

SOLINET™

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# SOLUTIONS

CONNECTING YOU TO THE VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP

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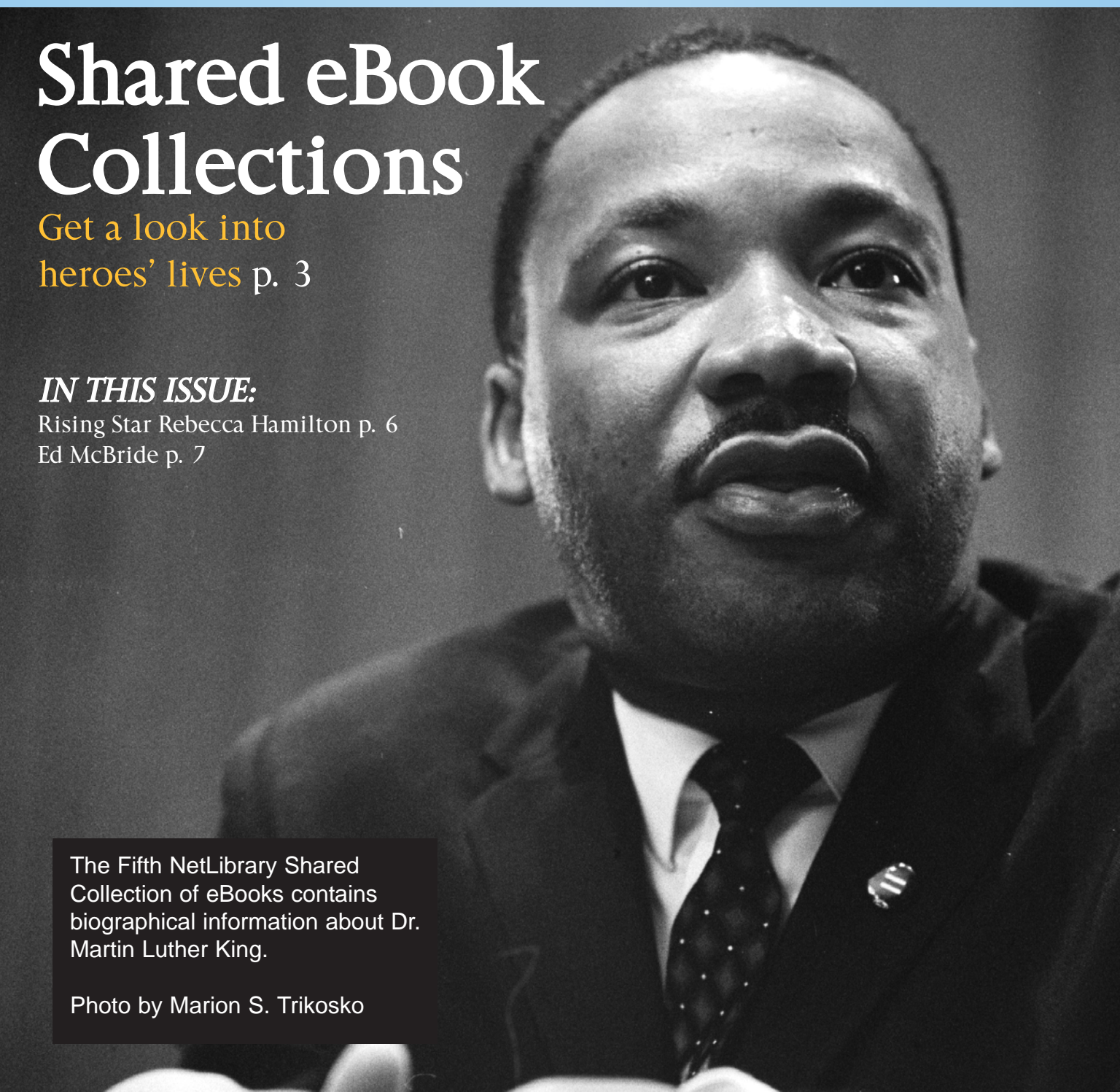
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The Fifth NetLibrary Shared Collection of eBooks contains biographical information about Dr. Martin Luther King.

Photo by Marion S. Trikosko



# The Transformed Library

## SOLUTIONS

CONNECTING YOU TO THE VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP

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**SOLINET**, a membership organization founded in 1973, strengthens libraries and the communities they support through cooperation, leadership, and services.

SOLINET offers classes and training for library staff, preservation services, consulting, access to and support of OCLC products and services as well as discounts on electronic resources and library products.



This year's SOLINET Annual Membership Meeting theme is "The Transformed Library." Libraries across our region are implementing practical approaches to innovation every day. This year's Annual Membership Meeting will showcase innovation. Come learn from other librarians and discover new approaches that will work for your organization and in your community to serve changing user needs.

As always, we have implemented some changes in the Annual Membership Meeting and have continued some favorite activities. One big change this year is that we've moved the SOLINET Year in Review to Thursday afternoon, so more people can participate. In addition, we will offer two concurrent program sessions on Thursday and one on Friday morning.

Topics of concurrent sessions will be posted on the [Annual Membership Meeting](#) section of the SOLINET website. Hear from your colleagues about innovative programs they implemented at their libraries.

One session that I am really looking forward to is opening speaker Dr. Michael Stephens. Michael is passionate about the practical applications of technology in libraries. An assistant professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University in River Forest, IL, Michael has a devoted following. His blog, [Tame the Web](#), has more than 5,000 subscribers.

This year, we also want to give you more opportunities to obtain information about electronic resources for your library. The ever-popular vendor fair and reception will be Thursday evening. In addition, meet with Platinum, Gold, and Silver sponsors at the continental breakfast on Friday morning.

With dynamic speakers and our focus on innovation, we anticipate a lively Annual Membership Meeting. Take advantage of "Early Bird" savings and [register](#) by Friday, March 28, for just \$100 per person. I'm looking forward to seeing longtime friends and making new ones at this year's Meeting, May 8 to 9, at the [Emory Conference Center Hotel](#) near Atlanta, GA.



Kate Nevins, Executive Director

# Stretch Your Budget with Shared Collections



Learn more about William Henry Harrison in *Elections, Parties, Democracy: Conferring the Median Mandate*, one of the titles in the NetLibrary Sixth Shared Collection of eBooks.

By Fatima Hyder, SOLUTIONS Editor

**The question:** How can libraries with shrinking budgets offer materials to meet the needs of on-campus and off-campus students and faculty in a broad range of disciplines?

**The answer:** NetLibrary Shared Collections of eBooks.

"What is so great about these collections is that you get thousands of front-list titles at a fraction of their cost," said Timothy Cherubini, who is managing the Shared Collections for SOLINET. "And libraries also save a multitude of administrative costs because SOLINET selects the titles with input from participants, allowing the acquisitions librarians to focus on other items in their library's collection."

Students and patrons like them because they are user friendly. Librarians and library directors like them because they save time, money, and shelf space.

For example, the Sixth Shared Collection of eBooks, which recently closed, contains 3,645 electronic titles. This number of printed books would require about 305 linear feet of shelf space to store. Shared eBook collections are also economical. If the titles in the Sixth Shared Collection had been purchased individually, they would have cost more than \$1.2 million. The cost to participate in the shared collections is based on library size. SOLINET members paid between \$550 and \$35,000 for this collection. So whether you're a small community college with 400 students or a large state university or public library, you're still receiving an incredible discount by participating in a shared collection.

These factors help make eBooks a great way for a library to broaden and increase the scope of



Learn more about gospel singer Mahalia Jackson, the featured artist at the 1957 Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom in Washington, DC. Her story is told in *Music of the Twentieth Century: A Study of Its Elements and Structure*, one of the titles in the Fifth Shared Collection.

its collection. "NetLibrary eBooks are included in our accreditation and other reports to indicate the breadth and depth of items related to our varied curriculum," said Yildiz Binkley, Director of Libraries and Media Centers at Tennessee State University.

Another advantage of the NetLibrary Shared Collections is that MARC records are included in the cost.

### **How the Collections Work**

SOLINET administers each of the shared collections by collecting funds from participating libraries. These funds are then pooled together and used to purchase NetLibrary eBooks. Through the life of the offer, SOLINET periodically purchases eBooks as funds are collected. Then, each of the participating libraries has access to all of the books in the collection. The more libraries participate, the larger the collection grows.

Two shared collections are open right now: the Seventh Shared Collection and the Public Library Shared Collection.

The Seventh Shared Collection will focus on

titles of interest to academic and community college libraries. This collection is projected to include 2,500 to 3,000 titles from leading publishers such as McGraw-Hill, Oxford University Press, AMACOM, Taylor & Francis, and university presses.

The shared collections include a wide variety of subjects: education, business, math, biology, science, and almost anything else that is taught at universities and colleges. Shared collections have covered subjects from stem cell research and preparing for the LSAT to the effect of violent video games and global warming.

"How can any academic library not buy it?" said Jules Tate, Director of Library Services at the James C. Bolton Library of Louisiana State University. "For us, it has paid for itself many times over."

The other open NetLibrary shared collection is the first Public Library Shared Collection. As the name suggests, the first Public Library Shared Collection is geared toward a slightly different audience. This unique shared collection is built on the success of previous shared collections. It is expected to have 1,000 titles on consumer advice, do-it-yourself, parenting, general science, and gardening as well as titles for children and young adults.

### **Patrons' Reactions**

Real-time usage reports are available, and these reports have shown that the shared collections are popular with library patrons. For example, NetLibrary shared collection eBooks were circulated 188,362 times during Fiscal Year 2006-2007 at Tennessee State University. The university's library serves about 9,200 students and nearly 500 faculty. That's an average of 20 checkouts per user.

Some of the features patrons find especially helpful are the options to take notes and highlight material, the dictionary and pronunciation guides within the books, and the ability to adjust font size.

"I've used them myself at home while I was taking classes. I could adjust the font size, making

the books easy to read on a computer screen," said Isabel Pascu, Acquisitions Coordinator at St. Thomas University in Florida. "It was just like having a printed book in front of me. I was able to check the book out, take notes, and then come back to it later."

Popularity with students and faculty continues to increase as more libraries include an overview of the shared collections when giving orientations to library services to new students and faculty.

"Usage is increasing as more and more people learn about the shared collections," Tate said. "We've turned a corner on use and acceptance of electronic books."

This popularity has led longtime devotees to await the arrival of new collections, so they can continue to provide a broad range of material to their patrons at a premium. "We subscribe right away when a new shared collection comes out. We want students to have different formats, especially because some of them do

not come to campus often," Pascu said.

The shared collections are a gem especially for smaller libraries. "Full-text eBooks greatly expand the research opportunities available to our students," said Ann Edmonds, Library Director of the Galloway School in Georgia. "The NetLibrary Shared Collections have been a lifesaver in our upper-level research projects, allowing students to have ready access to specialized titles that I would never consider buying in print because they would not be used regularly."

Orders for the [NetLibrary Public Library Shared Collection](#) and the [NetLibrary Shared eBook Collection VII](#) are currently being taken with the first set of content purchases planned in the next few months. Details about these collections are available on the SOLINET website or by contacting the SOLINET [Member Services Help Desk](#).



# Changing the Way Libraries Do Business:

MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF A WEB 2.0 WORLD

March 20, 2008 IM UMTS Wikis Pay Per Click Widgets  
VC XFN Videocasting Six Degrees Jenny Levine from ALA-  
Usability Browser Keynote Speaker  
XHTML Mobility Web 2.0 CSS RSS REST  
Audio Design  
The Long Tail Participation AJAX Atom Social Software  
Web Standards XML Arlington Public Library FOAF SVG  
Economy SOAP Folksonomy Arlington, VA Microformats

SOLINET™ + OCLC Eastern  
A NETWORK OF KNOWLEDGE (formerly OCLC CAPCON)

Join us at this conference! It will cover the practical aspects of Web 2.0. Participants will hear practitioners talk about how they successfully integrated Web 2.0 tools, including RSS, Wikis, and social software in their libraries. Attendees will walk away with tools-not just knowledge.

# Rebecca Hamilton Named Rising Star

By Paulita Chartier, State Library of Louisiana



SOLINET Board Member and Louisiana State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton has been named to Baton Rouge Business Report's annual list of Louisiana's rising stars in business and government, "2007 Top Forty Under 40". According to the Business Report, "It's hard to imagine anyone better suited to the job of state librarian than Rebecca Hamilton."

The Business Report lists young leaders in the Baton Rouge area who are "achieving success and influencing decisions." More than 250 people were nominated for the list, including lawyers, doctors, entrepreneurs and educators.

"I'm very proud of what Rebecca has accomplished during her first two years in office at the State Library of Louisiana," said Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu, whose office oversees the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, under which the State Library of Louisiana falls. "Under Rebecca's leadership, the State Library enjoys increased visibility, an improved level of service, a refined mission with strategies to achieve results, and an impressive record of accountability. Our public libraries serve a crucial role in fostering the state's culture of literacy and, to that end, Rebecca and her staff work tirelessly to help our public libraries help our citizens."

Hamilton recounted her first experiences as a patron of the bookmobile and as an employee of the public library of her home parish. She says these years helped to mold her vision of library service and kindled her desire to serve the underserved. This desire, coupled with her love of Louisiana, made her realize early on that her life's work would be spent as a librarian in Louisiana.

Graduating in 1995 from Louisiana State University with a Masters in Library and Information Science, she worked at several parish libraries in administrative positions until her appointment to the position of State Librarian.

"My father used to say, 'If you have the ability to make a difference, it's your responsibility to do that'

and that has always been with me," Hamilton says.

As State Librarian, Hamilton manages a budget of \$12.7 million, impacting 67 public library systems statewide. Her agency provides training to librarians, access to various forms of information (including Internet connectivity and databases), and guidance on all library-related issues.

Angele Davis, Secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, says Hamilton has been successful in multiple missions during her short tenure. "State aid to public libraries is at a 30-year high," Davis said. "Rebecca has both streamlined operations and increased programs and services of the State Library, providing the best customer service possible. She is also heavily involved in the rebuilding of libraries lost in the storms of 2005, and an upgrade of libraries statewide. She has achieved amazing results in just under two years in office," Davis said.

**I'm very proud of what Rebecca has accomplished during her first two years in office at the State Library of Louisiana.**

**—Mitch Landrieu,  
Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana**

When asked whom she admired most in the business community, Hamilton replied, "I admire our public librarians in the state of Louisiana. Their work enables all of our citizens, regardless of their economic status, to get the information they need to achieve success."





# Meet Your Leaders

## Ed McBride

Learn more about Ed McBride, SOLINET's first Chief Marketing and Outreach Officer.

— Fatima Hyder

**Name:** George Edward McBride, but friends and colleagues know me as Ed and my parents call me Edward!

**Title:** Chief Marketing and Outreach Officer

**Education:** BS from the University of Memphis in Library Administration

**First paid job:** As an Eagle Scout, I worked in the kitchen at Baptist Medical Center Princeton in Birmingham, Alabama, my hometown. I made \$1.21 an hour, and I thought I was rich!

**First paid job in a library:** Library Assistant at Memphis and Shelby County Public Library and Information Center performing retrospective conversion on a SOLINET/OCLC terminal.

**Greatest achievement:** I hope I haven't had my "Greatest" achievement, but to date I would have to say my work in creating the Customer Resource Center at Gale. This service supported our customers through the purchase and installation process for their electronic products and offered librarians, consultants, and advisors to help promote use and add value to the product line. We saw

customer retention go from 89% to 97% with this service and it is still growing thanks in part to a group of dedicated professionals at Gale.

**What attracted you to the library profession:** It found me as I was finishing up my BS and needed a job or else my parents were going to make me work in the family business in Alabama. A friend of mine worked at the library and suggested I apply, and much to my surprise they offered me a job doing RECON. I had the most wonderful experience being intro-

**I have seen librarians go from card catalogs to e-reference in my very short 28 years in the profession and how exciting it has been and most of all rewarding!**

duced to public librarianship by being at the Memphis-Shelby County Public Library and Information Center and working with Bob Croneberger, Sallie Johnson, Judy Card, Jan Neal, and Merle Richardson, to name a

few. We were young and focused on being the library for the public and we experimented and tried new things that were then known as pioneer but now are staples of any public library program you would find in the country. I have seen librarians go from card catalogs to e-reference in my very short 28 years in the profession and how exciting it has been and most of all rewarding! I carried those early lessons with me to Virginia Beach Public Library, San Francisco Public Library and to my work at Gale. I can't imagine working in any other profession and I am so glad it found me.

**Last books read:** Because I spend so much time reading professional journals or research, I love fiction or biographies for pleasure. This year I turn 50, and my partner and I are planning a trip to Italy so I just finished *The City of Falling Angels* by John Berendt. We are spending a few days in Venice and this book so vividly described Venice that I know I will see this magical place in a very different light. The last time I lived in Atlanta was when *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* was popular and after I read it, I had to explore Savannah, and it was just as he described down to the Spanish moss in the cemetery!

This past year my Father has been quite ill and one of my staff members gave me a copy of local Detroit author Mitch Albom's *One More Day*. I enjoyed the sentimental story, and it made me realize every day is a special gift.

**Last eBook read:** My time at Gale gave me plenty of opportunity to read and use e-reference books. It was not uncommon for me to browse the latest biographical encyclopedias or one of the popular culture series.

**Next book you'd like to read:** The Executive Editor at Gale, Frank Menchaca, gave me *Best of the South*, edited by Shannon Ravenel as a going-away gift so as soon as the dust settles from my move to Atlanta, I plan to start reading these stories about the South! I also have the book *Hero: A Novel* by Perry Moore on my nightstand.

**Last movie seen:** I watched *The Lion in Winter* with Peter O'Toole and Katharine Hepburn for the 100th time; it never grows old! We have a tradition of watching all of the Academy Award Best Picture nominees before the ceremony but with the move this year we may not make it!

**Favorite food/restaurant:** I really have missed the South, and I love Southern cooking! One of my favorite places is Mary Mac's Tea Room in Atlanta, and I am looking forward to some meals there real soon. However, my favorite place for creating a memorable meal or occasion is Domaine Chandon in Napa, California. This is a five-course meal that lasts at least two hours, and with friends and family around the table, it has to be what dining in Heaven will be like!

**Dog or cat?** Neither! Two sons, Colby (22) and Tyler (18) are enough for me!

**Last vacation:** A cruise of the Mexican Riviera last Fall with my partner, my parents, and three sets of Aunts and Uncles! We had a blast!

**Favorite website:** I must admit I am an iTunes junkie. I love browsing and reading the biographies and taking trips down memory lane. My iPod truly represents the decades of my life.

## I can't imagine working in any other profession and I am so glad it found me!

**Hobbies:** Travel, reading, working on my home, and long drives.

**Heroes/person you'd like to meet:** I have so many and some of my heroes I know personally so that is a fortunate thing for me and my life. I would love to meet Fannie Flagg since I love her books and she is from my hometown. Her descriptions of Alabama have taken me home when I lived away from the South and in a very special way. I love pop culture so a convention of pop icons would be one where I would sign up and buy a ticket!

**Fantasy job:** I think I am about to start it at SOLINET!

**What are you looking forward to at SOLINET?** I tell everyone that I grew up with SOLINET and since my very first library job was working on a SOLINET/OCLC terminal it feels very natural for me to

move into this position. I see so much potential for growth for SOLINET and for new services and products that we can offer members. I was attracted to SOLINET by the reputation of the staff and by the fact I think it will be great fun working with Kate (Nevins, Executive Director), Randy (Walters, Chief Operating Officer), Natalie (Erb, Chief Financial Officer), and the Board, which are people I have known and worked with already in my professional life. I am very excited about being a part of this dynamic organization.

**One hundred years from now, what do you want people to remember about you?** First of all I hope I am remembered! Second, I hope people will say he was a great partner, father, son, brother, uncle and friend! Third, I want people to remember me as a dedicated professional who wanted to provide the best and most authoritative information to the end user. And finally, I hope people will say "what a funny, sincere and caring person" and if they added "he could always make me laugh and feel good" that would make me very happy!



# SOLINET CALENDAR

## March

### March 4-6

SOLINET at Louisiana Library Association conference in Shreveport

### March 14

Alabama Users Group meeting in Jacksonville

### March 14

Georgia Users Group meeting in Columbus

### March 20

Changing the Way Libraries Do Business: Meeting the Challenges of a Web 2.0 World conference co-sponsored by SOLINET and OCLC Eastern (formerly OCLC CAPCON)

### March 28

Early Bird deadline for SOLINET Annual Membership Meeting registration

### March 31

Deadline to save up to 25% on Ares electronic reserves software

## April

### April 9-11

SOLINET at Tennessee Library Association conference in Kingsport

### April 22-25

SOLINET at Alabama Library Association conference in Birmingham

### April 23-25

SOLINET at Florida Library Association conference in St. Petersburg Beach

### April 30

Advance registration deadline for SOLINET Annual Membership Meeting (on-site registration will be accepted on meeting days)

## May

### May 8-9

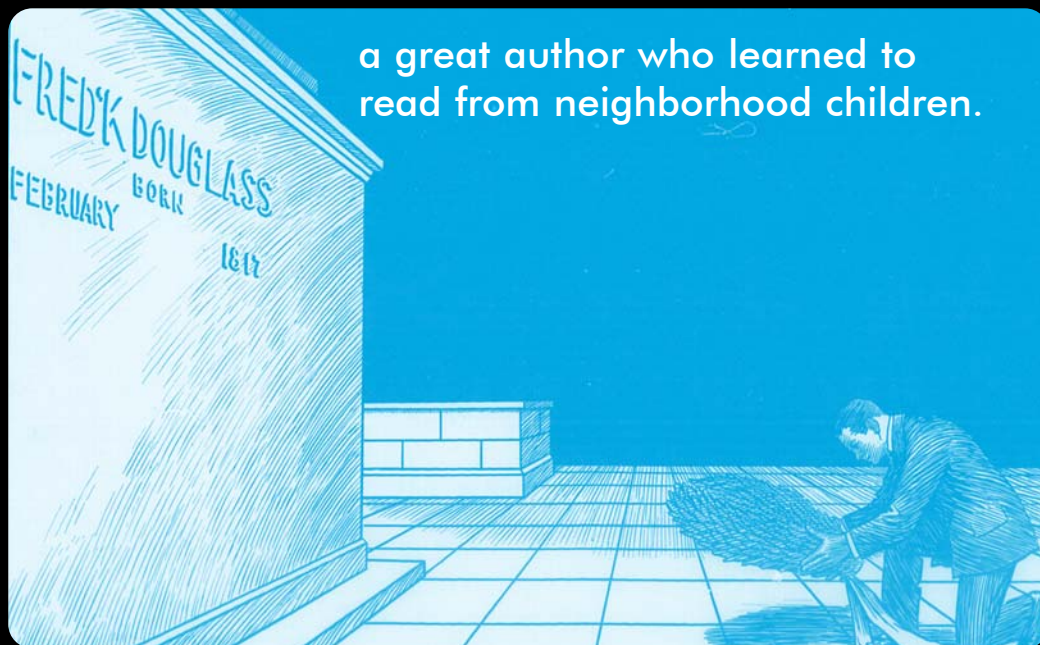
SOLINET Annual Membership Meeting in Atlanta, GA.

### May 22

South Carolina Users Group meeting (Columbia)

## Connect to...

a great author who learned to read from neighborhood children.



## African American Studies



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Be prepared for Black History month with SOLINET's African American History Resources. Products include Alexander Street Press databases, Oxford University Press' African American Studies Center, and LexisNexis Primary Sources in African American History. Learn more at [www.SOLINET.net/AfricanAmericanHistory](http://www.SOLINET.net/AfricanAmericanHistory) or call us at 800-999-8558.

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