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West Virginia Libraries 2000 Vol.53 No.5&6

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West Virginia LIBRARIES

Vol. 53 • No. 5 and 6

http://wvnvms.wvnet.edu/~wvla/

December 2000



President's Column Book release

Thank you for the opportunity to be the president of the West Virginia Library Association. The old Chinese proverb "May you live in interesting times" certainly applied to this past year. Some of the interesting events were of my own making, some were external, and some were just inevitable.

My sincere hope is that everyone will continue to build a path that all libraries and librarians in the state can travel to benefit and improve their situations.

I appreciate all the friendship, fellowship, and favors that I received this year. I would urge everyone to run for office in this organization. The membership is supportive and encouraging. The executive board overlooks flaws and mistakes while helping you find your way and improve.

SIGN UP NOW!

Pam Coyle

By Phyllis Moore

I just learned of a November book release, Early Art and Artists in West Virginia: An Introduction and Biographical Directory, by Dr. John A. Cuthbert, Curator of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection and Director of the West Virginia Art Collection at the WVU libraries.

This unique book is a benchmark. It is a stunningly illustrated, well-written work based on Cuthbert's years of meticulous research and shows his love of the arts. The volume contains over 200 color illustrations, plus a directory of over 1000 artists who are a part of the state's art history. It certainly refutes the legend of the PIWASH.

To order the press catalogue or the book, contact http:// www.as.wvu.edu/press or write WVU Press, P. O. Box 6295, Morgantown, WV - 26506.

Dr. Patrick Conner, former chair of the Department of English at West Virginia University, is the director of the press and deserves much credit for reactivating the press, as well as for the progress the press has made.

In the same vein, if you have not purchased a copy of the year 2000 West Virginia poetry book Wild Sweet Notes and the West Virginia women's photography and poetry calendar, both produced by Publisher's Place in Huntington, you may want to do so by contacting their website: publish@cloh.net.

These are three great gifts for the holidays and the future.

Information needed for WV literary map

Phyllis Wilson Moore is in the process of developing a West Virginia literary map and a guide for regional literary tourism. She is trying to gather as many names of current and former county poets, children's authors, playwrights, and fiction writers as possible. Her interest is only in the area of fiction, not non-fiction or historical material.

Phyllis reports that her files are rather thin for the following counties: Braxton, Calhoun, Clay, Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Jackson, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mercer, Mineral, Mingo, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Pendleton, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph, Raleigh, Roane, Taylor, Tucker, Wayne, Wetzel, Wirt, and Wyoming.

Her address is 101 Morgan St., Clarksburg, WV, 26301. You may e-mail any information to scoutdil@aol.com.

WVLA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2000

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m. by President Pam Coyle. Those in attendance were Pam Coyle, Judy Rule, Julie Spiegler, Yvonne Farley, Dottie Thomas, Monica Brooks, Charley Hively, David Price, Mary Strife, and Suzette Lowe.

II. Reports

All reports of committees and roundtables and any other standard reports were tabled as this was a summation meeting and a co-meeting of the 1999-2000 and 2000-2003 board of directors.

- III. New Business
 - A. WVNET

A bill for \$29.99 was sent to Monica Brooks from WVNET. It was unclear what the bill was for as WVNET is supposed to host WVLA's web page for free. If this policy has changed,

- WVLA has two options: purchase its own web site for an up-front cost of \$50 and then \$30 a month, or continue with WVNET.
- B. Reminder to those who agreed to write articles for West Virginia Libraries to submit their work to Ted Nesbitt.
- C. Monica Brooks has a prototype for a new brochure for WVLA.
- D. Monica Brooks asked that any resolutions that WVLA wants submitted to the ALA can be submitted to her. and she will then submit them to ALA. She reported that there is a possibility of a resolution to establish a literacy roundtable in ALA.
- IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. The next executive board meeting will be at North Bend State Park on December 7, 2000.



An editorial note

This edition of *West Virginia Libraries* offers a somewhat different approach from how an issue is usually assembled. A few weeks prior to the annual conference, I posted messages on our two bulletin boards asking for volunteers – conference attendees who would also serve as reporters for WVL. Although attending the conference (and choosing which sessions to attend) is work itself, I called upon our members to go one step further and submit synopses of what happened during those sessions.

The result was, to be charitable, UNDERwhelming.

Perhaps people did not want their evaluations to be printed for others to read. Perhaps they felt that accepting additional responsibilities was just too much of a burden — after all, taking time off to go to Charleston meant falling behind in the work at home. Perhaps they thought that too many other people would volunteer, making their own offer a redundancy.

And then, I did some research and found that only about ten percent of our membership subscribes to the most recent bulletin board, which was painstakingly designed and implemented by Monica Brooks and Steve Christo.

These bulletin boards are for us to communicate with each other. I encourage all of our members to enroll, a procedure that is easy, brief, and painless. The rewards are too many to mention. The boards can be accessed at these locations:

• The WVLA Message Board http://wvnvms.wvnet.edu/~wvla/

• WVLA Bulletin Board (for posting messages) wvla-bbs@marshall.edu

But, I want to tell you about the "OVERwhelming."

When the reporters e-mailed or faxed their articles to me, I set my engine on cruise control. They were informative and comprehensive. And, very little editing was required. As I read them, I relaxed and imagined that I was in those meeting rooms. The reporters made the session come alive! I want to thank all of you who took the time to write – and write so well.

("Where is he going with this?" you are asking.)

Since it worked so well for the annual post conference issue, why can't our own members continue to e-mail (preferred) or fax their views on issues, their suggestions about libraries and librarianship, and their knowledge about how to make libraries, librarians, WVLA, and even *West Virginia Libraries* better?

Letters to the editors and articles for our publication are always welcome.

For our next issue, we will be featuring Internet web sites developed by our members. In addition to the main articles, we would appreciate hearing from you about the web sites you use most frequently and those you can depend on when you are desperate. Choose one or two web sites and write a brief description of what it offers or why you use it. One hundred words or less should be sufficient. Send the URL and your evaluation to me at either of these two addresses:

tednesbitt@netscape.net nesbittt@wlsc.wvnet.edu

Please, gentle readers, overwhelm me.

Ted Nesbitt • Co-Editor

The woodcuts used in this issue are by Mary Azarian, Farmhouse Press, 258 Gray Rd., Plainfield, VT — 05667. The Conference Scrapbook photographs on pages 6 and 8 are by Phyllis Moore. All other photographs in this issue are by Steve Christo, Assistant Director, Cabell County Public Library.

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WVLA pre-conference on Internet filtering basics

By Peggy Turnbull • Bluefield State College

"Do you feel better now?" Yvonne Farley, Chair of WVLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee, asked the audience at the end of WVLA's Pre-Conference program, "Internet Filtering Basics," held on Thursday morning, November 2,2000. "I know I do." The group of about 50 people had just heard from two experts in the field of First Amendment rights and intellectual freedom: Judith Krug, Director of the American Library Association's Office of Intellectual Freedom.



Judith Krug of ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom addressing the pre-conference session on Internet Filtering

and Robert Bastress, Professor of Constitutional Law at West Virginia University's School of Law.

The program was timely because West Virginia libraries had been threatened with state- mandated filters in the past year with both a legislative and an executive attempt to contract for filtering services that were engineered by Governor Cecil Underwood. In addition, there is federal legislation pending that may force libraries using the e-rate to use filters. Thanks to Farley's leadership, the work in West Virginia has met with success thus far. But the work is far from over, and our vision of intellectual freedom is challenged by influential celebrities and politicians such as Dr. Laura Schlesinger and Senator John McCain.

Around me in the hotel conference room, people nodded their heads "yes." The program reminded us that the quiet, stable presence of public libraries in our communities is a testament to the power of democratic freedoms. Judith Krug said, "Librarians bring together people and ideas and the informa-

tion they want. This information is for all the people in the community. Not all users will agree about all materials in the library. We serve the information needs of all, not just the most powerful, the loudest, or the majority." She described our professional ideals in noble terms. At that moment, it felt good to be a librarian.

The Internet and intellectual freedom

Krug explained that intellectual freedom is based on the First Amendment, which ensures that citizens have the right to hold and express beliefs and to hear or read about the beliefs of others. The First Amendment does not limit its protections to certain types of speech: for example, it need not be honest, truthful, or respectful. But people must live with the consequences of their speech.

She said that different formats of information don't change librarians' roles, but the Internet changes the way that we operate. Previously, librarians selected every item in the library, but the Internet allows us to let our users act as their own selectors. Although the vast majority of people do not use the Internet to access sexually explicit sites, there's a perception that this has become the Internet's primary purpose.

This perception fueled the passage of the Communications Decency Act (CDA). The CDA fined content providers if any minor accessed indecent material. The ALA became involved with the fight against the CDA when a librarian in New York found that it prevented her library's catalog from being put on the Internet. Some of the catalog's titles could be considered sexually explicit. This kind of confusion was widespread because "indecent" was never defined.

ALA's lawsuit against the CDA was combined with another one that became known as ACLU v. Reno. Arguments were that the CDA was unconstitutional because its terms were vague and no distinction was made between what was suitable for a five-year old and what was suitable for a seventeen-year old. Libraries can't limit all the information we provide to that suitable for children. There are alternative ways to protect children from the Internet. One of these is the use of filters. And the Internet is not a broadcast medium like TV and radio; it's

more like a print medium. Its audience is not captive; the audience chooses what is accessed. The Internet deserves the same protections as print material does.

On June 26, 1997, the United States Supreme Court declared the CDA unconstitutional in a unanimous decision, citing the objections listed above. But the success of ACLU v. Reno has not prevented state legislators from attempting to impose similar laws in their jurisdictions. These efforts are challenged by the ALA through the Freedom to Read Foundation, which is the legal arm for the Office of Intellectual Freedom (OIF). It limits itself to First Amendment litigation. ALA files for fees when they win their cases and get settlements, which in turn fund future litigation. In addition, the Foundation will provide legal assistance to any librarian fighting a censorship problem.

Filters in libraries

Krug also spoke about the pending legislation that mandates filters in libraries that use the e-rate or receive funds from Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.ALA had not seen the bill at the time of the Pre-Conference. The OIF is, however, putting together a legal team to fight it. The problem with mandated filtering is that it results in an "unfunded mandate": it makes stipulations but does not provide the funding to act on them. It also puts something that is normally under local control (library use policies) under federal authority.

ALA is not opposed to the use of filters in the home, but libraries must make information available across a wide range of values. Filters are an inexact technology, which means that they do not block all sexually explicit sites (about 13% are missed) and they block legal, useful information. Some of the sites that have been filtered out include those about AIDS, Mars exploration, E-bay, the American Association of University Women, the FBI, the magazine Mother Jones, Planned Parenthood, the National Organization for Women, sites about Gay and Lesbian human rights, Pokéman, Hasbro toys, and the Remington Gun Manufacturer. In addition, what is filtered is proprietary information. The filtering companies won't tell what is blocked, how it's blocked, or why it is blocked.

Filters will probably never work to the extent that lawmakers hope they will be-



cause there are two billion (and counting) web sites with a 44-day average life span. No technology can keep up with them all. Krug thinks that adults and children can behave responsibly at Internet computers without being legislated to do so. She ended with a few tips on how to encourage this kind of responsibility:

- Inappropriate behavior in libraries should be dealt with by the library
- Good use policies protect users and libraries
- Develop good lists of quality web sites so that patrons can be steered toward the type of material they want
- Provide classes in search techniques and use of the Internet that will improve patrons' accuracy in web searching
- Participate in ALA's "Families Online Week," to be held December 26, 2000 -January 2,2001.

The nature of the Internet

Robert Bastress started his talk by reading aloud from a letter that Governor Underwood had written Danny McMillian, the director of Raleigh County Public Library, in which the Governor stated that he objected to the presence of pornography in publicly funded institutions such as libraries through the Internet. He said that libraries wouldn't add such materials to the collection in print form, so why should they be made available on the computer?

Bastress noted that "no one challenges the illegality of obscene materials." He said, "the excludable categories of protected speech are defined very narrowly and must be specifically defined by state law." In West Virginia, no such definitions exist.

The Internet presents new issues for the legal world. The Internet is decentralized. "It's nowhere in particular, but it's everywhere." It's been revolutionary in its impact in the last ten years. With other media, there has been a consolidation of ownership and control. With the Internet the opposite has happened, and individuals can publish to the world. The medium, therefore, has no gatekeeper. This encourages democracy.

Traditionally, librarians make content decisions for their collections, but the Internet changes this. In the past, the library would be considered to violate the First Amendment if it removed books from its collection with censorial intent (as stated in the Board of Education v. Pico). The library, though, was not considered a censor if it decided not to buy controversial works. With the Internet, the library is in a differ-

ent situation. It cannot avoid having controversial materials if it provides Internet access.

The legal problems of filters

Filters have been touted as a way to protect children from viewing controversial or dangerous materials. In Loudon v. Board of Trustees they were found to be unconstitutional. The problem was that the filters prevented adults as well as children from viewing protected materials. Loudon also established that libraries can be public forums. When restricting access to the Internet, the library is acting as a regulator. But Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia states that conditions cannot be put on the use of a public forum.

In other words, filters cannot be considered to protect a library from trouble in the way that libraries could protect themselves by simply refusing to buy controversial books. If a library sets up a filtering system incorrectly and is sued, the library is liable for the attorneys' fees of the plaintiffs.

Filters are problematical because they are both overbroad, keeping out protected material, and underbroad, letting a lot in, such as images without words and violence. Learning the keywords that activate filters is the easiest way to learn to get around the system. For this reason, the lists are proprietary and won't be released to the institution buying the filtering service. This makes it difficult for a library to fairly evaluate the service, which may be promoting a social or religious agenda through the selection of sites it filters out. The lowest bid that came in for the Governor's request for bids in the summer of 2000 was \$0.00, which suggests that some kind of motive other than financial was involved.

Bastress told us that the McCain Amendment (presently attached to a Congressional bill with a good chance of passage) requires filters but allows adults to turn them off. Adults must go to the librarian to get the filter turned off. This is clumsy and embarrassing to library patrons, as well as time-consuming for library staff.

Another method of using filters is to put them on computers in the children's room but not on computers in the adult area. However, children also have a right to view the protected speech that the filters unavoidably sift out. Some filters allow parents to program the level of filtering allowed for their child. But juveniles have free speech rights independent of their parents.

Libraries that don't use filters but rely on librarians to monitor patron use of computers are also vulnerable to lawsuits. There are no preset standards for this monitoring (it can differ depending on who is on duty and otherwise how busy the shift is). The monitoring would be arbitrary for that reason. All policies require procedures that allow patrons to challenge its application.

What can librarians do? They can set up behavior codes for patrons. Patron behavior that prevents other people from using the library should not be allowed. This includes behaviors such as printing objectionable web pages and leaving them in the printer for someone else to find, leaving objectionable material on the screen and walking off, or calling other patrons over to look at it. Librarians can ask patrons using illegal materials that violate obscenity standards to turn them off. Librarians can also set time limits as a deterrent and use privacy shields so no one has to see something they don't want to see.

Are libraries liable if they don't filter? A library cannot be held accountable for providing access to materials when access is required by the First Amendment, according to Bastress.

A valuable program

The solutions that have been proposed to tame the Internet and make it safer for children are deeply flawed. But instead of feeling overwhelmed by the lack of easy answers available for this chaotic and deeply expressive technology, those attending the program left it with a lighter step. Judith Krug reminded us that our professional values are rooted in our Constitution, and they continue to serve us well as we enter the twenty first century. Robert Bastress showed us how the law and its principles shape the way that libraries approach the Internet. Both speakers gave us a way to understand and cope with the challenges of our work. We also learned enough to explain to others why librarians have not embraced filters.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee was grateful that the audience included some state legislators and a member of Governor-elect Bob Wise's staff, who took many notes and joined the Committee for lunch. If anyone has ideas for future programs, please contact any member of the Committee.

Public libraries: bargain on the century

By Brenda Riffle • Director Hampshire County Public Library

A gathering of about thirty librarians and trustees attended the "Public Libraries: Bargain of the Century" session on Thursday afternoon, hosted by Edwin S. Gleaves, State Librarian and Archivist, Tennessee State Library.

In a computer presentation, using his home state as an example, Gleaves educated the audience on how to go about conveying our message to both legislators and patrons that the public library is a real bargain. Comparing costs of public library service with everyday items that the public can identify with makes perfect sense and increases our case that taxpayers cannot live without the services of public libraries.

Gleaves cited examples of bargain ser-

vices and emphasized how many great ideas and resources are available at the library for free, such as every kind of recreation, history and historic sites, high-quality videos and maps — to name just a few. He encouraged more participation in learning to survive in the world of information, and he encouraged library supporters to lobby at the state level. Let our patrons know the connection between taxes and libraries.

This was an excellent public relations presentation for librarians: to be reminded that we need to "toot our horns" both locally and statewide. Gleaves left us all a little wiser on how to promote public libraries in West Virginia and hopefully increase our funding in the future, continually moving our libraries forward to better serve all our citizens.

Home schooling

By Pam Coyle South Charleston Public Library

Angela Sprague and others from the Kanawha Putnam Home Schoolers discussed the many ways that librarians and people who home school could work together to benefit both.

A bibliography and catalogues from companies that supply home school materials were distributed. A tip sheet listing several ideas for making the library a haven for the children and their parents was also handed out.

From displays to meeting places to programs, the relationship between home schoolers and librarians can be a lasting relationship and help both groups.

Book Wars - The Movie

By Steve Fesenmaier • Research Librarian West Virginia Library Commission

Winner of the best documentary award at the New York Underground Film Festival, *Book Wars* is one of the most poignant films of the year. Filmmaker and street bookseller Jason Rosette graduated from NYU, and, unable to find a job, started selling his only possessions – tons of books – on the streets of New York City. For three years, in all kinds of weather, he stood outside, along with Pete Whitney, Rick Sherman, Al Mappo, and other people who truly love books.

I had been reading about this film for some time, ever since it first hit the festival circuit. I really had no idea what *Book Wars* meant - did it have something to do with what happened at the SFPL? Or Hawaii? When I finally previewed it, I was enthralled. The immediacy of life on the streets was overwhelming. It didn't surprise me that the producer, Michel Negroponte, had directed one of the most penetrating films ever made about a homeless person, *Jupiter's Wife*. Only Michael Moore, famous for the movie *Roger and Me* and for two

television series, *TV Nation* and *The Awful Truth*, has made films like this: humorous and sad; musical and silent. Like Moore, Rosette took on Mayor Guiliani's "quality of life" regime, losing in his case. There is one public library in this film, but it remains unnamed, since it gave Rosette some of its discarded books.

In our amazon.com age, this film returns one to the pre-web world, where books are more important than computers.

The world library premiere of *Book Wars* was Nov. 2 at The Charleston House and was co-sponsored by the West Virginia International Film Festival and the West Virginia Library Association.



Conference scrapbook

Floyd Fullen of Shinnston, President-Elect of the Trustees' Division, Phyllis Moore of Clarksburg, and Steve Fesenmaier, of the WVLC



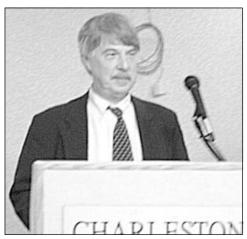
Conference scrapbook



WVLA Secretary Suzette Lowe and President Pam Coyle at the opening Interpret HTML session



Mountain Women



Paul J. Nyden of the Charleston Gazette, recipient of the Intellectual Freedom Award



The band, Carpenter Ants, with Charlie Tuitt from the St. Albans Public Library

Dora Ruth Parks Award



Jo Ann Calzonetti

Jo Ann Calzonetti received her BA in English from Kalamazoo College. She went on to earn her MA from Wayne State University in Detroit and her MLS from the University of Oklahoma.

The majority of her 25 years of professional experience has been spent at West Virginia University. Among the positions she has held at WVU are technical services librarian at Wise and Evansdale Libraries, interim head of the Audiovisual Library, and Coordinator of Government Documents/Microforms. Her current position is Director of Evansdale Library.

Ms. Calzonetti has served on numerous library and university committees and is currently serving as co-chair of the Voyager Implementation Coordination Committee and chair of the OPAC Implementation Committee. She is one of two library senators in the WVU Faculty Senate.

Jo Ann Calzonetti's dedicated service to the West Virginia Library Association include chair of the College and University Section, circulation editor for *West Virginia Libraries*, 2nd vice-president, 1st vice-president, and president of the association. She is or has been active in the American Library Association in the Instruction Section/ACRL, Government Documents Roundtable, and ACRL Division.

She is a mentor, both formally and informally, to her staff and colleagues, and she is a wonderful role model for the best in librarianship.

Literary merit

Born in Buckhannon, West Virginia, author Stephen Coonts majored in political science at West Virginia University, graduating in 1968 with an A.B. degree. Upon graduation, he was commissioned an ensign in the United States Navy, receiving his Navy wings in 1969. He made two combat cruises during the final years of the Vietnam War, served as a flight instructor on A-B aircraft for two years, and then finally served on the USS *Nimitz*. Mr. Coonts received his law degree in 1979 and practiced in West Virginia until moving to Colorado as a staff attorney specializing in oil and gas law for an independent oil company.

His first novel, Flight of the Intruder, published in 1986, spent 28 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list. A motion picture based on the novel was released in 1991. Mr. Coonts' second novel, Final Flight, was published in 1988 and ranked #12 on the Publishers' Weekly annual bestseller list for 1988. The Minotaur, his third novel, was published in the U.S. in 1989 and the fourth novel, Under Siege, was published in 1991 and was cited as a New York Times notable book. His first work of non-fiction, The Cannibal Queen, and his following novels The Red Horseman and The Intruders were bestsellers in the U.S. and overseas. His other books include Fortunes of War, War in the Air, and Cuba. His current novel is Hong Kong. Mr. Coonts' books have been widely translated and republished in the British Commonwealth, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and many other countries.

Stephen Coonts was a trustee of West Virginia Wesleyan College from 1990-1998 and was inducted into the West Virginia University Academy of Distinguished Alumni in 1992. The United State Naval Institute honored him with its Author of the Year Award in 1986 for his novel Flight of the Intruder.

Mr. Coonts and his wife, Deborah, reside in Clarksville, Maryland.



Stephen Coonts

Conference scrapbook

Retired librarians Nick Winowich (Kanawha County Public Library) and Merle Moore (Clarksburg-Harrison County Public Library)



Putting alternative literature into libraries

By Steve Fesenmaier • Research Librarian West Virginia Library Commission

Chris Dodge is a man who truly loves ideas - all ideas, in a million forms. He is one of the leading experts on the vast world of alternative magazines and books. After almost twenty years working in public libraries, he is presently the librarian for the "Readers' Digest of the Left," Utne Reader.

Dodge's most interesting statement was that he felt that the "editors of *Utne Reader*" should read about the negative criticisms of their magazine as well as the positive." It was truly depressing to listen to his statistics about the nearly total lack of alternative collection building in US libraries. Us-

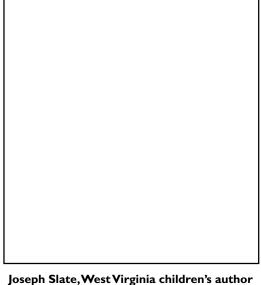
ing OCLC's Worldcat, he checked out how many libraries subscribed to many of the most interesting publications available. Few libraries anywhere carry them, and, for example, no West Virginia library collected Graffiti magazine. He gave away free copies of the current issue and let the audience take extra copies of many of these amazing publications that he had brought here from Minneapolis.

I asked him about the fact that, because of the Internet, everyone could now post his own "alternative publication." He remarked that he hated reading things on computer screens, hated printing out things from computers, and felt that archiving was just not possible. One audience member, a native of Charleston who has lived in Sweden for decades, remarked on the monolithic nature of American publishing in particular and thinking in general.

Dodge compiled a book on his mentor, Sandy Berman, coining a term: Sandynista. Dodge is truly "Sandynista #1" or maybe

"Son of Sandy," but, like Berman, he believes that libraries should promote democracy. One certain way to do that is to support the alternative presses as much as possible. You may check out his website, "Street Librarian," at this URL: http:// www.geocities.com/SoHo/Café/7423/

Conference scrapbook





Homer Hickam, West Virginia author of several books, including Rocket Boys and The Coalwood Way

Conference musings from Marshall

By Monica Brooks • WVLA-ALA Councilor and Associate Dean of Libraries, Marshall University

High energy and enthusiasm of attendees and volunteers, coupled with a wonderful variety of programs and talented speakers, helped to make this the most memorable conference in recent years. With so many "hot" topics brewing in our WV libraries, it was especially exciting to have Judith Krug from the Intellectual Freedom Committee of ALA kick-off the conference with her presentation. Subsequent programs on filtering, early learners, young adult programming, electronic resources, UCITA, document delivery, and health topics were directly relevant to issues we face as academic, public, and school librarians in WV today. It was also great to see the wide variety of authors from several different genres to entice readers and stimulate imaginations!

If you didn't get a chance to attend the copyright/UCITA talk presented by James Neal of Johns Hopkins University Libraries, you missed a session that was informative as well as motivating. Librarians must be aware of the legislation creeping its way into our states. Recently passed by Virginia, UCITA would allow publishers to legitimize a non-negotiable contract-based system of intellectual property with no exemptions and fair use defenses for the research, education, and library communities, as provided for in federal copyright law. UCITA allows the licenser to electronically disable computer information residing on your PC creating security issues with interruption of services. UCITA can directly impact the ability of institutions to carry out their missions! Those of you who are close to the WVU or Marshall campuses, join us for a teleconference entitled "UCITA: A Guide to Understanding and Action A Satellite Teleconference" Date: December 13, 2000, Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Contact Monica Brooks (brooks@marshall.edu) or Myra Lowe (MLOWE@wvu.edu) for more information.

Many thanks to Pam Coyle, Dottie Thomas, and members of the organizing committee for a wonderful conference experience!

By Pam Ford • Catalog Librarian Marshall University Libraries

The speaker that I really enjoyed was Linda Scott DeRosier, author of *Creeker*. It was a pleasure to have her at a breakout session, as well as the banquet speaker. She

was so comfortable to talk to outside her sessions and she really had a wonderful way of describing things. She was a great motivator for all of us to set down our own "story" for others to enjoy — or just for the pleasure of the memories the exercise would bring about.



Linda Scott DeRosier, banquet keynote speaker and author of Creeker

By Patsy Stephenson • Library Associate Marshal University

For a first time goer, I loved it. I enjoyed the author on Thursday, Linda Scott DeRosier (*Creeker*). Linda is a wonderful storyteller. You could almost imagine the places she described. She made me laugh; she made me cry. I bought two books to share with all the women in my family and friends.

The workshop on "HOW TO KEEP

GOOD PEOPLE" was Great. I won a door prize, a book on the subject. The speaker was very motivating and gave very helpful information on how to let employees know they are appreciated.

I helped out at the marketing table on Friday, and enjoyed meeting people from all over the state. I hopefully will be able to serve on that committee in the future.

I would like to thank Barbara Winter, Dean of Libraries at Marshall University, and Monica Brooks, Assistant Dean, for the opportunity and the motivation to attend the conference this year.

By Paris Webb • Collection Access Librarian Morrow Library, Marshall University Libraries

Judith Krug, Director of ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom, spoke to members about First Amendment Rights, Intellectual Freedom, Internet Filters, and related issues. She was very informative and assured the group that no library has to deal with these issues alone. Their office is there to help—be it with information, support, and/or legal advice. This session was an inner peprally for a librarian's soul!

Linda Scott DeRosier's reading and discussion of her book *Creeker*, was simply exquisite! She was interesting, entertaining, and personable. Many in the audience no doubt took to heart her life experiences and her encouragement of the audience to journal their own experiences.



Romance author dinner a hit with WVLA attendees

By Lynn Pauley • Jackson County Public Library

A wonderful time was had by both the authors and attendees at the romance author dinner held Thursday, November 2, at the Charleston House Holiday Inn during the WV Library Association annual conference. Over forty-five people attended the dinner and had a chance to hear five best-selling romance authors speak about romance writing and the romance genre.

First to speak was Tracy Fobes, author of four paranormal historicals. Ms. Fobes talked about the appeal of the paranormal romance. She started by saying that most romance readers' introduction to the paranormal begins in childhood with a liking for/fascination with folk and fairy tales that Sleeping Beauty and Beauty and the Beast are, essentially, paranormal romances. She then talked about some of the early paranormal romances — including gothics of the 18th and 19th century and later books by Anya Seton, Barbara Michaels, Constance Day-O'Flannery and other authors of early (pre-1990's) paranormal romances. Ms. Fobes stated that the paranormal romance field is just perfect for her, since it combines her love of a good romance with her love of the horror genre.

Lori Foster, author of numerous Harlequin Temptations, was the next author to speak. She regaled the audience with details about the perils, pitfalls and joys of being a writer. She talked about receiving news of her first book acceptance and the joy that she felt. She also talked about the interesting questions that perfect strangers ask when they find out that she is a writer — many of them of a fairly personal nature. Her funniest story was of the day she attended her son's wresting tournament and noticed that, at every break, the team was huddled together, shooting glances up in the bleachers at her, instead of their usual routine. She found out that they had a copy of one of her books and were reading portions of it during the breaks. Her son told her later that all the boys on the wrestling team had to finish reading her book on the way home after the tournament — he said that it was the quietest bus ride he had ever been on - everyone was so absorbed in her

book! Lori went on to say that the life of a writer is not glamorous, like so many people assume, but that for her, it is the best life to have.

Judith Lansdowne, writer of regency romances, was the third author to speak. Judith talked about the constraints that a regency author must follow when writing for this particular sub-genre — you only have a 10-year time frame to write in (1810-1820) and most regencies are set in and around London during the height of the Season. Judith stated that readers in this sub-genre know their history and time period very well, and a regency author needs to do copious amounts of research to make sure that all of her facts are right; if not, she will definitely hear from her readers! Judith said, however, that the regency is a wonderful sub-genre to write in, because you can write about rich lords and ladies, wonderful houses and estates, intrigue and adventure during the Napoleonic wars, etc. Judith also wanted librarians to know that traditional regencies, like those that she writes, are excellent books to recommend to those readers who want a good love story but without a lot of sexual content.

The fourth author to speak was Jo Goodman, a native of Colliers, WV, who writes historical romances for Kensington Publishing. Since Jo is well known for writing connecting sets of books involving brothers, sisters, and other relatives, she talked about family relationships in her novels. She said that her most well-known set of books, the Dennehy Sisters (about five sisters, all with the first name of Mary), did not start out as a series but that, along the way, she became interested in the dynamics of family placement (first born, second born, baby) and the impact this has on relationships. She had to write the rest of the sisters' stories to explore those relationships. Jo also stated that her job as a family therapist, and her own family experiences, have given her wonderful insights into family relationships and that she then incorporates those feelings into her novels. She also said that she started writing romances as a way of protecting herself from professional burnout. She plans to continue writing romances featuring families that fight, love, and laugh together.

Last to speak was Jennifer Crusie, who had everyone rolling in the floor over her discussion of romances and writing romantic comedy. I am sorry to say that I was so caught up in listening to her and laughing so hard, that I forgot to take notes on most of her talk. Jenny did say that humor for women is powerful, sexy, and fun because it's about people reacting to each other in an emotion-filled moment. Women, especially romance readers, like personal humor, humor that plays off and enhances the characters of the people involved. In particular, women like humor that addresses things they're frustrated with, like pantyhose and the glass ceiling and the double-standard. They also enjoy humor used to deflate aggressive people who bully the "weaker" or "disadvantaged" and they like supportive humor — humor where one woman in a group tells a horrible/funny story that happened to her, only to be followed by a sympathetic "That happened to me, too" story. Along the way, Jenny gave examples of each of these types of humor — with the result that everyone was sore from laughing so hard. Suffice it to say that Jenny has a sharp, witty, wonderful sense of humor; that her books are perfect windows into her great personality; and that she provided a fantastic ending to the evening.

After the dinner, each author was presented with a gift bag as a thank you for attending the conference. Also, gift baskets, full of goodies and autographed books, were given away as door prizes to six lucky attendees. All the winners expressed delight in their prizes and went home with many new books to read. Each attendee also received three different copies of Romantic Times magazine and lots of other freebies donated by numerous authors. From 8:00 PM until 9:30 PM, all the authors graciously consented to autograph books at the reception table in the exhibit area. Many attendees had the chance to speak to the authors in person and get old favorites and newly purchased books signed. Everyone had an enjoyable time and many favorable comments were made about the program.



Language in the workplace

By Peggy Turnbull • Bluefield State College

Dr. Celene Seymour, the Associate Dean of Marshall University Graduate College Library Services, spoke about language and power on Saturday, November 4. When power is symmetrical, it won't interfere with communication. In the workplace, though, communication is often asymmetrical, which leads to bad communication.

Workplace language moves on a continuum from powerful (e.g., "You're fired!") to powerless (apologies, "it wasn't my fault"). When powerful language ("You're fired!") is met with an equally powerful answer ("No I'm not. I'll sue you!") the speakers are in an impossible situation. There can't be a powerful-powerful encounter without one party eventually backing down.

Some management styles depend upon speaking in absolute terms, giving commands, and making demands. This can cause the powerless employees to become angry and resentful, because there's no opportunity for discussion. But there is a zone of negotiation between powerful and powerless. This provides opportunity for questioning, proposing, sharing information, and resolving differences.

Employees placed in powerless encounters can always try to move the discussion up to the zone of negotiation, where communication is on more equal terms.

Sometimes it's uncomfortable for a supervisor to operate on the powerful level. But certain situations demand this, such as trying to get contracts for services honored. Problem employees need to be evaluated at this level and given firm, specific demands about improving performance. Otherwise, their behavior won't change. It's a disservice to let employees think they're in the zone of negotiation when they're not. The supervisor must learn to shift levels of communication to accommodate the situation.

Problem patrons who insist that they are in the right and that the library is in the wrong often try to communicate as the powerful party. Staff should move them into the zone of negotiation by saying that they need more information and will get back to the individual about it. This helps defuse the situation and lets the staff member avoid becoming powerless.

Seymour touched on some of the differences in communication between the sexes, but explained that this could be a program topic in itself. Men speak in clear, forceful ways that are less open to interpretation. Women are less direct. Sex differences are changing, though, as society evolves and

both boys and girls are encouraged to develop their leadership abilities.

Librarians spend much time talking to and assisting different kinds of people at the level of negotiation. This means that encounters at the powerful-powerless level may feel uncomfortable to us. However, they are just part of working life and we may limit our effectiveness and our own power if we avoid them. Seymour's model explained how to maneuver between different levels of power and gave us useful tools for communicating in the workplace.

Libraries and home schools:

A perfect combination

By Brenda Riffle • Director Hampshire County Public Library

This was a delightful and informative session for librarians to hear what home schooled students and their parents want, need, and are looking for at our libraries.

Most of our nation's parents that home school are unhappy with public schools. They want the best for their children in education and are looking to our libraries for resources to help them achieve these goals. Public libraries in West Virginia have an opportunity to work very closely with this special group of library users.

In this presentation two home school parents from Kanawha and Putnam counties shared with the audience their recommendations on how our libraries can better serve them. Their suggestions included updated files concerning home schooling law, local and state home schooling associations, lists of museums and parks for field trip, reading lists of home schooling books, tapes and videos, access to library meeting rooms, and li-

brary tours geared at training the home school student and parent in how to use the library to their advantage.

Also discussed were "partnerships" between the student/parent and the library which included using home schooled students/parents as volunteers for book sales, story time, "back-shelf" projects, and special events at the library.

Like all library users the home schooled students/parents request and expect a "good collection of books that have value in content and are enjoyable to read." This group of library users is looking to our libraries for books which focus on "love and loyalty for family and country, historical fiction of the same emphasis from Egyptian, Greek, Roman, and little known times in history."

And last, but not least, home schooled students/parents are looking to the library to be treated with respect and with courteous treatment when using the library. What a great opportunity for librarians in West Virginia to connect with these special students and "find books they'll love to read."



Science fiction authors

By Lynn Pauley Jackson County Public Library

On Friday, November 3, the Public Library Division and the WV Library Association were pleased to welcome two well-known science fiction and fantasy writers to Charleston. Both authors spoke about science fiction writing in general and their books in particular. Each author also answered questions from the audience.

First to talk was Eric Flint, author of 1632, the story of a fictitious West Virginia town transported to the 1600's in Germany during the Thirty Years' War. Mr. Flint stated that, as far as he knows, this is the only science fiction novel that features West Virginia and West Virginians throughout. Mr. Flint discussed how he came up with the idea for 1632 — that he had always wanted to do a story about West Virginia coal miners and their lives, but that he could never quite find the perfect plot for the characters. Then, while researching for another book, he ran across information on the Thirty Years' War, and 1632 was born. Mr. Flint did state that there will be a sequel to 1632, appropriately titled 1633, and that if it does well, more titles in this series would be in the works.

Mr. Flint talked about, and was very enthusiastic about, a new service offered by his publisher called the Baen Free Library. Right now, there are five books available to read on-line, in their entirety, at the Baen website. Mr. Flint stated that this was a way for readers to come and check out a writer to see if they like his or her writing. Most readers, after checking out the writers, will go on to purchase that particular title or other titles. Mr. Flint invited everyone to try the Baen website (www.baen.com). Mr. Flint also discussed how he first became interested in science fiction; his collaborative writings with David Drake, Dave Freer, and many others; and, what titles he has coming out in the near future — including a comic fantasy novel, the 5th Belisarius novel with co-writer David Drake, and a short novel in the next Honor Harrington anthology. Mr. Flint's newest book out is Rats, Bats, & Vats — a collaborative effort with Dave Freer.

Next to speak was Lois McMaster Bujold, author of the Miles Vorkosigan series and winner of three Hugo awards. Ms. Bujold began by stating that she has been a voracious reader all her life, starting with an absolute passion for horse stories in grade

school. When she was around nine or ten, she began reading adult science fiction, after being introduced to it by her father. She stated that the ages of nine and ten are when most science fiction readers take off - and once they start, these readers are, and continue to be, both precocious and voracious in their reading habits. Ms. Bujold also stated that even though science fiction, and actually all genre fiction, is considered by most to be "escapist" literature, this fiction caters to a real human need. Readers use genre fiction to get through a bad night, to alter their moods, and as a time out zone when they are feeling stressed or overwhelmed with life.

Ms. Bujold then went on to give a few pointers to the librarians in the audience about purchasing and recommending science fiction/fantasy books to their readers. She made the point that most science fiction/fantasy novels are not reviewed in the major magazines used by librarians as purchasing tools. Her suggestion, for those libraries really interested in expanding their science fiction/fantasy readership, was to subscribe to *Locus Magazine* (http://locusmag.com) — the premier news and review magazine for the science fiction and fantasy genre. Ms. Bujold also gave sugges-

tions to the librarians about what authors to recommend when kids were finished with Harry Potter and wanted something similar. Two of her suggestions were Patricia Wrede and Terry Pratchett.

Ms. Bujold then opened up the floor to the audience and answered questions about how the Miles Vorkosigan series came about and what books she has coming out in the near future. Her next book will be *The Curse of Chalion*, a fantasy novel recounting the adventures of Lupe dy Cazaril, a middle-aged ex-soldier, who has come home from the wars and is then caught up in court and theological intrigue. According to Lois, there is already the possibility of a sequel. For those Vorkosigan fans, she made sure to mention that she is also starting to work on the next book in that series, which pleased everyone in the audience.

After the authors finished speaking, each was presented with a gift for attending the conference. Also, door prizes were awarded to lucky members of the audience. Ron Titus, Marshall University, and John Reynolds, Sissonville Library, were the lucky winners of the gift baskets. A good time was enjoyed by all, including some Bujold and Flint fans who had traveled from Virginia and Maryland to see their favorite authors.

Statistics:

What justifies your existence

By Steve Fesenmaier • Research Librarian West Virginia Library Commission

Perhaps the leading expert in the country on library statistics, Keith Lance, Director of the Library Research Service, Colorado State Library, gave an introductory presentation concerning the quickly growing field of library statistics and research. The first hour was spent on "Available Data"; the second on "Strategies for Analyzing and Presenting Data."

He began at the beginning, presenting the "Night Watchman Story." The Night Watchman is by himself, and there is no one there to confirm or deny what he says happenedthis is the reality of statistics. Mr. Lance discussed the many ways of looking at basic library numbers like circulation and "hits" on library web pages. He was especially concerned about the lack of electronic statistics. For example, how many patrons from particular libraries used databases purchased by statewide or regional groups?

"Libraries must demand from their vendors, right up front, to get the numbers they need. They won't do anything they don't have to do." Perhaps his most important statement was "Statistics should lead to asking as many questions as they answer."

He also pointed out that many library directors, when they start looking at statistics, plan surveys. They often do not know about the vast resources already available, which might prevent them from redoing what others already have done. Lance has spent his career helping libraries around the country use numbers to their advantage.



WINTER COTTAGE GARDEN

By Cheryl Harshman • West Liberty State College

The fall conference saw a spectacular line-up of visiting authors. As usual the Children's Services Roundtable did not fail to disappoint conference goers with their annual author programs.

This year the roundtable brought four author/illustrators to the conference. Each had strong ties to the Appalachian region and to West Virginia. Highlighting the symposium was Mary Azarian, woodblock artist and Caldecott winner for her illustrations in *Snowflake Bentley*. Mary has spent more than 25 years perfecting her woodblock

Stellar array of children's authors

prints and has seen the printing of her book illustrations grow from simple black and white to full color. Her artwork focuses on rural and family subjects. Her newest book is A Gardener's Alphabet.

George Ella Lyon gave an eloquent talk about her writing and how she works as a writer. George Ella writes marvelous poetry and picture book texts. Many of her books are set in Appalachia and thus are readily accessible to and affirming for our children.

Joseph Slate, a native of Hancock County, WV, was introduced at the conference. Un-



WINTER VILLAGE

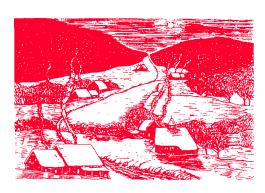
til this fall not many librarians realized that this successful writer for children is a native son. He is the author of many picture books including the popular *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten* series.

Joining these three was an old friend to West Virginia librarians, Marc Harshman. Marc's newest book is *All the Way to Morning*, a multicultural lullaby. Two new books are forthcoming next fall, *Roads* and *Red Are the Apples*, co-authored with his wife Cheryl.

W.Va. Children's Book Awards

By Amy Metz • Blackshere Elementary School Submitted by Ruth Godfrey, Morgantown Public Library

It's a West Virginia tradition. Each fall for seventeen years, the West Virginia Children's Book Award Committee has celebrated reading, especially in grades 3 through 6, by allowing children to vote for their favorite book. The committee selects approximately



ALL IS CALM...ALL IS BRIGHT

twenty books, which participating schools throughout the state encourage their students to read independently, to read with a partner, or to listen to during read-alouds.

All students who read or hear at least three books can vote. Last year, students from forty-one counties participated with over 8,000 students voting. The winner was Dav Pilkey's humorous book, *The Adventures of Captain Underpants: An Epic Novel.* The previous school year, the award went to an historical fiction title, *On Board the Titanic: What It Was Like When the Great Liner Sank*, by Shelley Tanaka.

Each year, the reading subcommittee plus teachers, librarians, and parents read over 120 reviewed books. They then meet to discuss and choose quality fiction to recommend to the schools. The members of the West Virginia Children's Book Award

Committee are proud to be part of this exciting and worthwhile program for the children of West Virginia.

The website (http://www.hre.wvu.edu/~WVCBA) contains more information, including listings of previous winners, member schools, and direction on how other West Virginia schools can join.



WINTER NIGHT

— In Slemoriam

Campbell Beall's service recalled

By Jim Clipp • Staff Writer Martinsburg Journal (Nov. 22, 2000)

Campbell Beall served many roles in his 82 years, from business owner to Rotarian to mayor of Hedgesville.

But most people will probably best remember him for his work with the state's libraries.

"It's hard to encapsulate the contribution of Mr. Beall when you look at his service to the libraries of this state," J. D. Waggoner, deputy director of the West Virginia Library Commission, said Tuesday. "He was tremendous to the growth of libraries."

Beall died Monday at City Hospital in Martinsburg.

Born Sept. 22, 1918, in Martinsburg, Beall graduated from Hedgesville High School and West Virginia University. After school, he returned to Hedgesville, where he was elected mayor at a very young age.

"I believe at one time he was the youngest mayor in the country," his cousin Charlie Beall said Tuesday.

Campbell Beall later became a member of the original Martinsburg-Berkeley County Library Commission when the board was established in 1956, according to Betty Gunnoe, administrative assistant at the Martinsburg Public Library.

"He was instrumental in the library's moving from the second floor of the old City Hall building to the present location in 1968," Gunnoe said.

"(The construction of the library) was one of my proudest achievements," Beall said for a 1998 *Journal* story. "You go through life looking for some project that is worthwhile and makes a contribution to the community. The library is my contribution."

Beall ended up serving as chairman of the local library commission for 44 years and also became heavily involved in the West Virginia Library Commission, of which he served as chairman for 40 years.

In 1977, he was appointed by former President Jimmy Carter to the National Library Commission and was named Most Outstanding Library Trustee in the country by the American Library Association.

"One of the fascinating things about Mr. Beall is that when he would travel around the state, no matter where he was, whether it was a larger city or a rural little town, he would just stop in at the local library and say, "Hi, I'm Campbell. I'm the library commission chairman. Is there anything I can do for you?" Waggoner explained.

In his business life, Beall was most recently the president of A&S Warehouse Co., a wholesale food company based in Martinsburg.

He also served as president of various civic organizations, including the Rotary and the Jaycees, and was a member of the board of directors of the Kings Daughters Hospital in Martinsburg.

"He was active in the community and he will be missed," said longtime friend Carolyn Elmer.

In 1998, upon retirement from both the local and state library commissions, Beall was cited by the City Council and then-Mayor Earnest Sparks for his dedication. He was formally presented the key to the City of Martinsburg. The library named its genealogy room in his honor.

"It is a loss to the community. He was a good friend to libraries statewide and will be missed by the library community," Gunnoe added.

Beall is survived by his wife, Sarah Frances Gutsell Beall, as well as two sons, James Campbell Beall of Ortig, Washington, and Charles Bruce Beall of Martinsburg, and a sister, Eleanore Perkins of Arlington, Virginia.

A memorial service was held at the Trinity Episcopal Church.

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Ruth B. Gilligan

Ruth B. Gilligan, 75, of 902 Maple Avenue, Sistersville, died Nov. 3, 2000, in Sistersville General Hospital. She was born on Nov. 19, 1924 in Big Otter, Clay Co., W. Va., a daughter of the late Earle L. and Eliza Smith Boggs. She attended primary and secondary schools in Clay County, W. Va. and graduated from Clay County High School in 1943. She received a bachelor's degree in library science from West Virginia University.

She married William L. Gilligan on March 13, 1948, in Morgantown, W.Va., where she worked at the WVU Library from 1947-1948. She moved to Wheeling in 1949 and in Dec. of 1949, she moved to Charleston; she then moved to Sistersville in 1957.

She was a long-time member of the Rhododendron Twig of Sistersville General Hospital; Women's Club; the Emblem Club; Martha Washington Chapter No. 22 OES; Tyler County Retired School Employees; Ohio Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; West Virginia Federation of Republican Women and the Tyler County Republican Women's Club; and a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma sorority.

She served as librarian at Tyler County High School for two years and as a librarian at Sistersville High School for 25 years. She served on the West Virginia Library Commission for over 16 years by gubernatorial appointment. Mrs. Gilligan was a charter member of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of New Martinsville.

She is survived by her husband of 52 years, the former State Senator and Sistersville Mayor, William L. Gilligan; three sons, Dr. Thomas L. Gilligan of Sistersville, James M. Gilligan of Wheeling, and Robert W. Gilligan of Davis, W. Va.; a special friend, Kimberly Tawney of Charleston; a brother, Roscoe Boggs of Big Otter; six grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Friends were received at the Myers Funeral Home in Sistersville on Nov. 10. A memorial service was celebrated at the First United Methodist Church, Sistersville on Saturday, Nov. 11 with ELCA Lutheran Pastor Judith F. Marlowe and the Rev. Brian Seders officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the Ruth B. Gilligan College Scholarship Fund, c/o Union Bank of Tyler County, 700 Wells St., Sistersville, WV, 26175.

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WVLA Membership Information

To become a member of the West Virginia Library Association, contact

Linda Heddinger South Charleston Public Library 312 4th Avenue South Charleston, WV 25303-1297 Phone: 304-744-6561

NEXT ISSUE:

WV Web Sites

A note from the editors

West Virginia Libraries
welcomes suggestions for articles
from librarians, support staff,
trustees and friends.

Articles may be submitted in writing, typewritten, by e-mail or on computer disk. If submitting material on computer disk, please use 3-1/2" disk and save your file to disk as an ASCII file and submit a hard copy (printout) of the material on the disk.

Article Submission Schedule:

January 15 for February issue
March 15 for April issue
May 15 for June issue
July 15 for August issue
September 15 for October issue
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