

@ the LRC

Edited by Suzanne Waddell

Library Remains with Millennium

Last fall, the library staff was informed that the provider of our catalog system would no longer be offering its services to our library. All of the library staff participated in researching alternative library systems, but none of them compared favorably with the Millennium system we were using – either in pricing or usability - that we had grown to like so much. When a representative from Innovative approached library director Diane Ambruso about joining a newly formed group of Pennsylvania libraries, and thereby remaining a Millennium library, we all grew excited about this opportunity. And so began a new partnership for our library – a consortium in which we are just one of nine libraries (seven academic, one public, and one law library). Since Innovative was able to customize the catalogs for each of the libraries, our catalog has just been given a facelift – its functionality remains very much intact. *Turn to page 3 to see how our catalog looks since making the switch.*

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Furniture on Display



Mission style tables made of ash & ash burl veneer built by Matthew Mott



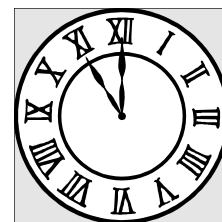
Walnut Pennsylvania chest on chest built by Steven Costa



Walnut sideboard chest built by Eric Roberts



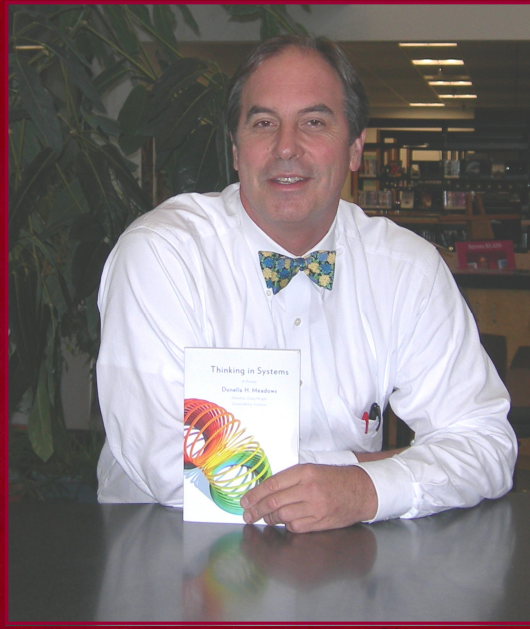
Walnut blanket chest built by Andrew Wells



Library Hours

Sunday 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Monday 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
Tuesday 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
Thursday 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
Friday 7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday Closed

Stevens Reads



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Jim Hamrick poses with *Thinking in Systems*, one of the titles from his list of favorite books, currently on display in the library.

Jim Hamrick Shares His List of Favorite Books

The Ecology of Commerce by Paul Hawken

Hope, Human and Wild by Bill McKibben

Thinking in Systems: A Primer by Donella Meadows

The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan

The Lorax by Dr. Seuss

Selected Works of Henry David Thoreau

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson

Guns, Germs, and Steel by Jarrod Diamond

Believing Cassandra: An Optimist Looks at a Pessimist's World
by Alan AtKisson

A Continuous Harmony by Wendell Berry

A Pattern Language by Christopher Alexander

Animal, Vegetable, Mineral: A Year of Food Life
by Barbara Kingsolver

The Art of Simple Food: Notes, Lessons, and Recipes from a Delicious Revolution
by Alice Waters

Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut

The Not So Big House by Sarah Susanka

Librarians Attend Pennsylvania Library Association Conference

Every year in the fall, the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) holds a conference for librarians to provide them with an opportunity to meet others in their field and to explore innovations in the library world. This year the location for the conference was here in Lancaster, at the Convention Center - so the librarians at Thaddeus Stevens took advantage of the conference being in their own back yard.

This conference was attended by Brenda Smith, Tim Creamer, and Diane Ambruso. All three conference goers attended the exhibits sessions, which offered a firsthand look at library products and was found to be interesting by all.

Specific programs included "This Book Is Overdue," attended by Diane Ambruso. Presented by author Marilyn Johnson, "This Book Is Overdue" offered a look at various challenges libraries face as they transition to the digital age, while at

the same time facing severe cutbacks due to the economic downturn. Ms. Johnson shared many colorful and resourceful anecdotes of various librarians' methods of dealing with these changes. The stories are from her book by the same title.

Poster sessions included "Academic Librarians Outreach to the University Community: Staff Development on a Shoestring" and "EBooks - Are You Ready?" These sessions afforded a quick look at some new and interesting ideas.

Brenda Smith found her session, "Free and Low-cost Productivity Tools to Help You Keep Up" to be informative. Tim Creamer attended three sessions: "Building Digital Collections at the Pennsylvania State University Libraries," "Open Access to Deep Collections: Understanding Pennsylvania's Statewide Library Resource Centers," and "Levity in the Library: Incorporating Humor in Instruction Without Being Robin Williams."

“New” Library Catalog Comes Online

The screenshot shows the library catalog homepage. At the top is the header with the college name and the Learning Resources Center. Below this is a navigation bar with links: Library Home, Course Reserves, My Library, Library Requests, Ask a Reference Question, and Help Topics. A search box is located below the navigation bar, with a callout pointing to it that says: "Enter your terms here and then use the drop down next to the box to search by title, author, or keyword." Below the navigation bar, there are two callout boxes. The first, labeled "My Library", points to the "My Library" link in the navigation bar and lists: My Account, @the LRC newsletter, Mezzanine Mavens, and Mezzanine Mavens Blog. The second, labeled "Library Requests", points to the "Library Requests" link in the navigation bar and lists: AV Request, Inter-Library Loan Request, Recommendation for Purchase, and Comments.

The My Account link is found under My Library. Once this is set up, patrons have the ability to view what materials they have checked out and to renew their items one time online, if they wish. Please come to the library if you need assistance in setting up your account or if you have forgotten your password to your online library account.

New this semester is the ability to request AV equipment online. Previously the forms were available online but needed to be printed out or returned via email. Now the process has been streamlined via the online request form. The link is found under Library Requests on the library catalog.

Book Club Holds Fall Meeting



Marianne Topka and Colby Bastian discuss *Angela's Ashes* with other members of the Mezzanine Mavens.

The newly reorganized Mezzanine Mavens met on Wednesday, Dec. 1, to discuss *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt. The meeting was well-attended and members enjoyed an animated discussion of the book, which is a memoir of the author's childhood in Ireland during the 1930's and 40's. Members were treated to a ham and cheese puff tart, and then enjoyed assorted cookies, chocolate-covered pretzels, and apple turnover for dessert.

The next book chosen by the club is a newly published biography of Cleopatra by Stacy Schiff, called *Cleopatra: A Life*. The Mezzanine Mavens will meet February 2, 2011, to discuss this selection.

Find the recipe for ham and cheese puff tart and follow the club's activities on the blog at

<http://tsct-mezzaninemavensbookclub.blogspot.com/>

Happy Holidays

from the staff @ the LRC



Kenneth W. Schuler
Learning Resources Center



Our goal is to help you find the information you need at a time and place that's convenient for you. Our promise is to help you understand when information is needed, recognize where it is, and master methods to retrieve it.

Library Staff

Diane Ambruso - Director

Timothy Creamer - Librarian

Suzanne Waddell - Librarian

Brenda Smith - Library Technician

Featured Web Site - How Stuff Works

<http://www.howstuffworks.com>

How Stuff Works is a web site with an impressive premise: use clear language and tons of illustrations to demystify the world for the Internet user. The site was begun in 1998 by the appropriately named Professor Marshall Brain of North Carolina State University. Over the years it has evolved into a multimedia encyclopedia that has won multiple Webby awards and has been named one of PC Magazine's "Top 100 Web Sites." Currently, How Stuff Works is owned by Discovery Communications and is an online resource for millions of people.

You can look for information by entering your search terms directly into the search box at the top of the page or browse through the different categories listed. Categories include

topics such as animals, auto, culture, entertainment, health, money, science, and tech.

A recent check on the site's homepage found articles titled "How Coral Reefs Work" and "Is genius genetic?" Click on a topic such as coral reefs, and you will retrieve an illustrated article along with a table of contents and links you can use to print the article, cite it, give feedback, share on the Web, or recommend it to others.

Thanks to the library's former student worker, Tony Bell, for suggesting How Stuff Works as this issue's featured site. He told us that he thinks it's an interesting site to browse and that he found it useful as a resource when he was trying to fix his computer.

