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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

LIBRARIES

Vol. 48 No. 1

February 1995

Legislative Update

Tom Brown, Chair Legislative Committee

WVLA has signed a contract with A.E. (Gene) Tribett to act as Legislative Consultant during the current legislative session. Mr. Tribett, from McMechan, WV, served as mayor of that city for 7 years and is a former legislator. Friends of Libraries groups throughout the state are supporting this effort.


There are six major issues we hope to see positive action on in this session of the Legislature.

- 1 Stable, dependable, dedicated funding of public libraries.
- 2 \$5 per capita funding for public libraries and its equalization grant component.
- 3 Long term financing for technology in West Virginia.
- 4 A state documents depository law.
- 5 A constitutional amendment allowing passage of local referenda with 50% voter approval rather than the current 60% approval.
- 6 Faculty status for college librarians.

Interim Meetings The legislative Interim Subcommittee on Libraries has met monthly since September. WVLA has been represented at each meeting by 10-15 WVLA members. The last meeting was to have been on Sunday, January 8, 1995. The subcommit-

IS YOUR ENGLISH ANGUISHED?
Find Out At
The 20th Annual Library Appreciation Day Dinner
February 20th - Charleston Civic Center

Where would legislators and librarians be without words? Richard Lederer, featured speaker at this year's dinner, defines a verbivore as one who makes a daily diet of words, one who delights in analyzing, defining, collecting, and playing with language. The author, who has also been language commentator for New Hampshire Public Radio, International Punster of the Year, and Grammar Grappler for *Writer's Digest*, promises a lively and entertaining evening. His visit could have a lasting effect on the wording of state laws and regulations. Come out and support libraries. The reception starts at 6:00pm, dinner at 7:00pm.



tee met for about half an hour during which Fred Glazer spoke to some issues committee members had raised at a previous meeting. Other questions were also asked and answered. The subcommittee made no recommendation at this meeting and adjourned until Tuesday, January 10. Your WVLA representatives returned Tuesday at 11:00AM for about 15 minutes and then returned again at 1:45PM when the subcommittee reconvened. At this meeting, Delegate Mary Pearl Compton (D, 26th District) moved that the subcommittee recommend to the Jt. Committee on Finance that \$500,000 be

cont. on page 12

Highlights

- Internet Connections
- Milton Library Profile
- People News
- News

ALA Legislative Day Changed

The American Library Association Legislative Day has been rescheduled from Tuesday, April 11 to Tuesday, May 9 in Washington, D.C. Visits with all members of the West Virginia Congressional delegation will be held that day. Generally, the Congressmen and Senators have been very supportive of library programs in the past. With the new Congress, it is imperative that we maintain our contact. Anyone who is interested in participating in the Legislative Day should contact Betty Gunnoe, WVLA Federal Relations Coordinator, at the Martinsburg Public Library, 101 W. King Street, Martinsburg, WV 25401 (267-8933) before April 15, 1995. If you have any concerns you would like addressed, but cannot attend, please Fax (267-9720) or mail any pertinent information to Betty and it will be presented.

Legislative Aides

Legislative aides are often more available to answer questions and respond to concerns than the Representatives and Senators. Following is a list of the aides to the West Virginia delegation. Barbara Pryor and Birdie Kyle have been very accomodating in the past and seem to have a real grasp of library matters.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>■ <i>Barbara Pryor,</i>
Legislative Assistant
<i>Senator John D. Rockefeller IV</i>
109 Hart Building Washington, D.C.
20515 (202) 224-6472</p> | <p>■ <i>Martin A. McBroom,</i>
Legislative Assistant
<i>Senator Robert C. Byrd</i>
311 Hart Building Washington, D.C.
20515 (202) 224-5303</p> | <p>■ <i>Jane Mellow,</i>
Legislative Assistant
<i>Congressman Bob Wise</i>
2434 Rayburn Building Washington,
D.C. 20515 (202) 225-2711</p> |
| <p>■ <i>Jane Bobbitt,</i>
Legislative Assistant
<i>Congressman Alan B. Mollohan</i>
2242 Rayburn Building Washington,
D.C. 20515 (202) 225-4172</p> | <p>■ <i>Birdie Kyle,</i>
Legislative Director
<i>Congressman Nick J. Rahall</i>
2104 Rayburn Building Washington, D.C.
20515 (202) 225-3452</p> | |



Words from the EDITORS

Change is all around us, and never let it be said that WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES is out of the mainstream. The biggest change is the editorship of this newsletter. It takes two to venture where Yvonne has gone alone for years. Thanks Yvonne for blazing the trail.

In agonizing over this, our first issue, we have lost our individual identities and don't know if we're Karen Price and Margie Goff or the other way around. Please send us information about what is going on in your library world. Our addresses, phone and

fax numbers are listed on the masthead. We both work at the Capitol

Change is all around us, and never let it be said that WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES is out of the mainstream.

Complex and pass things back and forth daily.
In addition to regular WVLA

business and the news you send us, we plan to focus each of the six issues on a separate WVLA division. This issue takes a look at the Public Libraries Division. April will focus on the School Library Division, August on the Trustees Division, October on the Academic Libraries Division and December on the Friends Division. Please note the deadlines for each issue listed on the masthead.

We are looking forward to serving WVLA as co-editors of WEST VIRGINIALIBRARIES. Please let us know how we are doing.



President's Column

If I'm not on the Executive Board, I never know what's going on with WVLA!! Frequently I hear this comment from members who are not actively involved with the Association's programs and activities. So, how can you keep current with WVLA activities? I would suggest the following:

1. Ask Secretary Myra Ziegler to mail you a copy of the WVLA Executive Board Meeting minutes.
2. Attend an Executive Board Meeting
3. Read West Virginia Libraries
4. Get involved in an activity or program of the Association


In what activity should you get involved? As the West Virginia Legislative session continues, the Association's legislative agenda is one of the most visible priorities of our membership. We need your help!

WVLA continues to seek stable and dedicated funding, statewide documents depository legislation, and funding for library improvement packages. Please talk to your local legislators and advocate passage of these items.

Now is the time to plan to attend the Library Appreciation Day Dinner on February 20! It is critical that we get a large turnout of library supporters at this event. Our keynote speaker will be Richard Lederer, best-selling author of *Anguished English*, *Crazy English*, *The Miracle of Language*, and *Adventures of a Verbivore*. Dr. Lederer is an accomplished speaker who makes over 150 appearances a year and has been a guest on virtually every major media program in the U.S. including Larry King, Tom Snyder, the Today Show, and CNN Prime Time. Those who have heard Lederer indicate that he is a real entertainer. It should be a very enjoyable evening...I hope to see you there.

The Association has also contracted with Gene Tribett to serve as our Legislative Consultant during this legislative session. Gene will work closely with the WVLA Legislative Committee and be the Association's "eyes and ears" in the Statehouse. Thanks to all of those individuals and groups who have contributed toward the payment of the consultant's stipend.

We are beginning to plan for the annual conference speakers and presentations. If you have ideas or suggestions, now is the time to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you. See you in Charleston!

Charles A. Julian 

Executive Board Meeting Highlights

The WVLA Executive Board met at North Bend State Park on December 8, 1994. The 18 members present worked on a budget and made plans for the coming year. Division chairs reported tentative workshop dates and topics. Committee appointments were announced and approved. Board members identified issues which are expected to affect the library community in 1995. The most critical issues facing librarians seem

to be legislative ones, including the possible passage of a state documents depository law, funding for public libraries, and faculty status for all academic librarians. Finally, President Chuck Julian announced upcoming meetings and important dates including the Library Appreciation Day Dinner on February 20 at the Charleston Civic Center. This year's featured speaker is Richard Lederer.

Editors

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West Virginia Libraries

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Photographs submitted should be black and white. News, articles and correspondence should be sent to the Editors.

Subscriptions and changes of address should be sent to the Circulation Editor.

Copy deadline for April issue March 15, 1995.

Guidelines for Communicating With Legislators

These tips were collected from various sources including the New York Library Association and the Alaska Library Association.

1. Don't wait until the session starts to make yourself and your library concerns known. Invite your legislators to the library. Go to public meetings.
2. When making an appointment to see a legislator, specify who you are, how long you need to meet, and what you want to discuss.
3. A legislator's time is limited, especially during the session. Be concise. Know your issue and make sure your facts are accurate.
4. Make the issue understandable. Explain how it affects library users and the community. Don't use library jargon.
5. Know if your legislator is in the leadership of the Senate or House. Know the legislator's committee assignments.
6. Study the legislative process so you can anticipate the movement of critical bills.
7. Don't guess; don't exaggerate for effect. If you don't know the answer to a legislator's question say you will check and respond later.
8. If you want the legislator to take specific action, ask, do not demand.
9. Don't try to intimidate the legislator; don't interrupt decision makers in the middle of meals.
10. Always be sure to thank the legislator for his or her time and/or support. Let them know you appreciate their efforts.
11. When writing a letter, address the legislator by his or her correctly spelled name.
12. Avoid phrases such as "I am disappointed in you" or "If you don't respond I'll see that you never get elected again".



Find Legislators on Family Matters

In addition to information on public and private social service agencies, the Family Matters Database contains information on state elected officials and legislators. The records on state delegates and senators include: home and Capitol addresses, phone numbers and FAX numbers; committee assignments; district numbers; and counties served.

Use the following commands to find particular legislators:

Note: Family Matters call address is (1)FM

EXAMPLE: Find the delegate(s) or senator(s) who serve Marion County.

1. For Delegate(s) enter: B/DELEGATE & S:MARION (The S: limits the keyword search and eliminates some false hits.)
2. For Senator(s) enter: B/SENATOR & S:MARION
3. Districts may be found by entering: B/10th (or district needed) & SENATOR (or delegate).
4. Legislators' names may be searched with the standard W/ or B/ commands.

The Family Matters Database is maintained by the state Library Commission and funded through the Governor's Cabinet on Children & Families. It supports the Family Matters Information & Referral Service which provides a direct telephone information and referral service to all West Virginia residents (1-800-734-2319). For more information on the database, contact Chab Guthrie, West Virginia Library Commission, Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25305. 304-558-2045 or 1-800-642-9021-push 4 after connection.

WVLA 1994-1995 Committees

(Not all nominees have indicated acceptance of committee appointments to date)

*Indicates Chair of Committee

Audit *Kelly Funkhouser, Morgantown Pub. Lib. 864-6227

Rebecca D'Annunzio, Dale Loy, Ruth Ann Powell

Conference *Jo Ann Calzonetti, WVU Evansdale 293-4695

Dave Childers, Ann Hendriksson, Charles Julian, Judith Martin, Penny Pugh, Ma Lei Hsieh, Clay Williams

Constitution and Bylaws *Josephine Fidler, Marshall 696-2318

Phyllis Freedman, June Geiger

Continuing Education *Donna Lewis, U. of Charleston 357-4780

Judy Duncan, Pam Ford, Duke Horstemeyer, Ann Lorentz, Lois Shinn, Ruby Swecker, Alesia Wayne

Elections *Nancy Sandercox, West Liberty State 336-8183

Mary Gasiorowski, Steve Joseph, Amy Kastigar, Rick Rekowski, Harve Tannenbaum

Finance *Dave Childers, Library Commission 558-2041

Jo Ann Calzonetti, Charles Julian

Handbook *Steve Christo, Kanawha Co. Pub. Lib. 343-4646

Cathy Bennett, Beulah Salyer

Intellectual Freedom *Peggy Bias, Putnam Co. PL 757-7308

Chris Hatten, Michael Hickman, Louis Horacek, Charles Madden, Gordon Simmons

Legislative *Tom Brown, Bluefield/Concord 384-5366

Fredrick Armstrong, Joe Barnes, Fred Glazer, Betty Gunnoe, Jamey Harris, Ruth Jackson, Jacqueline Melkus, Beth Nicholson, Fred Ransom, Judy Rule, J.D. Waggoner

Library Appreciation Day Dinner *Beth Nicholson, Upshur Co. 472-5475

*Susan Reilly, City-County PL 845-6911 Pam Coyle, Mark Misco, Ed Rauh

Marketing *Rebecca Van der Meer, U. of Charleston 357-4779

Jo Brown, Jo Ellen Flagg, Chab Guthrie, Marilyn McCray

Membership *Linda Heddinger, S. Charleston Pub. Lib. 744-6561

Marsha Linton, Geraldine Smith, Alice Thomas, Ron Titus

Nominations *Sharon Turner, Morgantown Pub. Lib. 291-7425

Judy Gunsaulis, lay Williams

Public Relations *Linda Cornett, Clarksburg PL 624-6512

David Martin, Frank Roberts

Resolutions and Awards *Myra Ziegler, Summers Co. PL 466-4490

Jo Ann Calzonetti, Karen Goff, Margie Price, J.D. Waggoner

Site Selection Peggy Bias, Putnam Co Pub. Lib, Dave Childers, Library Commission, Judy Rule, Cabell Co. Pub. Lib. (Committee will select chair)

WVLA 1994-95 Roundtable Chairs

Automation

Jane Kraina

Mary H. Weir Public Library
Weirton 797-8510

Children's Services

Diane Walter and Cheryl
Harshman City/County Public
Library Moundsville 845-6911

Directors

Sharon Turner

Morgantown Public Library
Morgantown 291-7425

Government Documents

Ma Lei Hsieh

Library Commission Charleston
558-2045

Preservation

Chris Hatten

Huntington Museum of Fine Art
Huntington

Social Responsibilities

Yvonne Farley

Kanawha County Public Library
Charleston 5434-4646

WV Literature

Harold Forbes

WVU Morgantown 293-4060/
293-3536

Special Note

Contact J.D. Waggoner,
Library Commission for
information on WVLA bulk
mailings. (558-2531 or
800-642-9021 ext 2)

GREAT WEST VIRGINIA READ OUT

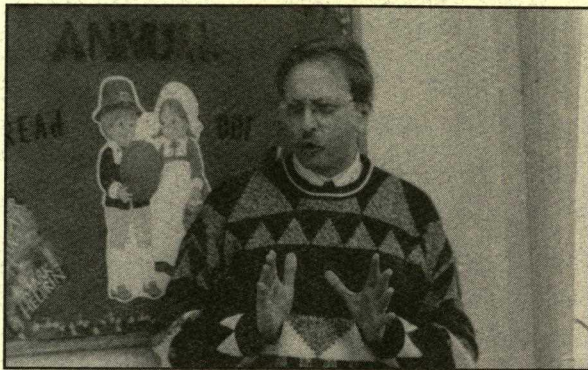
Read Out was celebrated for the first time this year by the College of West Virginia's Resource Learning Center in Beckley. CWV Librarian Danny McMillion reports that a grand performance awaited the standing room only crowd. Both instructors and students participated in the program.

Highlights included Dr. Dennis Stone's reading of "Fire in the Belly" by Sam Keane. The reading evoked such a strong emotional response among the participants that a discussion group was scheduled for January. Actor Mike Martin shared a moving performance of Mark Twain's "War Prayer" followed by student Steven Long's passionate reading of "If You're Ever Going to Love Me".

A definite winner with the audience was Jim Owston's interpretative reading of "Fling Down Jezebel", an anonymous column from a late nineteenth century newspaper which presented the Bible in a different sort of way. More familiar works and authors were not ignored. Dr. George Johnston shared her favorite Maya Angelou writing, "A Day Away" and CWV student David Nunn brought back old memories with his reading of "Casey at the Bat". The program closed with a romantic reading from "Tristram Shandy" performed by Dr. Brian Holloway.

Diana Abshire reports that Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library combined celebrations of Read Out, National Children's Book Week, and American Education Week with a second annual "Authors Booking". Thirty regional and local authors spent the day at the library, meeting the

public and displaying and selling their books. The library provided light refreshments for the authors throughout the day. The afternoon was filled with readings by the authors and poets; the poets could have read for days!



Jim Owston performs "Fling Down Jezebel" at CWV's Read Out celebration

Milton Library

Mary Lou

(Eds. Note - This is the first in a series of profiles that will focus on a

My introduction to Milton Library came when I was informed I would be managing the library's exercise. Now, almost a year later, I'm Marjorie Ferguson, as she learns the ropes of management and the library's largest branches.

Milton, which lies at the eastern edge of Cabell County, has many of the residents commute to jobs in Charleston industries such as Blenko Glass. Milton is also home to a little town where everyone knows everyone else. Marjorie has lived there most of her life. "In fact", she adds, "I know what types of books they like, and sometimes even their names."

The Milton Library, started December 6, 1924, was housed in the Methodist Church as a site. Later the library moved to its current location at 1140 Smith Street in 1981. This building contains over 20,000 books.

Marjorie Ferguson, Milton Library manager, says the empty place. "There's never a dull moment," she says. "After school, is phenomenal. We keep hopping".

When I asked Marjorie if library management is a jack-of-all-trades, she explained. "Our 55 gallon fish aquarium had appeared and was water all over the carpet. The fish were panicking and dangerously low". Marjorie handled the crisis with a little advice from a pet store proprietor, cleaned up the suction vacuumed the wet floor. After that, things were back to normal.

In addition to Marjorie, the Milton staff includes Deloris Brown and Rheta Keefer. Deloris gets special satisfaction from presenting more than 20 children weekly.

Rheta Keefer is a newcomer to Milton but not to programming for teenagers. "After School With Rheta" provides grooming, social graces, fashion savvy, and basic information at the Huntington Mall.

Another unique Milton program is "Lap-Sit for Doss", entertains toddlers and their parents with frequent occasional field trips. "We're so fortunate to have that age group", says manager Marjorie Ferguson.

My own impressions of the Milton Library are that I like to work in a branch where one person handles responsibilities in other branches, jammed photocopiers, flooded parking lots, and that the experienced staff runs a good efficient ship for patrons across the region.

PEOPLE

y - A PROFILE

Pratt
profiles that will appear in each issue. April's
(school library.)

last March when my director, Judy Rule,
library for three months as a cross-training
training the new Milton manager, Marjorie
librarianship in one of Cabell County Public

bell County, has a population of about 2,200.
n or Huntington. Others are employed by local
me to a large number of retirees. "It's a quiet
says Carolyn Brown, a Milton employee who
we know everyone who comes into the library,
n which titles they've already read."

7 by the Woman's Club, first used the Milton
d to a new location on Smith Street, becoming
rary in 1946. The library moved to its current
ing has 7,000 square feet of floor space and

, dispels the idea of the library as a quiet and
ys. "The constant stream of patrons, especially
annual circulation has grown to over 122,000.
t had held any surprises for her, she admitted
was my first day opening the library alone" she
rently sprung a leak during the night and there
icking as the level in the aquarium dropped
n poise. She diagnosed the problem and, with
nd repacked the filter. Meanwhile, other staff
could only improve.

s Deloris years, 26 of them at Milton, Carolyn
faction from the story hours she and Carolyn

o the Cabell County system. She coordinates
eta" is a popular program emphasizing good
odeling. Rheta's group recently modeled at

r Toddlers". Each week, storyteller Georgina
ngerplays, songs, stories, refreshments, and
someone as gifted as Georgina working with

ere certainly educational. I learned what it's
ference questions, circulation, deliveries from
ng lots, and snap management decisions. I feel
and provides prompt and courteous service to

Congratulations to the following graduates of the West Virginia MLIS program from the University of South Carolina.

August 1994 Graduates

Ann Farr
Barbara Meek
J.D. Waggoner

Carol Watson
Sandra Wiseman

December 1994 Graduates

Jimmie Epling
Lucy Ferguson
Frances Fesenmaier
Mary Helms
Amy Kastigar

Holly Koile
Kathleen Lese
Leigh Ann McVicker
Mildred Sheppard
Larry Sypolt

Welcome Home Fred Glazer, Executive Director of the state Library Commission, who was in Russia from September through December. We (the editors) decided to let him get unpacked before hitting him up for an article on his trip.

Congratulations to Ernie Kallay, Director of the Clarksburg/Harrison County Library on his election as President of MARLF (Middle Atlantic Regional Library Federation). Ernie modestly compares his position to being "captain of the Titanic".

Best Wishes to Delores Antigo for a healthy, happy and relaxing retirement. Delores has been director of the Brooke County Public Library in Wellsburg for 10 years.

Congratulations to Jo Ann Calzonetti, 1st Vice-President, President-Elect, on her recent promotion to Director of the Evansdale Campus Library at West Virginia University.

Belated wishes for a happy retirement to Evelyn Kocher, Head of Cataloging at WVU. Evelyn retired in September after 35 years of service.

Get Well SOON to Dave Childers, WVLA Treasurer, who had bypass surgery on Monday, January 9. Dave is home and recuperating nicely.



POSITION OPEN

LIBRARIAN II -

WV Division of Culture and History, Archives and History Section. MLS to perform advanced level professional library work cataloging materials, providing information and research services, establishing and updating catalogs and reference tools and assisting in the development of library collections. Experience must include at least one year's work and responsibility for special collections in local history, manuscripts, and public records, including, but not limited to, MARC record cataloging. Experience with reference and supervision of staff working in these collections is also necessary. Candidate must be agreeable to working some evenings, Saturdays and holidays. Preference given to candidates with demonstrated expertise in automated collection management. Send resumes to: Fredrick Armstrong, Div. of Culture and History, Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., E., Charleston, WV 25305 (304-558-0230)

Programs to Fund Raisers and Back Again

Myra Ziegler

Libraries in many of the poorer counties in West Virginia spend a great deal of time and effort on fund raising just to keep the lights turned on and the doors unlocked. There is little time to develop library programs and frequently no money to carry out a program once developed.

At the Summers County Public Library we rely on program ideas developed elsewhere and scrounge for resources to carry them out. For example, we always use the summer reading programs produced at the Library Commission in an effort to keep costs to a minimum. We harass local businesses for prizes and look to our Friends for cash for parties and materials.

In 1993 we used "Read! Return! Recycle!" as the theme for the summer reading program. Included among our supporters was the newly funded and organized Summers County Solid Waste Authority operated by library user and supporter, Teri Clark. Ms Clark coordinates the recycling efforts in Summers

County and works closely with Mountaineer Sanitation, the county's privately owned trash collection service. Out of this library-government agency-private sector coalition formed to promote the summer reading program, emerged the following library fund raiser.

Ms Clark negotiated with Mr. Cletis Pack, owner of Mountaineer Sanitation, to set up a fund for the library. (This was not too difficult because Mr. Pack is also a lover of libraries). Summers Countians were told through press releases, flyers, and lots of word of mouth to take their recyclable aluminum cans to Mountaineer Sanitation. Upon request, the money earned would be placed in the Library Fund.

The first cans were delivered to Mountaineer Sanitation in May. Revenues from this fund raiser rise and fall with the price of aluminum and the amount of "press" the project receives. This fall, Ms Clark and Mr. Pack took the project to the elementary schools, offer-

ing prizes to the classes that brought in the most cans. Just before Christmas, Mr. Pack brought the library a most welcome check for \$173.00. This represented the income from the sale of cans collected by only one of the schools. As an added incentive, Mr. Pack donates a penny for each pound turned in and absorbs costs involved in sorting and transport. This fund raiser has a lot to recommend it. It is not time consuming. Lots of folks are making an effort but no one is overwhelmed. Many people appreciate the opportunity to help the library. Both the recycling program and the library are getting lots of press coverage. Everyone, including children, is hearing about saving the environment and the library. The library gets welcome \$\$ which are used to run the summer reading program, enhance the Read Your Way to the Governor's Office essay contest, and purchase supplies for story hour. Do cowboys love libraries too?

WVLA

CAPITOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Floyd Fullen, Chairperson of the Trustees Division, recently expressed his optimism for a positive year ahead for the Division. "It was obvious from the 1994 Wheeling Conference that the Trustees made a great effort to increase their numbers over the previous meetings. I hope this enthusiasm spreads into other activities scheduled for 1995." Trustees are encouraged to attend the Legislative Dinner on February 20th in Charleston. "I know I don't have to tell anyone who has already attended how beneficial it is to our library system and how much

fun it is. We always need to seek first-timers to come out to this gala event." As a former legislator, Mr. Fullen provided

"Write, call, or visit the Capitol to share your ideas. The thoughts and concerns of the people-from-back-home are very important to most of the Delegates and Senators. As they say, 'keep those cards and letters coming in!'"

some tips for all WVLA members to keep in mind when approaching their legislators. "I know how important it is,"

he reminds us, "to just say 'Thank you for your efforts.' Also, don't be shy to ask for support for our goal of \$5 per capita as well as for your pet special project. When it comes to funding, most legislators know it never hurts to ask.

"Write, call, or visit the Capitol to share your ideas. The thoughts and concerns of the people-from-back-home are very important to most of the Delegates and Senators. As they say, 'keep those cards and letters coming in!'"

Internet Connections ●————○.....

This column is designed to provide tips and techniques for "Surfing the Internet". Input from both beginning and advanced surfers is welcome. Send tips, nifty Internet addresses, and/or questions to the editors. Chuck Julian provided the following. One of the most difficult connections many people have with regard to using the Internet is, "How will it help me with my job?" Much of the material on the Internet is interesting to look at, but "So what?" What would you do if a patron came into the library and asked for a copy of the Republican Party's "Contract With America"? This information could be easily found by telnetting into the Library of Congress's MARVEL (Machine-Assisted Realization of the Virtual Electronic Library).

Type the command:

```
telnet marvel.loc.gov
```

When the system prompts for a login, **type**:

```
marvel
```

If the system has exceeded its allowable 15 users, you will not be granted access. However, if you are one of the 15 allowable users, hit the

Return/Enter key and you will see an opening menu:

```
Library of Congress MARVEL
```

1. About LC MARVEL
2. Events, Facilities, Publications, and Services
3. Research and Reference (Public Services)
4. Libraries and Publishers (Technical Services)
5. Copyright
6. Library of Congress Online Systems
7. Employee Information
8. U.S. Congress
9. Government Information
10. Global Electronic Library (by Subject)
11. Internet Resources
12. What's New on LC MARVEL
13. Search LC MARVEL Menus

Select #8 - "U.S. Congress", then select "Congressional Gophers". Under "Congressional Gophers", select "House Gopher". At the "House Gopher", select "House Organization Information". Under this heading select "Republican Conference". Under "Republican Conference" you should find the heading "Contract With America".

You can then print or mail a copy of the Contract to your computer. It takes less than a minute to complete this process. If you were not sure where on LC MARVEL to search, you could have chosen #13, "Search LC MARVEL Menus" and typed in "Contract With America". There is truly a wealth of information in the LC MARVEL database. Try it sometime.

First Search Pilot Project

In September of last year, 124 public libraries and 14 academic libraries were offered the opportunity to participate in a pilot project to evaluate OCLC's FirstSearch service. The Library Commission negotiated a block purchase of searches with OCLC so libraries could experiment at no charge.

FirstSearch is accessible via the Internet through the communications link at the Library Commission and offers over 40 databases. The corner-

stone database is WorldCat, containing over 27 million records from 15,000 libraries worldwide. Other databases span a broad spectrum of subjects: education, science, consumer information, medicine, public affairs, etc. Charlie Hively, Clarksburg/Harrison Co., is an enthusiastic user of FirstSearch and calls it a "terrific tool for finding out-of-state locations."

The December usage report shows 11 academic libraries, 28 public

libraries, and 1 special library as users of the service. Twelve libraries have used the service more than 100 times during the trial period, 8 of these have done more than 500 searches, and one has done over 1,000 searches. Monthly usage increased in only 2 libraries during the month of December. Academic library usage fell in response to the Christmas break.

OCLC is adding a full-text option to the trial for January and February.

February

- Afro-American History Month
- 3-9 - ALA Midwinter, Philadelphia
- 13 - Lincoln's Birthday - Clean Out Your Desk Day
- 14 - Read to Your Child Day
- 20 - President's Day
- 20 - Library Appreciation Day Dinner

March

- 9 - 15 National Library Week
- 12 - Special/Academic Divisions Workshop, Flatwoods
- 27 - Spring Fling, Charleston

April

- 10 - WVLA Executive Board Meeting, Morgantown
- 15 - Copy deadline for W.Va. Libraries April issue
- 29- ACRL Conference, Pittsburgh



Grant Awarded for Infomine Network

The Library Commission received official notification in November that its proposal to establish the West Virginia InfoMine Network had been awarded a \$2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The objective of the project is to enhance, expand and complete the capacity of the existing statewide automation networks. The project will extend the combined resources of the West Virginia Academic Library Network and the West Virginia Library Commission's Statewide Network to public schools, higher education institutions and to public libraries in every county. Capitalizing on a commitment to fiber optic service provided by Bell Atlantic-West Virginia and the cooperation of state government's Division of Information Services and Communications, the project will expand

access to existing resources and promote cooperative collection development. Bell Atlantic-West Virginia is waiving frame relay installation charges for 120 public library remote network sites and 7 hub sites. Sites receiving the InfoMine stations will include 55 public libraries currently automated by the stand-alone Micro-VTLS system, 65 new public library sites, and at least one point of presence in each county for a total of 175 access sites. This is a broad-based collaborative effort involving public education, higher education, state government, and the private sector. Funding for the project is effective from February 1, 1995 through January 31, 1997. Project Coordinator is James Edward Justice, Associate Director of Systems and Operations for WVNET (W. Va. Network for Education Telecomputing).



*The VOICE of
West Virginia
Libraries*



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*Postage
Increase hits
Libraries*

Postal rates for libraries increased dramatically on January 1, 1995. Prior to January 1, items weighing 1 pound or less could be mailed at the Library Rate of \$0.65. The same items now cost \$1.12. Other rates are: 1-2 lbs. \$1.53 from .89 and 2-3 lbs \$1.95 from \$1.13.



In Memoriam

Idair Smookler

76, former President of WVLA, died December 31, 1994 at her home. She retired as librarian at Union Carbide's South Charleston Tech Center in 1983 but remained active in librarianship by working as a part-time reference librarian at the Kanawha County Public Library. She was born in Wilmington, DE and worked for the federal government in Washington, D.C. before coming to West Virginia. Idair served as President of WVLA in 1967 and also served as Chair of the Special Libraries Section. The theme of the 1967 WVLA annual conference was "Machines and the Library". Idair noted in the pre-conference issue of West Virginia Libraries that "an understanding of machines is necessary so that their employment will not compound the problems they were supposed to solve". In addition to her interest in libraries, Idair was a kayaking enthusiast. She was a founding member of the West Virginia Wildwater Association.

Nancy Duecker,

her two daughters, husband, and father-in-law were killed in an automobile accident on November 22, 1994 while vacationing in Phoenix, Arizona. You may have met her at WVLA. She was small, friendly, and had a sense of humor that was a little wacky. She had a great eye for children's books illustrators and had her own personal copy of *Green Eggs and Ham* that was autographed by Dr. Seuss.

Nancy didn't start out to be a librarian, her true calling was television production. She took a position at the Putnam Library to be available for her children. The staff called her "Super-Mom" but she was also "super-organized", "super-funny", and "super-friend".

The Putnam Library has experienced some bad times during the past few years, but nothing can compare to losing a staff member in this way. The library has established the Nancy Duecker Memorial Fund. Donations of over \$2000 have been received.

WVLA Welcomes New & Returning Members

Alison Deem
Antoinette Hern
Barbara LeFebure
Betty Meachum
Bob Tuckerman
Bruce Brenneman
Carol Leveret
Carolyn Morhous
Catherine Jost
Charles Madden
Dabney Chapman
Dale Simmons
Daniel Ruley
Don Matthews

Donna Estep
Elaine Davidson
Hazel Davidson
Florena Duling
Floyd Miller
Fred Ranson
Garnet Hoover
Helen Jones
Jack Horton
Janice Olive
Jean Gans
Jesse Haynes
Joe Ellison
Joseph Smith

Judy Stemple
Lenita Reale
Linda Zickefoose
Loulie Canady
Margaret Stewart
Marge Sales
Mary Hanley
Michael King
Paul Bugas
Pearl Carter
Penelope Bailey
Peter Kerr
Robert Browning
Robert Davis

Robert Gay
Robert McCormick
Robert Richardson
Sally Jackson
Sam Rogers
Sandy Grahame
Sandy King
Shirley Hicks
Stephanie Ours
Sturley Stalnaker
Terry Handley



NEWS

WVLA has purchased a 3 foot x 10 foot vinyl banner bearing the WVLA logo in blue on a field of white. Look for it at the Library Appreciation Day Dinner Feb. 20. It is available to all Divisions and Roundtables for use at workshops, etc.

Be Prepared: Security and Your Library" is the latest video from the ALA/Library Video Network. The 35 minute tape was produced in response to an informal survey ranking safety and security as the number one training need. It is available for loan from Film Services at the Library Commission.

HYPATIA is a WAIS (Wide Area Information Server) provided as a service for libraries, archives, museums and historical societies by PRLC, the Pittsburgh Regional Library Center. Initially funded through an NEH grant for preservation education and outreach, HYPATIA contains preservation information in electronic format. The SWAIS client software runs on the PRLC system and is available to anyone via the Internet or by dial-in modem. The only requirement is a VT100 compatible terminal or terminal emulator. For more information and instruction on how to access HYPATIA contact Susan Melnick at PRLC, 800-242-3790. PRLC is interested in adding useful information and correcting errors in existing data. Please send any comments to PRLC, 103 Yost Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15221 or e-mail to hyp@prlc.org.

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added to the Library Commission budget for fiscal year 1995-1996 and that a similar amount be added for fiscal year 1996-1997. The motion also contained the recommendation that the issue of dedicated funding be revisited before the 1996 session of the Legislature adjourns. The motion was approved by all members present: Senators Billy Wayne Bailey and Donna Jean Boley; Delegates Mary Pearl Compton, John Doyle, and Peggy Miller. It was understood that the Chairmen of the House and Senate Finance Committees had accepted this concept. This is not dedicated funding, nor is it \$5.00 per capita. It IS a significant dollar increase for public libraries. We will need to watch the progress of this through the present legislative session and through the budget session which follows.

State Documents Depository Law

House Speaker Chuck Chambers has agreed to introduce legislation relating to a State Documents Depository program. A number of delegates and senators have indicated support for this program. The Library Commission endorsed the program at its recent meeting in Princeton. If passed, this legislation will provide full and partial depository status to approximately twenty libraries around the state. This would greatly expand access to state documents.

Other aspects of the Legislative Program for 1995 are Works in Progress. Future issues of **West Virginia Libraries** or special news bulletins will keep you informed. Meanwhile your questions, comments and concerns are sought.



*Have You
Renewed Your
Membership*



The association needs your dues to publish WV Libraries, organize the Legislative Appreciation Dinner, plan the 1995 conference, and keep you informed of issues. If you need a membership form, please contact -

Linda Hedding, South Charleston Public Library, 312 Fourth Ave., South Charleston, WV 25303, or call 304/744-6561, fax 304/744-8808.



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