

The Central Library Bulletin

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History: In the Past, and In the Making.

Fall 2008 ushers in a presidential election which will be historic whatever the outcome, a mortgage crisis that has yet to hit bottom, and consumers that are stretched to the snapping point by the cost of food and gas. This edition of the **Central Library Bulletin** looks at some resources designed to lend perspective to the new world order.



Question of the Month

Do you have anything to help me make sense of the oil crisis? I know there have been shortages before, and prices have risen dramatically in the past, but it seems much worse this time around. Is OPEC to blame?

Useful Tools: Gale Virtual Reference Library

Log in to HomeAccess to use the e-Books listed below. Use the term "OPEC" to find over thirty different articles addressing this topic.

Encyclopedia of American Foreign policy, 2nd ed.

Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa, 2nd ed.

Gale encyclopedia of U. S. Economic History

History behind the Headlines: the Origins of Conflict Worldwide

Major Acts of Congress

Encyclopedia of World Biography

"Oil: Protectionist Pricing and Fuel Dependence," found in *History Behind the*

Headlines: the Origins of Conflicts

Worldwide, offers an interesting perspective on our nation's dependence on oil, beginning with the discovery of its usefulness to the industrial age in 1851.

Training Tip: For the most comprehensive search, deselect "within these results" to search all eBooks simultaneously,

FAQs at the Reference Desk

Q. I'm interested in presidential biographies, political memoirs and American history. I'd like to read something current and popular; in fact, a best-seller would be good. What can you suggest?

A. We'll use NonFiction Connection to compile a list of popular presidential biographies. Use the Topic tab to select "U. S. presidents." At the results page, refine your results by choosing Biography (under Genre) and then by using the Bestseller link on the right-hand menu. Selecting the New York Times will provide a list of over 20 bestselling presidential biographies.

For a list of political memoirs, use "political memoir" as a keyword, and then refine your search by choosing "American politics and government" from the menu on the right. Continue to refine your search, or stop there and choose from over 70 titles.

For books about American history, click the Topic tab, and then select "American history." Choose a topic, location, or time frame as interest dictates, and then choose links under Bestseller for lists of popular titles on the topic.

History Website Reviews:

American President: an online reference resource

<http://millercenter.org/academic/americanpresident/>

In-depth information on each president and administration, reviewed by prominent scholars.

The Library of Congress American Memory

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>

A collection of written and spoken words, sound recordings, still and moving images, prints, maps, and sheet music from the collections of the Library of Congress, all documenting the "American experience."

BlackPast.Org: Remembered and Reclaimed

<http://www.blackpast.org/?q=aah/african-american-history>

Major documents that help explain the history of African Americans; research guides and resources about African American History; and an online encyclopedia of significant people and places in African American history.

Digital History

<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/>

Historical newspaper articles, primary sources, an online textbook and the Encyclopedia of American History; endorsed online resources, detailed chronologies, audio resources with music, speeches and e-lectures; historical images, movies and maps; and access to famous court cases and historic Supreme Court decisions.

Links: Visit Adriance Library's Useful Sites page at www.poklib.org. Click on the Reference and Research tab, then Useful Sites. Click on History for a collection of some of the best history sites on the web.

Training Spotlight:

OPAC Training in October and November: "Master the Power of the Online Catalog." Visit the Mid-Hudson Library System calendar at <http://calendar.midhudson.org/> for more information, and to register.

Recent Central Library Acquisitions

These titles have been added to the collection at Adriance Memorial Library.



Non-Fiction

[101 foods that could save your life!](#) by David W. Grotto.

[The anatomist: a true story of Gray's anatomy](#) by Bill Hayes.

[The creative digital darkroom](#) by Katrin Eismann & Seán Duggan.

[Fasting](#) by Jentezen Franklin.

[Lost worlds: adventures in the tropical rainforest](#) by Bruce M. Beehler.

[Only a theory: evolution and the battle for America's soul](#) by Kenneth Miller.

[People and the sky: our ancestors and the cosmos](#) by Anthony Aveni.

[The slaves' war: the Civil War in the words of former slaves](#) by Andrew Ward.

[Why poetry matters](#) by Jay Parini.

[Y'all come eat](#) by the Deen Bros.

Please send your questions, comments, and ideas for future issues to Sue Hermans, (shermans@poklib.org.)

