

6-1998

West Virginia Libraries 1998 Vol.51 No.3

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 1998 Vol.51 No.3" (1998). *West Virginia Libraries Newsletter*. Paper 236.
<http://mds.marshall.edu/wvlib/236>

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.

June '98

LIBRARIES

Vol. 51 No. 3

June 1998

Collection Development – What’s Going On?

[The Editors thank Dr. Curran for agreeing to contribute this article to *West Virginia Libraries*]

JAMES E. MORROW LIBRARY

Dr. Charles C. Curran
College of Library and Information Science
University of South Carolina

A galloping New Ignorance holds that since information is so abundant in our wired society, libraries are obsolete. New Ignorance is a virulent strain of the ignorance virus that engenders a false sense of discovery based upon the availability of CD-ROM encyclopedias and copious clumps of imprecise data. New Ignorance infects people of influence who do great damage with their declarations about obsolescence.

Electronic information explodes into homes, businesses, and libraries, presenting massive amounts of data that challenge the sorting skills of the untrained. On the Internet, empirical findings of respected research institutes about Madame Mystico’s arthritis remedies in a virtual reality of unclassified, uninterpreted, unevaluated stuff. The Internet is an information flea market one enters, often unaware of the risk.

Libraries that boycott the electronic information rummage sale invite charges of obsolescence. Those that participate acquire overwhelming assortments of unsorted data along with the jewels of thought and truth available in cyberspace.

What Will Library Collections Look Like?

There will continue to be libraries and library collections but, with the Internet, “selection” moves substantially from the library to the inquirer. Some of what comes in to a wired library no longer filters through collection development policy and librarian-governed selection criteria. Instead, it passes from cyberspace to the inquirer. The patron is the selector! Sometimes, the inquirer receives an unsolicited porn goodie right in the middle of his requested information about pachyderms!

So how does a collection manager direct the growth of print, nonprint, and electronic collections in an era of ever-increasing client expectations and shrinking resources?

That is the current issue in collection development! A good way to lose visibility is to bet on the demise of the book or to ignore videos as legitimate sources of information and entertainment. A good way to lose credibility as an information provider is to refuse to play in the electronic sandbox. An excellent way to drift into obsolescence is to ignore the current mandate to provide information and to prescribe its use through user friendly information literate intervention.

Collections must mirror community interests, but what they look like will depend on how well librarians gauge what people want from them. Electronic access may replace ownership of some physical volumes, yet in the case of popular fiction and nonfiction, there is no substitute for giving people what they want when they want it. The informed judgment of librarians must guide decisions in this area.

Other Issues and Questions

Some other questions relate to funding and to censorship. Ever-increasing user expectation is another galloping challenge, as is the issue of user education.

Obtaining funds to purchase access to the world of information is a major responsibility for librarians. So far, in censoring the “bad parts” of the Internet, we find ourselves censoring the good parts too. And we do not get to say what is offensive. Legions of willing watchdogs provide this service free of charge but not free of repercussion.

Continued on page 4

President's Column

Judy Duncan

I was privileged to attend the Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C., on May 5th along with Judy Rule, Peggy Bias, Betty Gunnoe, Ann Henriksson, Joseph Barnes, and David Price. Thanks to the efforts of Betty Gunnoe, our First Vice President and Federal Relations Coordinator, the day passed smoothly and efficiently. She had arrived early and picked up packets of information which she dutifully handed out. She had also made appointments so that we visited our Congressional delegates on the House side first—in the morning—and the Senate side in the afternoon.

We met face-to-face with Congressman Wise, Senator Rockefeller, and staff from the offices of Congressmen Rahall, Mollahan, and Senator Byrd. I was impressed with their awareness of our issues and also with the questions that they asked us. The main issues discussed included: (1) funding of the LSTA; (2) funding of the existing ESEA Title VI above the current level; (3) passing of the children's literacy initiative before July 1; (4) passing of H.R. 3048, the **Digital Era Copyright Enhancement Act** and S. 1146, the **Digital Copyright Clarification and Technology Education Act** that would fully protect fair use by updating copyright laws for cyberspace; (5) protecting the E-rate by not cutting funding for these discounts, keeping all eligible and necessary services in place, and keeping the universal service moving forward; (6) not imposing a single solution for filtering of school Internet as an eligibility requirement for telecommunications discounts under the **Telecommunications Act** but, rather, permitting the local Internet use policies to handle any problems; (7) working with librarians to strengthen and fund the **Federal Depository Library Program**; (8) protecting the library postal rate; (9) adopting an alternative library rate increase in pending rate case; (10) supporting a revised H.R. 22 postal reform bill with recommendations from nonprofit mailers; and last, but by no means, least, (11) making accessible to the public, via the Internet, all information available through the Congressional Research Service that is not confidential. (Now I know that reading all that was probably boring but to be informed and conversant about the issues that affect each of us in libraries today, you need to know this information and be aware of the possible ramifications. So please read them, and if you need clarification contact Betty Gunnoe.) The sessions were interesting and it was great to be "up close and personal"—so to speak.

Senator Rockefeller was concerned that there was only one male in our group (Mr. Price had had to leave at noon to catch a plane) with five women and that the library profession needed to look into this bias. Interestingly, the next week I ran across this in one of my listservs from *Cassell's Household Guide*, Cassell, London, n.d. (but from the typography and binding probably ca. 1890–1920). The section is entitled "Occupations Accessible to Women": "...it is the opening of the situation of librarian to educated gentlewomen, either in public libraries or in private families of rank or wealth. From the reports of the recent Conference of Librarians we learn that the Americans have already set us an example here, and in the public library of Boston, U.S., seventy ladies are employed, a few men only being kept to life the heaviest books on the high shelves. The ladies appear to have given the utmost satisfaction in the position, to which they appear thoroughly suited. The work is such that a lady of good attainments and education could undertake and enjoy. It requires no great physical exertion, no exposure to the weather, and no hardship which the most delicate would shrink from. The salaries in this profession are so limited that they are not sufficient for the support of married men with families, nor are they objects of ambition to the single man with any fairer chances in life; but they would nevertheless form a 'good provision' for a single woman, who, upon even this small pittance, might manage, with economy, to keep herself in comfort and as a gentlewoman." (Please note that there are no editorial comments from me on this article.)

I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks to each of you for the job that was done statewide by our library community in working with our West Virginia Legislature. Your efforts helped achieve the financial opportunity that is now before us. I thank the legislative Committee of WVLA, and the Library Commission for their hard work. Governor Underwood and his interest in technology and libraries gave us the edge we needed and I thank him. Senator Rockefeller is to be commended for leading the fight for the telecommunications discounts for libraries and schools. I thank the Gates Foundation for their substantial grant to West Virginia libraries. Now I ask for wisdom that we make the best use of this opportunity.

So, 'til next time, remember what Mark Twain said, "A classic is something that everybody wants to have read and nobody wants to read."

The West Virginia Library Association
extends its sympathy to Judy Duncan on the
death May 26, 1998, of her sister, Betty
Petrillo, of Oak Hill.

WVLA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Thirteen members of the WVLA Executive Board and four committee chairs attended an Executive Board meeting at Wells Inn, Sistersville, WV on March 27, 1998.

The following motions were approved:

- ◆ Minutes of the previous meeting.
- ◆ Payments of checks 5577-5646.
- ◆ Payment of honorarium to the editors of *West Virginia Libraries*.
- ◆ Committee appointments submitted by the President with the amendment to place David Price on the Legislative Committee for 1998 instead of David Childers and to move Linda Lindsey to 1999.
- ◆ A charge to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to investigate the possibility of adding the Executive Director of the West Virginia Library Commission as a voting member of the Legislative Committee.
- ◆ Award of \$400 scholarship to MLS candidate.
- ◆ Suggestion to replace the Library Appreciation Day Dinner with a reception and Library Day at the Legislature activities.
- ◆ Permission for Site Selection Committee to contract for the 1999 and 2000 conferences.
- ◆ 1998 WVLA budget.
- ◆ Creation of an ad hoc committee to establish guidelines for the Frederic J. Glazer Award.
- ◆ Referral to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee a suggestion for additional division choices on the membership form.
- ◆ Sending a letter of support for the SCRL 2003 and 2005 conference to be held in Cincinnati, OH.

Board members heard reports from the Division Chairs concerning Spring Fling and Annual Conference plans. Special Libraries Chair Chuck Julian reported on the progress of an on-line special libraries directory and the lack of progress in locating the Division bylaws. Betty Gunnoe encouraged participation in ALA Legislative Day activities.

Library Commission Executive Director David Price discussed the \$1.2 million supplementary appropriation granted by the Legislature for upgrading the statewide library technology network. He explained that these funds must be used by June 30, 1998, which does not leave much time for the planning process, and expressed his appreciation to WVLA for its legislative support. He also discussed the Gates Foundation grant and realignment of Library Commission departments.

Yvonne Farley reported on the revitalization of the Intellectual Freedom Committee. One of her goals as Chair is the writing of a procedure policy for dealing with challenged materials.

Marketing Committee Chair Rebecca Van Der Meer debuted the WVLA cookbook.

Chuck Julian discussed plans to recognize past presidents of WVLA.

The next meeting of the Executive Board was scheduled for June 12 at Pence Springs.

A full copy of the minutes is available on the WVLA home page at: <http://wvnmvs.wvnet.edu/~wvla>, or may be obtained from Linda Lindsey, Richwood Public Library, 8 White Avenue, Richwood, WV 26261.



LIBRARIES

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

WVLA Committees 1998-99

Continued from page 1

Auditing Committee

Kelly Funkhouser (Chair), Morgantown Public Library
 Susan Eichelberger, WV Library Commission
 Ruth Ann Powell, Fairmont State College
 Robert Gay, Trustee, Elkins-Randolph Public Library

Constitution & Bylaws

Josephine Fidler (Chair), Marshall University Library
 Phyllis Freedman, Benedum Library, Salem-Teikyo Univ.
 JoEllen Flagg, University of Charleston

Continuing Education/Scholarship

1999-One year term

J.D. Waggoner (Chair), WV Library Commission
 Ann Lorentz, Parkersburg/Wood County Public Library
 Pamela Ford, Marshall University Library
 Susie McGinley, Mason County Library

2000-Two year term

Nancy Moore, Bluefield Public Library
 Mike Hickman, Parkersburg-Wood County Library
 Charley Hiveley, Clarksburg-Harrison County PL
 Ingrid Smith, University of Charleston

Elections

Tellers:

Cheryl Harshman, West Liberty
 Dottie Thomas, Ohio County Library
 Susan Riley, City-County Public Library

Ballots:

Pam Coyle, South Charleston Public Library
 Linda Hedding, South Charleston Public Library
 Karen Goff, WV Library Commission

Finance

David Childers (Chair), WV Library Commission
 Betty Gunnoe, Martinsburg-Berkeley County PL
 Judy Duncan, St. Albans Branch, Kanawha County PL

Handbook

Steve Christo, Cabell County Public Library

Intellectual Freedom

1999

Yvonne Farley (Chair), Kanawha County Public Library
 Peggy Turnbull, Bluefield State College Library
 Margaret Scites, Ravenswood High School Library

2000

Ed Rauh, Jackson County Library
 Judy Hudnall Lightner, Capitol High School Library
 Gibbs Kinderman, Trustee, Pocahontas County Library

2001

Richard Ressimyer, Friend, Kanawha County PL
 Charles Madden, Trusee, Sistersville Public Library
 Chris Hatten, Huntington Museum of Art

continued next column...

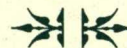
If you are not wired, you should be. And not just partially. Totally. And if you are wired, you should have speedy access to everything. Everything that arrives electronically is gospel. How come you have only three terminals? And how come my Johnny saw a naked lady on your computer?

Many librarians have encountered these questions from demanding, influential clients—people who know just enough to make them very dangerous.

The questions probe at the very foundations of institutional purposes. Librarians from the scolding-parent school of thought must be excused from our assembly. Our function can no longer be merely to acquire, store, and disseminate. We have to get in there and demonstrate our precious sorting skills. We have to convince knowledge seekers that we have the ability and willingness to help them manage the choices that threaten to inundate them unless some user-friendly librarians help distinguish between the National Library of Medicine and Madame Mystico.

Collection developers must find and use sensitive needs assessment instruments so they can match acquisitions with client interest. Managing relationships between CD-ROM, on-line, and print access tools continues to create problems and influence decisions. Preservation of print and digital information vies with access as the single most important after-acquisitions issue.

Let's have a meeting!



Legislative

Class of 1998

Peggy Bias (Chair), Putnam County Library
 Betty Gunnoe, Martinsburg-Berkeley County PL
 Ann Henriksson, Shepherd College Library
 J.D. Waggoner, WV Library Commission
 Linda Lindsey, Richwood Public Library

Class of 1999

JoAnn Calzonetti, WVU, Evansdale Campus Library
 David Childers, WV Library Commission
 Judy Rule, Cabell County Public Library

Class of 2000

Joseph Barnes, Shepherd College Library
 Fred Ranson, Kanawha County Public Library
 Beth Nicolson, Upshur County Library
 R.N. Sharma, West Virginia State College Library

Marketing

Rebecca Van Der Meer, University of Charleston Library
 Julie Speigler, Kanawha County Public Library
 Judy Duncan, St. Albans Branch, Kanawha County PL

INFO BITES...

Focus Groups Meet

Himmel & Wilson Library Consultants of Madison, WI, held focus group meetings at 18 different sites around the state May 1–June 12. The consulting group was hired by the Library Commission to examine the current level of public library services available to the citizens of West Virginia and the roles that the Commission and individual libraries need to play in providing for the future information services of West Virginians. The study, entitled *Directions 2000*, will be the most in-depth look at West Virginia's libraries since the Blasingame report in the 1960s.

The consultant team includes principal consultant Bill Wilson and associate consultants Ethel Himmel, Richard Waters, Beverly James, and Bernard Vavrek, all of whom have extensive experience with library development. They are familiar with both urban and rural library needs, understand the political environment in which libraries and state library agencies operate, and are well acquainted with federal programs that impact library service. They also recognize the opportunities and challenges presented by the new library technologies.

A draft report of the *Directions 2000* study will be available electronically for comment by the library community this summer. Plans are for the final report to be presented at the WVLA annual conference at the Greenbrier in December.

Official Answers to Sales Tax Questions.

According to the WV Department of Tax and Revenue:

After the thirtieth day of June, 1997, West Virginia exempts sales of services by public libraries (W.Va Code 11-9-37). Charges for fax services and the sales of books that are discarded from the library collection would be included in this exemption. However, any charge the library makes for video rentals would be subject to Consumer Sales and Services Tax.

West Virginia provides exemption for sales of services by public libraries or by libraries at academic institutions or by libraries at institutions of higher learning. Service which may qualify for this exemption include photocopying service, computer research service, services made available through the library's computer system, and access to the Internet. This exemption would not include store items that have been purchased for resale.

Call for Nominations

The Nominating Committee is calling for nominees for the following WVLA offices:

First Vice President/President-elect

Second Vice President

Send nominations by July 15, 1998, to: Myra Ziegler, Summers County Public Library, 201 Temple Street, Hinton, WV 25951.

Academic Division Schedules Workshop

Attention all Academic Division members and other interested parties! The College and University Division of the West Virginia Library Association will have a meeting Friday, August 13, 1998, in the Marshall University Graduate College Library in South Charleston. The meeting will begin at 9 A.M. and run to about 3:30 P.M. with an hour and a half for lunch. Topics on the agenda so far are: "Dispelling the World Wide Web Copyright Myth," "Review of Fair Use Guidelines for Education Multimedia," and Communicating: What We Say and What They Hear." Anyone with topic ideas please contact Kathleen Bjedsoe at Bledsoek@Marshall.edu, or (304) 696-3174. Mailings should go out in late June.

Government Documents Roundtable Meets.

The Government Documents Roundtable met on Tuesday, April 28, at Wheeling Jesuit University. Led by Chair Majed Khader from Marshall University, the members heard a report from Ann Henricksson, Christine Chang, and Khader about the Federal Depository Conference/Spring Depository Library Council meeting. Major points included a description of "Ask LPS" on their home page, notice that all depository selections will be on-line this year, and upcoming depository self-studies. The group is planning programming for the Annual Conference that may include a speaker from the State Data Center and distribution of tip sheets on specific government information topics. For further information, contact incoming Chair, Jocelyn Sheppard at the National Technology Transfer Center, Wheeling Jesuit University.

Awards Committee Seeks Nominations

The Resolutions and Awards Committee invites WVLA members to nominate outstanding individuals for the following awards presented at the Annual Conference:

Certificate of Merit. For exceptional service to libraries and librarianship in West Virginia.

Dora Ruth Parks Award. For long and outstanding service to libraries and librarianship in West Virginia.

Literary Award. For an outstanding publication by a West Virginian, about West Virginia, or significant contribution to Appalachian literature.

Address questions and nominations to Linda Lindsey, Richwood Public Library.

Humanities Exhibits Available

Traveling exhibits on various humanities topics are available to schools, community groups, and any nonprofit organization. The staff of Putnam County's Museum in the Community manages the exhibits for the West Virginia Humanities Council

Among the topics presented by the exhibits are the American civil rights movement, William Wordsworth and English Romantic poetry, Columbus' discoveries, the Marshall Plan, African-American Women, Jewish immigration, and West Virginia photographs.

For a full list of offerings or to schedule an exhibit, contact the Museum in the community at 304-562-0484.

Elements of the Collection Development Policy

[Source: Collection Development Training site sponsored by the Arizona Department of Library, Archives and Public Records at <http://www.diapr.lib.az.us/cdt/index.htm>. This site is intended primarily for librarians and other library staff working in Arizona's small and rural public libraries.]

A collection development policy is comprised of several elements, although the specific elements included in a policy may vary from library to library. This section discusses the basic policy components.

Community Profile

Many policies start with a brief descriptive community profile or background that identifies general characteristics about the community the library serves, the library service area, and/or the library's general goals or mission. It can be as short as a couple of sentences or more in-depth.

Community Needs Assessment

Following the community profile statement is often a needs assessment of the community. This gives a more detailed understanding of your community, focusing on descriptions of the services offered by your library and how they relate to the needs of your community.

Collection Goals

Collection goals represent what the library's priorities are for various aspects of the collection. Many policies address the library's collection goals by collection category, for example, Adult Fiction, Adult Nonfiction, Children's Books, Reference Materials, Periodicals, Nonbook Materials, Large Print, Paperbacks, and Vertical File.

Acquisitions

The Policy should describe your typical acquisitions procedures and should include a statement covering how you handle gifts. Not many libraries include statements about how they acquire materials in their policies, except to cover donations. For example: "Gifts of books and other materials are accepted with the understanding that the library may make whatever use of the material it feels appropriate. The same criteria is used for gifts as for collection development."

Collection Evaluation and Assessment

Your library's collection evaluation and assessment techniques are discussed in this section, indicating the formulas or other methods used. The collection's strengths and weaknesses also need to be presented.

Weeding

It is a good idea to include your weeding guidelines and criteria in the collection development policy. This protects your library from some of the questions that the community may have as you discard or remove books from the shelves.

Reconsideration of Library Materials

Collection development policies often include a section outlining how library staff should handle patron requests for reconsidering library materials (often called "challenges"). Being prepared is critical and having a clearly written policy before facing a challenge ensures that the situation will be handled properly. Many libraries also include a statement saying that they endorse the American Library Association's Bill of Rights principles.

Policy Review and Revision

When the policy is finished, you need to get it approved by your local officials. Their rubber stamp gives you the right to maintain the standards as set out in your document. Should situations arise that cause discontent, the library should find support from its overseers if the procedures in the policy have been followed. The policy should be renewed and revised on a regular basis to keep up with changes in the community. A statement in the policy should be included which provides an idea of how often this may occur.

For further reading:

- Anderson, Joanne S. (ed.), 1996. *Guide for Written Collection Policy Statements*, (2nd ed.), Chicago: American Library Association.
- Cassel, Kay Ann and Elizabeth Futas (eds.), 1991. *Developing Public Library Collections: Policies and Procedures. A How-To-Do-It Manual for Small and Medium-sized Public Libraries*, #12, New York, NY: Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc.
- Gorman, G.E. and Ruth H. Miller (eds.), 1997. *Collection Management for the 21st Century: A Handbook for Librarians*, Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.
- Johnson, Peggy and Sheila S. Intner (eds.), 1994. *Recruiting, Educating, and Training Librarians for Collection Development*, Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.
- Sales, Susan L., 1996. *Guide for Trainig Collection Development Librarians*, Chicago, IL: American Library Association.
- Wood, Richard J. and Frank Hoffman, 1995. *Library Collection Development Policies: A Reference and Writers' Handbook*, Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, Inc.

WEST VIRGINIA QUICK LINKS

- Archeology:** <http://www.wvlc.wvnet.edu/wvarl/archp.html>
- Braxton County Monster:** <http://dailymail.com/life/greg0204.htm>
- Calendar of Events (1998):** <http://www.state.wv.us/tourism/cal98/cal98.htm>
- Campgrounds:** <http://www.roomsplus.com/campgrnd.wv/wst-virg.htm>
- Census data:** <http://govinfo.library.orst.edu/cgi-bin/usaco-list?30-states.wvs>
- Civil War:** <http://www.wvcivilwar.com>
- Coal Mining (history):** <http://www.wvgs.wvnet.edu/www/geology/geoldvco.htm>
- Coal Mining (production):** <http://www.wvcoal.com/cf1.htm>
- Constitution :** <http://www.state.wv.us/const/default.htm>
- County Data:** <http://www.state.wv.us/bep/lmi/CNTYDATA/DEFAULT.HTM>
- Facts about:** <http://ipl.lub.lu.se/youth/stateknow/wv1.html>
- Famous West Virginians:** http://www.senate.gov/~rockefeller.html/famous_wv.html
- Famous West Virginians (pictures):** <http://members.aol.com/jeff560/wv-fam.html>
- Fishing:** <http://www.wowktv.com/fishdoc>
- Genealogy:** <http://wvlc.wvnet.edu/history/history.html> **OR:** <http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-1/USA/wv.html>
- General Information and lots of links:** <http://www.wvonline.com>
- Geology:** <http://129.71.2.20/www/geology>
- Great Seal:** <http://www.bible-infonet.org/wvsop/State/stseal.htm>
- Hatfields & McCoys:** <http://www6.roanoke.infi.net/~leisure/brc/hatmac/timeline.html>
- History (women, John Brown, Governors, Native Americans, African Americans):** <http://wvlc.wvnet.edu/history/projects.html>
- History (general):** http://www.yahoo.com/Regional/U-S_States/West_Virginia
- Hunting:** <http://www.wvweb.com/www/hunting>
- Indians:** <http://www.wvlc.edu/history/indians.html>
- Legislators:** <http://www.legis.state.wv.us>;
- Legislators (e-mail):** <http://christian-coalition.org>
- Maps: (historical):** <http://www.livgenmi.com/wvcounty.htm>
- Maps (your location):** <http://www.proximus.com/yahoo>
- Maps:** http://www.yahoo.com/Destinations/North_America/Countries/United_States/West_Virginia//map.html
- Mothman:** <http://www.ufomind.com/place/us/wv/mothman>
- Mound Builders:** <http://www.adena.com/adena/ad/ad01.htm>
- Parks:** http://www.wvweb.com/www/travel_recreation/state_parks/state_parks.html
- Ramps:** <http://www.icontech.com/~snikle/ramps.html>
- Recipes:** <http://www.martinsburg.com/wv.recipes/recipes.html>
- Sports:** <http://www.wvanews.com/News/Wv/sports/sportshome.html>
- State Capital:** <http://www.wvauditor.com>
- State Symbols:** <http://www.auditor.com/wvinfo/wvinfo2.html>
- Take Me Home Country Roads (audio):** <http://www.atlantic.net/~bookman>
- Travel:** <http://www.westvirginia.com/info.htm>
- USS West Virginia:** <http://www.subasekb.navy.mil/736page.shtml>
- West Virginia Code:** <http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Code/toc.html>
- Wildlife (color pictures):** <http://neumedia.net/%7Ehorizon/photos/wildlife.htm>

Note: All links valid June 6, 1998.

Homework Center Grant Available

The Gale DISCovering Program Homework Center Grant is designed to recognize and encourage the development of Homework Centers in public libraries serving the needs of kindergarten through twelfth grade students. Recipients of the grant will receive a complete set of Gale DISCovering Program CDs for use in the center, plus free access to Gale DISCovering Program databases on GaleNet for one year. The total value of the award is approximately \$11,000 per grant. (Note: GaleNet access is limited to one location.)

Two grants will be awarded:

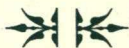
Grant for Libraries with an Existing Homework Center. Applications for this grant should describe the current program in detail and how it meets the unique needs of K-12 students, including how the program was developed as well as future plans. This grant is intended for libraries looking to energize an existing homework center program.

Grant for Libraries Planning To Develop a Homework Center. Applications for this grant should describe in detail plans for setting up and maintaining a new homework center for meeting the needs of K-12 students.

In both cases, special consideration will be given to libraries for involving local schools and other members of the community in the homework center's development and/or maintenance. Applications must be received by August 1, 1998. Gale and an independent panel of librarians will judge them. Winners will be announced by September 30, 1998.

Mail application to:

Beth Dempsey Gale
835 Penobscot Building
645 Griswold Street
Detroit, MI 48226
Beth.dempsey@gale.com



Bridgeport Library Honors Local Author

Anna Smucker

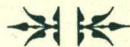
The highlight of Bridgeport Public Library's celebration of National Library Week was a reception honoring author Robyn Harbert Eversole and recognizing dozens of other Harrison County authors. Library Director Sharon Saye welcomed over 70 people to the program, updating them on the library's Internet connections. Saye introduced Bridgeport Mayor Timms who proclaimed April 22, 1998, Robyn Harbert Eversole Day.

Eversole, a Harrison County native and part-time Bridgeport resident, is the author of three books of children's literature: *The Magic House*, *The Flute Player*, and *Flood Fish*. Crown Publishers, a division of Random House, will publish her fourth book, *The Gift Stone*, this year. She will receive a Ph.D. in Anthropology from McGill University this summer.

Also recognized at the reception was Phyllis Wilson Moore for her work documenting the literary history of West Virginia and promoting West Virginia authors. After speaking briefly about the achievements of some of the county's award-winning authors, Ms. Moore introduced dozens of Harrison County authors in attendance. Displays of their work and various awards filled the library's hallways.

On April 24th, Robyn Eversole was the keynote speaker and workshop presenter for the West Virginia Young Writers Day celebration at the University of Charleston. Her speech was especially inspiring to the state's young writers because, just eleven years ago, Eversole won the state first place Young Writers Award for a story she wrote as a sophomore at Bridgeport High School.

At a luncheon held at the university, Eversole was presented the Appalachian Medallion, a prestigious honor bestowed on such writers as Eudora Welty, Davis Grubb, Jayne Ann Phillips, and Bobbie Ann Mason.



Spring Fling 1998: a Great Success!

Pam Coyle

Public Division Chair

Over 240 people attended the 2-day Spring Fling at Flatwoods on April 2nd and 3rd.

Thursday's discussions included technology plans, interlibrary loan e-mail, employee rights, employee training, election and review of genre and West Virginia literature, and more. The Academic Division provided a panel discussion on plagiarism and the Internet, while the Trustee Division members discussed VTLS, WISE, and other issues. The evaluations were very positive with most rating Thursday a 4 or 5.

David Price, Executive Director of the West Virginia Library Commission, spoke to the group about the 1.2 million dollars allocated by the West Virginia Legislature to upgrade the statewide library network. This money must be obligated by June 30, 1998. The discussion stimulated many questions and brought forth many unresolved issues. This dialogue continues to invigorate the library community and will, hopefully, lead to a better understanding among librarians, the Commission, and WVLA.

This Spring Fling will go down in WVLA history as the first spring workshop with exhibitors.

Spring Fling owes a large part of its success to Yvonne Farley, Suzette Lowe, Ann Farr, Christie Grim, and many others. The involvement of so many WVLA members is an indication that this workshop provides something of value to the membership.

Program suggestions for the Annual Conference included employment law and practices, personnel/employee handbooks, programs for adults, young adult advisory boards and programming, a reference workshop, how to handle problem patrons, pornography on the Internet, and search engine strategy. If you are willing to present one of these topics or have other suggestions, please contact Judy Duncan at the St. Albans Public Library.

Children's Roundtable Evaluations—Spring Fling 1998

Karen L. Bremer
Co-Chair, Children's Services Roundtable

Over 100 members of the Children's Services Roundtable attended the 1998 WVLA Spring Fling Conference in Flatwoods on Friday, April 3, 1998. Evaluation forms were given to everyone who registered, and 48 members completed and returned them. Overall, the satisfaction level was high to average.

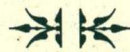
When asked how the workshop met expectations, many said they heard plenty of good ideas, they enjoyed sharing crafts and program ideas, they liked the handouts, and were glad to be part of deciding future summer reading program themes.

Many shared what they really liked about the seminar. They thought it was well-organized, in a good location with plenty of space, had plenty of helpful handouts, information on Internet Web sites for children, good ideas for summer reading programming, and some YA programming ideas. Several members liked having time to browse with the new books displayed after lunch.

The members also commented on what they would change about the workshop. An overwhelming number mentioned prepackaging the craft materials for the make-it-take-it projects, or having them already distributed on the tables. They found the computer projection difficult to see, and many in the back part of the room had difficulty hearing some of the speakers. A clip-on microphone was suggested for future presenters. Some would have liked the morning used for sharing ideas, and they would have preferred sitting in small groups during the craft time. The sorting of Summer Reading Program materials in the front of the room was distracting, as was the talking of some audience members during the presentations.

Everyone was asked to list their choices for future workshop. These included: how to get young adults into the library, booktalking and storytelling sessions, children's literature selection and collection development, new children's literature, WV children's authors/illustrators, cooperation with public schools, promoting programs, and more make-it-take-it sessions.

The participation of so many libraries willing to share ideas for the SRP and programming in general contributed to the success of this workshop, and hopefully the fall conference will be even more successful.



Sharyn McCrumb Speaks to Cabell County Friends

[From forum (Cabell County Public Library) April/May 1998]

The annual Cabell County Friends of the Library luncheon, held May 7th, featured the award-winning Appalachian novelist Sharyn McCrumb. McCrumb's great-grandfathers were circuit preachers in North Carolina's Smoky Mountains a hundred years ago, riding horseback over the ridges to preach in a different community each week. It is from them, she says, that she gets her regard for books, her gift for storytelling and public speaking, and her love of the Appalachian Mountains.

A New York Times best-selling novelist, McCrumb has won more awards in crime fiction than any other author. She has received the Edgar, two Anthony Awards, two Macavity Awards, three Agatha Awards, and the Nero. She has twice won the Best Appalachian Novel Award.

"My books are like the Appalachian quilts," says McCrumb "I take brightly colored scraps of legends, ballads, fragments of rural life, and local tragedy, and I piece them together into a complex whole that tells not only a story, but also a deeper truth about the cultures of the mountain South."

Library School Students Hold Career Fair

Students enrolled in the University of South Carolina's master's degree program had their second on-site meeting at the Ramada Inn in South Charleston on April 25, 1998. This was not a typical class session but a career fair designed by Dr. Dan Barron to provide members of the class the opportunity to:

- understand and appreciate the different career choices in the profession
- experience a simulation of a state or national professional conference
- experience the process of developing a presentation for a state or national conference
- develop/enhance basic information literacy knowledge and skills
- experience and reflect on group processes.

The fair was titled "Tribute to Hypatia." Hypatia, recognized as head of the Neoplatonist school of philosophy until she was brutally murdered, wrote, "Reserve your right to think, for even to think wrongly is better than not to think at all."

In his opening remarks, Dr. Barron dedicated the conference to the memory of Fred Glazer in recognition of his efforts in behalf of library development in West Virginia. He cited the opportunity for West Virginia students to receive a master's level library science education as one of the significant results of those efforts.

J.D. Waggoner, head of Library Development Services at the Library Commission and a graduate of the first West Virginia/South Carolina program, was the keynote speaker. He encouraged the students to learn all they could, assured them that surviving the program was possible although not easy, and challenged them to make a difference in whatever aspect of library service they chose. At the conclusion of his remarks, Waggoner, as chair of the WVLA Continuing Education and Scholarship Committee, awarded the WVLA Scholarship to Erika Reed of the Doddridge County Public Library.

NEWS...

West Virginia Code Available on the Web

The WV Legislative Web site has become even more valuable with the addition of the *West Virginia Code*, *Rules of the Court*, *West Virginia Constitution*, *West Virginia Court of Claims*, and the *U.S. Constitution*. The documents can be searched individually or as a complete database. The address to reach the Web site is: <http://www.legis.state.wv.us>.

WV Children's Book Award

The winner of this year's (1997-98) WV Children's Book Award is *Earthquake Terror* by **Peg Kehret**. The main character, twelve-year-old Jonathan Palmer, must find a way to keep himself, his partially paralyzed younger sister, and their dog alive until help arrives when an earthquake hits the isolated island in northern California where his family had been camping.



Credit: Charleston Catholic High School Yearbook Staff

Pat Love, Charleston poet and employee of the the WV Library Commission is shown reading poetry on the plaza in front of the Kanawha county Public Library at the library's Second Annual Poetry Reading in honor of National Poetry Month (April).

New Listserv for Rural Libraries

The Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship at Clarion State University, PA, has established a new listserv that focuses on issues of concern to rural librarians. If you are interested in subscribing to the list, send an e-mail to: listserv@listserv.clarion.edu. Leave the subject line blank and in the message, type: subscribe RURLIB-L (your name). [Example: subscribe RURLIB-L John Doe.]

InfoMine Adds Wilson Indexes

After a lengthy evaluation and implementation process, the InfoMine Project has signed an agreement with the H.W. Wilson Company for one year's access to the Wilson Omni Full-Text files and Wilson Biographies. Notification went out to public, school, and academic libraries in April. The contract period ends March 31, 1999.

Eichelberger Joins Library Commission Staff

Sue Eichelberger, former Director of the Alpha Regional Library in Spencer, has accepted the position of Public Information Specialist at the Library commission. She will be coordinating public relations activities under the direction of **Dave Shouldis**.

How many
clones
 are in
your
 reference databases?



Call 1-800-232-SIRS, or visit www.sirs.com

With the variety of databases available today, why should yours contain redundant articles – articles that are clones? That won't happen with SIRS full-



text reference databases. All the articles in **SIRS**

Researcher[®], **SIRS Discoverer[®]**, **SIRS Government Reporter[®]** and **SIRS Renaissance[®]**

pass a rigorous selection process that eliminates redundancy and duplication. Our experienced research team of educators and library professionals selects only relevant, useful, compelling articles – those that comprehensively describe all aspects of an issue. Once selected, articles are categorized and indexed by expert professionals.

We work hard to bring you the best collection of full-text articles, so that your patrons don't have to work hard to find them. SIRS databases are the *highest quality* available and that's why SIRS information works for you.

SIRS

Information that works[™]

WVLA

Calendar

June

- 12 WVLA Executive Board, Charleston
- 11-14 Laubach Literacy International Conference, Columbus, OH
- 25-July 2 American Library Association Annual Conference Washington, DC

July

- 20 Last day for Executive Board to receive nominations (20 weeks before conference)

August

- 14 WVLA Academic Division Meeting, Charleston

September

LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

- 7 Last date to accept petition candidates (13 weeks before conference)

October

- 12 Deadline for mailing ballots (8 weeks before conference)

December

- 7-0 WVLA Annual Conference, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Sps

In August, the issue focus will be West Virginia Authors

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

HELEN S. JENKINS
4608 PIEDMONT RD
HUNTINGTON WV 25704-1839