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## West Virginia Libraries 1996 Vol.49 No.1

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# LIBRARIES

Vol. 49 No. 1

February 1996

## *Marlinton Flood!*



*Flood Devastates Marlinton Library*

The flood of January 19-21 destroyed the contents of the McClintic Public Library in Marlinton. Pocahontas County Librarian Charlene Beverage and McClintic Board President John Geiger gave a graphic report of the destruction to the House of Delegates Finance Committee during the Library Commission's budget hearing January 25. The flood waters rose to within 16 inches of the ceiling. The McClintic board has been wanting to get out of rented facilities and into a "real" library building for years. They hope to rebuild above the flood plain near the Pocahontas General Hospital and the middle school. Anyone wishing to help the Marlinton library recover from the second flood in ten years, should contact Charlene Beverage, Pocahontas County Library, PO Box 132, Hillsboro, WV 24946; 304-653-4966.

## **Lost on the Internet?**

**Cathy Bennett**

Feeling "lost" on the Internet? Not sure how to use the resources available? Confused about how this new electronic tool will impact you and your library? Feel overwhelmed with the things you're expected to know as an "information expert" in this electronic age? Isolated from those with expertise in networked information who could help you and your library? Well, guess what? You aren't alone any longer. L.O.S.T. (Librarian Online Support Team) was formed to address some of these various issues. L.O.S.T. began about a year ago as a collaborative graduate school project between Isabel Danforth at Southern Connecticut State University's School of Library Science and myself. We recognized that both West Virginia and Connecticut share many similarities in the rural nature of the public library systems and the isolation this brings for staff. We conceived the idea of using the "live" interactive environment of Diversity University as a virtual gathering place for librarians to meet for mentoring, professional development, and support.

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## President's Column

From the President

Jo Ann Calzonetti



December 1 marks the beginning of the WVLA operational year. The first significant activity of the year is directed toward the new session of the West Virginia State Legislature which began January 10, 1996. Action by the state legislature may result in major funding changes for libraries, or other action that may affect each of us as professional librarians. In preparation, the Legislative Committee of WVLA has already established a legislative agenda that was unanimously endorsed by WVLA's membership during the last business session at conference. Our goals this year are:

1. Further progress toward funding public library Grants-in-Aid to the level of \$5.00 per capita.
2. Appropriation of new funds to pay for statewide telecommunications costs to libraries.
3. Appropriation of \$250,000 to pay for licensing informational databaes for Infomine.
4. Faculty status for professional librarians in the state's public colleges and universities.

Dr. Joe Barnes, Director of the library at Shepherd College and chair of the Legislative Committee, has written to each of us soliciting our support for the legislative goals of the Association. This is an opportunity for EACH of us to take action for the benefit of all libraries in West Virginia. Joe and the other members of the committee have recommended specific actions to us. THANK your legislators for the help they have given us in the past. INFORM your legislators about our goals. DONATE whatever you can to defray the cost of employing a legislative consultant. ATTEND the Library Appreciation day dinner in Charleston on February 19th.

The quality of library services in West Virginia are directly related to YOUR involvement in carrying our message to our legislators and to our fellow citizens.

## New Executive Board Meets at North Bend

Myra Ziegler, Secretary

Seventeen members of the West Virginia Library Association Executive Board met at North Bend State Park at 9:00 AM on December 8, 1995. After conducting the routine business of approving the minutes and reviewing the treasurer's report, the Board heard from Division and Committee chairs on plans for the coming year. Linda Hedding, 2nd Vice President in charge of membership reported that the Association is now 715 members strong.

Motions acted upon included: WVLA assistance to Linda Wright, chair of the Director's Roundtable, in applying for a grant to help cover the cost of a "Creative Alliances" workshop; letters from WVLA President Jo Ann Calzonetti to Tom Brown thanking him for his hard work on the Legislative Committee and to the three official representatives to MARLF thanking them for their participation; the advance of \$1200 to reserve the Charleston Civic Center for the Legislative Appreciation Day Dinner scheduled for February 19; approval of the formation of an ILL roundtable; the appointment of the chair of the Children's Roundtable to represent the Association at the WVEMA Conference in March and the participation of WVLA as an exhibitor in the WVEMA Conference pending approval of the exhibitor's fee by the Finance Committee.

A full copy of the minutes may be found on WVNET (under Resources for Librarians) or call Myra Ziegler, 466-4490, and request a copy.

# Words from the Editors

We're back! We're still having identity crises from time to time, but we did agree to tackle the job of editing *West Virginia Libraries* for another year. 1995 was an exciting year for the Association and for us as editors of the newsletter; 1996 promises to be even more so.

This year, each issue of *West Virginia Libraries* will focus on a different Roundtable, rather than a Division. If you have any news about your Roundtable activities that you would like to have us focus on for that issue, please remember that the deadline for each issue is the 15th day of the month preceding the publication month.

In this issue, we have focused on the Automation/Technology Roundtable. April will feature the Government Documents and Social Responsibility Roundtables and June's issue will take a look at Children's Services. We will take a look at the West Virginia Literature and Preservation Roundtables in August; the Directors Roundtable will take over in October. The newly formed Interlibrary Loan Roundtable will round out the year in December's issue.

Please help us continue to make *West Virginia Libraries* a useful publication for the members of the Association (that's YOU!). We need your news and concerns to include in each issue.

## Spring Fling, April 11

Spring Fling, the annual multi-Roundtable gathering, has been scheduled for April 11, 1996 at the ever popular Flatwoods Days Inn. Mark your calendar now and watch the mail for schedule details.

## Interlibrary Loan Roundtable Formed

The WVLA Executive Board approved a petition to form an Interlibrary Loan Roundtable at its December meeting. If you are interested in belonging to this newest roundtable, be sure to check the appropriate box on your membership form. If you have workshop ideas, project ideas, or just want to talk interlibrary loan, call Charlie Hively at the Clarksburg-Harrison Co. Public Library, 304-624-6512. Charlie is the chair of the Interlibrary Loan Roundtable and is looking for more than a few good persons.

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### West Virginia Libraries

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All back issues are available from:  
University Microfilms International,  
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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 Editors.

Copy Deadline for April issue is  
March 15th, 1996

# First Search Debuts in West Virginia

Mary Lynn Kingston, OCLC

Beginning in February, the West Virginia Library Commission will begin a program to offer FirstSearch access to libraries in West Virginia. To implement this program, the Commission purchased a pool of FirstSearch searches to be used by any West Virginia library that signs up for a

FirstSearch authorization. By buying a large number of searches for all WV libraries to use, the Commission was able to make the purchase at the lowest available price per search. That discounted price will now be offered to WV libraries participating in the program.

**What is FirstSearch?** FirstSearch is an easy-to-use online reference service that provides access to online databases. Over 60 up-to-date databases are available, including OCLC's cornerstone database, Worldcat — the OCLC Online Union Catalog. FirstSearch is a product of OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.

**Why use FirstSearch?** FirstSearch is easy to use by simply following the on-screen menus. One-stop searching eliminates the need to search several places, usually with different search methods. FirstSearch provides references to articles, books, sound recordings, videocassettes, musical scores, manuscripts, computer files, maps, facts and statistics, and directory information. The search interface is the same across all FirstSearch databases, and requires no special training or online searching experience.

**Can I get articles from FirstSearch?** When you locate citations to articles from any of over 1,500 popular business and general interest serials in several FirstSearch databases, you can order the cited article for online viewing, printing, or e-mail delivery for \$2.75 per article. You can also order documents for fax delivery within an hour, when available. FirstSearch also gives users the option of overnight or regular mail delivery of articles whose citations can be found on most of the FirstSearch serials indexes.

**What subjects are covered by FirstSearch databases?** FirstSearch databases cover many subject areas,



**FirstSearch**<sup>®</sup>  
*A world of information online*

including: art, business, current affairs, conferences & proceedings, economics, education, engineering, health, humanities, law, medicine, public affairs, reference, social sciences, and technology. Students can search for information on term papers, theses, science fairs, and book re-

ports. Teachers can search for educational materials. General library users can search for information from aardvark to zucchini and everything in between. You can access all FirstSearch databases, or only the ones you need.

**How much does FirstSearch cost?** Libraries that sign up for FirstSearch through the Commission will be charged \$.55 for each search performed. This cost is the same, regardless of how many or how few searches are used by a library. For each library, the Commission will provide monthly statistics showing the number of searches used in each database. There are no hourly connect charges for Internet access to FirstSearch. An annual charge of \$37.50 will be assessed for each authorization issued to cover the cost of FirstSearch documentation. FirstSearch documentation is updated quarterly, as new databases are added regularly. Participating libraries will be billed periodically by the Commission.

**How can I learn more about FirstSearch?** FirstSearch literature with additional information about specific features and databases can be requested by contacting Karen Goff at the Commission. Also, the Commission is working closely with PALINET, one of the OCLC-affiliated regional networks serving West Virginia, to develop a FirstSearch orientation and tutorial that will be broadcast later this spring. This program will also be available for distribution on videocassette. Watch for announcements from PALINET and the Commission regarding this exciting partnership.

**How do I sign up for this FirstSearch program?** Karen Goff, Head, Reference Services at the Commission is coordinating the FirstSearch Program for West Virginia libraries. She can be reached at (304) 558-2045, or via e-mail at [goffk@wvlc.wvnet.edu](mailto:goffk@wvlc.wvnet.edu).

# Reaffirming Our Mission

## Library Legislative Needs Presented

Listed below are what every librarian and library supporter in West Virginia needs to know, believe, and communicate to state Delegates and Senators. A united voice is what gets legislative attention. Remember that a current list of legislators, complete with home and office addresses and phone numbers is available on the Library Commission's Family Matters database.

### Legislative Needs

Re: Per Capita Grants > Thank you for last year > \$5 per capita was needed in 1990. That's what the Governor's Conference said. We need it now more than ever. > Our people need information.

Re: Telecommunications > Our public comes to the library for electronic information. > Our public expects libraries and librarians to be able to help with Internet. > The cost of communication lines to public libraries will be \$465,000 a year; the cost of ignorance is much higher.

Re: Information for Academic, Public, School Libraries > Libraries provide expensive information freely. > Few libraries in West Virginia can afford the electronic databases. > Informational databases are important for all citizens -regardless of the size of their communities. > The basic databases for all will cost \$250,000.

Re: Faculty Status > There are more than 100 librarians in West Virginia's colleges and universities. > Most academic librarians are considered faculty; 25 do not have faculty status. > To be fair to all, all should have faculty status. > To be able to recruit new academic librarians, WV needs to offer what 75% of American colleges offer. > All librarians have a stake in every librarian's equitable treatment.

## ALA Library Legislation Day, May 6-7

The 22nd annual Library Legislative Day, sponsored by the ALA Washington Office and the District of Columbia Library Association, will be Tuesday, May 7, 1996. The organized day of library advocacy features visits to congressional offices by several hundred library supporters.

The 1996 event will be preceded by a day-long series of in-depth briefings on current legislation and policy issues as well as advocacy training designed to make congressional contacts effective and keyed to the current political climate.

A gala event will be held on the evening of Monday, May 6, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ALA Washington Office. If you are interested in being a part of WVLA's delegation to Washington, contact Betty Gunnoe, Federal Relations Coordinator, Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library, 101 West King Street, Martinsburg, WV 25401; 304-263-9893.

## Faculty Status for Librarians Bill

The following amendment to Article 7, Chapter 18B of the West Virginia Code will be introduced in the 1996 Legislative Session.

"Any individual now serving as a full time librarian in a library at a college or university under the jurisdiction of the governing boards of the state institution of higher education who holds a degree in library/information science based upon successful completion of graduate work at an institution qualified and approved to offer such degrees by the American Library Association and any individual meeting this definition who is subsequently hired shall be appointed as a full time member of the faculty of such institution for purposes of position title, equitable salary, promotion, tenure and termination. Professional librarians are eligible for all privileges common to classroom faculty, and full time librarians at each institution of higher education shall be regarded as an academic department (or unit of comparable size) to facilitate participation in campus governance."

With enactment of this bill into law, librarians with at least five years of satisfactory service in their present state appointment shall be placed at tenured ranks and salaries similar to classroom faculty with the same average years experience. All librarians with less than five years their present positions, and subsequent appointees, shall be granted ample time to qualify for tenured appointment under the applicable terms as adopted and approved by their respective institutions. The evaluation of librarians for purposes of appointment, promotion, and tenure shall in all cases, be based on criteria related to the nature of librarianship and the distinctive contribution of librarians to academic mission of the college or university. (Supplied by Tom Brown, Concord College and Bluefield State College)

## CD-ROM Solution

**Pam Coyle, South Charleston P.L.**

As the demand for information on CD-ROMs grows, interim solutions have to be found to provide "inexpensive" access. At the South Charleston Public Library, we recently purchased Pioneer 6 disk 4.4 speed CD-ROM disc changers. Prior to that time we had two internal CD-ROM players on four computers. However, SelectPhone had sent us free of charge five discs which are business and personal phone numbers across the United States. With the purchase of additional computers came *AAA trip planner*, the *Mayo Family Medical Encyclopedia*, the *World and United States atlas* and others. We already subscribed to EBSCO, a CD-ROM that indexes periodicals and provides abstracts and some fulltext articles; *SIRS*, a CD-ROM that provides social sciences information; *Contemporary Authors*; and *Encarta*, the Microsoft encyclopedia.

We considered purchasing one 18-disc CD player, but decided that it would only exacerbate the waiting list for use. Installing a LAN and then purchasing a networkable CD-ROM player was considered until we found the price of the CD-ROM player to be over \$20,000. Purchasing four 6-disc players, enabled us to provide four different access points for the public. The waiting list still exists for the EBSCO but at least the other information, especially the telephone discs are usually available without waiting.

These discs have saved us a great deal of space and time. If you have ever tried to maintain *SIRS* in notebook form, shelve and maintain out-of-state telephone books, or search for an author in *Contemporary Authors* book format, you understand what I mean.

Because of lack of money and expertise, the South Charleston Public Library may have to postpone networking the Cd-ROMs for a long time. The 6-disc changers are economical interim solutions.

The changers plus interface kits were purchased from ASAPc Direct, Inc. for \$711.00 each. It is best if these changers are put on computers that do NOT have existing CD-ROM players.

If you have any questions, call me at 304-744-6561.

## People

**Suzi Whaples** from South Charleston Public Library has created original, hand-sculpted jewelry entitled **MOUNTAIN WOMEN**. Each piece has its own name and short story line, and depicts a mountain woman. These have been accepted for sale in state parks and at Tamarack. The brooch pictured is *Miss Pansy*. "Miss Pansy and her sisters were teachers. Miss Pansy was surely the best. I cried when I left fifth grade."

**Eileen Carpino**, Director of the library at Wheeling Jesuit College, was honored recently for 40 years of service to the college.

Eileen, a Martins Ferry native who has been with the college since before it even had a library of its own, was presented with a wristwatch at the president's post-holiday buffet.

**Dr. R.N. Sharma** has been named the new director of the Drain-Jordan Library at West Virginia State College in Institute. Dr. Sharma earned B.A. and M.A. degrees in history at the University of Delhi, India, a M.L.S. from North Texas State University, and a Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Before accepting the position at W.Va. State, he was director of Libraries at the University of Evansville, Indiana. He is active in ALA and ACRL, has been editor of the *Library Times International* since 1984, and has published books and articles. He was president of the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association in 1993-1994.

**Cherie Davis**, co-coordinator of Literacy Through Libraries in Greenbrier County, was honored as "Adult Volunteer of the Year" by the West Virginia Adult Education Association at its annual meeting in November. She has worked diligently with the adult education teachers in RESA IV to coordinate literacy services with other adult education programs. She also developed a summer tutoring program for ABE students enrolled in part-time adult education programs in Greenbrier County.

**Cathy Bennett**, formerly librarian at the New Martinsville campus of West Virginia Northern Community College, has accepted the position of Director of the Learning Resources Center at Belmont Technical College in Ohio.

**David Schau**, Government Documents Librarian at the Kanawha County Public Library, was featured in Sandy Wells' "Innerviews" column in the Charleston Gazette on January 19. David was quoted as saying "I've been a library rat all my life".



## Clarksburg Anniversary

Library friends, officials, and current and former staff members gathered December 10, 1995 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the formal opening of the Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library's new building.

Marcel Breuer, one of the world's best-known architects designed the new home of the Clarksburg library in 1973. At that time, the library occupied both floors of Waldomore. The new building was designed to bring in the public. Previously, the library had set so far off the street that it was difficult to tell just what purpose it served. Now, the adult reading lounge is the most visible area to the people on the street.

The program for the celebration included remarks by Merle Moore, Director of the library during the building project and now Chairman of the West Virginia Library Commission and Director of the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce. Judge Frank J. Maxwell, who led the local fund raising efforts also spoke. According to Clarksburg's present Director, Ernie Kallay, "We look forward to using this wonderful facility as an on ramp to the information superhighway as well as a vital element of the uptown Clarksburg scene for years to come".

### In Memoriam

**Marilyn Joan McCray**, Manager of Barboursville Branch Library in Cabell County, died January 13 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. Marilyn had managed the branch since January 30, 1978. She was known for her cheerful attitude in the face of adversity, as well as for being an excellent librarian. She was a faithful attendee of WVLA conferences and legislative dinners and will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

**Patricia Jones**, a member of the Ohio County Public Library Board of Trustees, died at her home in Wheeling, January 5, 1996. She also served on the boards of Wheeling Country Day School and the Wheeling Symphony Society and was a member of the Oglebay Mansion Museum Committee.

## WVEMA Conference

The annual conference of the West Virginia Educational Media Association will be at the Flatwoods Days Inn, March 24-25. According to WVEMA President Martha Mae Danzig, the conference is scheduled on a Sunday and Monday so members who have difficulty getting approval for professional leave can enjoy at least one full day of events. She extends a personal invitation to all WVLA members to attend.

Topics on the agenda include a panel discussion with key planners of the InfoMine project. This cooperative grant project involves public libraries, public schools, higher education, and private industry. Brenda Williams of the WV Dept. of Education and Dr. Ruth Jackson, Director of WV University Libraries will be on the panel.

One of the top speakers for media personnel will be Lynn Milet, immediate past president of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT). In addition to her topic of "Agile Management", she will share some of her experiences and provide an update from AECT's conference in Indianapolis. Bill Burrall will present details of the Internet project with West Virginia students and vendors have promised demonstrations of the latest technology and equipment.

The WVEMA board has waived the registration fee for a member of the WVLA board to attend the conference. Cheryl Harshman, Chair of the Children's Services Roundtable and Roundtable Representative will be attending. The WVLA Marketing Committee will also have an exhibit at the conference. It is hoped that these and similar activities at the WVLA conference in October will promote cooperation between the two associations. For further information, contact Martha Danzig at 304-269-8315 x 127; email [mdanzig@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:mdanzig@access.k12.wv.us) or Pat Ramsburg at Bridgeport High School, 515 Johnson Ave., Bridgeport, WV 26330.

## WVLA Membership Renewal Forms

**Linda Heddinger**

Membership forms have been revised and mailed. If you have not received one by now, please contact Linda Heddinger, South Charleston Public Library, 312 Fourth Ave., South Charleston, WV 25303. Phone 744-6561, fax 744-8808. You will notice several changes in the form, and a letter pleading for your cooperation in updating our information, this includes filling out the form completely and making sure a form is sent for each individual member. If you have already paid your 1996 dues, and receive a membership form anyway, please fill it out and return it (without dues), so that I will have your information. Thank you.



# State Publications Clearinghouse

**Karen Goff**

In March of 1995 the W.Va. Legislature passed HB 2046 authorizing the Library Commission to establish a clearinghouse and depository library system for state publications. This legislation was part of WVLA's 1995 legislative agenda.

After months of planning and preparation, the Clearinghouse became fully operational January 1, 1996. Documents Officers have been named in 186 state agencies, boards, commissions and institutions. Procedures for depositing publications with the Clearinghouse were sent to the Documents Officers in December. Predictably, some agencies are very supportive while others are in denial. Legislative publications are a major challenge to both Legislative Services and the Clearinghouse. Arrangements have now been made for the Clearinghouse to receive bills and journals daily.

The following libraries have been named state publications depositories. These libraries have agreed to maintain the publications and provide the public access and assistance. This program provides the citizens of West Virginia with more complete and convenient access to state government information.

## State Publications Depository Libraries

**Archives & History\*** Charleston  
**Morrow Library\*** Marshall University  
**University Libraries\*** West Virginia University  
**Hardway Library** Bluefield State Library  
**A.M. Pfeiffer Library** WV Wesleyan College  
**Clarksburg-Harrison Co. Public Lib.**  
**Vining Library** W.Va. Institute of Technology  
**Parkersburg-Wood Co. Public Library**  
**Mason County Public Library** Point Pleasant  
**Scarborough Library** Shepherd College  
**Roane County Public Library** Spencer  
**Mary H. Weir Public Library** Weirton  
**Williamson Campus Library**  
 Southern W.Va. Community College

\*Designated by the Legislature

## ALA Awarding National Library Week Prizes

The 1996 observance of National Library Week, April 14-20, continues the theme "Libraries Change Lives" with the addition of a tagline: "Call. Visit. Log on." to highlight the role of libraries in making information technology available to the public.

To focus attention on how technology is helping libraries change lives, ALA will award an Encarta 96 Encyclopedia Multimedia CD-ROM (retail value \$54.95) compliments of Microsoft to every library that submits a story, editorial, column or interview carried by non-library media-newspaper, magazine, newsletter, radio or TV-about how the public is benefitting from computers, access to the Internet and other information technology at the library.

A grand prize, consisting of a complete Microsoft CD-ROM Library, more than 30 products, including the 1996 Reference Library, Cinemania, Magic School Bus, Explorapedia and others (retail value \$1,300), will be awarded for the best placement.

All types of libraries are eligible to enter. Placements must appear after January 1, 1996, in non-library media. Copies of articles or tapes should be submitted by May 10 to the ALA Public Information Office, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611, along with a letter documenting how the placement originated and contact information for the library.

## Periodicals of Interest

*Wired*, is a magazine for those who want to keep up with issues concerning access to digital information. This glossy, glitzy publication is sometimes distracting with its multi-colored pages and seemingly random spacing of articles. However it provides clear and reasoned articles all issues effecting the future of digital information and its dissemination. Articles on the future of libraries, and proposed legislation on copyright are must reads for any librarian who tries to plan for the future. This information does not appear to be readily available in *American Libraries*, *Library Journal*, or *School Library Journal*. A subscription through Dawson Subscription Services is \$24.95 per year. (Pam Coyle)

If you don't know about the *Computer Shopper* as a source for all types of computer hardware, software and peripherals, please look at a copy. Not only does it list companies and the prices for a wide variety of equipment and materials, it also does comparisons and articles highlighting technology and its future. It is published monthly by Ziff-Davis for \$30.00/year. (Pam Coyle)

*The Journal of Appalachian Studies* is a new publication of the Appalachian Studies Association based at the Regional Research Institute at W.Va. University. The journal will be issued twice a year and will publish the most recent scholarship of scholars in the interdisciplinary field of Appalachian studies. Subscriptions are \$35/year through the Regional Research Institute, P.O. Box 6825, W.Va. University, Morgantown, WV 26506. (Press Release)

## News Notes

**ALA to Sponsor "Log On" Day.** Betty J. Turock, president of the American Library Association, urges all school, public and college libraries to take members of the public on a cruise down the information superhighway as part of "Log on at the Library Day", Tuesday, April 16, 1996, during National Library Week. The special day of demonstrations is designed to focus national attention on the role of libraries and librarians in providing public access to the information.

**InfoMine Delayed.** In the January issue of Nuggets, the Infomine newsletter, Chuck Koutnik of the Library Commission explained that the initial bid process to select a vendor to install the InfoMine work stations hit a snag and the bid has been resubmitted to the WV State Purchasing Division. The Commission now hopes to be able to begin installations and training in April. Meanwhile, Chuck sent a survey to 113 libraries that will be receiving equipment, training and support through the InfoMine project to determine levels of expertise, policy concerns, and interests of the participants.

**CD-ROM Recycling.** Have you ever wondered if anything productive can be done with superseded CDs? SONY in conjunction with Digital Audio Disc Corporation and Atlanta Precision Molding will accept compact discs and jewel cases to be used in the production of jewel cases and jewel case trays. Shrinkwrap and caddies will also be accepted for recycling. For more information contact: Digital Audio Disk Corporation, Disc Recycling Program, 1800 Fruitridge Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47804-1788, 800-776-6939.

**National Women's History Month Poster Available.** The Commemorative poster for National Women's History Month (March) features a collage of twelve hand-tinted photographs that illustrate the 1996 theme, "See History in a New Way". Posters cost \$6.95@ plus \$4.00 shipping and may be ordered from the National Women's History Project, 7738 Bell Road, Dept. P, Windsor, CA 95492-8518 or, by phone, 707-838-6000.

**WVU President David Hardesty has issued a call for help** for the university's libraries. In his first State of the University address, Hardesty pledged a commitment to improving the quality of the university's library system. "Governor Caperton demonstrated his recognition of the critical importance of our libraries and their need for further support," Hardesty said. "Today, I am making a multi-year commitment of at least \$25 million in support of WVU's libraries".

**On Friday, January 19, The Charleston Gazette reported** that Gordon Simmons, longtime manager of Trans Allegheny Books in Charleston, was fired effective January 9. Owner Joe Sakach declined to offer an explanation; Simmons said the letter informing him of his firing was a complete surprise. West Virginia authors Denise Giardina and W. Hodding Carter were quoted as saying they will boycott Trans Allegheny Books in protest of Simmons dismissal. Simmons is a member of WVLA and has participated in the annual conference and Spring Fling for many years.

aspect. Librarians from all over the world can telnet to this location, move to the L.O.S.T. headquarters, and converse in real-time with all the other librarians there. The potential for this type of collaboration is very powerful. For example, one L.O.S.T. participant, the only staff member in a rural Ohio library, had a patron that needed the address of an association. Her library did not own The Encyclopedia of Associations or other reference source with this information. When connected to the L.O.S.T. headquarters that day, she mentioned this request to another librarian. Her electronic colleague found the address, typed it in, and a rural patron's request was satisfied.

Maybe even more significant for rural librarians is the potential for live, professional development activities. Small libraries do not usually have the staff or the budget to permit frequent workshop or conference attendance. L.O.S.T. offers specialized workshops, presented by experts, via cyberspace. The workshops are interactive, allowing discussion to take place during the presentations. The participant never needs to leave the library to attend one of these workshops; no transportation, food, lodging, or registration expenses are involved.

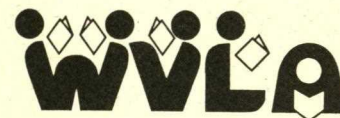
L.O.S.T. offered three workshops during the Spring of 1995 and two during the Fall. Spring workshops included "Using Gopher at the Reference Desk" presented by a reference librarian at Washington and Lee University; "Museum Librarianship" presented by a librarian at the Anacostia Museum of the Smithsonian; and "Using Listservs for Reference and Professional Development" presented by the author of Scholarly List of Lists on the Internet. Fall workshops included

"Networking for Libraries" presented by the senior network administrator at Cornell University; and "Copyright and the Internet" presented by a librarian/lawyer from Connecticut. Spring 1996 workshops are currently under development. Recent implementation of a World Wide Web interface to DU will allow development of multimedia elements for selected presentations in the future.

There are some definite shortcomings with this mode of support. Primary access to the DU database is via telnet and the user must learn some command to navigate within the environment. Presentations are text-based, lines of sentences scrolling across the screen. Conversations can be slow and, as in verbal conversation, when many people try to talk at once, it becomes difficult to follow all the threads flowing across the screen. As Karen Schneider indicated in the December issue of American Libraries, some things are "a little rough around the edges."

The strength and sustainability of L.O.S.T. and similar concepts however rests with those of us in the library field. We must be willing to use, develop, and experiment the Internet and find ways to use it that are valuable for libraries and librarians. L.O.S.T. was developed as a resource for you and me...those of us working in libraries. It will only become what we choose to let it become.

I invite you to visit the L.O.S.T. headquarters on Diversity University and attend some of the workshops. For information on accessing DU, or to get your name on the emailing list for notices of upcoming workshops email Cathy Bennett at either [libnml@nccvax.wvnet.edu](mailto:libnml@nccvax.wvnet.edu) or [cbennett@belmont.tec.oh.us](mailto:cbennett@belmont.tec.oh.us) or Isabel Danforth at [danforth@tiac.net](mailto:danforth@tiac.net).



## February

African American History Month

19 WVLA Library Appreciation Day, Charleston Pierre Salinger, Speaker

20 WVLA Executive Board Meeting, Charleston

## March

National Women's History Month

1-7 Return the Borrowed Books Week

9 Regular Legislative Session Adjourns

24-25 WVEMA (WV Educational Media Association) Flatwoods

26-30 PLA National Conference, Portland OR

## April

National Poetry Month  
National Anxiety Month

11 Spring Fling, Flatwoods

14-20 National Library Week  
"Libraries Change Lives"

## Reaffirming Our Mission Annual Conference Call for Papers

The 1996 Conference Committee is trying something new... We invite you to submit a proposal for a paper, panel, discussion group, or workshop.

Reaffirming Our Mission will focus on librarians continuing commitment to make information affordable, available and accessible throughout West Virginia's 55 counties in spite of changes to the "economics of information" caused by technology.

Presentations may include topics such as:

- Integrating Internet in Reference Services
- Reviewing, Evaluating and Selecting CD-ROM products for Children's Collections
- Downloading Software
- Copyright
- Libraries and the Homeless
- Crime in Libraries
- Government Information Sources and Issues
- Storytelling and Children's programming
- Legislative Issues
- Censorship & the Internet

But don't be limited by this list! We look forward to your creativity in selecting a topic and format for your presentation! Complete the information on the form.

---

### Presentation Information

Title of Presentation \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
street city, state, zip code

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ Equipment needs (include electrical requirements): \_\_\_\_\_

Attach names of additional presenters and an abstract (50 to 100 word description of the presentation's content and format) on a separate sheet.

**Return by March 30, 1996 to:**  
**Jo Ann Calzonetti**  
**Evansdale Library, WVU,**  
**P. O. Box 6105,**  
**Morgantown, WV 26505.**  
**Questions? Call Jo Ann at 304-4695 x112.**



West Virginia Library Association  
P.O. Box 5221  
Morgantown, WV 25361

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