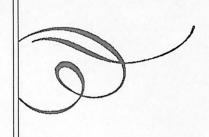## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESKTOP

by Alberta Davis Comer

Welcome to the winter 2007 issue. Where did summer and fall of 2006 go? I am sure it was here for a short time, but then it just disappeared! And now we have winter.... so pour yourself a cup of hot tea, get comfortable, and prepare to read an amazing compilation of articles on a variety of topics. We will start with what is going on in local libraries in an update from the State Library and then we'll learn about Indiana poet, Matthew Brennan. And, since it is cold and cloudy outside, we will travel to sun-drenched New Orleans in the summertime with two ALA conference reports, one from Deloice Holliday and one from Kim Carr. Next, we will journey overseas to Thailand to learn about outreach and engagement in that country.

However, as you will find from the rest of the articles in the issue, you don't need to leave Indiana to find exciting library endeavors. For example, read about the multi-buildings project at Noble County Public Library, as well as learn about school book clubs and about community collaboration. This issue also provides the opportunity to understand RFIDs and the intellectual freedom concerns about them, as well as learn about young readers at risk. John Borneman, trustee of the Tipton County Public Library Board, shows us why it is important to understand statistics and Susan E. Thomas details issues surrounding the use of e-books. We also learn about the reference needs of the next generation and about a retrospective bar coding project at Valparaiso University. We finish with two articles that examine books from different ends of the time spectrum. William F. Meehan III discusses Ben Franklin as printer while Marissa Priddis discusses current books and articles about Friends of the Library programs.

Once again, our eclectic variety of topics shows that librarians are a diverse group of people. My thanks to the authors for sharing their knowledge with all of us. Keep warm, happy reading, and stay in touch.