong, Robert Francis Engs, author of *Freedom's First Generation: Black Hampton, Virginia, 1861–1890*, assesses Armstrong's successes and failures with critical but even-handed analysis. Armstrong was a man of his time, committed to educating African Americans after the Civil War but also a believer in the superiority of white people. His missionary upbringing and his childhood in the multiethnic, predominantly non-European society of Hawaii were the defining attributes of his vision for Hampton. Armstrong led black troops during the Civil War and served with the Freedmen's Bureau in Virginia, two experiences that convinced him of his role in guiding black southerners in the postbellum South.

Industrial education was central to Armstrong's philosophy, the origins of which Engs traces to his father, Richard, who established missionary schools in Hawaii before 1860. For Armstrong, the method promoted self-discipline and self-sufficiency and, in the case of Hampton students, provided a means of support in addition to teaching. He believed that the "normal school graduate of the South should be of the people—above them yet of them—in order to make natural or probable a life-long service in their behalf."

Engs conveys Armstrong's utter commitment to his institution. He achieved his goal of preparing teachers who spread his philoso-

phy throughout the South. Booker T. Washington, his protégé and perhaps the best-known alumnus, joined the Hampton staff several years after graduating. Armstrong later recommended Washington as principal of a normal school at Tuskegee, Alabama, and the younger man often turned to his mentor for advice.

Engs also ably divulges the truth about the propaganda Armstrong promoted. The emphasis on industrial education and his failure to espouse full equality for blacks made him a target for later generations of African American writers and historians, who perceived his programs as accommodationist. Engs is careful to explain that what industrial education meant by 1900 was not what Armstrong intended in 1868.

—reviewed by Barbara Batson,
Exhibits Coordinator



Robert A. Hohner, *Prohibition and Politics: The Life of Bishop James Cannon, Jr.* Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1999. xiv + 454 pp. \$45.00.

During the first half of the twentieth century, Methodist bishop James Cannon was probably the most famous Virginian in the country. He led the state and national campaigns for prohibition of alcohol. In opposition to prominent church leaders, he championed social reform work within the Methodist Church and advocated unification of the northern and southern branches of the church that had split apart over the issue of slavery in the 1840s. Cannon traveled widely in the United States, Europe, Africa, and in South America on behalf of Methodist missions. He campaigned vigorously against the 1928 Democratic Party presidential candidate, Alfred E. Smith, on the twin grounds that Smith was opposed to prohibition and that he was a Catholic. Cannon denounced

the Catholic Church as inimical to American freedoms. At the same time, Cannon was an early advocate of ecumenical cooperation among American Christian denominations. He also figured in sensational investigations of his stock market trading and his personal life, including an accusation of adultery.

This excellent biography, the result of more than thirty years of research, treats all aspects of Cannon's fascinating career. He had a strong sense of moral self-righteousness and was a combative person,

**...the evolution of an
American city's built
environment is
stunningly illustrated**

so in almost every one of his many campaigns, he antagonized as many powerful people as he energized. Although Cannon was often perceived as deeply conservative, he was a reformer on many matters, which often put him in conflict with the more conservative leadership of the southern Methodist church. Even among those with whom he was in general agreement, there were reservations about his overtly political leadership in the fight for prohibition and in the 1928 campaign.

This new biography is an important addition to the literature on twentieth-century Virginia history, as well as southern history, the history of moral reform movements in the United States, and the religious and church history of the modern South.

—reviewed by Brent Tarter, Assistant Director, Publications and Educational Services Division



Elisabeth and Wayne Dementi, comps. and eds., and Corrine Hudgins, *Celebrate Richmond: The Dementi Family of Photographers.* Richmond: Dietz Press, 1999. xv + 184 pp. \$29.95 hardcover.

For seventy-five years, the Dementi family of photographers has chronicled the lives of Richmonders and the changing face of the city that Douglas Southall Freeman called "the Riviera of the South." This collection of images from the Dementi archives reflects the community, its special occasions, its visitors, and its ever-changing skyline and streetscapes. Dr. Freeman's city is charmingly recalled by one of Richmond's most famous literary sons, Tom Wolfe, in his foreword to *Celebrate Richmond*. Wolfe uses the lens of the Dementi Studio to recall the elegantly dressed gentlemen of his youth who stood on Fourth Street to follow the World Series, or who gazed admiringly across the hood of Jack Dempsey's touring car as the boxer posed outside Broad Street Station. Wolfe's meditation on Richmond in the 1930s and 1940s is an apt accompaniment to the photographs of the city as it was and of the metropolis that now stands along the James River.

The first section of *Celebrate Richmond*, entitled "Same Scene: Then and Now," provides the most graphic of these comparisons. By pairing images taken by the Dementi cameras over the decades, the evolution of an American city's built environment is stunningly illustrated. This process can be a source of civic pride, as seen in the views of a hardscrabble commercial block at Sixth and Grace in the 1920s giving way to the incomparable Loew's Theatre of the 1930s and to its present-day incarnation as the Carpenter Center for the Performing Arts. In contrast, a pair of photographs tells a cautionary tale of changing architectural styles

by illustrating the stately American National Bank Building at Tenth and Main streets—as it was built in 1912 and then after suffering a brutal remodeling in the 1960s and 1970s. Chapter 2, “Change and Growth: Then and Now,” chronicles dramatic alterations in Richmond, as depicted in the photographs of a small hangar at Byrd Field proudly labeled “Central Airport,” accompanied by a shot of the now-sprawling Richmond International Airport.

Many of Richmond’s oldest family enterprises (including the Dementi family of photographers) go back several generations, as illustrated in the section of *Celebrate Richmond* called “A Century or More of Service.” The sections entitled “Special Moments” and “Memories” provide a panorama of Richmond scenes and history, from quiet private times to grand public events. These views include the now-vanished Tobacco Festival parades, raucous military parades, and sunny storefronts where 1948 Packards gleam in showroom windows. The excitement of gubernatorial inaugurations is captured as is the anticipation of students at the Richmond Barber School, who wait beside their chairs for customers to come in the door from Broad Street.

For native Richmonders, the photographs in *Celebrate Richmond* recall many scenes that have passed into memory. For newcomers, this volume illuminates the literal and cultural foundation of the city that exists today.

—reviewed by Selden Richardson,
Plans and Drawings Archivist, Description Services

Virginia Bookends

Two Virginians have issued collections of poetry through Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge. David Huddle is a native of Virginia, though a resident of Vermont. His *Summer Lake: New and Selected Poems* (1999. 172 pp. \$26.95 hardcover, \$19.95 softcover) contains verse on a range of subjects, including “Things I Know, Things I Don’t”: “Virginia in early October/is a soft countryside, color not yet/in the trees but the leaves’ green going pale,/the sunlight’s angle sharp,/the birds about/to move.” Dabney Stuart, professor of English at Washington and Lee, collects his poems in *Settlers* (1999. 75 pp. \$19.95 hardcover, \$12.95 softcover). His territory extends as far as New Mexico, but he also writes about “Appalachian Spring”: “Space is outer, everywhere./Its intimate, indifferent/Music fiddles and cajoles./People ride their buckboards toward it./Life is leaving again, and they are/Enabled by the promise being kept.”

Elizabeth and Charlie Skinner will take you *Bicycling the Blue Ridge: A Guide to the Skyline Drive and the Blue Ridge Parkway* (Birmingham, AL: Menasha Ridge Press, 1999, third edition. 65 pp. \$12.95 softcover). They apparently know what they are talking about: “If we have learned nothing else in our thousands of miles logged on the Parkway and the Skyline Drive, it is that cycling is much more enjoyable if you can somehow manage to suspend all worry about elevation and just take it as it comes.”

Robert Isbell profiles makers of furniture, players of banjos, and tellers of stories in *The Keepers: Mountain Folk Holding on to Old Skills and Talents* (Winston Salem,

NC: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1999. xi + 129 pp. \$16.95 softcover). Arthur Tilley contributes warm photographs of the keepers themselves, who live in North Carolina and Virginia. “Authentic skills of bygone days still exist,” writes Isbell. “Hidden in the coves and valleys of the Appalachians are diminishing numbers of artists and artisans who still conform to the teachings of their forebears.”

Robert K. Headley Jr. has reprinted a book of interest to researchers of family history, *Genealogical Abstracts from 18th-Century Virginia Newspapers* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1987; reprint 1999. xxii + 470 pp. \$35.00 hardcover). Headley works on a large scale, carving out material from seven thousand issues of eighty Virginia newspapers of the eighteenth century, ending up with abstracts of some ten thousand tidbits and an index to ten thousand people. “If you’ve hit a dead end in your Virginia research,” says the descriptive flyer, “this may be the way out.”

Luckily for readers and for posterity, Catherine Blake Hathaway succumbed to the blandishments of her grandsons and wrote *When Dabba Was Young: Growing Up in a Fine Little Town Called Kilmarnock* (P.O. Box 2276, Kilmarnock, VA 22482: Kilmarnock Museum, Inc., 1999. xi + 219 pp. \$14.95 softcover). “Knowing that my happy childhood and growing-up years made such an impression on them,” Hathaway writes in the foreword, “I had a great desire to tell them about the old days when life was more relaxed, and the pace far from hectic.” Proceeds from the sale of her book go to the Kilmarnock Museum.

—reviewed by Julie A. Campbell