

# READ

## Readers Section Newsletter

*"Never apologize for what you read"*

Volume 17, No. 1

Spring 2009

### FROM THE CHAIR

As I write this entry for the spring newsletter, I am thinking about the many people who have re-discovered the public library during this rough economic time in our country. It has solidified the strong presence of libraries and those that work in them to be the place to go for information, Internet access, movies, music and of course a good book.

Be sure to check out Vice-Chair Elizabeth's Eisen's column about the programs being offered by our section at the upcoming WAPL conference in Wisconsin Dells. And if you have not already heard, our unit is co-sponsoring a post conference with the Adult Reading Roundtable headquartered in Illinois called "Sharing our Stories" beginning Friday, May 8 in the evening and continuing on Saturday, May 9. Our unit owes a HUGE thank you to Gary Warren Niebuhr for putting together an exciting and amazing group of speakers and programs. Special thanks also go to Colleen Crowley for heading up the publicity.

New officers wanted!! If you are interested in being part of the READ board, please contact me at [jeinwalt@mwfls.org](mailto:jeinwalt@mwfls.org). This is a wonderful opportunity to become more involved with WLA.

### READ Sponsored Programs at the Upcoming WAPL Conference

By: Elizabeth Eisen  
Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, READ Section

#### ***Audiobooks – Who Listens, How to Understand, Doing Audiobook***

#### ***Advisory Interviews Presented by:***

**Jessica E. Moyer, M.S., C.A.S.,  
Doctoral Student, Literacy  
Education Coordinator and  
Teaching Assistant, College of  
Education and Human  
Development, University of  
Minnesota-Twin Cities.**

Audiobooks are increasingly popular with library patrons as commute times increase. Jessica will present an overview of audiobooks in libraries, including the many possible formats, the key differences between listening to a book and reading a book, and major publishers, distributors and narration will be reviewed. Learn the basics of providing advisory for listeners including one way to get to know your audio collection, "How to Listen to an Audiobook in 15 Minutes".



## ***Notable Genre Book Discussion***

**Presented by:**

**Desiree Bongers, Library Director,  
Ripon Public Library**

**Vicki Lenz, Circulation Services**

**Supervisor, Appleton Public Library**

**Rhonda Puntney, Youth Services  
and Special Needs Consultant,**

**Lakeshores Library System**

**Cecilia Wiltzius, Library Director,**

**Karl Junginger Memorial Library**

This annual program features panelists discussing award winners and other great titles in a variety of genres including vampire fiction, Wisconsin and Upper Peninsula authors, historical fiction, and memoirs.

## ***Read 'Em Their Writes***

**Presented by:**

**Gary Warren Niebuhr, Library**

**Director, Greendale Public Library**

Gary will present a PowerPoint program for anyone interested in learning book discussion leadership skills based on techniques in Gary's book, *Read 'Em Their Writes*. Books will be available for sale and signing.



So You Want to Read More  
About...**Zombies!**

1. ***Zombies: A Field Guide to the Walking Dead*** by Bob Curran (2009) (Nonfiction)

The concept of zombies, like vampires and werewolves, goes back to ancient folkloric beliefs. Curran traces the evolution of belief in the "walking dead" through its historical context in ancient

religions, myths and legends, to the cataleptics of 18<sup>th</sup> century Europe.

2. ***Patient Zero*** by Jonathan Maberry (2009) (Science fiction)

Joe Ledger, Baltimore detective, has been recruited to the Department of Military Sciences, the newest government taskforce created for problems that Homeland Security can't handle. A terrible bio-weapon is in the hands of terrorists that can bring back the dead as zombies and Ledger's team must find a way to stop them.

3. ***Breathers: A Zombie's Lament*** by S. G. Browne (2009) (Romance/Comedy)

Andy Warner is recently dead and a new zombie. He is having trouble adjusting to his new existence so he attends an Undead Anonymous meeting and meets new zombie friends. Unfortunately, they meet a rogue zombie who introduces them to the joys of eating people and things take a turn for the worse. Described by its author as a romantic zombie comedy (rom-zom-com, for short), this debut novel offers both gore and laughs, providing an entry point for the squeamish to begin their foray into zombie lit.

4. ***The Living Dead*** (2008) (Short Story Anthology)

This anthology gathers together the best zombie literature of the last three decades from many of today's most renowned authors of fantasy, speculative fiction, and horror, including Stephen King, Harlan Ellison, Robert Silverberg, George R. R. Martin, Clive Barker, Poppy Z. Brite, Neil Gaiman, Joe Hill, Laurell K. Hamilton, and Joe R. Lansdale.

5. ***World War Z*** by Max Brooks (2006)  
(Mainstream Bestseller)

Written as a companion to the official report from the United Nations, this book, which hit the New York Times bestseller list in October 2006, tells the story of the decade-long war of humans against the zombies created by a viral pandemic which began in China. Since zombies feel no pain or fear, they are nigh on unstoppable. Commenting on government ineptitude, survivalism, and corporate corruption among other themes, the book has been optioned to be produced by Brad Pitt's production company, Plan B Entertainment.

6. ***The Walking Dead*** by Robert Kirkman, et. al. (2003-) (Graphic Novels)

At 55 issues and counting, Kirkman's series about a group of human survivors who have banded together to search for a secure location now that the world is overrun with zombies has been collected in ten volumes. Centered on a small-town police officer from Kentucky, his family, and a few others, the stories grow in depth as the ongoing stress of the zombie apocalypse inevitably changes them.

7. ***The Missing*** by Sarah Langan (2007) (Horror)

A remote community in Maine is infected with an ancient plague that transforms its victims into violent and hungry zombies.

8. ***The Laughing Corpse*** by Laurell K. Hamilton (1994) (Fantasy)

Back before Anita Blake spent all her time trying to figure out her love life, she had a job as an animator, raising the dead to settle questions of murder, inheritance, and secrets left too late. Turning down a highly lucrative offer to

raise a 300-year-old zombie, which would require a human sacrifice, Anita soon finds that someone else did the job and the zombie is on a killer rampage.

9. ***The Stupidest Angel: A Heartwarming Tale of Christmas Terror*** by Christopher Moore (2004)  
(Holiday/Comedy)

A seven-year-old boy in Sleepy Pine Cove, Calif. thinks he's seen Santa Claus murdered so he prays for a miracle to bring Santa back to life. The Archangel Raziel of the title comes down to grant the boy's wish and ends up raising the dearly departed of the entire town, who promptly begin feasting on the living.



**And the Winners are.....**

[www.rwanational.org](http://www.rwanational.org)

2008 RITA Winner for Best Historical  
Romance

***Lessons of Desire***

by Madeline Hunter

2008 RITA Winner for Best Inspirational  
Romance

***A Touch of Grace***

by Linda Goodnight

2008 RITA Winner for Best Paranormal  
Romance

***Lover Revealed***

by J.R. Ward

2008 RITA Winner for Best First Book

***Dead Girls are Easy***

by Terri Garey

2008 RITA Winner for Best  
Contemporary Series Romance  
***Snowbound***  
by Janice Johnson

2008 RITA Winner for Best  
Contemporary Series Romance:  
Suspense/Adventure  
***Treasure***  
by Helen Brenna

2008 RITA Winner for Best  
Contemporary Single Title Romance  
***Catch of the Day***  
by Kristan Higgins

2008 RITA Winner for Best Novel with  
Strong Romantic Elements  
***Silent in the Grave***  
by Deanna Raybourn

2008 RITA Winner for Best Regency  
Historical Romance  
***The Secret Diaries of Miss Miranda  
Cheever***  
by Julia Quinn

2008 RITA Winner for Best Romance  
Novella  
"Born in my Heart" in ***Like Mother,  
Like Daughter***  
by Jennifer Greene

2008 RITA Winner for Best Romantic  
Suspense  
***Ice Blue***  
by Anne Stuart

2008 RITA for Best Young Adult  
Romance  
***Wicked Lovely***  
by Melissa Marr



**Saving the Earth: Ecology Books  
(Not Only) for Young Adults**  
Recommended by the Cooperative  
Children's Book Center

**50 Simple Things You Can Do to  
Save the Earth.** Javna, John and  
Sophie Javna, Jesse Javna. Hyperion,  
2008. 128 pages. Age 14 and older. A  
new edition, revised and updated, with  
50 of America's top environmental  
groups choosing one issue each to  
develop a step-by-step program  
promoting citizen activism in the fight  
to save the Earth. For example: Fight  
global warming "one city at a time" with  
the Sierra Club's Cool Cities Campaign;  
save an endangered species with the  
Wilderness Society; protect coral reefs  
and create a marine reserve with  
Seacology; invite songbirds into your  
neighborhood with the National  
Audubon Society.

**An Inconvenient Truth: the Crisis of  
Global Warming.** Gore, Al.  
Viking/Rodale, 2007. 191 pages. Ages  
11-16. Gore brings together leading-  
edge research from top scientists  
around the world; photographs, charts,  
and other illustrations; and personal  
anecdotes and observations to  
document the fast pace and wide scope  
of global warming. He presents, with  
alarming clarity and conclusiveness,  
that the fact of global warming is not in  
question and that its consequences for  
the world we live in will be disastrous if  
left unchecked.

**How To Survive in Antarctica.**  
Bledsoe, Lucy Jane. Holiday House,  
2006. 101 pages. Ages 9-14. How do  
you go to the bathroom while camping  
in Antarctica? Very quickly! In a  
fascinating volume, author Bledsoe  
shares her experiences and adventures

as a visitor to the Antarctic as part of the Antarctic Artists and Writers Program. Bledsoe addresses readers as if they are preparing for their own Antarctic expedition.

**Stripes of the Sidestep Wolf.** Hartnett, Sonya. Candlewick, 2005. 208 pages. Ages 14-18. (Fiction) Two loners in a country town find cause for hope when one of them encounters a long-lost animal (thought to be extinct) in this tale about daring to live a life beyond expectations.

**Siberia: A Novel.** Halam, Ann. Wendy Lamb Books/Random House, 2005. 262 pages. Ages 11-15. In a camp for political prisoners a girl hides an incredible treasure: a box containing the genetic material of all wild animal species on Earth. The futuristic setting, on an Earth that has undergone major climate change and species extinction, unites science, animal welfare, and one girl's brave attempt to make a change.

**The Whale Rider.** Ihimaera, Witi. Harcourt, 2003. 152 pages. Ages 13-18. (Fiction) Eight-year-old Kahu, a member of the Maori tribe of New Zealand, fights to prove her love, her leadership, and her destiny when hundreds of whales beach themselves and threaten the future of the Maori tribe. Kahu reveals that she has the Whale Rider's ancient gift of communicating with whales.

The titles above were chosen from Eco-Reading: Selected Books for Children and Teens about Our Earth and the Environment, by Tessa Michaelson and Megan Schliesman. © 2008 Cooperative Children's Book Center For the list of recommended titles for pre-readers through high school with annotations by

CCBC staff, click on [Complete List \(All CCBC Bibliographies of Recommended Books](http://www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/books/bibBio.asp) at <http://www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/books/bibBio.asp>.



## SAVING OUR STORIES: A READER'S ADVISORY POSTCONFERENCE

The Reader's Section of the Wisconsin Library Association and the Adult Reading Round Table (ARRT) of Illinois are collaborating to bring you a post-conference following the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries annual spring conference. This is part of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of ARRT.

On May 8 & 9 at the Glacier Canyon Lodge in Wisconsin Dells, the two groups will celebrate **Saving Our Stories: A Reader's Advisory Post Conference**. Cost is \$90 for non-WLA members which includes registration for all programs on Friday evening and Saturday as well as a lunch buffet on Saturday. Registration for the post-conference can be done through the WAPL form located at this link [http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/wapl/conferences/2009/registration\\_2009.pdf](http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/wapl/conferences/2009/registration_2009.pdf) or online through WLA at <http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/wapl/conferences/2009/postconf/index.htm>.

Here is the schedule of events for this fun event.

### Friday, May 8

**5:00-7:00 pm:** 2 entry Evening buffet in the Wilderness 4, 5 & 6 rooms with a

cash bar. The buffet is an additional charge of \$29 to the registration fee.

**7:00-8:00 pm:** Barry Trott: *The Appealing Challenges and Opportunities for Reader's Advisory in the Next Quarter Century*

**8:00-9:30 pm:** *Reading Trivia: At Last, I Am No Longer a Geek!* Three teams of four librarians go head to head in a trivia contest. Team leaders are Jessica Moyer, Kaite Stover, Barry Trott. Points are awarded to audience members smarter than the panelists! Prizes--geeks don't need no stinkin' prizes!

**9:30-??** Quiet time for reading (or the bar is still open)

## **Saturday, May 9**

**7:00-8:30 am:** Breakfast buffet  
The continental bagel and fruit breakfast buffet is an additional charge of \$12.00 to the registration fee.

Please note: Throughout the day attendees will be able to schedule one-on-one sessions with RA experts. Please use your registration form to express your interest and you will be contacted by an ARRT member to arrange for your session.

**8:30-9:30 am:** Session One  
Ted Balcom: *The Appeal of Book Discussions*  
Jessica Moyer: *The Appeal of YA Books for Adults*

**9:45-10:45 am:** Session Two  
Katie Stover: *The Appeal of Sports Narrative Non-fiction*  
Rebecca Vnuk: *The Appeal of Women's Fiction*

**11:00-12:00 pm:** Session Three  
Gary Warren Niebuhr: *Mystery vs. Crime Novels: The Difference is in the Appeal*  
Maureen Welch: *Romance: An Appeal Across All Genres*

**12:00-1:30 pm**  
Lunch buffet (included in the price of registration)  
Luncheon Speaker: Katie Stover

**1:45-2:45 pm:** Session Four  
Becky Siegel Spratford: *The Appeal of Horror: How to Help Your Scariest Patrons*  
Roberta Johnson and Karen Kleckner Keefe: *Booktalk Slam*

**3:00-4:00 pm:** Session Five  
Barry Trott: *The Appeal of Cyberspace*  
Ricki Nordmyer: *The Appeal of Great Displays*



It was a book to kill  
time for those who  
like it better dead.

**Dame Rose Macaulay (1881 - 1958)**

Be careful about  
reading health books.  
You may die of a  
misprint.

**Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)**

### **Join Readers Section!**

Readers Section is not just for readers advisory librarians. If you like to read or if you work with patrons who like to read, please join Readers Section the next time you renew your WLA membership. Tell our friends about us too. We need your financial support, knowledge and participation.

This semiannual newsletter is produced by the Readers Section. Articles may be sent to Stacey Lunsford (Editor) Irvin L. Young Memorial Library, 431 W Center St, Whitewater WI 53190, Fax 262-473-0539, lunsford@mwfls.org

Chair: Jennifer Einwalter, Slinger Community Library  
Chair-elect: Elizabeth Eisen, Appleton Public Library.  
Secretary: Laurie Freund, Waukesha Co. Fed. Library System

