



HAS IT REALLY BEEN 30 YEARS?

SPOTLIGHT ON GAY JOHNSON PIGGOTT LIBRARY DIRECTOR

there and watch. Then I burst out laughing. We finally came to our senses and got to work. We didn't even lose on fish!

What has been your most memorable experience working at the library? *I have always loved working with the children. Providing a story times, Toddler Times, Summer Reading Programs, visiting Headstart and school groups have been very rewarding for me.*

If you won the lottery, what would be the first thing you would do? *My husband (Glenn) and I have bought tickets for years dreaming of what we would do if we won. I can honestly say "I don't know what I would do if we won." Probably faint!*

What's the best way you would describe yourself? *I would like to be thought of as friendly, fair and faithful to my work.*

In Hindsight
Over the past 30 years I have many types of experiences, some good and some not so good.

I would like to thank that I have grown by and with these experiences. I do feel like I have grown with the many changes that have occurred with the Library throughout the years. I can honestly say that working at the library "there is never a dull moment!"



Ray Bradbury a prominent Science Fiction author was quoted once by saying "Without libraries what have we? We have no past and no future".

I want to thank Gay Johnson, Director of the Piggott Public Library for her service the past thirty years. Many things have changed for the better during this period of time at the library and I feel it is in no small part to her foresight, planning and dedication to service for the public. I also feel secure that the future is bright as well since Ms. Johnson still has that unwavering dedication to serving the public. Thank you Gay, for both your past service as well as the many years of future service for the library and its patrons.

- Mike Rogers, Director, Northeast Arkansas Regional Library

What's the first thought that comes into your mind when you wake up? *What day is it? Where do I need to go? And what do I need to get done?*

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be? *I would be happy anywhere as long as I am close to my family and friends.*

What's been your favorite part of your job? *My favorite part has to be getting to know the patrons. Over the years I have meet some wonderful people. Many of the ones that I met in my early years are now bring in their children and they are bringing their grandchildren! This gives me a warm feeling of belonging.*

What's your least favorite part of your job? *My least favorite is the paperwork. Over the years the paperwork and reports have increased, but sadly time did not!*

What do you think are the most important things in your life? *My faith, family and friends are very important to me. I try to include each of these into my daily life and my work.*

What's the best book(s) you've ever read? *I have always been an avid reader, So I couldn't say I have a favorite book, but I do have several writers that I read faithfully: James Patterson, John Sandford, Elizabeth Lowell, J. D. Robb, J. A. Jance, Faye Kellerman, and Catherine Coutler are just a few.*

What's the funniest thing that has happened at the library? *We were decorating for Christmas one year, and wanted to put a table runner under our aquarium. We were just going to lift it a little. When Sherry put pressure on the glass - it broke! Water was running everywhere and all we could do was stand*



With Compliments of your Public Library

NORTHEAST ARKANSAS REGIONAL LIBRARY

CORNING PUBLIC LIBRARY CORNING GREENE COUNTY LIBRARY PARAGOULD PIGGOTT PUBLIC LIBRARY PIGGOTT RANDOLPH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY POCAHONTAS RECTOR PUBLIC LIBRARY RECTOR

Corning Library
613 Pine Street Corning, AR 72422

(870) 857-3453
email: corning@mylibrarynow.org
web: www.mylibrarynow.org/corning

Mon, Tue, Thu 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wed 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fri 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Greene County Public Library
120 North Twelfth Street, Paragould, AR 72450

(870) 236-8711
email: greene@mylibrarynow.org
web: www.mylibrarynow.org/greene

Mon - Thu 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Fri 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sat 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Piggott Public Library
361 West Main Street, Piggott, AR 72454

(870) 598-3666
email: piggott@mylibrarynow.org
web: www.mylibrarynow.org/piggott

Mon, Tue, Thu 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wed 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fri 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Randolph County Library
111 West Everett Street, Pocahontas, AR

(870) 892-5617
email: randolph@mylibrarynow.org
web: www.mylibrarynow.org/randolph

Mon, Tue, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wed - Fri 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

Rector Library
121 West 4th Street, Rector, AR 72461-1309

(870) 595-2410
email: rector@mylibrarynow.org
web: www.mylibrarynow.org/rector

Mon, Tue, Thu 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wed 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fri 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sat 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sun Closed

BOOK SALE!

SUPPORT YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
your community and your future

Recently and in the next few weeks several libraries within the Northeast Arkansas Regional Library system will have had public book sales. These book sales help augment local library funding. Like the rest of the community funding is becoming difficult and every effort counts. In Corning this book sale was to help with the fund raising for the new building extension

Corning Public Library: The book sale to raise funds for the new Corning Public Library in September expansion saw 100 people come out to the sale and sold \$503.81. Library Director, Kathy Butler thought it was a great turn out and very successful.



Future Books Sales

The Greene County Public Library: The library in Paragould has a special book sale starting Saturday October 22nd. This is above and beyond its continuing book sale in the foyer of the Wright Memorial Library Building.



Randolph County Public Library: Randolph County Public Library will have its annual book sale between November 14th and 19th.



HAS IT REALLY BEEN 30 YEARS?

In October 1981 a young lady joined the Piggott Public Library Staff, now after 30 years of faithful service we celebrate it's Director Gay Johnson.

continued on back page



**CORNING
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

**NOT SO SCARY
STORY TIME**

Your Corning Public Library will welcome the gathering of pumpkins and princesses, superheroes and fairies, and many other for a Not So Scary Halloween-themed Story Time on Saturday October 22 at 11:00.

Bring your ghost and goblins and of course their Trick or Treat bag ... there will be candy.

Event Disclaimer: *The Halloween events we post as "Non-Scary Halloween Events" are not INTENDED to be scary so that small children can enjoy them, too. However, there are many aspects of the Halloween celebration - costumes, masks, carved pumpkins, scarecrows, witches, etc. - that a child may personally find to be frightening. Please use your discretion when deciding to attend a Non-scary Halloween Event with your little one. Nobody knows your child better than you!*



Collection development is an important part of a librarian's job. Do you have a book, e-book, audiobook or video Suggestion? Let us know. We don't promise to order every book but we do promise to take your request into consideration when placing an order. Or, alternatively, go to the library website and click on Ask a Librarian (<http://www.mylibrarynow.org/narl/ask.html>) and use the online form to make your request.



QUILT RAFFLE FOR PIGGOTT LIBRARY
Tickets for a lovely Lonestar pattern quilt are now on sale by PHS Beta Club members and the Piggott Public Library. The quilt was generously given by an anonymous donor. Tickets are available for \$1 each. The funds will be used to cover the library's expenses in recent equipment purchases. The queen size quilt will be given away at the annual Christmas on the Square event by the Piggott Chamber of Commerce on Dec. 3. The quilt is on display at the Piggott Public Library.

**SORRY TO
BE SUCH
A GRINCH
BUT THE LIBRARY WILL
BE CLOSED ON THE
FOLLOWING DATES
FOR THE HOLIDAYS**



Clay County Libraries, Corning Piggott and Rector

Veteran's Day	November 11
Thanksgiving	November 24, 25
Christmas	December 23, 24, 26
New Year	January 2

Greene County Public Library

Veteran's Day	November 11
Thanksgiving	November 24, 25
Christmas	December 23, 24, 26
New Year	January 2

Randolph County Public Library

Veteran's Day	November 11, 12
Thanksgiving	November 24, 25
Christmas	December 23, 24, 26
New Year	January 2



**E-reader buying guide...
from a librarian's perspective**

In recent months, the popularity of devices known as e-readers have grown as the features on them have improved and prices have dropped. With so many gadgets on the market, it is a bit overwhelming for the casual user when it comes to purchasing one. We try to wade through the confusion and offer some buying advice based on how they work in regards to using them for reading e-books or listening to audio-books. We don't claim to be the top authority on them, but hope

to serve as just one view point before the holiday shopping season. In addition, we simply can't cover all the devices that are out there and are giving information on the ones we have actually used. For more technical reviews, www.cnet.com is a good resource for the buyer.

Kindle - The Kindle has been one of the devices that started the e-reader revolution. It is made by Amazon and content must be purchased solely from Amazon.com. In the past, the biggest complaint about the Kindle readers were that e-books could not be borrowed from your library on Kindle. Beginning in October, 2011, this was solved as Amazon and OverDrive e-book service came to agreement. Priced at \$79 with wi-fi.

Pros

- Huge number of available titles
- Borrowed e-books can be transferred to device wirelessly with no cord
- Price tag of \$79 for entry model very affordable
- No screen glare. The device uses technology that reads like a page of a book
- Long battery life. The rechargeable battery lasts much longer than many devices
- Offers a variety of text sizes and font styles

Cons

- Need access to a computer to borrow library e-books, even though you don't have to physically plug it in to computer.
- Limited audio-book capability
- Response on display a bit slow
- Limited format types



Kindle Fire - Just recently released in color positions itself against the Nook with a vast array of apps and Amazon content. Priced at \$199. Not reviewed.

Nook The Nook is Barnes and Noble's answer to Amazon's Kindle. The devices are similar in nature and price.

Pros

- Huge number of available titles
- No screen glare reads like book pages
- Long battery life
- Variety of text sizes and font styles
- Many format types supported
- Limited Apps available

Cons

- Extra steps to borrow e-books from your library. To borrow from library, the titles must be chosen on a computer or laptop, checked out, downloaded to Adobe Digital Editions (free download) and then plugged in via cord to transfer the title(s) over to the device.
- Limited audio-book capability.

NookColor - The big difference in the NookColor is color and the ability to surf the net. In addition to the Nook above:

Pros

- Color Screen
- Will surf Internet and download Apps

Cons

- A bit pricey at \$249 for casual user

Other dedicated eReaders include the Sony eReader, Kobo, and Literati

iPad - The iPad would be the choice for those who are not on a budget. The device is much more than an ereader. However, Overdrive (our ebook book provider has a downloadable app that allows you to access the collection and borrow audio and ebooks. Biggest drawback is stiff price of \$499.

Pros

- Easy to use
- Can browse library collection, check e-books out and read or listen to them all quickly and easily with no computer needed
- Full color High Def screen
- Much more than simply an e-reader
- Huge selection of apps

Cons

- Short battery life
- Larger than other devices
- Screen glare bad in full sun
- High price tag



Similar Tablet devices include the Android OS system such as the highly reviewed Galaxy Tab and Xoom, and Playbook. with similar pros and cons as the iPad. Overdrive also makes a free app for Android to borrow books.

iPhone and iPod Touch - The iPhone and iPod Touch are like a iPad Lite. If a small screen size does not bother you, this device is as easy to access the library e-book service as the iPad at lower price. This device wouldn't be the choice for a person that would be using it solely for reading. It makes a fine device to listen to audiobooks on and surfs the Internet as well as allows you to read e-books if the screen size doesn't bother you. Of the iPod Touch, think features of an iPhone without ability to use it as your phone. The iPod Touch is priced at \$199.

Pros

- Easy to use
- Can browse library collection, check e-books out and read or listen to them all quickly and easily with no computer needed
- Full color screen
- Huge selection of apps

Cons

- Short battery life
- Small screen might bother some
- Screen glare bad in full sun
- Not a dedicated e-reader

Similar devices with similar characteristics are the Android powered smart-Phones. As for the iPhone there is a special app from Overdrive to access the library's ebook collection.

NEED MORE HELP WITH eBOOKS?

Your local library will be hosting a training session in November with how-tos, helps, and tips on using your e-book with the Library's e-book collection. Examples of e-book devices and suggestions will be available for this year's Christmas stocking stuffers. Come along with your e-book and questions. The dates will be announced at your local branch and website so be on the look-out.