

## Special points of interest:

- Gala Sponsorship List for 2017
- Gala Volunteers
- National Library Week is in April

## Director's Corner

April 10-13 we'll be celebrating National Library Week with thousands of other libraries across the country. National Library Week is sponsored by the American Library Association as a time to highlight the changing role of libraries and librarians in the twenty-first century. This year's National Library Week theme is "Libraries Transform."

Every day, the Bolivar County Library transforms lives by opening a world of possibilities for the people of Bolivar County by providing access to the world of ideas and information. Our libraries provide support to online students, K-12 and homeschool students, pre-school children and their parents, job seekers, and readers. For education, jobs, and lifelong learning, the resources at the Bolivar County Library can transform your life.

Between 1999-2007 the Bolivar County Library averaged 50,743 visits per year. Since 2008 the average number of library visits per year has grown to 81,572. The average increases to 98,569 when only the last five years are taken into account; in 2016 there were 100,106 visits. With

high speed fiber internet access now available at the libraries in Cleveland, Rosedale, Shelby, and Merigold, those numbers will only continue to grow.

Unfortunately, the services the library provides that transform lives are in danger due to significant funding cuts for libraries at the State and Federal levels. Since 2015 the Bolivar County Library System has lost over \$16,000 in funding from the State of Mississippi with more cuts to come July 1. On the federal level, Congress is currently considering the elimination of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) which distributes funding for libraries and museums to every state in the nation. Without the funds provided by IMLS the Bolivar County Library System could not offer:

Inter-library Loan Service – If we don't own a book, we won't be able to borrow it for you from another library.

Summer Library Program – During the summer of 2016 we provided thirty-five (35) free programs with about 1000 K-12 students participating in activities that are safe, fun, and help

maintain grade level so that students are not behind when they start back to school in the fall.

Continuing Education for BCLS Staff – Staff training and continuing education opportunities supported with federal dollars ensure that your library staff is up to date on our professional skills so that we can help job seekers find employment online, assist readers with their newest Kindle devices, and stay up to date on publishing trends so that we have the newest Robot-Western-Romance before you even know you want it!

If you love your local library, now is the time to let your U.S. Representative and Senators know how important the library is to you. Please use the web address below to email our Congressmen today. And please, also take a moment to thank your local county and city officials for supporting our library. We're very lucky in Bolivar County to have a great library system and strong local funding.

<https://goo.gl/vqbl5c>

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## Luncheon With Books featuring Mike McCall



We are pleased to welcome Mississippi author Mike McCall as guest speaker at the Luncheon With Books program on

April 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. McCall will talk about his book *Catfish Days: From Belzoni to the Big Apple*, which chronicles the United States'

catfish industry and its importance to the Mississippi Delta. A book signing will follow.

Mr. McCall was born in Jackson, is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, and worked for the Clarion-Ledger, the Memphis Commercial Appeal, and The Sun-Herald. He is co-founder of the Mississippi Business Journal

and has been editor of The Catfish Journal for 25 years.

Bring your lunch and join us for this exciting program at the Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland on April 13th at 12 Noon. As always, admission is free and soft drinks will be provided.



# BOLIVAR COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

## Thank You to Our Generous 2017 Sponsors

### Pulitzer

Bucky & Maureen Brooks  
Carol Tatum

### Pen/Faulkner

Charles & Mimi Clark  
Monsanto  
Quality Steel Corporation

### Newbery

Emily Bell  
Nehi Bottling Company  
Cleveland State Bank  
Planters Bank & Trust Co.  
Rose Strahan

### Caldecott

Danny & Betsy Abraham  
Richard & Prissy Aguzzi  
Gene & Cathy Bishop  
Blake Surgical Associates  
CableOne  
Cleveland Garden Club  
Cleveland Rotary Club  
Cleveland Woman's Club  
Gregory Cole & Rachel Tate  
John & Sylvia Czarnetzky  
Lance Dalton  
Dot Evans  
Gary & Beverly Fioranelli  
Dennis & Mary Jean Gates  
Keith & Leslie Griffin  
Jim & Stacie Harris  
Paul & Lucy Janoush  
Ed & Kitty Kossman  
Larry & Elaine Lambert

Nan McGarrh

Billy & Becky Nowell  
Ginger Pepper

Povall and Jeffreys PA  
Renasant Bank

Lynn Shurden

Dr. & Mrs. Hugh C. Smith

The Image Specialist

Mr. & Mrs. George Steen

Richard Strahan

Pat Tibbs

Weegie Walker

John & Catherine Wolfe

### O. Henry

Mary Alice Cates  
Nancy Chiz

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Clark

Boo & Miriam Ferriss

Caroline Gaines



Linda Strong and Myrtle Lucas graciously took tickets at the front door the night of the Gala.

## Calendar

*"The most important  
asset of any  
library goes home  
at night –  
the library staff."  
~Timothy Healy~*

April 11th—**Board of Trustee Meetings @ 9:30 p.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

April 13th—**Luncheon With Books Featuring Mike McCall @ 12 noon**—Open to Public Free-of-Charge at Robinson-Carpenter (See Article on Page 1)

April 14th-15th—**Good Friday**—All Libraries Closed.

April 19th—**Cleveland**

**Commission @ 10:00 a.m.**—Open to the Public in Cleveland

April 21st & 28th, May 5th & 12th—**Story Hour** at 10 a.m.—at Robinson-Carpenter

April 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th & May 1st—**Annual Book Sale**

May 11th—**Lunch With Books Featuring James T. McCafferty @ 12 noon**—Open to the Public Free-Of-Charge at Robinson-Carpenter

## O. Henry Continued

Laura Giaccaglia

Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Goins, Jr.

Raymond & Sandy Huerta

John & Beverly Janoush

Joyce Kennedy

Mid-Delta Heating, Air Conditioning & Electrical Co.

James & Lekeitha Morris

Keith & Barbara Pettway

Liz Redd

Frances Scarborough

Sammie Short

Alinda Sledge

Mr. & Mrs. Pearman Smith

Ken & Marsha Swindoll

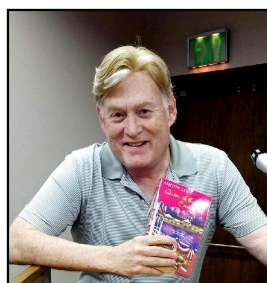
## Annual Book Sale

The Friends of the Bolivar County Library System are pleased to announce the upcoming Annual Book Sale at Robinson-Carpenter Memorial Library in Cleveland on the following dates and times:

Wed., April 26th—1-8, Full-Price  
Thurs, April 27th—9-6, Full Price  
Fri., April 28th—9-5, Half-Price  
Sat., April 29th—9-2:30, Half-Price  
Mon., May 1st—9-12, \$1 for 5



## Ashton Lee Visits the Library



Natchez native Ashton Lee was the guest speaker for the Friends of the Bolivar County Library System's Luncheon With Books program featuring Mr. Lee.

This time around he talked about the recently released *Queen of the Cookbooks*, the 5th in his successful *Cherry Cola Book Club* series.



## Grape Expectations Volunteers—Those Who Helped Make It a Success

### Businesses—Wine

Cecil's Package Store  
Ware Wine & Spirits  
Mitchell Distributing Company  
Andy's Fifth Avenue

### Hors d'oeuvres

A La Carte Alley  
Airport Grocery  
Backdraft  
Catfish Cabin  
Christina's Exquisite Edibles  
Cleveland Country Club  
Crave Bistro  
Crawdads  
Fat Baby's Catfish House  
Mississippi Grounds  
Papa Roc's  
The Starving Musician  
The Warehouse

### Flowers

Kroger

Jane Dunlap  
Allium

### Supplies

Cleveland Country Club

### Sponsorship Poster

Adventure Frames

### Friends' Gala Chairs

Lynn Shurden  
Cathy Bishop

### Friends Board Members

Cathy Bishop, President  
Ken Davis, Vice-President  
Lynn Shurden, Treasurer  
Catherine Wolfe, Membership  
Lonny Sue Pearson, Luncheon  
Tamara Blackwell, Secretary  
Myrtle Lucas  
Deloris Anderson  
Emily Bell

Maureen Brooks  
Bucky Brooks

### Arbor

Gene Bishop  
Cathy Bishop  
Ken Davis  
Lynn Shurden  
Teen Advisory Committee  
Bobbie Matheney

### Wine Pull

Bob Wilbanks

### Bartenders

Bucky Brooks  
Ken Davis  
Gene Bishop

### Cashiers & Ticket Sellers

Lynn Shurden  
Rose Strahan



Teen Advisory Committee (TAG) members generously donated their time to help erect the arbor this year.

## Great Expectations Volunteers—Continued

### Door Attendants

Linda Strong  
Deloris Anderson  
Myrtle Lucas  
Catherine Wolfe

### Floral Creations

Jane Ellen Bobbitt  
Jane Dunlap  
Joyce Kennedy  
Lynn Shurden  
Frances Tims  
Anne Koonce  
Carolyn Goodman  
Stephanie Jordan  
Pat Warren

### Kitchen & Food

Prissi Aguzzi, Coordinator  
Cathy Bishop  
Cleveland Woman's Club  
Carolyn Johnson  
Bucky Brooks  
Maureen Brooks  
Mary Anna Davis  
Elaine Lambert  
Carol Manning  
Sally Rogers  
Lynn Shurden  
Jeanette Tarsi  
Carol Tatum  
Pat Tibbs  
Weegie Walker  
Mary Helen Waller  
Frances Williams

Charlene Wolfe  
Matt Wood

### Miscellaneous

SAE Fraternity, DSU  
Tamara Blackwell  
Bolivar County Library System Staff

### Paid Entertainment

Sarah Levingston

Last, but not least, thank you to everyone who donated wine for the Wine Pull and anyone else who isn't listed above, but also helped with the Gala. We apologize for any omissions!

*"In the nonstop  
tsunami of global  
information, librarians  
provide us with  
floaties and teach us  
to swim."  
~Linton Weeks~*

## National Library Week Events Planned

National Library Week will be observed April 9th—15th this year and the theme is "Libraries Transform," which stresses the importance of libraries to their communities. Here's what is planned:

- Monday, April 10th—Patron Appreciation Day. Snacks will be served all day.
- Monday, April 10th—Cleveland Yearbook @ 5 p.m. This project is of a group of

college student (Charles Coleman, Aallyah Wright, Nicholas Houston, and Alecia Wilson) whose goal is "to build a creative platform for voices and stories in Cleveland" [...] "through photography, interviews and a participatory art installation with the Delta Arts Alliance."

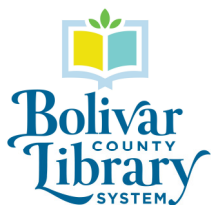
- Tuesday, April 11th—GASB 68 presentation for local public officials by Tom Chain, Director of Technical Assistance, Office of the State

Auditor.

- Wednesday, April 12th—Talking Book Services by Shellie Zeigler, MLC @ 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 12th—Reader's Theatre with Fly Zone and Letters About Literature
- Thursday, April 13th—Luncheon With Books featuring Mike McCall. (See Article on Page 1.)



Olympian and retired soccer player Julie Foudy is the National Library Week Honorary Chair For 2017.



#### Bolivar County Library System

104 South Leflore Avenue  
Cleveland, MS 38732-2607

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00—6:00  
Friday 9:00—5:00  
Saturday 9:00—1:00

Closed Sundays & All Legal Holidays

Phone: (622) 843-2774  
Fax: (662) 843-4701  
Email: [info@bolivar.lib.ms.us](mailto:info@bolivar.lib.ms.us)

Individual phone numbers and email addresses may be found at our website.

“Like” us on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/lbcls](http://www.facebook.com/lbcls); you may also access the page from our website.



Contact the Friends:  
Phone: (662) 843-2774  
Email: [bishopcathy@yahoo.com](mailto:bishopcathy@yahoo.com)

## Some Bolivar County History...

### “BOLIVAR COUNTY TROOPS IN THE CIVIL WAR

BY Captain W. R. Shepherd

In looking over the roster sent me by Dr. Rowland, from the State Department of Archives and History, of “Bolivar Greys”, I find it is made up of men of all four companies from Bolivar County.

I find thirteen names of member of the McGehee Rifles, some of the Bolivar Troop, some members of Mason’s Dragoons; the remainder of this roster were members of Captain Dan Cameron’s Company, commonly called “Feather Bed Rangers.”

I see that J. G. McGehee is on this roster as 3rd lieutenant. Jim never was a commissioned officer of the company; he was on detached service most of the war, as aide of General Withers’ staff, with rank of 1st lieutenant.

I will give the names of the officers of each company that was organized in Bolivar County, in 1861, at the time of their enlistment. Until a few years ago, I could recall the entire roster of the McGehee Rifles; time has dimmed my memory somewhat, but I will recall as many as I can.

On the roster sent me, I find thirteen men of the McGehee Rifles, one of the Bolivar Troop, three of Mason’s Dragoons, and the rest of the roll of the Home Guards. That is the reason there are so many on the roll. That company was mustered into service with forty men, served four years and had four hundred on the roll at the end. All the soldiers of the county when retired from active service because of wounds joined this company.”

Excerpt from *History of Bolivar County, Mississippi* by Florence Warfield Sillers, et al (Spartanburg: SC: 1976 [1948])

Captain W. R. Shepherd’s account will continue in the next newsletter.

## Bolivar County Library System Information:

### Board of Trustees:

Ms. Natalie Peeler, Chair  
Ms. Rebecca Lewis, Vice Chair  
Mr. John Raymond Bassie, Secretary  
Ms. Deloris Johnson  
Mr. Nathaniel Grammer

### Cleveland Commission:

Ms. Jurist Green, Chair  
Ms. Dorothy Tolliver, Vice-Chair  
Ms. Weegie Walker, Secretary  
Ms. Carol Tatum  
Ms. Cheryl Line

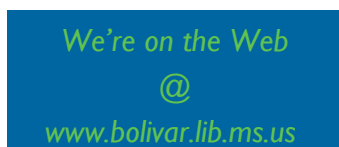
### Library Staff:

Jennifer Wann, Director  
Sharon Williamson, Assistant Director  
Bobbie Matheney, Youth Svcs  
Terry Jackson, ILL / Special Services  
Melanie Free, Systems Administrator  
Tamara Blackwell, Reference Svcs / Newsletter Editor  
Bethany Brooks, Technical Svcs  
Megan Fleming, Circulation Manager  
Jelisa “Lisa” Hatcher, Circulation  
Shelby Lee, Circulation  
Kevin Reed, Circulation  
Mike Emerson, Circulation  
Martha Lawson, Rosedale / Gunnison

Tina McGee, Benoit/Circulation  
Marie Shorter, Shelby  
Evelyn Brown, Merigold / Circ.  
Clara, Housekeeping

### Branch Information:

Benoit (662) 742-3112  
Hours M & Th 2—6  
Gunnison (662) 747-2201  
Hours T & Th 1—5  
Merigold (662) 748-2105 (ph) /  
(662) 748-2596 (fax)  
Hours M, T, W & Th 1—5  
Mound Bayou—**Closed Until Further Notice**  
Rosedale (662) 759-6332  
Hours M & W 10—5, F 12—5  
Shaw—**Closed Until Further Notice**  
Shelby (662) 398-7748  
Hours M & W 10—5, F 12—5



Front Row (L to R) Tamara, Martha, Shelby, Bobbie, Marie, Clara, Lisa, & Evelyn; Top Row: Bethany, Melanie, Megan, \_\_\_\_\_, Sharon, Tina, Jennifer, & Terry.