

12-1997

West Virginia Libraries 1997 Vol.50 No.6

Karen Goff

Marjorie Price

Follow this and additional works at: <http://mds.marshall.edu/wvlib>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Goff, Karen and Price, Marjorie, "West Virginia Libraries 1997 Vol.50 No.6" (1997). *West Virginia Libraries Newsletter*. Paper 219.
<http://mds.marshall.edu/wvlib/219>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the West Virginia Library Association at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in West Virginia Libraries Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact zhangj@marshall.edu, martj@marshall.edu.

LIBRARIES

Vol. 50 No. 6

December 1997

Frederic J. Glazer 1937-1997

Frederic Glazer came to West Virginia with a vision to provide public library service to every citizen of the state. To achieve this goal, his energy, determination, resourcefulness, and inventiveness were boundless.

He convinced the Legislature to fund state per capita to the highest in the nation.

He initiated an ambitious statewide construction program that more than tripled the number of major library buildings. When the state's rugged terrain and meager financial resources proved a challenge, he initiated use of the unique Instant and Outpost libraries.

For 17 years he cosponsored with Marshall University the annual Library Skills Institute to provide training for library personnel --and in the process gave over a thousand persons the chance to earn college credits. In recent years he cosponsored with the University of South Carolina a distance-learning program at the graduate level.

He brought public library service to the thousands in state-run institutions.

Over the years he aggressively pursued state and national grant monies to enhance library services ranging from broadcast equipment for radio reading programs for the blind to statewide automation. The state benefited with over \$6 million in non-USDOE grant money during his tenure.

Under his guidance, West Virginia was the first state to have a statewide borrower's card, a statewide alcohol and drug abuse clearinghouse, and an interstate and intrastate print materials recycling program. He embraced the new technology in its infancy and foresaw it as the great equalizer for isolated, rural citizens.

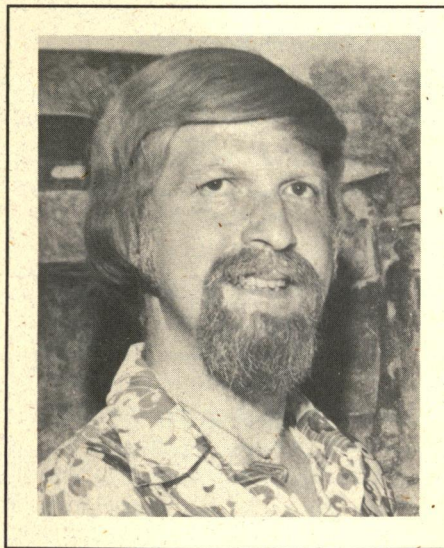
He was dedicated to the concept of free access to information for all and had two fine-free days for library patrons set by law.

He shared his experiences and expertise nationally and internationally in Sweden, Finland, Russia, Africa, India, and China.

Fred was a "people person" who found an instant friend in each new acquaintance and gave equal time and attention to everyone -- from the governor to the man in the street. Although

he maintained a high profile, his sense of humor was a constant that put staff and colleagues at ease. He unfailingly expected goodness from everyone; he didn't hesitate to give it in return.

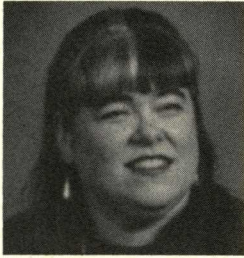
His modesty precluded common knowledge of the many awards and honors he was given that included being the first recipient of the Columbia University School of Library Service distinguished Alumni Award (1987) given for meritorious achievement and outstanding contributions in the field of library information, and for recognized leadership and commitment and dedication to the profession; recipient of the American Library Association's Library Administrators Management Association Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Relations



Section (1992); Outstanding Leadership Award presented by the March of Dimes (1979); award from Governor John D. Rockefeller IV in recognition of the WV Library Commission's Outstanding Achievement in CETA Programs for the Handicapped (1978); recipient of U.S. DHEW's 1977 Outstanding Citizen Award; and the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation for voluntary service to Project Headstart (1968).

Fred's legacy to West Virginia's libraries is a strong one: **Embrace the challenge; refuse to fail.**

President's Column



Margie Price

Libraries Are Us

Maybe it is a little corny, but the theme for this past year said it all. We may have to be concerned about leaky roofs, outdated computers, and inadequate book budgets, but the bottom line is that the people who work in the library at all levels are what make the difference in library service to the patron.

Conference keynote speaker Kaycee Hale said it well: "You are the magic bullet!!!" I asked Kaycee to be the keynote speaker the last time she spoke to WVLA. I was assured that she was one of the most upbeat people I would ever meet in this world. It is true. The library community in West Virginia has been through some rocky times over the last few years and as incoming President of WVLA, I wanted to emphasize that what we do as individuals does make a difference. I think Kaycee did a wonderful job of showing the positive impact we can have on the people who walk through our doors.

I hope all of you enjoyed the Conference at Flatwoods as much as I did. I have expressed my appreciation to the other members of the Executive Board, Round Table Chairs, and the Conference Committee before, but I can't say "thank you" enough. Nineteen ninety-seven was a difficult year for me personally and it was often frustrating that I was unable to do all the things I had planned for my year as President. I shouldn't have worried though; I was working with the best team of officers and volunteers in existence. That, indeed, is the strength of WVLA — we have active, concerned members who are willing to do their best for the Association. WVLA Are Us, too!

Endings can be sad times, but they can also be opportunities for new beginnings. By the time you read this, Judy Duncan will have taken office as President. She has some exciting ideas for the coming year and I know she has your support.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as President of a great organization.

In Memoriam

Mary Louise Graham, retired Director of the Raleigh county Public Library, died October 7, 1997, at the age of 94. She was named county librarian in 1950 and served in that capacity for 27 years. She served on several state advisory committees, was elected to two terms as President of WVLA, was twice chosen Woman of the Year, and was active in her church and many civic and social organizations. Carroll Simpkins, chairman of the library board for many years, said, "The community is eternally in her debt for the fact that we have a library and that we care about having a library....she gave us a great treasure. The community should never forget her."

Laeuna Erwin, retired Director of the Putnam County Library, died November 12, 1997. Mrs. Erwin began her library career in 1960 with bookmobile service to Putnam County. She later served for ten years as supervisor of extension services at Cabell County Library with Putnam County library activity as part of her responsibilities. With the construction of the main library in 1974, she became Director of the Putnam County Library and began working on the development of libraries in Poca, Eleanor, and Buffalo before retiring in December of 1984. Her efforts were formally recognized in 1989 when she received the Mayo Lester Award, Putnam county's highest award for community service.

WVLA Executive Board Meeting

December 5, 1997

North Bend State Park

Sixteen members of the West Virginia Library Association Executive board met at 9 a.m. on Friday, December 5, 1997 at North Bend State Park

They acted on the following motions:

- Approval of the minutes;
- Approval of the payment of checks 5534-5576;
- Set mileage rates for Executive Board members;
- Approval of vendors participating in Spring Fling; charges would be the same as for Fall Conference;
- Approval of the payment of the stipend to the editors of WV Libraries;
- Approval of creation of new round table, Academic Directors Group;
- Approval of a letter to be sent to Governor Underwood in support of WVLC's budget request;
- Approval of contract for legislative consultant for this year's legislative session;
- Authorized Legislative Dinner Committee to pursue speaker and approval of request to cover speaker's expenses;
- Approval of \$50 memorial in memory of Margie Price's mother;

Also on the agenda: review of Fall Conference evaluations; Directory of School Librarians has been prepared; discussion about honoring past WVLA presidents; and David Price, Library Commission Executive Secretary, presented the Commission's budget request, and the Board approved sending a letter of support to Governor Underwood.

You can obtain a full copy of these minutes by contacting Linda Lindsey, Secretary, WVLA, Richwood Public Library, 8 White Avenue, Richwood, WV 26261, or e-mail at lindseyl@wvlc.wvnet.edu.

Minutes are also posted on the WVLA website at <http://wvnmms.wvnet.edu/~wvla>.

1997 - 1998 WVLA Executive Board

LIBRARIES

For Round Table and Committee officers, see the WVLA web site: <http://wvnmms.wvnet.edu/~wvla>

President

Judy Duncan
St. Albans Public Library
204-722-4244
duncanj@wvlc.wvnet.edu

First Vice-President/President-Elect

Betty Gunnoe
Martinsburg-Berkeley County PL
304-267-8933
gunnoeb@wvlc.wvnet.edu

Second Vice-President

Rebecca Van Der Meer
University of Charleston
304-357-4779
vandermr@wvlc.wvnet.edu

Secretary

Linda Lindsey
Richwood Public Library
304-846-6222
lindseyl@wvlc.wvnet.edu

Treasurer

R. David Childers
WV Library Commission
304-558-2041
childers@wvlc.wvnet.edu

Past President

Marjorie Price
Supreme Court Library
304-558-2607
pricem@wvnm.wvnet.edu

ALA Councilor

Joe Barnes
Shepherd College
304-876-5312
jbarnes@scvax.wvnet.edu

College/University Division

Kathleen Bledsoe
Marshall University
304-637-3174
bledsoek@marshall.edu

Friends Division

Judy Williams
Elkins-Randolph PL
304-637-3808
wkj@newmedia.net

Public Libraries Division

Pam Coyle
South Charleston PL
304-744-6561
coylepam@wvlc.wvnet.edu

Round Table Representative

Yvonne Farley
Kanawha County PL
304-343-4646
farley/kcpl_11@kanawha.lib.wv.us

School Libraries Division

Judy Brown
Williamson High School
304-235-2518
jrbrown@access.k12.wv.us

Special Libraries Division

Chuck Julian
National Technology Transfer Ctr.
304-243-2595
cjulian@nttc.edu

Trustees Division

Chris Green
Clarksburg-Harrison County PL
304-622-3140
greenvc@iolinc.net

West Virginia Libraries, Editors

Karen Goff
WV Library Commission
304-558-2029
goffk@wvlc.wvnet.edu

Marjorie Price
Supreme Court Library
304-558-2607
pricem@wvnm.wvnet.edu

Federal Relations Coordinator

Betty Gunnoe
Martinsburg-Berkeley County PL
304-267-8933
gunnoeb@wvlc.wvnet.edu

SELA Representative

Judy Rule
Cabell County PL
304-528-5700
jrule@cabell.lib.wv.us

Executive Secretary, WVLC

David Price
304-558-2041
priced@wvlc.wvnet.edu

Editors

Karen Goff

Cultural Center
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E
Charleston, WV 25305-0620
304-558-2045(W) 304-558-2044(FAX)
goffk@wvlc.wvnet.edu

Margie Price

Bldg. 1, Room E-404
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0833
304-558-2607(W) 304-558-3815(FAX)
pricem@wvnm.wvnet.edu

Circulation Editor

Jo Ann Calzonetti

Evansdale Library
WV University
PO Box 6105
Morgantown, WV 26506
304-293-4695 x5112
u517a@wvnm.wvnet.edu

Advertising Editor

Kelly Funkhouser

Morgantown Public Library
373 Spruce Street
Morgantown, WV 26505
304-291-7425(W) 304-291-7437(FAX)
funkhous@hp9k.clark.lib.wv.us

West Virginia Libraries

(ISSN) 0043-3276) is the official publication of the West Virginia Library Association. The views expressed are not necessarily the official viewpoints of WVLA.

West Virginia Libraries is published 6 times a year in February, April, June, August, October, and December. A subscription is included with membership dues. The subscription rate for non-members is \$15 per year.

Some back issues are available at \$3.75 per issue. All back issues are available from:

University Microfilms
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

15th of month preceding publication

1997 Conference



Kaycee Hale
Keynote Speaker

Kaycee Hale Comes Home

*Pam Ford
Marshall U*

The keynote speaker at this year's Annual Conference was born in Mount Hope, WV and grew up in Fayette and Raleigh counties. Although she has traveled

far away from the West Virginia hills in her adult life, West Virginia is firmly implanted in her heart.

Kaycee Hale's address to the First General Session included a story about a young black girl and a very special bookmobile librarian who, in spite of segregation, reached out and literally "touched" that young girl, changing her life forever.

We, as librarians, have the opportunity every day to change lives. However, attitude may keep us from taking advantage of that opportunity. Kaycee shared her positive personality with us and encouraged us to form more positive attitudes about why we are here, what we are doing, and what we want to be doing. Friday morning's session continued to help us work on our attitudes and our goals. Her energy, humor, and enthusiasm energized and excited attendees.

Kaycee was very happy for the opportunity to "come home" to West Virginia. The standing ovation she received at the First General Session was proof that those in attendance were very glad she came.

Photo Credit: Dennis Loudermilk



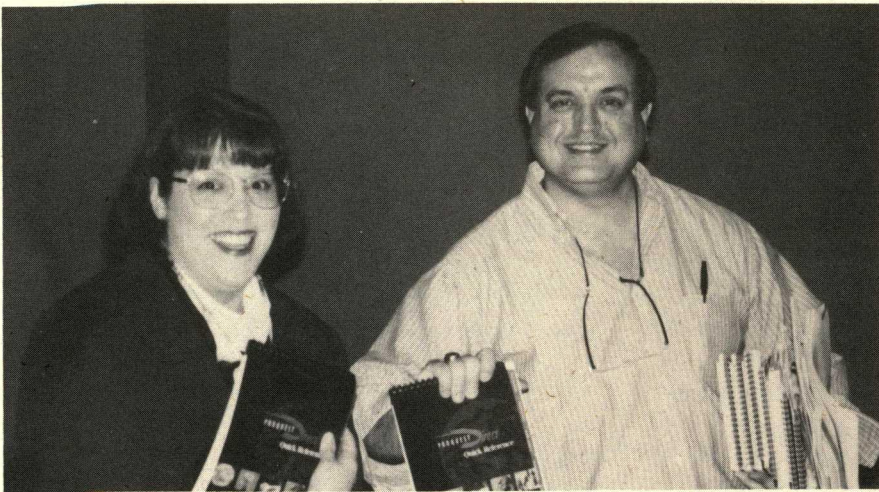
Credit: Steve Christo

Ken Sullivan (right), WV Humanities Council, presents the Charles Daugherty Humanities Award to Richard Curry



Credit: Steve Christo

Myra Ziegler (right), Summers County PL, present the Dora Ruth Parks Award to Putnam County librarian, Peggy Bias.



ProQuest representative Carolyn Cardwell making sure Rik Rekowski, Mary H. Weir PL, has enough search guides.

Credit: Dennis Loudermilk

Highlights



Credit: Steve Christo

Pearl Jett (right), Trustee from Doddridge County, 1997 Certificate of Merit awardee

Denise Fleming Delights Children's Librarians

Linda Hedding, South Charleston PL

Outdated spices, purple potato sack string, water, toilet paper, and a blender were all ingredients of Denis Fleming's Friday morning presentation. Sponsored by the Children's Services Roundtable and made possible by a grant from the WV Humanities Council, Ms. Fleming's program kept us all enthralled. She showed how she makes her paper and creates her illustrations and entertained us with her tales.

Since many children's workers do programming with few resources, especially money, her toilet paper in a jar demo gave us an easily replicated idea. If you didn't get a copy of her handout on how to make paper at your library, contact Cheryl Harshman at West Liberty State college.

I'm sure I won't be the only children's librarian picturing Denise Fleming running home, carrying her dog, reciting the words to "Where Once There Was a Wood." She also joins that shiny place reserved for those of us with a special fondness for GLITTER.

Conference Resolutions

The following members who retired during 1997 were honored with resolutions at the Annual Conference: **Betty Burley**, Cameron PL; **JoEllen Flagg**, Kanawha County PL; **Mildred Moyers**, WVU Libraries; **Victor Young**, WVU Institute of Technology.

Memorial resolutions were presented in honor of: **Cathy T. Blair**, Marshall County PL; **Mary Louise Graham**, Raleigh County PL; **Nancy Lou Williamson**, Coal River Branch Library.

Opening Doors Internationally: The Librarian's Role

Barbara Ford, President, American Library Association

(Eds. Note: Following are excerpts from Barbara Ford's address at the 1997 WVLA Awards Banquet. For the full text of Ford's remarks, contact Karen Goff at the Library Commission.)

During my year as ALA President, I will focus on an area of great personal and professional concern — the role of libraries and librarians in the global village. The theme I have selected is simple and to the point: "Libraries: Global Reach; Local Touch." It focuses on a unique, exciting, and invaluable aspect of what today's libraries offers: access to worldwide information resources and local accessibility. We have the responsibility to provide the collections and services that will help citizens understand our increasingly diverse societies and prosper in the new world economy.

ALA Goal 2000 says that all people must be able to intellectually participate in an information society. To achieve this, there are three key areas that demand our attention.

The first is literacy. We must remember that without basic literacy skills, technology has no relevance. Librarians have always been leaders in promoting literacy. This role is more important than ever as we face the new millennium.

The second critical area is equity of access. The goal of connecting every school, public, college, and university library to the Internet remains to be achieved. It is up to each of us to take an active role in advocating funding and other legislative support needed to keep information free and open in the 21st century.

The third key area is international cooperation and communication. The digital age has released us from geographic limitations as the basis for friendship, collaboration, commerce, and community.

As President of ALA, I will lead our association in addressing literacy, equity of access, copyright, and other critical issues that will shape the global information infrastructure. I will also urge members of the public and policy makers to use and support libraries as multicultural institutions that connect even the smallest and most remote communities to global resources.

I would like to close by reminding all of us that, as important and exciting as new technology is, it is the local touch that sets our libraries apart and will ensure their future as treasured institutions in the next century and beyond.



Friends Fact Sheets

Library

Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA) has compiled a series of fact sheets to help Friends groups plan projects and be effective supporters of local libraries. Below is Fact Sheet #15. For more information, contact FOLUSA at 1420 Walnut Street, Suite #450, Philadelphia, PA 19102, 1-800-9FOLUSA, or visit the FOLUSA web site at <http://www.folusa.com>

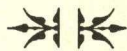
FOLUSA Fact Sheet #15 — Moving to Center Stage in the Community

- ✓ Friends of Libraries groups have to become visible players in the life of the community to have equal footing with other, perhaps, more socially involved nonprofits.
- ✓ Inventory the notable organizations and associations in the community. Identify those that do and do not have a library voice among their leadership. Make it your goal to place a voice on those boards where it is lacking.
- ✓ The library director, or a member of the Friends or Trustees, should participate in the Rotary Club; the Chamber of Commerce should be aware of the necessity of a good library system to the business economy.
- ✓ City or village-wide celebrations should list the library as one of their sponsors. Whether it is a display at the library or a booth or float at the event, the library — through its friends — should participate.
- ✓ The Friends should set up a correspondence committee to write guest editorials for local publications about the library, or a periodic column in local newspapers. Letters to the editor are another opportunity to gain attention.
- ✓ Nurture media contacts to receive notices ahead of time when there is a special Friends' program. Don't abuse this, as TV time and editorial space is limited.
- ✓ Local elected government officials should be on the Friends' regular mailing list even if they're not members. They should receive invitations to library events, followed up with phone calls when there's a good photo opportunity. They should also be invited for occasional private briefings on library issues.
- ✓ Ask for liaisons to other institutions or clubs or invite a representative from them to brief your board about events or issues of mutual interest. Plus, serve on community boards as a representative of the library.
- ✓ Coproduce, when possible. If there is some event or display in the community that could be further illuminated by a library program, don't be afraid of capitalizing on the interest generated.
- ✓ Take advantage of any opportunity or venue to bring up the library. The Friends should provide a Speaker's Bureau, with information from the library.
- ✓ Join Friends of Libraries USA and learn about other groups!

This year, as in past years, the Friends of the Hardy County PL sponsored a fund raising event consisting of raffling off two season passes to the West Virginia University football games. A total of \$7,068.78 was raised to enable continued library automation projects.



It's not often you get your hands on a half million dollars, but that's what happened to Friends of the Morgan County Library in September when U.S. Representative Bob Wise, D-WV, presented the group with a \$500,000 check for the completion of an addition and renovations to the Johnson House to replace the present library building.



The Program Committee of the Friends of Follansbee Library recently agreed to undertake several projects, one being a literacy campaign offered to citizens of Brooke County and the Follansbee area.

The Friends of Hampshire County PL have held an Antique and Collectibles Show and Sale in September for eleven years.

Goals of the Friends of Brooke County PL are to create a community environment to foster economic growth, provide support to existing small businesses, encourage entrepreneurs to open businesses in the area, facilitate workshop/training sessions for small business owners, and collaborate with city governments in establishing future plans for economic growth.

Friends

Friends Are Important

*Eve Rafferty,
Friends of the Terra Alta Library*

"Friends are important" is an old saw. So is "friends know everything about you and still like you."

Well, the Friends of the Terra Alta Library, also known as FOTTAL, may not know everything about the local library, but they love the place and know its needs: money, materials, computer access, and meeting rooms.

FOTTAL was founded in 1996, encouraged by the Board of Trustees of the library. Bylaws and mission statement were prepared with the help of ideas and samples provided by the Friends of the Library group in Garrett County, MD. Organizational meetings were held, officers elected, and members (donors) recruited.

FOTTAL strives to promote the public library and raise awareness of the wealth of low and high tech materials that are free for the asking. We try to fill information gaps by raising funds to be spent at the discretion of Ima Thomas, librarian.

For example, the recent purchase of the updates to the *West Virginia Code*, an expensive subscription, was made possible by a Friends fund-raiser. We raffled off two expensive donated tickets to a Pittsburgh Steeler's exhibition game, sold 1000 raffle tickets, and presented \$1000 to the library. (Remember to apply for an exempt raffle license from the WV Department of Tax and Revenue when running a game of chance.)

Being a Friend is not about fuzzy, warm feelings. It is about creativity coupled with hard work. It is about networking and volunteerism that is alive and well, even in a remote corner of West Virginia.



Supporting Our Friends

*Judy Williams, Chair,
Friends Division*

The WVLA Annual Conference included a Friends Workshop designed to discover the needs of current and nascent Friends groups across the state. More than forty people provided animated responses to the three speakers who graciously shared their insights into the problems and joys of library support groups. Within a brief two hours they covered a wide range of topics including nonprofit status, creative fund-raising techniques, the power of a positive attitude, and the hurdles new Friends groups can encounter.

We came away from that meeting convinced that library Friends groups are a vital, viable concept in West Virginia. We also determined that both established groups and developing groups need more information. A committee was formed to meet that need. Over the next year, the WVLA Friends Division will revise and update the *Friends Handbook*.

We need input from everyone. Does your library have a Friends group? If not, does your library want a Friends group? Those of you who have not already contacted me regarding the successes and problems of your group, please do it now. We want to create the best handbook possible. A handbook that is pertinent to the needs of every group, large and small. Call, write, or e-mail me at: 1004 S. Kerens Avenue, Elkins, WV 26241. Phone: (304)-636-3458, or Fax: (304)-637-3808. I can also be reached by e-mail at wkj@newmedia.net.

A very special "thank you" to Jim Casto, Richard Ressemeyer, and J.D. Waggoner for their help in launching this project.

Summers Co Friends Accept Challenge

*Myra Ziegler, Director,
Summers County PL*

Last Spring, the Thomas Walker Foundation in Beckley issued a challenge to the Hinton Area Foundation. If the Hinton Area Foundation would raise \$50,000 for the Summers County Library's endowment fund (which is administered by the HAF) between July 1, 1997 and January 31, 1998, the Walker Foundation would donate \$25,000 to the fund. The Hinton Area Foundation accepted the challenge and turned to the Friends of the Summers County Public Library to lead the effort.

The Friends, led by President Barbara Pammer, organized and solicited the help of clubs, organization, and citizens all over Summers County. A gratifying number of people flew into action! The Legal Secretaries held a yard sale (\$1000); the Elks, a golf tournament (\$1000); the Women's Club, a silent auction (\$400); Senator Anderson, a benefit dinner (\$750). The list goes on and on. Of course, the Friends themselves held a fund-raiser at least every two weeks and conducted a letter writing solicitation campaign.

As of October 15, 1997, the campaign's halfway mark, the endowment had grown by \$25,000 — half the dollars needed.

Despite what initially seemed the impossible dream of raising \$50,000 in six months, I am optimistic that the goal will be reached. My Friends are an intrepid and tireless group.

Friends of the Princeton Public Library have conducted a "Buy a Brick" fund raiser. The bricks will be a part of a brick-paved sidewalk in front of the main library.

Library Appreciation Day — Why?

Peggy Bias, Chair, Legislative Dinner Committee

Why are we still having the Library Appreciation Day dinner?

Is it an effective way to show support for libraries?

Has it made any difference in library funding?

Those are difficult questions to answer since we really don't have a basis for comparison. I have searched my mind, questioned others about alternative methods of communicating with the Legislature, and have concluded that nothing else will work as well. An unscientific survey of local legislators indicates that, from their points of view, the Library Appreciation Day Dinner is the "biggest" event of the session and it is an event that legislators "feel good about attending."

The survey also indicates that WVLA does a great job of bringing people together but often fails to deliver the message. So, how can we do a better job of communicating the importance of West Virginia's libraries? We can do it through the program and through personal interaction with the Legislators.

The WVLA Legislative Dinner Committee is constantly fine-tuning the event in response to concerns expressed by members. You said the program was too long; now it is shorter. If your library's table was in the back one year, it is near the front the next year. You suggested that the speaker should relate to libraries or to West Virginia; that is going to happen. The organization is making every effort (and there is a lot of effort — just ask former Chairs, Beth Nicholson and Susan Riley — to make the dinner a success. The most important part is up to you!

The dinner is one of the two or three times a year that the state's librarians get together and we have lots of things to talk about. We love to talk to each other. After all, no one else understands our problems. But that's it. We understand the problems. We need to explain them to the Legislators. But before you pull out those stories of patrons doing obscene things right there in the 300s, STOP! That is not what I mean. We must communicate to the Legislators that we are professional people who are interested in working to benefit our communities. Since Legislators have expended a certain amount of time, effort, and most likely their own money, running for public office, you can assume that they, too, are interested in benefiting the community.

Members of the Legislature are our guests for the evening. It is our job to make them feel welcome. Every Legislator should receive a personal invitation by phone call or note from his or her local library. WVLA sends invitations, but these need to be backed up with the personal touch. This call or note could be a reminder that you will be looking for your representatives at the dinner.

Do look for them at the dinner. If you don't know what your legislators look like, find a picture, then station yourself or someone from your library staff or library board near the door to greet the Legislators and steer them to your table. No Legislator should have to wander around looking for the right table.

Discuss the WVLA legislative agenda with your Legislators, particularly the issues that are most meaningful to you. They will be impressed that you know the issues and will enjoy discussing legislative matters. Ask them questions; ask their opinions. You might learn something that will help you get what you need for the library. Remember, if you don't tell them what you need, they will assume you need nothing.

This is your chance to build a relationship with your Legislator. The dinner is a great place for this to happen. All you have to do is: 1) contact your legislators before the dinner; 2) find them when they arrive at the reception; 3) talk to them about the issues.

It's simple.

It's good manners.

It's effective.

Libraries will benefit.

**For information on the
WVLA Library Appreciation Day Dinner
February 10, 1998,
check the WVLA web site at:
<http://wvnmms.wvnet.edu/~wvla>**

Price Reports on First 90 Days, Future Plans at Commission

David Price, Executive Secretary, Library Commission

My first 90 days as Executive Secretary of the West Virginia Library Commission have been busy. I intend to keep the West Virginia library community informed about both my activities and my plans. This is the first in a series of reports that will inform you of the developments at the Library Commission.

I have had three meetings with the entire Commission staff to discuss internal issues and concerns. These all-staff meetings have resulted in a statement of organizational values. The next steps include the development of a mission statement and the continuation of efforts to strengthen the staff's connections with the state library community.

The Directions 2000 Committee, appointed by the Library Commissioners, has completed the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a consultant to study library services as they are presently delivered to the citizens of the state and the role of the Library Commission in delivering these services. Regular updates on the progress of the study will be provided, as will ample opportunities for comment. I encourage you to discuss your thoughts with me as we go through this process.

We are working with the Summers County Library to develop a model local service plan which will aid the Library Commission in determining local library needs in the future.

Distributing dollar resources is a tremendous challenge for us all. Current local and state dollars are not adequate to operate and provide acceptable levels of library service. The Commission is reviewing the present state of library finances in West Virginia, seeking ways to use available funds more effectively for everyone. The recent ProQuest database acquisition is an excellent example of using money effectively. For a \$60,000 statewide subscription, we were able to provide the equivalent of \$6 million in

periodical subscriptions to West Virginia's public libraries. We will continue to search for other ways to use money so that every public library benefits.

Increasing the number of hours libraries are open, offering more community-based programs for children and adults, and improving local collections should be the natural outcome of the Library Commission's work. The ongoing maintenance and development of the technology network in all public libraries will guarantee the delivery of information and Internet services to every citizen. I have already met with the Regional Service Center library directors and academic library directors to discuss the issues of access, programming, and technology.

I have begun visiting public libraries in the state. I have visited in Raleigh, Summers, Upshur, Cabell, and Kanawha counties. I've also been to Clarksburg, Bridgeport, Thomas, Parsons, and Terra Alta. While meeting with the academic library directors at Salem-Teikyo University, I was able to tour that library. These visits and meetings have given me a more complete understanding of your concerns. Please be assured that the staff and I will work hard to listen to you, and we will work toward improving library services throughout West Virginia.

I plan to develop a facility needs assessment which will evaluate the current state of public library facilities. This assessment is desperately needed to meet long-term planning needs for public libraries and to assure that the technology network is properly housed and operating in the future. At this time, discussions are very general. I very much welcome your thoughts as I visit your facilities.

At the Commission's own library, steps have been taken to open the collections further to support you and the public. Approximately 1000 video titles have been placed on the open shelves in the Reference Reading Room for public viewing and checkout. Four TV/VCR units for video previewing or on-site viewing are also now available in the Reading Room.

I just returned from my first meeting of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) where, due to experience in

legislative matters, I was asked to serve on the COSLA Legislative Committee. This appointment will insure that West Virginia has a voice in dealing with national legislative matters that affect libraries.

I have also met with the WVLA Legislative Committee and have had the opportunity to meet several West Virginia state legislators. Each has been cordial and supportive as we have talked, and this has been greatly appreciated. I look forward to further meetings and discussions with the legislators about library services in West Virginia.

I hope this report helps you see the work plan that is developing. There is much to do, but I believe the challenges presented will result in even greater library service for West Virginia. Your support and work locally will set the foundation for improving essential library services in every community. The cooperation of librarians, library staff, Friends, and trustees is the vital element needed to meet those challenges. I assure you that you will find support for your local efforts at the West Virginia Library Commission.

Again, I encourage you to let me know your interests and concerns. I hope to see you very soon!

Censorship in Jackson Co

Students, teachers, parents, and librarians united to protest Jackson County Schools Superintendent Carroll Staats' order in early November that Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize winning novel, *The Color Purple* and 16 other titles including novels by Tom Clancy and John Grisham be removed from the shelves of Jackson County school libraries. The order was issued in response to the complaint of one parent.

According to a report in the Charleston Gazette, none of the titles were required reading for students.

The action bypassed the county's procedures for responding to complaints about books. Following a crowded board meeting, the Board voted 3-2 to keep them out of circulation until reviewed.

News and Notes....

KCPL Webpage Displays Business Resources. [From: *At the Library*, Oct/Nov, 1997] The Kanawha County Public Library system's web page has a new addition called "The Roadmap to Business Success." The Roadmap is an on-line small business guide combining the best of the library's collections with resources from the community and the Internet. It will be an evolving document, growing with the interests of the Kanawha Valley business community. Elizabeth Fraser, the KCPL reference librarian who developed and maintains the Roadmap, explains that it is based on business patrons' most commonly asked questions. Concepts build from the initial steps of planning and organizing through day-to-day issues faced by established business needs. KCPL's web address is <http://kanawha.lib.wv.us>.

Free Libraries Online Booklet. The Libraries Online project was a pilot project (1995-1997) funded by the Microsoft Corporation and administered by the Public Library Association. Technology support was provided by the Technology Resource Institute.

Part of the mission of the pilot project was to disseminate "best practices" learned by library participants. Former project manager Molly Callender interviewed librarians involved in the project. She authored a booklet geared to people interested in learning the challenges involved in setting up multimedia PC technology and Internet access in a public library.

Copies of the booklet (free of charge) may be obtained by contacting Grace Lee at glee@ala.com, or 1-800-545-2433 x5021.

The Public Library Division web page will include the dates of upcoming programs and a link to a directory of members. If you do not want your name to be included in the on line directory, or have suggestions for additional information on the page, contact Pam Coyle, South Charleston PL (SEE p.3 for contact information),

Upcoming DuPage Teleconferences. The following continuing education teleconferences from the College of DuPage,

provided through the Library Commission's statewide license, will be aired in January, February, and March. All the teleconferences begin at noon on the broadcast date. Tapes of the teleconferences can be obtained from Multimedia Services at the Library Commission.

January 16 - "*The Internet: Sites for Your Workday, Sites for You.*" This is a two-part program that features practical hands-on advice and places to visit on the Internet and then gives Internet sites to help library workers on the job.

February 6 - "*Developing Leadership for Change.*" This session of "Dancing with Change" focuses on the impact of the globalization of information products and services on libraries, specifically on how these products are marketed and sold.

March 27 - "*It Takes a Vision.*" The first part of this program explores the concept of vision and uncovers the core professional and personal aspects of vision. The second part involves Edward Martinez and a panel of experts discussing the educational opportunities that help implement visions.

Internet Sites. Pulitzer Prizes awarded since the beginning of the program in 1917 are listed at <http://www.pulitzer.org>. The site, offered by the *Columbia Journalism Review*, is fully searchable by year, name of prize category, winner, newspaper, book, play, composition, or words of an award description. All prizes given in any one year can be found by a single click on the site's special time line feature.

HomePath at <http://www.HomePath.com> is sponsored by Fannie Mae, the home lending agency. It provides information to consumers interested in purchasing or refinancing a home. The site includes calculators to help determine how much an individual may be able to afford, a glossary of mortgage terms, information about mortgage products, and hyperlinks to lenders.

Online bookseller sites reviewed in the November 18, 1997 issue of *PC Magazine* were Amazon (<http://www.amazon.com>), Barnes and Noble (<http://www.barnesandnoble.com>), and at the Bargain Book Warehouse (<http://www.bargainbookwarehouse.com>).

Spring Fling '98

Spring Fling is scheduled for April 2-3 at Flatwoods. An effort will be made to schedule programs for adult services on Thursday, April 2, and those for children and youth services on Friday, April 3.

Send requests and suggestions for programs to:

Adult Services: Pam Coyle, South Charleston PL, 312 4th Avenue, South Charleston, WV 25303. (304)-744-6561; coylepam@wvlc.wvnet.edu.

Children/Youth: Karen Bremer, South Charleston Public Library. karen@scpl.wvnet.edu

Round Table Interests: Yvonne Farley, Kanawha County PL, 123 Capitol Street, Charleston, WV 25301. Phone: (304)-343-4646; or e-mail to farley/kcpl_11@kanawha.lib.wv.us.

Other WVLA divisions are encouraged to participate in Spring Fling by coordinating program planning with the people listed above.

PL Division Mission Statement

*Pam Coyle, Chair,
Public Libraries Division*

The Public Library division is without a mission or a vision statement. If ever one existed, it is now lost in a cardboard box, somewhere in WV. The following statement is proposed as part of the Division's section of the WVLA home page. Please send your comments to me by January 30, 1998. (SEE Directory on page 3 for contact information.)

The mission of the Public Library Division of WVLA is to promote quality library service in all public libraries by establishing standards of service, advocating adequate and consistent library funding, offering continuing education opportunities to all WVLA members, and providing a network of colleagues for advice and encouragement.

**Sure, you
could keep
feeding money
to your big,
expensive,
outdated
automation
system . . .**



The PC-based SIRS Mandarin system costs only a fraction of what it takes to purchase and maintain mini-computer library automation systems. Why not call one of our Mandarin specialists for information on how to put your library automation budget on a diet.

SIRS, Inc.
P.O. Box 2348
Boca Raton, FL 33427-2348
561-994-0079 • Fax: 561-994-4704
Internet: www.sirs.com

SIRS Canada
9630 Route Trans Canadienne
Montréal, Québec H4S 1V9
514-333-9040 • Fax: 514-336-8217
Internet: www.sirs.com


SIRS MANDARIN™
The Symbol of Automation Mastery

1-800-232-SIRS

SIRS®
Since 1973

Calendar

JANUARY

- 14 WV Legislature convenes
- 16 Soaring to Excellence Teleconference. "The Internet: Sites for Your Workday, Sites for You." Noon
- 19 Library Commission Meeting, Charleston, 10 A.M.

FEBRUARY

Black History Month

- 6 Dancing With Change Teleconference: "Developing Leadership for Change." Noon
- 10 WVLA LIBRARY APPRECIATION DINNER, Charleston

MARCH

Women's History Month

- 10-14 PLA National Conference, Kansas City, MO
- 14 WV Legislative Session ends.
- 27 Soaring to Excellence Teleconference: "It Takes a Vision." Noon

APRIL

- 2-3 WVLA Spring Fling, Flatwoods
- 13-19 National Library Week
- 16 Log-on@the Library Day

WVLA

In 1998, each issue will focus on a topic of current interest to all librarians

WVLA Membership Information

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

Rebecca Van Der Meer
University of Charleston
Andrew S. Thomas Memorial Library
2300 MacCorkle Avenue, S.E.
Charleston, WV 25304-1099
Phone: (304)-357-4779
E-mail: vandermr@wvlc.wvnet.edu

WV Libraries A Note from the Editors

WV 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:

Jan 15 for February issue
March 15 for April issue
May 15 for June issue
July 15 for August issue
September 15 for October issue
November 15 for December issue



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

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Non-Profit Organization
Charleston, WV
Permit No. 998

*****ALL FOR ADC 250
HELEN S. JENKINS PKG 14
4608 PIEDMONT SACK 5
HUNTINGTON WV 25704-0000