

Achieving Diversity, edited by Barbara I. Dewey and Loretta Parham (245 pages, April 2006), offers solid suggestions on creating a successful diversity plan, recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce, and improving diversity through services and collections. The majority of the examples and case studies involve such academic libraries as the University of Maryland, North Carolina State University, and the University of Mississippi. \$75.00. Neal-Schuman. ISBN 1-55570-554-5.

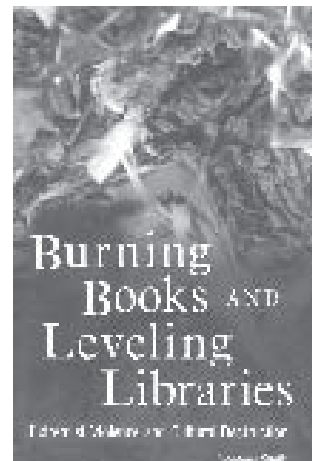
Another recent Neal-Schuman how-to-do it manual is *Wireless Networking*, by Louise E. Alcorn and Maryellen Mott Allen (201 pages, April 2006), which gives the basics of wireless networks in libraries, the equipment required, and techniques for security and maintenance. A glossary of terms and sample policies and FAQs offer guidance. \$65.00. Neal-Schuman. ISBN 1-55570-478-6.

The Bamboo Sword and Other Samurai Tales, by Shuhei Fujisawa (253 pages, March 2006), is a translation by Gavin Frew of eight short stories by Japanese author Fujisawa (1927–97) that portray life in the early 17th-century Edo period, when the samurai warrior class adjusted to peacetime conditions by taking on mundane jobs. The title story is about a masterless samurai with an impoverished family who presents himself to a castle chamberlain with a letter of recommendation, only to have his hopes dashed. \$22.00. Kodansha International. ISBN 4-7700-3005-3.

The Box, by Marc Levinson (376 pages, March 2006), explains how the invention of the standardized, stackable, steel shipping container in 1956 revolutionized the world

of international trade. Invented by steamship company owner and former trucker Malcolm McLean, the shipping container is basically a railroad boxcar, minus the wheels, that does not need to be opened in transit and can easily be transferred from ship to truck to train. McLean's use of the boxes to supply U.S. forces in Vietnam cemented his success and ultimately made globalization possible. As Levinson writes, "The container is at the core of a highly automated system for moving goods from anywhere, to anywhere, with a minimum of cost and complication on the way." \$24.95. Princeton University Press. ISBN 0-691-12324-1.

Burning Books and Leveling Libraries, by Rebecca Knuth (233 pages, May 2006), looks at modern instances of the destruction of books and libraries as a "radical repudiation of intellectual freedom, individualism, pluralism, and tolerance." In her 2003 book *Libricide*, Knuth focused on authoritarian regimes; here, her emphasis is on extremist groups, such as the political protesters who vandalized Amsterdam's South African Institute in 1984, the Sinhalese police mob that



burned down the Jaffna Public Library in Sri Lanka in 1981, the Nazi youth group that burned the collection of Berlin's Institute for Sexual Science in 1933, the Khmer Rouge's eradication of Cambodian literature from 1975 to 1979, the Taliban's destruction of Afghan secular and Persian heritage from 1994 to 2001, and the Bush administration's failure to prevent the looting of Iraqi cultural

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institutions in 2003. \$39.95. Praeger. ISBN 0-275-99007-9.

Another recent title, *Burning Books*, by Haig Bosmajian (233 pages, April 2006), has a much broader sweep, covering book suppressions from ancient times through the present. Bosmajian places objections to books into three categories—blasphemous-heretical, seditious-subversive, and obscene-immoral—and traces the history of the burnings of each. \$39.95. McFarland. ISBN 0-7864-2208-4.

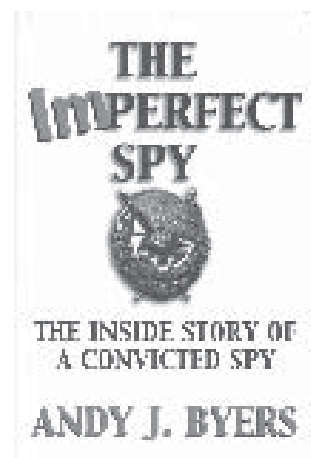
Encyclopedia of the Underground Railroad, by J. Blaine Hudson (308 pages, March 2006), provides an impressive amount of detail on the antebellum network that assisted fugitive slaves in gaining their freedom to the North or Canada. Running primarily through communities of free blacks, the Underground Railroad aided more than 100,000 African American runaways from 1810 to 1860. The book's hundreds of entries identify fugitive slaves, friends of fugitives, historic sites, and events, and its appendices include a timeline, selected friends of the fugitive, National Park Service sites, a bibliography of slave autobiographies, and selected Underground Railroad songs. \$55.00. McFarland. ISBN 0-7864-2459-1.

The Grail Bird: The Rediscovery of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, by Tim Gallagher (286 pages, paperback ed., April 2006), tells the story of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's search for and possible discovery of a surviving colony of Ivory-billed woodpeckers (*Campephilus principalis*) in the bayous of eastern Arkansas from 2004 to 2005. The first-hand narrative of the expedition is infectiously exciting. This edition contains a 14-page afterword written in early 2006 that acknowledges some of the skepticism about the discovery. \$14.95. Houghton Mifflin. ISBN 0-618-70941-X.

Marsupial lovers will enjoy *Tasmanian Devil: A Unique and Threatened Animal*, by David Owen and David Pemberton (225 pages, July 2006), describing the habitat, bi-

ology, history, and behavior of the wolverine-like Tasmanian devil (*Sarcophilus harrisii*), threatened with extinction in the wild since the 1990s from an epidemic of the cancerous Devil Facial Tumor Disease. It also tells how the Warner Brothers cartoon character based on the devil came about. \$24.95. Allen & Unwin; distributed by Independent Publishers Group. ISBN 1-74114-368-3.

The Imperfect Spy, by Andy J. Byers (256 pages, November 2005), tells the remarkable history of George Trofimoff, a retired Army Reserve colonel who had worked in military intelligence in Germany from 1969 to 1994 and was convicted in June 2001 of spying for the Soviets for most of those years. Byers befriended Trofimoff and his wife, Jutta, in 1996 when he moved next door to them in a retirement community in Melbourne, Florida,



and was taken by surprise when Trofimoff was arrested in June 2000. Although Trofimoff had been interrogated in Nuremberg in 1994, based on evidence provided by the 1992 defection to Britain of former KGB archivist Vasili Mitrokhin, Germany has a five-year statute of limitations on espionage and the arrest didn't stick. But the United States has no statute of limitations on spying, so after Trofimoff, for reasons that are unclear, made a six-hour confession to an undercover FBI agent in Florida, he was convicted and sentenced to life in prison at age 73. Byers uses trial testimony to show how Trofimoff passed on negatives of more than 50,000 classified documents to a Russian spy in Germany—his foster brother, Austria's Russian Orthodox Archbishop Igor Susemihl. \$24.95. Vandamere Press. ISBN 0-918339-66-9. ❧