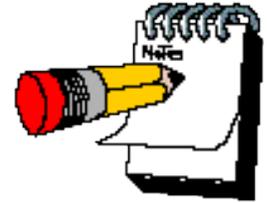


A Note from your Director

Five years ago in the fall of 2003, Storybook Project began at the Lane Murray facility with the support and blessings from Warden Nancy Botkin. Warden Botkin, now retired, had witnessed our beginning successes at Hilltop the previous spring. She was later transferred to Lane Murray. When her replacement at Hilltop stopped Storybook Project, I contacted Warden Botkin to see if we could continue the program with her at Lane Murray. She welcomed us with open arms and that is where the fine tuning of WSP began. Now, in our 5th year, with the opening of Mountain View this month, WSP is available at four facilities in Gatesville!



In addition to our growth in Gatesville, we have been asked by Warden Wilhelmina Howard to provide Storybook at the Plane Henley facility in Dayton, Texas. (For more about this exciting development, see Making Connections.) If you have friends and relatives in the Houston area, please tell them about WSP. It is such a good opportunity to continue the connection between the mothers and children, despite the high energy costs!

Although Mike Bicknell, the graduate student who would like to do a documentary about WSP, was unable to attend the *Nuts and Bolts* meeting due to illness; he is still interested in the project. He plans to include another person to work with him on the documentary.

There are some gaps in our schedule for the Gatesville facilities. Please note the need for volunteers on these dates (see page 4) and contact Felicia if you are able to help.

There are never enough “thank-you’s” for all our great volunteers!

Judith

WSP Leadership Waves

Leo Tolstoy once stated, “A leader is the wave pushed ahead by the ship.” The team leaders and co-leaders for WSP are indeed waves churning ahead of the ship that carries the monthly volunteers to the prisons. This issue of Book Notes will give you glimpses into the duties these women fulfill each month.

The details of the roles vary according to the facility being serviced, but in general terms, the team leaders do the following:

- Communicate with prison officials and WSP volunteers to organize visits
- Inventory and manage materials for visits.

(Continued on page 4—Leadership)

Delta Kappa Gamma Supports WSP



Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a professional honor society of women educators. There are 150,000 members in the United States and 14 countries. The Society promotes professional and personal growth of the members and excellence in education. Established in 1929 at the University of Texas in Austin, Delta Kappa Gamma has attained the major objectives of improving opportunities for qualified employees at every level of education as well as advancing the status of women educators.

(continued on page 4—Support)



- **Judith Dullnig** for the lovely luncheon meeting and for all of the hard work you have devotedly given to WSP. The volunteers, offenders, and especially the children appreciate all that you do!
- **Coughlan Companies** for the generous donation of books.
- **Linda Cox** for gathering a large group of new volunteers to help fill the schedules.
- **Postmaster Carol Futch of Leander Post Office** for offering to personally assist each month in the metering of packages to expedite the process of mailing books and tapes from that facility.
- **Lori Rockwood**, former Woodman School Principal at Woodman Jail, for all her help and support with WSP the past several years. We wish her well in her new endeavors in public education.



What's Happening?

- **Mountain View**, the fourth Gatesville facility to offer WSP, initiates its first session on Sept. 13 with team leader Angela Nunley working with the Windham School District.
- The **Plane Henley Complex** located in Dayton (near Houston) has been formulating a plan to include WSP in its programs for nearly a year, and has made great progress. Warden Howard and team leader JoAn Martin of Baytown, TX, with help from area organizations and church groups, are anticipating the program's start up as early as late this fall.

Making Connections



Making Connections has been traditionally used as a spot in Book Notes to connect WSP efforts with letters from the recipient children and their caregivers. However, in this issue, we would like to recognize the foresight and efforts of Warden Wilhelmina Howard at the Plane Henley facility in Dayton, Texas, in making connections with WSP on behalf of the children of incarcerated women in her facility.

Warden Howard was familiar with WSP's success while she was at Lane Murray. Last spring, when the energy crisis threatened to impact the ability of caregivers to bring the children for visits with their incarcerated mothers, Warden Howard contacted Judith Dullnig to initiate the steps necessary to bring WSP to the Houston area state prison system. A productive planning meeting transpired. A team leader, JoAn Martin, from Baytown, TX, has volunteered her time; a group of women have been collecting books, mailers, and postage donations; a Woodlands school is planning a book drive; and Susan Pintchovski has been helpful in providing information to the Houston National Council of Jewish Women seeking volunteers. In addition, Warden Howard has made volunteer training available within her facility.

We commend you, Warden Howard, for having the foresight and initiative to utilize WSP as a means of connecting children and their incarcerated mothers at Plane Henley! 



I love the Storybook program. It really puts a smile on my daughter's face. My daughter listens to her book every morning before heading off to day care. The Storybook program has brought us closer through books... I love interacting with my daughter through this program. Continue to keep mothers such as myself close to our children. This allows them to know even though we are in prison they are not forgot about.



Volunteer Spotlight

Nancy Wallace and Paula Jameson

Nancy Wallace of San Antonio and Paula Jameson from Lakeview are team leaders for Lane Murray. Each of brings a special flavor to the WSP family.

Nancy has lived in Texas since her family moved here from Washington, DC when she was four. She and her husband, Dan, enjoy their two son's families, including three grandchildren. (They fondly call her the "Grammanator"!)

She has a B.S. in Elementary Education and an M.A. in Human Resource Development. She is a retired librarian, a member of the Episcopal Church where she serves as head of Outreach, and engages in numerous other volunteer activities. In her "spare" time, she enjoys reading, swimming, and walking.



Nancy has been with WSP for four years. She believes in living life to the fullest by staying healthy, surrounding herself with loving friends and family and giving back for all the blessings she has had in this life. She has, in turn, been a blessing to WSP. Nancy says, "I never leave Gatesville the same as I came. I feel like this is doing God's work without preaching!"

Paula Jameson, Nancy's co-leader for Lane Murray, is married to Parker, who is a priest, and they have two sons. Paula is a native Texan, and has lived in Ft. Worth, Dallas, Austin, Amarillo, San Antonio, Alexandria, and Louisiana before returning to the Austin area.

She operates her own oral historian business, Tell Me Your Story, documenting family stories.

Additionally, she is an independent contractor for Life Stories Alive, which produces life stories on DVD. Reflective of these interests is her favorite quote from Andy Rooney: "The best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person." A member of St. Luke's-on-the-Lake Episcopal Church, she is a spiritual director and often is a guest speaker for retreats and church groups. Other interests include kayaking, water skiing, wine tasting, and letter writing.

Paula was introduced to WSP through an article in a national Episcopal Church publication about three or four years ago. Participation in WSP is rewarding to Paula because "nothing feels more fulfilling than to help another person enrich her own life and to realize she is loved and can still do something healthy for children." 


My mother commended me on my reading. She says that my 5 year old loves the books. My mother was glad that I had the chance to do Storybook. I personally enjoyed the Storybook experience. It brought a closeness between me and my daughter. This is a great project. When I am released, I plan on giving back to the storybook by way of donating books. I'm an avid reader and know reading is the door to life. You can travel, learn interesting facts, and let your imagination run freely. Storybook is helping our little ones open that door. I want other children to experience the closeness me and my daughter have. With all thanks and appreciation going to the Storybook Project and their loving and caring volunteers. Thank you!! LD


I really enjoyed this program. My son has become more active in his reading. This program not only encourages our children but it helps us as well. We build a connection with our children by reading to them on the cassette tapes. Even though we are not there, our presence is still welcomed through the tapes. Thank you for taking time out of your schedules to come and help us connect with our children. Thank you and God bless.

(Leadership- continued from page 1)

- Facilitate volunteer check in/out at the prison, and lead the offender sessions.
- Mail books and tapes and keep records of expenditures and statistics.



Lane Murray:
Nancy Wallace and
Paula Jameson

Each facility ideally has one leader and one co-leader. These two women divide the necessary duties as they desire. Sometimes, the leaders alternate, taking all duties every other month. In other cases, both leaders attend and split the tasks between them. But the primary goal is to ensure that one of these two leaders will always be present at the facility ensuring continuity.



Hilltop:
Pat Roberts and
Lynne Riley

Before the visitation day, all volunteer names and license numbers are sent to the prison, each team member is notified regarding ride arrangements and given contact cell phone numbers, and all necessary materials (books, mailers, labels, letters, etc.) are secured. On the day of the visitation, the team leader brings all supplies, including necessary phone numbers, meets the group and enjoys an early lunch at the designated diner in Gatesville, assists in checking the team into the prison, facilitates the offender circles, addresses the mailers and oversees the materials placed into them, and accounts for all supplies. After the visit, the leaders mail the books and tapes, accounting for all expenditures and recording statistics, obtain reimbursements, and makes arrangements for supplies for the next session.



Woodman Jail:
Judy Darnell and
Liz Davis



Mountain View:
Angela Nunley

Indeed, our leaders are the waves around the ship of WSP volunteers. All who are in-

volved in this project appreciate their extra dedication. See the team leaders and co-leaders pictures at the left. We are in need of one more co-leader at this time to assist Angela. If you are ready to get your feet wet in the leadership wave, please contact Judith. 

(Support—continued from page 1)

For the past two years, Beta Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma has raised money to support WSP. Currently, memoirs are being written by several members in preparation for publication in a book by Leana Turbeville. Proceeds from the sale of the book will benefit WSP. Thank you, Beta Tau Chapter, for your continued support! 



Can you help?

Contact
Judith Dullnig
(512) 560-8739

SOS • A **Texas Book Festival Schedule Coordinator** is desperately needed to coordinate the schedules (two shifts each day November 1 and 2) for this event. It is NOT necessary to attend the festival to coordinate the schedule.

SOS • A **co-team leader** is needed to assist Angela Nunley at Mountain View. Please consider giving your support to this newest WSP commitment.

- Volunteers to assist at the Texas Book Festival – two shifts to select from each day on either November 1 or 2.
- Our fall prison schedule has many gaps. Check your calendar and see if you can volunteer on any of the following dates. Please contact Felicia!

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mt. View	13			13
Woodman		11		13
Hilltop	20	18	15	20
Lane Murray		18	15	



Second Annual "Nuts and Bolts" Luncheon

On July 12, the "Nuts and Bolts" WSP team gathered for a second luncheon meeting hosted by Judith Dullnig. Leaders and chairs of WSP in attendance included Judith Dullnig, Judy Fox, Felicia Kutchey, Sylvia Fitz, Kathy Brothers, Pat Roberts, Nancy Wallace, Paula Jameson, Judy Darnell, Liz Davis, and Lynne Riley.

Included on the team leaders' agenda were an opportunity to discuss concerns, the decision to update a database of volunteer driver's licenses, record keeping and reimbursement procedures, team leader business cards, volunteer "cliff notes", and approved topics for circle discussions. Precautionary procedures were discussed and volunteers were reminded to defer from hugging/touching offenders. The importance of accurate supply checks was discussed and it was noted that offenders even endure strip searches in order to be a part of this program. After some discussion, a book limit policy was decided upon. Offenders will only be permitted to select and



Felicia Kutchey (and children), Sylvia Fitz, Liz Davis, Nancy Wallace, Lynne Riley, Paula Jameson, Judy Fox, Pat Roberts

write in ONE book at a time. Additional books will be selected only after that book is recorded. This policy will ensure every offender has equal opportunity to select books and eliminate the possibility of wasting a book if an offender didn't have the time to read it after writing in it. Finally, a decision to provide the insert caregiver letter in Spanish was also made.

Judith announced several new developments. The opening of Mountain View, with Angela Nunley as team leader, is anticipated in September of this year. Plane Henley, the Houston area facility, is also steadily achieving the necessary arrangements to open as early as the end of the year. Locally, Linda Cox has

been gathering a group of young ladies interested in volunteering and may have contacts with a person to track recidivism. Also, Coughlan Companies, which owns several publishing companies, has been very generous with over 500 books donated. Finally, the celebration of Judy Fox's achievement as a published author as

her book, Sons and Daughters of Suicide Speak Out published by New Horizon Press, hits the bookstands on September 1.

The luncheon was a delightful opportunity for the "Nuts and Bolts" to bond and take care of business simultaneously! 

	<p>Has your address changed ? Make a financial contribution ? Add a supporter to the mailing list ?</p>	<p>Women's Storybook Project of Texas c/o Austin Community Foundation P.O. Box 5159 Austin, TX 78763</p>	
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WSP thanks
PILLAR TO POST
THE HOME OF HOME INSPECTION
(512) 515-0021
for donating the printing and
distribution of Book Notes

Who's Who

Judith Dullnig, Director
Judy Fox, Volunteer Chair
Felicia Kutchey, Scheduling Chair
Sylvia Fitz, Supplies Chair
Kathy Brothers, Communications Chair
Pat Roberts, Newsletter Chair
Angela Nunley, Newsletter Production Chair
Nancy Wallace, Lane Murray Team Leader
Paula Jameson, Lane Murray Team Leader
Judy Darnell, Woodman Team Leader
Liz Davis, Woodman Team Leader
Pat Roberts, Hilltop Team Leader
Lynne Riley, Hilltop Team Leader
Angela Nunley, Mt. View Team Leader

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Austin Community Foundation
P.O. Box 5159
Austin, TX 78763



Texas Book Festival in Austin November 1 and 2, 2008

The Texas Book Festival first took place in 1995 with the guidance and support of the First Lady Laura Bush. In addition to celebrating books and Texas authors, the festival promotes the joys of reading and serves to benefit the state's public libraries. Each festival includes readings, writing workshops and other literary events. WSP will once again host a booth at the Festival to increase awareness of our program.



WSP Volunteers are needed to assist with this important exposure opportunity by donating a few hours to offer information to interested participants.

***Texas Book Festival in Austin
November 1 and 2, 2008***