



### Letter from the Director

Welcome to our first library newsletter! In the five years that I have served as the Library Director, I have strived to continue the dedication of our first Library Director, Marsha Owens, to quality and responsive library services. One of the reasons we are so successful is through the professional and talented library staff. Please take the time to thank our wonderful staff: Patti Underwood, Barbara Moseley, Angela Rand, Patsy Rose, Sherry Brandler, Alisa McLeod, Maria Baroco, Andie Mewbourn and Seth Bowling.

This year the Orange Beach Public Library updated our mission statement and strategic plan. I want to thank everyone who helped in the process - Strategic Planning Committee Members Barbara Shaw, Lance Alexander, Miles Soberman, Marilyn Harrison, Bruce Hartfield, Herb Malone, Tina Hulen and Joan States-Davidson; Library Board Members Carol McCracken, Karen Clark, Larry Alexander, Jim Hultgren and Suzanne Laurier; OBPL Staff and everyone who responded to our Community Survey. The Library Board approved the mission statement and the direction provided through the new strategic plan at their regular meeting on November 7, 2007. The Orange Beach Public Library Strategic Plan 2007-2012 will be available on the website. The Strategic Plan is not a static document and will continue to change and grow. Your comments are always welcome.

This is an exciting time to work in a library. We love our books, but we're always looking for new ways to serve our community. Whether it is the 24/7 wireless access, special programs or free downloadable audio books, OBPL is always on the look out for new services that will benefit our library patrons. Did you know you can make a "suggestion for purchase" on our website or in person at the Circulation Desk? We want to provide the information you need and will purchase your suggestions subject only to our Collection Development Policy.

With this inaugural newsletter we celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Orange Beach Public Library - 1992 to 2007. Join with The Library Board, The Friends of the Library, Library Staff, Orange Beach City Government and your friends and neighbors in celebration of 15 years of great public library service in Orange Beach!

Bonnie Lee

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Orange Beach Public Library

Mission Statement

The mission of the Orange Beach Public Library is to provide our community free and open access to the information, materials and services they need for life-long learning, civic engagement and the exchange of ideas. To that end, the Orange Beach Public Library will hire and cultivate staff members with unparalleled levels of skill, integrity, and professional commitment.



*Did you know?*

*The Orange Beach Public Library accepts donations of used working cell phones for the Lighthouse. Just drop them off in the donation box.*

Board Members

**President**

Jim Hultgren

**Vice-President**

Karen Clark

**Treasurer**

Carol McCracken

**Secretary**

Suzanne Laurier

**City Council Liaison**

Larry Alexander

## Bonnie Lee Attends Think Ahead Symposium

Bonnie Lee, Director of the Orange Beach Public Library, attended the Thinking Ahead Symposium held at the Salt Lake City Public Library in Utah. Thinking Ahead is an interdisciplinary forum that fosters conversations about issues affecting the future of America's libraries. The three-day interdisciplinary forum offers an opportunity for librarians, politicians, community leaders, citizens and entrepreneurs to engage in meaningful dialogue about the future of our libraries and how they can best identify and address community needs. Technology has allowed libraries to change the way they deliver traditional library services making them more important than ever to our communities. They address and advance issues such as lifelong learning and intellectual freedom. Topics for the Thinking Ahead Symposium included librar-

ies as gathering places, the mutual benefit that occurs when libraries and communities work together, emerging media resources and issues, and library leadership and mentoring. Participants joined in conversations introduced and facilitated by experts in the library, information, and technology fields. Ms. Lee noted that the symposium was especially important "because libraries and their communities share a symbiotic relationship." The Orange Beach Public Library will be working on its 5-year strategic plan over the next year. "The desires and values of our community affect the mission and values of the library and we want to continue to be a trailblazing library which responds to the changes in our community, the direction and the expectations of Orange Beach citizens."

## LUG Laptop Users

The Orange Beach Public Library Laptop Users Group (LUG) meets on Mondays at 10 a.m. in the library meeting room. This group is designed for the new to intermediate user looking to learn computer skills. Attention is given to learning computer skills such as blogging, downloading audio books, burning CDs, and using RSS readers.

Web searches and general computer laptop care are also covered. All skill levels are encouraged to attend with their wireless accessible laptop computer. This program is free and open to the public.

For more information call Angela at 251-981-8179 or email her at [arand@cityoforangebeach.com](mailto:arand@cityoforangebeach.com)

## Readers Advisory Sherry Brandler, Circulation Supervisor



- Need a good book to read?
- Have you read all of the books written by your favorite author?
- Just tell us what author you like to read and we can suggest author read-a-likes.
- If you read a certain genre, OBPL can recommend titles for you!

See Sherry at the Circulation Desk for more information!



Best-selling authors, free software, free books, automatic return, no late fees and it's available anytime - have you tried Camellia Net, our free downloadable audio books? Camellia Net is available online from our website. Titles

can be downloaded to your MP3 player or your computer and some titles can even be burned to CD so that you can take them with you in your car. Download guides to computer basics, digital photography and e-bay, and study guides for Microsoft Office, the ACT, SAT and GED. [Call the library to get your PIN number.]

If you walk into the Orange Beach Public Library you will see some changes! The Orange Beach Public Library recently purchased additional book shelving. The circulation staff has been hard at work shifting books to make room for the growing collection. In the last few years, the collection has expanded by over 35,000 titles. This made for tight quarters on the book shelves.

"We are always looking for ways to improve the library facilities and our collections. Our bookshelves were overcrowded and hard to maintain. The additional 12 new sections of shelving will better house the collection allowing for easier browsing and location of our books by library users and staff." notes Bonnie Lee, Director.



## Orange Beach Library Online Databases

Got a paper to write for a class? Do the research in your jammies! The Orange Beach Library provides patrons with remote access to online literary criticism on novels, poetry and short stories through Gale Virtual Reference Library. These online databases contain easily accessible and context-rich discussions of the literary and historical significance of works from various cultures and time periods, including concise synopses of plot, characters and themes; a brief author biography; a discussion of the story's cultural and historical significance; and excerpted criticism.

Alabama Virtual Library and Homework Alabama are also available. These resources are great sources of information for students.

To use the databases click on Research on the library's web page and you're on your way to getting the information you need to write high school and college papers. Log in from home with your library bar code and pin number. Or visit the library and use the databases from one of the library's twenty-five patron use computers.



With the Orange Beach Public Library Online Language Learning Center patrons can choose to learn seven different languages. Each language offers approximately 90 hours of basic instruction contained in a carefully constructed sequence of 33 lessons. The first time you visit the site you will be required to create a user name and password for accessing Rosetta Stone. You will then be asked for your Orange Beach Library barcode number. The Rosetta Stone Language Learning Center can be accessed via an online computer. This program is free to Orange Beach Library card holders.

**Did you know...  
Orange Beach Public  
Library has 24/7  
wireless access?**



## Meet the Staff



Bonnie Lee, Director

Bonnie Lee has been with the Library for 5 years. She has lived in Baldwin County for 10 years. She is involved in various community service organizations. Her new hobby is Obedience Training classes with a 75 pound, 19 month old chocolate lab, Chloe.



Patti Underwood, Assistant Director

Patti has been with the library for almost 15 years. She is also the library's cataloger. In her free time she enjoys working Sudoku puzzles and playing with her 5 grandchildren. Patti grew up in Memphis, Tennessee. She and her husband Rick live in Orange Beach.



Andie Mewbourn, Administrative Assistant

Andie has been with the library for 2 1/2 years and comes from North Alabama. She is a former high school Family and Consumer Science teacher. Andie is married to James and has 2 children, Julia and Colton, and 2 stepsons, Jeremy and Corey. She enjoys reading, blogging, scrap booking and baking.



Sherry Brandler, Circulation Supervisor

Sherry has been at the library since 2001. She is a former board member of the Library. Formerly an avid tennis player, she likes to play golf, cook, and read. She lives in Orange Beach with her husband, Nick and golden retriever, Forbes. She has 1 son and 2 grandchildren.



Patsy Rose, Children's Librarian

Patsy has been with the Library for 8 years. She has 23 years experience in public library children's services and a background in Early Childhood Education. Patsy loves spending time with her grandson Waylon. Patsy lives in Orange Beach with her husband Dickie.



Maria Baroco, Children's Assistant

Maria recently celebrated her first anniversary with the Library. Maria received her Master of Information Studies degree from The University of Texas at Austin and came to the library after an internship with the Baldwin County Cooperative (Bookmobile) Library. In her free time, she likes to catch up on the latest young adult literature and learn about local history.



Angela Rand, Information Technology/Systems Librarian

Angela is retired from the U.S. Air Force as an aircraft electrician, where for six years she worked on Air Force One. She recently completed her Master's Degree in Library Information Science and also holds an English Literature degree. She has been married for 25 years to a very understanding husband who traveled with her all over the world with her Air Force career. They have three children and three cats. Computers and the internet are her passions.



Alisa McLeod, Circulation/ILL

Alisa has been with the library for 5 years. She received her Masters' Degree in Library Information Science and also holds a degree in Elementary Education. She lives in Gulf Shores with her daughter, Alexandria, who is high school senior. Alisa loves working at the library.



Seth Bowling, Circulation Desk Clerk

Seth is the newest addition to the Library. Finally parlaying his love of books to career, this former resident of various points north, now makes his home in Gulf Shores, close to family especially his nephew, Jake.



Barbara Moseley, Technical Services Clerk

Barbara has been with the library for 11 years. Before she came to work at Orange Beach, she was the Director of the Learning Resources Center at Faulkner State Community College for 32 years. Barbara likes to read and garden and spend time with her husband, R. L.

## Book Group News



\* \* \* \* \*  
 \* The Orange Beach Public Library hosts  
 \* the Tuesday book group on the second Tuesday  
 \* of each month at 3:00 p.m.  
 \* For the latest news visit the book group blog  
 \* [http://orangebeachlibrary.org/reading\\_group/](http://orangebeachlibrary.org/reading_group/)  
 \* or contact Angela at 981-8179  
 \* \* \* \* \*

## Annual Report 2006

The Orange Beach Public Library has 11,206 Library cardholders. Our collection holds over 50,000 items.

In 2006, We answered 17,736 reference questions, added 10,572 books and 894 audio/visual items to our collection and checked out 79,672 items to patrons.

We also provided opportunities to explore, connect and be inspired to 91,736 visitors to our library and 14,644 visits to our web site; 6,274 patrons attended our programs and 37,544 patrons used our computers.

Some new and exciting things that happened at the library include the addition of new laptops for patron use, Rosetta Stone Online Language Learning, more titles available in downloadable audio books and the addition of MP3 players available for check out!

## New Book News



To find out the latest on up and coming titles visit the Orange Beach Public Library New Books link on the library's website. The blog is reached by clicking the Books link, then clicking Book Reviews.

This blog will be updated regularly to let our patrons know what new books we have.

### Did you know...

That you can view what books you have checked out, renew books or place holds on the library's website? You can find this feature under My Account on the library website.



## Gifts and Donations

The library welcomes gifts and donations. Donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law and may be made to the library in memory or honor of a loved one. The Library would like to thank those who give generously.

### Donors

Lee and Laura Lee Slayton  
 Andy and Polly Andrews  
 Dr. Keith Brown  
 Indiana Snowbirds  
 ILA Foundation  
 John F. and Judy Conley  
 Sandra Garth  
 Dan and Vickie M. Wilson

Arlette and Jim Lepper in  
 memory of Phil Kangas  
 Mr. Charles C. Taylor  
 B Anne Trimble in memory  
 of Mary Lou Blackburn  
 South Baldwin Newcomers  
 Club  
 Marguerite Andersen  
 David Andrew Wright in  
 honor of Robert Wright

Indiana Snowbird Club  
 Magnolia Key Townhomes,  
 Inc.  
 Dexter Buccelli  
 This represents a portion  
 of our generous patrons.

Friends of the Library  
2007 Membership Application  
October 1, 2007-September 30, 2008

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_Renewing \_\_\_\_\_New Membership

Yes, I would love to bake \_\_\_\_\_  
(Winter Book and Bake Sale)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Street Ad-  
dress \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_INDIVIDUAL \$12 \_\_\_\_\_FAMILY \$24  
\_\_\_\_\_PATRON \$60 \_\_\_\_\_BUSINESS \$60  
\_\_\_\_\_LIFETIME \$100

Please make checks payable to:  
Friends of the Orange Beach Public Library  
Mail to:  
Friends Membership  
P.O. Box 158  
Orange Beach, AL 36561

If you have any questions about joining  
the Friends of the Library or would like



Did you know...

The library collects your old  
eyeglasses for the  
Lions Club of Orange Beach?  
Just bring them in and we will  
pass them on!

**Library Website Gets a  
New Look**

Orange Beach Public Library website  
has a new look. We hope the new look  
makes navigating the site easier.  
Visit the website at  
[www.orangebeachlibrary.org](http://www.orangebeachlibrary.org)

**NAME OUR NEWSLETTER**

You are invited to enter our NAME THE NEWS-  
LETTER contest! The winner will receive a t-  
shirt from Ducks Diner and a \$20 gift certifi-  
cate to the Friends of the Library Book Sale.  
Just fill out the enclosed entry form and return  
it to the library. You are invited to enter the  
contest as many times as you like. Extra entry  
forms are available at the library. Just bring  
your completed forms to the library or mail  
them to:

**Name the Newsletter Contest**  
**Orange Beach Public Library**  
**P.O. Box 1649**  
**Orange Beach, AL 36561**

My suggestion for the name of the newsletter  
is:

Name the Newsletter Contest

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

ORANGE BEACH  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

26267 CANAL ROAD  
P.O. BOX 1649  
ORANGE BEACH, ALABAMA  
36561

251-981-2923  
251-981-2920 FAX

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

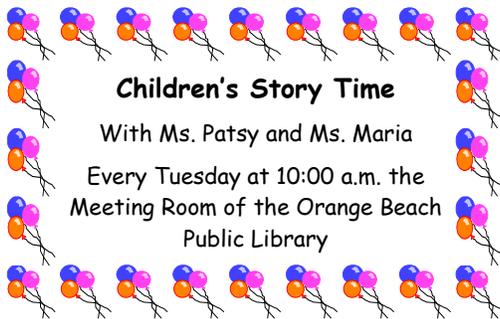


**Library Hours**

Monday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Tuesday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Wednesday 9 a.m.- 8 p.m.  
Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Sunday CLOSED

The computer lab closes  
15 minutes before the  
library.

Wireless internet is  
available 24/7 in the  
parking lot and on the  
patio.



**Children's Story Time**

With Ms. Patsy and Ms. Maria  
Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. the  
Meeting Room of the Orange Beach  
Public Library



If you would like to receive this newsletter by email please  
send an email to [askopbpl@cityoforangebeach.com](mailto:askopbpl@cityoforangebeach.com) and in  
the subject line type NEWSLETTER

