

Wyoming Library Association Newsletter

July 15, 2003

Every One A Leader: *Libraries in Challenging Times*

Did you know that you work in a “bastion of democracy”?? Well, maybe that explains why you are so in need of some rejuvenation, renewal and transformation. Help is on the way – Wyoming Library Association presents “Every One a Leader: Libraries in Challenging Times”, our annual conference on October 1-4, 2003, in Sheridan. With the assistance of the Carol McMurry Library Endowment Fund, LSTA funds and Public Section investment funds, the program council has put together some awesome conference workshops and exhilarating speakers to bring support and information just when you need it. The Holiday Inn is providing one of the lowest rates in town at \$57 per night – and you’re right where the action is.

The pre-conference will focus on how anyone can lead from whatever position they hold in an organization and how to make that work for your specific style and preferences. The Carol McMurry Library Endowment Fund underwrites the program, so there will be no charge for attendance. That evening’s opening reception will bring us back to the reason we love our jobs – authors and the people who love to read! The WYO Theater provides a great ambience for listening to five Wyoming authors and then mingling with them at the reception afterward.

On Thursday and Friday, nationally known speakers will help us deal with the TEACH and PATRIOT Acts. Patrick Jones will present programs to help in our service to young adults and, at Saturday’s post-conference, he will provide insight into better service to boys. Our own Wyoming experts as well as regional speakers will assist with roundtables and various programs relating almost all aspects of librarianship.

If you have never attended a WLA Conference this is the time to give it a try – If you have attended 32 WLA Conferences, this is the one not to miss. As an Association we must support, teach and honor each other so that we can be our best for those we serve. Come, contribute and return to your communities with a new understanding of how important it is to be part of a “bastion of democracy!” See you all in Sheridan.

Visit the Vendors!

Great Northern Book Co.
The Millbrook Press -
21st Century Books
Bound To Stay Bound
Demco Media –
Turtleback Books
H.W. Wilson Co.
EBSCO Info Services
BCR
ProQuest Company
Quality Books Inc.
Gale
Baker & Taylor
ESRI
SIRS/Mandarin
Wyoming State Library
Recorded Books, LLC
Follett Library Resources
Lerner Publishing Group
Econo-Clad Books
Sirsi Corporation
Book Wholesalers Inc.
ALLDATA
Follett Software Company
WIND
WY Education Assn.
Perma Bound Books
Univ. of Arizona
Alexandria/Companion
Corporation
Sauder Manufacturing Co.
Natl. Network of Libraries of
Medicine
Denver Bookbinding Co.
Sagebrush Corporation
ABC
World Book
Child’s World

MANY MORE TO COME!

President's Report by Kay Carlson



Wyoming Library Association Board recently issued the following statement regarding the USA PATRIOT Act:

“In the spirit of endorsing the essence of the American Library Association resolution on the USA PATRIOT Act, the Wyoming Library association agrees that:

1. The Wyoming Library Association considers sections of the USA Patriot Act to be a present danger to the Constitutional rights and privacy rights of library users.
2. The Wyoming Library Association upholds the privacy of patron information in regards to circulation and registration records as protected under WS 16-4-203 (ix).
3. The Wyoming Library Association urges all Wyoming libraries to implement record retention policies which are solely necessary for the fulfillment of the mission of the library.
4. The Wyoming Library Association urges Wyoming librarians to defend and support user privacy and free and open access to knowledge and information.”

I am proud of the Board and this statement which indicates our concern about the USA PATRIOT Act. Thanks go to the WLA Legislative Committee for coming up with the draft and thanks go to the Board for their work in considering, tweaking, and adopting this important document. We are not alone in our concern. Check out the ALA website on this issue at <http://www.ala.org> to read the ALA Resolution and view statements from other state library organizations.

On a lighter note, Woman's Day magazine, in cooperation with the American Library Association, is sponsoring a book club, the Woman's Day/ALA Book Club. Take a look at <http://womansday.com> to find wonderful touting of librarians' abilities as well as recommended titles. Wyoming's own Annie Proulx is mentioned as a “pick” for *That Old Ace in the Hole*.

A great library conference is planned for us in Sheridan this fall. I invite you to attend and bring a friend! The more we can share and learn together as librarians, the stronger we become and the better able we are to serve our patrons! See you in Sheridan!



Western Hospitality Sheridan Style

Need a break from the crowd or want directions to a great place for lunch, then wander down to the Hospitality suite for a neck massage, coffee, lemonade and relaxing conversation. The local arrangements committee has had a wonderful time planning this comfy space for all conference attendees, so make sure you take advantage of their warm and generous welcome.

MASSAGES AT CONFERENCE!

Reduce the stress in your life....

Join the Sheridan College Massage
Therapist students on Friday, October 3
at the Holiday Inn for a

**FREE
CHAIR MASSAGE**

Massages will last 15 minutes.

~Hospitality Suite~

ENJOY
REFRESHMENTS
WITH THE
VENDORS



Come join the Vendors for Coffee &
Refreshments

Thursday, October 2

@ 10:45 a.m. - Noon - Sponsored by:
SIRS/Mandarin

Friday, October 3 @ 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Sponsored by:

**Wyoming Education Association
WIND**

Legislative Committee Meets in Buffalo

On May 1 and 2 nine members of the Legislative Committee of the Wyoming Library Association met in Buffalo. At the invitation of committee chair Cynthia Twing, Lynnette Anderson, Dail Barbour, Dale Collum, Alice Hild Farris, Paul Holland, Lucie Osborn, Vicki Roth and State Librarian Lesley Boughton gathered to take action on two issues of importance.

In January 2003 the Legislative Committee had been charged by WLA President Kay Carlson to create a representative statement from the Wyoming Library Association regarding the USA Patriot Act. After studying the American Library Association's lengthy resolution, Committee members came up with a concise statement they felt represented Wyoming libraries.

A survey of library directors at the annual directors' retreat in October of 2002 on lobbying skills showed that most directors felt uninformed and unprepared to act as grassroots lobbyists. Chair Cynthia Twing accepted this as a mandate to put together a lobbying kit aimed at providing practical information to directors and other interested WLA members on how, when and who to lobby in support of important library issues. A brainstorming session by committee members resulted in valuable ideas for a time line of action, a chain of communication of pertinent issues to WLA members, and usable skills and tools for lobbying. Twing plans on having kits put together for directors at their retreat this fall.

The second day was devoted to a business meeting in which it was confirmed that Senator John Schiffer of Kaycee will be the featured speaker at the Legislative Luncheon at the WLA Convention in Sheridan. Other items of discussion included the need for a chairman for the Legislative Reception, the role of the State Library Board (Dail Barbour is a member) and the pros and cons of library districts.

WYOMING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

ALA Councilor Report – ALA/CLA Annual Conference, Toronto 2003
Wyoming Chapter Councilor's Report

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments.
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Council Meeting Highlights from the 2003 Annual Conference:

Select Resolutions:

School Libraries and Librarians are Critical to Educational Success: Directs ALA to convey the urgent state of affairs for school libraries and librarians to various bodies such as state governors, State Boards of Education, National Association of School Administrators, etc. (Passed).

New FCC Rules and Media Concentration: Opposes further FCC rules providing for further media concentration. (Tabled).

Note: The full text of the resolutions and actions will be posted on the ALA website—the Council section—at a future date.

Other Issues:

CIPA: This topic was at the forefront of discussions at ALA since the Supreme Court upheld CIPA during the conference. For more information please see the main ALA website—there is a prominent link to the latest CIPA information. As I receive pertinent emails or information I will pass those on to the WLA executive board and WLA membership on this and any other pressing topics.

Core values: The core values task force reported its ongoing struggles with creating a core values document for ALA. The task force received an extension on their work and is charged with bringing a document forward to the ALA Midwinter meeting.

Insurance: Starting in Fall 2003, ALA will offer a group insurance plan for its members. The details will be publicized this fall in *American Libraries*, emails, the ALA website.

ALA website: ALA received many complaints since the new website was unveiled last spring. Most distressing was that hundreds of online documents were rendered unavailable. There were also glitches with the search function within the website, extremely long urls and structural issues. ALA is currently making corrections and the lost documents are already available. Other improvements will occur later this summer.

Iraq and Cuba: Various resolutions were tabled, withdrawn or failed regarding the resolutions on the stance ALA should take regarding the destruction of Iraqi cultural resources and resolutions on access to information in Cuba. Regarding both of these topics, there were many questions as to the validity of the information and most individuals wanted more background before voting.

OTHER ALA MEETINGS

Council Information Sessions : I attended both the ALA-APA Council and ALA Council information sessions. Various financial reports were distributed as well as the ALA President, President-Elect and Executive Director Reports. ALA is in good financial shape in spite of lower attendance numbers at the Toronto conference.

Membership meetings: I attended one of the two membership meetings. There was not a quorum at either meeting so there was discussion but no voting. Membership meetings are an opportunity for any member of ALA to voice their opinions at a forum. This meeting included the topic of electronic meetings. At a subsequent Council meeting Council discussed but narrowly defeated a resolution to create a no conflict meeting time for membership meetings.

Chapter Council Caucus : Chapter councilors discussed their chapters' experiences passing resolutions regarding the US Patriot Act. One councilor recommended any state library chapter resolutions be forwarded to as many legislators as possible with an explanatory note attached. Several states are holding or planning on workshops for librarians regarding Patriot Act issues.

Council Forum: Much of the forum involved discussion about CIPA. Everyone had many questions and there was a great deal of conflicting information and conjecture since the Supreme Court ruling was announced during the conference.

Speakers : Gloria Steinem and Ralph Nader both gave motivational presentations. Ralph Nader spoke of his work with the project to revitalize Washington D.C. public libraries...to read more please see <http://www.savedclibraries.org>

Select Documents and Links

*Advocating for Better Salaries Toolkit
<http://www.mjfreedman.org/freedmantf/tfhome.html>

*ALA: www.ala.org
Check the spotlights on the right side. The Campaign for America's Libraries link gives information on what's new, including the participation of NASA and the academic and research library campaign.

*ALA Council Actions and other information
http://www.ala.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Our_Association/Governance/Council/Council_Actions/Council_Actions.htm

*ALA Washington Office: www.ala.org/washoff
This part of the ALA web page has useful Patriot Act tip sheets among many other items like current legislative hot topics.

*Lawyers for Libraries Regional Training Institutes for lawyers and library trustees
www.ala.org/lawyers

Report on the Paraprofessional and Public Library/Trustee Spring Section Meeting By Carla Hardy

What's that old quote? "The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry." I know that in Wyoming planning anything that requires a long drive is putting the whole operation at risk. But when you put Jo Winkel (Paraprofessional Chair) and me (Public/Trustee Chair) into the mix you can bet your sweet bippy that it will snow. Jo and I planned what we hoped would be a list of programs that members of our respective sections would be excited to attend. I especially wanted to be there for the Reader's Advisory session. The meeting had been planned for June 6 but had to be backed up because of the WYLD annual meeting. So, our only free date was in early May. As you all know, any day in May can be iffy. May and spring snowstorms are a given.

So, even with that in mind, Fremont County Library agreed to host the joint Paraprofessional and Public Library/Trustee sections annual spring meeting. According to all reports and surveys completed by attendees, the programs were a success. So was the food. Of course, Jo and I can't attest to that. Our plans did "go awry." It snowed (the heaviest and wettest snowfall we had all winter) and all of us in Sweetwater County who planned to be there stayed home. Becky Taylor, the speaker from Salt Lake Community College, was also stopped in Rock Springs by the snow.

Just for the record, never elect two people from the same Sweetwater County library to hold offices at the same time. That seems to be a recipe for disaster. In the nearly two years we have been officers, circumstances have allowed us to be physically present at meetings only three times. Thank heaven for e-mail and telephone conferences!

Anyhow, throughout the past several months I have been once again reminded of the adaptability of librarians. Most prominent is Barbara Oakleaf who was responsible for local arrangements in Lander. Less than an hour before the programs were to start, she ended up running the whole show. Both Jo and I owe her and her staff many thanks. Also we give our thanks to Marcia Wright and Corky Walters for getting to Lander and giving their presentation on Adult Reader's Advisory. And last, but not least, a big thank you to Jeanette Woodward for stretching her program "Better than a Book Store" to cover the gap left by SLCC's absence. Her breakout sessions were a hit.

The program questionnaire yielded some really good comments ranging from "All ideas to take home were specific and usable" to "Both (sessions) were interesting and were a little more in depth than the norm" to "Good food!" Approximately half of the attendees answered the questionnaire. Nearly everyone had a good time, learned from the programs and enjoyed the networking. Negative comments were mostly about the weather...Ditto! There are many wonderful program suggestions that will be passed on to the incoming Chair Elects.

Well, Jo and I have one last big meeting to attend as outgoing Chairs. That will be at WLA in Sheridan in October. See you all there...if it doesn't snow.



Government Information Section News by Katrina Jones

The Government Information Section is putting together an annotated bibliography on chosen websites and CDs that will be available at the 2003 conference. We do not often have the time it takes to delve into the many electronic materials and websites now provided by governmental agencies. We hope that this will be a helpful tool in discovering and learning more about some of these resources.

The Section has also built a web page of links to many of our members' favorite government information websites (chiefly state and federal agencies). This page is located at:

[Http://www.wyla.org/government/govlinks.shtml](http://www.wyla.org/government/govlinks.shtml) and is updated periodically.

Please check it out!

**Check out the WLA
Website
www.wyla.org**



There's Still Time.....

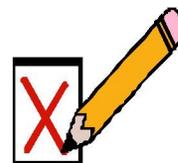
To say "Thanks!" and "We Appreciate You!" and "Yes, We Noticed The Great Work You Did!" We could say it with flowers or a Hallmark card, but MPLA wants to say thank you in a big way – at the awards ceremony in Lake Tahoe, NV at the annual joint conference with the Nevada Library Association, November 5-8, 2003.

There are numerous awards MPLA wants to give. Think of the library directors who helped construct a new building; the children's department that created innovative after-school programming; the media specialist who refused to remove a magazine from the high school library shelves; the local radio show that always featured library events. If we look around we will see many individuals, agencies, organizations, legislators and authors who have helped make our libraries better places. Say thank you in a big way. Visit the MPLA Award Information website for further info.

[Http://www.usd.edu/mpla/committees/awards/awardsindex.html](http://www.usd.edu/mpla/committees/awards/awardsindex.html). Deadline: August 22, 2003

Upcoming Elections

The Nominating Committee will be working hard to come up with a slate of candidates for the 2003-2004 WLA Board of Directors. This year we will be electing two positions: President-Elect and Recording Secretary.



**Ballots will be mailed in August.
You must be a paid member of WLA to vote!**

**WY-BER café
comes to
WLA Conference!**



We've got mail!

Thanks to new high speed Internet access in the Holiday Inn, the Wyoming State Library's mobile lab and our awesome on-site network guru, David Hartschuh, the first WY-ber café will be available at conference. In a suite just off the exhibit area, you can check your e-mail or surf the net on Thursday and Friday. On your way to the café, make sure you stop by the vendors who chose suites for their booth space - they are connected too!

Wyoming Library Association
P.O. Box 1387
Cheyenne, WY 82003

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**WLA CONFERENCE
OCT. 1-4, 2003
HOLIDAY INN
SHERIDAN, WY**