



ANNUAL REPORT

WASHINGTON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

2005-2006

**PRESENTED AT
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
WLA CONFERENCE 2006
TACOMA WASHINGTON**

**WLA PROMOTES LIBRARY SERVICE, CONTINUING EDUCATION AND LIBRARY ADVOCACY
ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON STATE**

VOTING BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT **Carolynne Myall**

During the past year, as president of our Association, I have been honored to work with WLA personal and institutional members. We've established goals, accomplished some objectives, and are working to complete others, all intended to serve the membership and the library community of Washington. Among your Association's activities this year:

- *Created a new strategic plan.* The 2005/07 Strategic Plan focuses the activities of the Association on creating effective advocacy for libraries, offering professional development throughout the state, providing opportunities for mentoring and networking, working effectively with other groups, and organizing the work of the Association to make best use of resources.
- *Adopted a powerful legislative agenda, with potential benefits for all parts of the library community, and sponsored a successful Library Legislative Day.* No, we didn't win everything we supported; but we made connections, found supporters, and were visible in the capital. We linked the WLA Board and the legislative advocacy process. We've made plans to send our largest delegation to Federal Library Legislative Day. And we're busy preparing for even greater success during coming years.
- *Strengthened Association communications through implementing a new website, migrating to a new telecommunications provider, and publishing three issues of Alki, our outstanding journal.* The new website is attractive and flexible. Now we're working on guidelines for what-goes-where-when and planning for the website's future. *Alki* continues to be the best state library association publication going, and is now preparing for digitization of all past issues by the Washington State Library.
- *Presented two great conferences.* The Annual Conference of WLA at Tacoma and the Annual Conference of WALE in Chelan, both featuring outstanding programs and fun events, represent the culmination of hard work by many, many WLA members. We've also begun using the services of a consultant to assist in making some initial arrangements for upcoming conferences, to focus our members' time and knowledge where they are most needed.
- *Offered many continuing education opportunities at various locations, and are exploring new options for delivery.* Check out the many workshops, programs, and listservs of our Interest Groups.
- *Began a review of the Association's methods of conducting business, with the goal of making changes to utilize members' time, talents, and money in productive, satisfying, and sustainable ways.* A task force of Association movers-and-shakers is exploring ways to work more effectively, from communications to accounting to ... you name it. The Board has already approved some proposals, and more are forthcoming in 2006/07. Another task force is devising guidelines for effective collaboration with other organizations.
- *Recognized and honored the contributions of several our members who have served the Association and its members.* We need to do more of this: WLA is able to do accomplish a lot because many members give a lot to the Association. At each Board meeting during the past year, we've honored at least one WLA member with a Certificate of Appreciation.

More ideas in the areas of expanding and retaining membership, offering mentoring opportunities, and promoting intellectual freedom are under discussion and development.

In over three decades in libraries, I've never had as tough a job as this one. I've certainly never had such an important one, since WLA makes critical contributions to library service and its providers throughout our state. Every day, I wake up excited (and alarmed). And the Board and I need the help of all of you. We need all our members to participate in the work of the Association and make it a success.

VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT- ELECT

Martha Parsons

As Vice President, in the first year of my term, I have attended all Board Meetings, the Board Planning Retreat, the Annual Conference, the WALE Conference, and other meetings associated with the position. Although I've been actively involved in WLA for over 10 years, I still have a lot to learn. The organization is strong and involved in many areas that help strengthen libraries in our state. Serving on the Member Services Committee, the Task Force to Review WLA's Structure and Coverage of Essential Functions, and participating in the Budget process have all been especially good opportunities to learn more about the organization and how it works. I'm looking forward to taking on more specific projects next year.

SECRETARY

Nancy Slote

I have been responsible for the creation and publication of timely minutes of board meetings and the annual business meeting. During the year, I worked with Association Coordinator Gail Willis and Webmaster Evelyn Lindberg to design a system for posting board reports to the WLA web site for viewing prior to the board meetings. These reports can also be accessed from the posted minutes. I also continued the processing of WLA's archives with Gail Willis and Kristy Coomes, the Chair of the Organizational Structure Committee.

TREASURER

Priscilla Ice

The treasurer's term of office officially runs from August to August. With a lot to learn, the time between election and actually taking office was full of orientation experiences. I decided to take on the bookkeeping myself so that I could better oversee the work of a bookkeeping firm, should we decide to hire another one. The task force on operations appointed by the president, decided to recommend hiring a bookkeeping firm convenient to the association coordinator to provide better continuity from treasurer to treasurer. I hope to complete the selection process before the next fiscal year begins August 1. This should go a long way toward making the record keeping consistent as office holders change and making the learning curve more manageable for new treasurers.

Audits of the books for August 1, 1999 through July 31, 2003 were finally completed last fall. The board decided to go to an audit committee approach for the next group of books in order to save the thousands of dollars spent on the last four years. A final committee has not yet been appointed to look at the 2003 and 2004 budget years.

Association finances are healthy. We have had funds to accomplish all of the projects approved by the board. Bank balances show a healthy reserve.

COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Beth Gillespie

Beth Gillespie accepted a mid-term appointment to this unfilled position to assure that the communication concerns of the association were not overlooked before the 2006 elections. She located and arranged the purchase of new smaller more agile display unit in time for its use at WALE Conference 2005. She has worked with Mary Power, Coordinator of Continuing Education to formulate Guidelines for the Posting of Continuing Education information on the website. And, she has begun the work of reviewing and revising the membership brochures as well as participating in the Member Services Committee.

COORDINATOR OF CONTINUING EDUCATION **Mary Power**

2005 CE Needs Assessment Survey

At the 2005 Conference, I distributed a CE Needs Assessment Survey. This was the first CE survey done since 1999. The results are available from a link on the training page of the WLA website: <http://www.wla.org/training/>. I think the CE needs survey should be enhanced/improved and done on a regular basis. CE opportunities are some of the best benefits that WLA offers its members and, if done consistently, the survey could be a great tool to help determine what CE workshops should be offered, and where.

Continuing Education Workshop Process and Paperwork

In 2005 I worked to update and clarify the Continuing Education Workshop process and paperwork. The goal is to make the entire process of planning and producing a workshop less confusing for the interest groups. We have implemented deadlines during the year by which applications for workshops must be received. The new Seed Money application form is available from a link on the training page of the WLA website. I have also been working on a revision of the "Workshop on Workshops" Manual, which will be ready before the conference.

Interest Group Workshops

CAYAS did two workshops in 2005: *Fast and Fabulous Flannel Boards* and *Making the Match: The Right Book for the Right Reader at the Right Time*. They have a workshop planned for May of 2006: *Get Graphic @ Your Library!*

RIG offered two workshops in 2005: *Online Resources* and *Getting Started with Statistics*. *Getting Started in Statistics* was offered in three locations. They are also offering a workshop in March 2006: *Business Information Resources*.

IFIG offered the satellite program: *Are We Safer in the Dark?*
National Dialogue on Open Government and Secrecy, on March 13 in Spokane and Shoreline.

WALT offered 2 workshops in many locations: *5 Star Presentations* and *Meetings that Work*. They also coordinated a discount for WLA Members to attend the Accelerated Learning workshop in November 2005.

WLA 2006 Preconferences

We offered 5 preconferences this year:

- Mastering Customer Service Skills
- Prospecting for Gold: Effective Fundraising Strategies
- Rev Up Your Online Services: Blogs, RSS, Wikis and other Dynamic and Low-cost Technologies
- Stories that Stick: Getting your Tales Told in the Media
- Corrective Action and Progressive Discipline: A Skill for New, and Not-so-New, Supervisors

Unfortunately, *Mastering Customer Service Skills* and *Stories that Stick: Getting your Tales Told in the Media* was canceled due to low registration.

Geographic Equalization pilot project money

This project should be continued. It provides a cushion for Interest Groups who are willing to take a workshop to different areas of the state but who don't have the reserve funds.

COORDINATOR OF STRATEGIC PLANNING

Tim Mallory

The Strategic Plan for 2006-2007 "Building Partnerships" has 52 assigned tactics. Of those, nine have been completed. Of the 31 assignees, only the Task Force on Structure has completed all assigned tactics. Ten, however, have completed at least one of their assigned tactics. It's a certainty that many of the tactics have significant progress, as is shown by the reports of the officers and committees. The grid reflecting progress on the Strategic Plan will be updated in line with the reports.

The plan can be viewed online at <http://www.wla.org/about/strategic/2005-2007plan.pdf>

COORDINATOR OF CONFERENCE 2006

Susan Odenchantz/Program Chair Neel Parikh

Program Committee Report—Neel Parikh

Conference Committee Organization: The conference committee was divided into two working groups:

- **Organizing Programs:** This included the events chair and public relation and communications. The program sub-group includes additional committee members. who were assigned to work with the program planner to ensure that the information was gathered and the program completed.
- **Local Arrangements and Logistics:** Including registration, treasurer, etc.

Conference Committee Appointments:

- **Chair:** Susan Odenchantz, Tacoma Public Library
- **Treasurer and Registrar:** Robin Clausen, Tacoma Public Library
- **Program:** Neel Parikh, Pierce County Library System
- **Pre-Conference:** Mary Powers, Seattle Public Library
- **Interest Groups Coordinator:** Anne Bingham, University of Washington
- **Exhibits:** Lynn Red, Washington State Library
- **Local Arrangements:** Susan Odenchantz, Tacoma Public Library
- **Communications:** Jennifer Wiseman and Paula King, King County Library System
- **Corporate Contributions:** Bruce Zeigman, Fort Vancouver Regional Library
- **Program Sub-Committee includes additional members:**
 - Cindy Bonaro, Pierce County Library System
 - Jo Davies, Pierce College Library
 - Elise DeGuisseppi, Pierce County Library System
 - Rose Jetter, Pierce County Library System
 - Mary Jo Torgeson, Puyallup Puyallup Library, special events and entertainment

Schedule: A month by month schedule was developed, to include everything that needed to be done in planning and implementation and which committee was responsible.

Registration Projection: Early predictions of low attendance have been exceeded as the Conference reaches full capacity.

Budget: The budget given to the Board in May 2005 shows revenue and expenses of \$85,300. Expenses include \$32,000 for speaker features. The budget was fine-tuned throughout the year.

Theme: The conference is "Grow: Connect.Learn.Aspire." The Board approved this theme and logo in February 2005. Stationary and notepads were printed and widely distributed to generate enthusiasm.

Events: Washington History Museum and the Conference Committee are sponsoring a reception on Wednesday evening. The museum is donating the space. There will be light refreshments. The interest group Meet and Greet and Society of Gaius Julius solinas v. Washingtonius will occur later Wednesday evening.

Major Speakers: The opening session Breakfast will feature Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum the Authors of Unshelved the library comic strip. bel hooks is the featured banquet speaker on Thursday evening. Michael Gorman, ALA President will speak at the ALA/PNLA Breakfast on Friday morning.

Vendors: There will be morning and afternoon coffee sessions with our vendors and a Reception Thursday evening.

Programs: The Program Committee and the Interest Groups, represented by Coordinator Anne Bingham, have created a varied and interesting program including three all day pre-conferences on Wednesday. There are tracks of interest to all areas in library work.

COORDINATOR OF CONFERENCE 2007 Michael Cook

Groundwork has been laid for a successful 2007 conference. A committee has been appointed, a schedule of tasks completed, registration numbers projected, budget developed, a conference theme, logo, and web page designed. A proposed schedule and program time slots have been discussed and will be formalized in the next 1-2 months. The conference bank account was opened and seed money transferred from the association account.

Conference Committee:

Conference Chair: Mike Cook, Hanford Technical Library, (HTL)

Conference Treasurer: Melissa McBurney, HTL

Conference Registrar: Lori Portugal, Mid-Columbia Library System (MCLS)

Program Chairs: Annanaomi Sams, HTL and Connie Farr, Richland Public Library (RPL)

Pre-Conference Chair: WLA CE Coordinator

Interest Group Coordinator: Anne Bingham, University Prep Seattle

Exhibits Chair: Lynn Red, Washington State Library

Local Arrangements Chairs: Judy McMakin, Richland Public Library (RPL) and Lisa Adams, RPL

Local Arrangements Subcommittees

Evaluations and Monitoring: **vacant**

Equipment and Technology: Chrissie Noonan and Cecilia Hui, HTL

Hospitality and Gifts: Danielle Krol, MCLS

Meals, Breaks, and Table Decorations: Cheryl Farabee, WSUTC

Special Events and Entertainment: Linda Switzer, MCLS and Kathy Knutson, RPL

Communications Chair: Bev Hayes, HTL and Harold Hayes, MCLS

Corporate Contributions Chair: Bruce Zeigman, Fort Vancouver Regional Library / Bruce Shauer, King County Library System

Association Coordinator: Gail Willis

Schedule: The planning committee has met on a monthly basis since Jan. 2006. The conference planning schedule has been distributed to all committee members and has been reviewed each month to keep us on track.

Registration Projection: Based upon registrations for previous Spokane, Yakima, and Richland conferences we have projected registration of 300 members and 50 non-members for the 2007 conference.

Budget: The budget given to the Board shows revenue of \$91,560 and expenses of \$81,110. Expenses include \$25,000 for featured speakers. The budget will be fine tuned as we get closer to the conference day.

Finances: The conference account was opened and seed money was transferred from the association account.

The Three Rivers Convention has been booked for the conference. This is a beautiful state-of-the-art facility with FREE PARKING.

Contracts have been signed with Hilton Garden Inn and the Columbia Center Red Lion for the 2007 conference. The Hilton will serve as the primary hotel for the conference as it is within walking distance of the Three Rivers Convention Center.

Theme: The conference is “Washington Connects.” The Board formally approved this theme and logo in February. Stationary, notepads, and bookmarks have been printed.

Conference Schedule and Timeslots: Wednesday through Saturday timeslots will be outlined in the next 2 months. As in Spokane, all programs will be 75 minutes. Interest group meetings will be scheduled at the end of the program day on Thursday and Friday. The interest groups “Meet and Greet” and Solinas Society activities are planned for Wednesday evening.

Programs:

The programs chairs will work with Interest Group Coordinator Anne Bingham to solicit, select, and slot programs later this summer. Proposals will be tentatively due July 29th.

Major Speakers:

Our approach at this point in time is ambitious!

1. April 19th, breakfast keynote: NPR-related speaker
2. April 20th, breakfast keynote: ALA present
3. Dinner/Banquet/Fund-Raiser: President Jimmy Carter OR another major author

Requests have been sent to NPR, ALA, and one of the speakers’ bureaus handling former President Jimmy Carter.

NPR: we are working with four names (Garrison Keeler, Diane Ream, Ann Garrels, and Cokie Roberts). The request is flexible, e.g., Garrison Keeler for a breakfast keynote, and one of the others for dinner/fund-raiser if President Carter is unavailable. Mix-and-match. It’s up in the air. However, the NWPR folks are solicitous and helpful. I have given them approximate cost based on the WLA 2006 budget

ALA: waiting to hear back if we can book the then-ALA president this far in advance, costs, etc.

President Carter: Probably a slim chance, but if you don’t ask, there’s no chance whatsoever. In submitting the form, which asks for a theme (and he rarely speaks on topics other than those related to the Carter Center), I stressed “Washington Connects” as it relates especially to our poorer constituents, our migrant populations, etc. His fee begins at \$50K.

As a member of the Mid-Columbia Literary Festival steering committee, I have spoken with the committee and with the Mid-Columbia Library Foundation about helping to host the main speaker, be it a well-known author, an NPR celebrity, or President Carter. Both are interested in partnering to financially support a major speaker IF the speaker could then be part of the Mid-Columbia Literary Festival. We think this is possible and the WLA 2007

committee members have talked about this and are excited about it. Next year, "Lit Fest" (Mid-Columbia Literary Festival) will have additional partners which have already identified themselves: Barnes & Noble being one. The local newspaper and NPR are also providing support; we don't know yet if this will translate to actual dollars. I believe there are other organizations locally that will play a role, especially if we are lucky enough to engage President Carter.

Special Events: The committee is working with three local wineries to provide a wine tour and tasting on Wednesday or Thursday night. There will be hors d'oeuvres and a dinner menu available at two of the wineries. The committee is considering a locally-raised, Seattle-based comedian to perform at one of the wineries.

The committee is hoping to schedule a river tour on Saturday morning 8-11. The tour company "Columbia River Journeys & River City Tours" offers an exhilarating tour of the Hanford Reach, the last free-flowing section of the Columbia River. "Attendees will enter the seldom-seen lands and waters of the "Reach" where coyotes outnumber people." A sack lunch and drinks will be provided.

ALA CHAPTER COUNCILOR Jonathan Betz-Zall

My main activity has been to participate in the ALA Council meetings at Midwinter and Annual Conference, monitor and participate in various listserves, including the one for Councilors, and to redistribute items via the WLA listserve that I thought would interest WLA members.

Major Issues:

ALAhead to 2010

At last year's Annual Conference, ALA adopted a new five-year strategic plan, titled "ALAhead to 2010". ALA put a great deal of effort into soliciting ideas from ALA membership, including a workshop at the 2004 WLA annual conference. Goal areas include Advocacy/Value of the Profession, Education, Public Policy and Standards, Building the Profession, Membership, and Organizational Excellence. New elements since the last plan include a stronger emphasis on library advocacy at all levels, establishing standards for educating library support staff, advocating for improved compensation for library staff (through ALA/APA), providing more membership value through electronic forms of education, and diversifying revenue sources. For more information: <http://www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governingdocs/aheadto2010/aheadto2010.htm>

Dues Increase

In order to fund the increased activity required by the new strategic plan, ALA Council agreed to ask the membership to increase dues for the first time in ten years. A number of us [myself included] advocated a salary-based dues structure like WLA's, but were defeated on the final vote. The proposal calls for an increase of \$10 per year over a three-year period for ALA regular members. Members paying \$35 or \$45 would see an increase of approximately \$10 over three years. The salary threshold for a lower dues rate also would be increased from \$20,000 to \$25,000. If approved by members, the changes would go into effect in September 2006. ALA also will provide an option for installment payments by credit card. For information: www.ala.org/alaahead

USA PATRIOT Act

Congress reauthorized the USA PATRIOT Act with almost none of the mitigating reforms advocated by ALA and many others. ALA President Michael Gorman vowed that "we will continue to argue for a more stringent standard for Section 215 orders—one that requires the FBI to limit its search of library records to individuals who are

connected to a terrorist or suspected of a crime. We will also seek the addition of a provision allowing recipients of Section 215 or 505 orders to pose a meaningful challenge to the ‘gag’ order that prevents them from disclosing the fact that they have received such an order.” For more information:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/march2006/HousePATRIOTvote.htm> and
<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/WOissues/civilliberties/theusapatriotact/usapatriotact.htm>

Hurricane Relief:

ALA reacted swiftly to the devastation wrought by two hurricanes in the Gulf Coast area by setting up a fund to receive donations to rebuild libraries, recommitting to hold its next Annual Conference in New Orleans, and setting up an “Adopt a Library” program for more directed aid. Librarians attending the New Orleans conference will be able to participate in two service projects rebuilding libraries in the area. For more information:

<http://ala.org/ala/cro/katrina/katrina.htm>

Advocacy:

ALA’s support for library advocacy continues with Advocacy Institutes held as preconferences for each Annual and Midwinter conference since Past President Brey-Casiano’s “Stand Up and Speak Out for Libraries” initiative began last year. Here is the link for the Advocacy site: <http://www.ala.org/ala/issues/issuesadvocacy.htm>

Currently ALA members are expressing concern over the “Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights” initiative that has caused a lot of trouble in Colorado. We have had similar problems with tax limitation measures in the past. Here’s the link for the Library Funding site: <http://www.ala.org/ala/news/libraryfunding/libraryfunding.htm>

APA activity:

National Library Workers Day was April 4.

ALA-APA has begun certifying Public Library Administrators, requiring them to show competence in Budgeting and Finance, Management of Technology, Organization and Personnel Administration, Facilities Management, and three out of five “electives”: Current Issues, Marketing, Fundraising/Grantsmanship, Politics and Networking, and Serving Diverse Populations.

They’re also trying to identify “Library Stars” who are doing an especially good job of public service, and are surveying non-MLS staff salaries. More information: <http://www.ala-apa.org/>

Upcoming Issues:

If you hear of or know of anything happening in Washington State that anyone in ALA should know about, or if you’d like to comment or take action on anything that you hear is happening in ALA, please contact me at jbetzall@yahoo.com.

PNLA REPRESENTATIVE Punkey Adams

April – Attended WLA Board meeting & WLA Conference in Spokane

June – Attended WLA Board meeting in Federal Way.

August – Attended PNLA Board meeting & PNLA Conference in Sitka, Alaska; WLA pledged \$1,000 toward PNLA’s Leadership Institute.

September – Unable to attend WLA Board meeting due to death of my father.

October – Recruited Phil Heikkinen, Orcas Island Library Director, to represent Washington as a mentor at PNLA’s Leadership Institute at the Tamarack Resort in Donnelly, Idaho, in October 22-27, 2007.

November – Attended PNLA Board meeting in Federal Way; discussed PNLA’s 2006 conference *Common Spaces and Far Out Places: Libraries in the Pacific NW* to be held in Eugene, Oregon August 9-12.

December - Attended WLA Board meeting.

February – Attended WLA Board meeting & WLA Legislative Day in Olympia.

February – Attended PNLA Board meeting in Federal Way; shared WLA’s Legislative Day packet for legislators with state and province representatives as an example of WLA’s advocacy work; presented WLA’s request for PNLA to consider establishing a regional IF clearinghouse.

April – Will attend WLA Board meeting & WLA Conference in Tacoma, will participate in ALA/PNLA Breakfast and will display PNLA materials in registration area.

INTEREST GROUP REPRESENTATIVE Anne Bingham
WLFETA REPRESENTATIVE Jim Grayson/Carol Schuyler *these reports with those of the other individual Interest Groups are collected at the end of this Annual Report*

REPORTING TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

LEGISLATIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE Mike Wirt &Carolynne Myall, Co-Chairs

The Legislative Planning Committee (LPC) met once prior to the 2006 Legislative session to strategize and prepare for it, and again on February 8 to discuss the current status of legislation of interest and set the stage for the next day’s Library Legislative Day activities.

At its December meeting, the WLA Board approved the 2006 legislative priorities recommended by the LPC, which then served as the guidelines for this year’s efforts in Olympia.

Association legislative liaison Steve Duncan, with his assistant Kathie Thompson, tracked bills working their way through committees, sending those having a potential impact on Washington’s libraries to a group of three committee members for action level ratings. In addition there were weekly conference calls during the 60-day session, beginning on January 12 and ending March 9.

The legislative session was a positive one for libraries in spite of the failure of the House to bring WLA’s key bill, authorization of voter-approved multi-year levy lid overrides for library districts, up for a floor vote—the final step before a trip to the Governor’s desk. The issues were political, not the merits of the bill. We had success in two other priority areas: the State Library’s electronic document preservation bill and retention of school library media program standards. Last but by no means least, there were no issues relating to harmful to minors, Internet filtering, public library trustee election, or other changes in library district governance structure.

Two LPC task forces were created, one charged with determining WLA message points related to the public library role in early learning and the other to explore potential options for state funding of specific library services. The work of the early learning task force was completed prior to Legislative Day and the funding task force is to wrap up its work by the end of the summer.

On the Federal Legislative front, Washington State will be represented at the upcoming annual ALA Library

Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. in early May by the largest delegation ever: Federal Relations Coordinator and State Librarian Jan Walsh; WLMA Liaison Jennifer Maydole; public library directors Kristie Kirkpatrick of Whitman County and Brian Soneda of Mt. Vernon; WLFETA member Patience Rogge; State Library consultant Rand Simmons, and myself.

ALKI EDITOR REPORT FOR ALKI EDITORIAL COMMITTEE Cameron Johnson

Alki has had a routine year in 2005-2006. The *Alki* Committee is at full strength, and the journal has had no problems in soliciting adequate material. July 2006 will see Margaret Thomas take over as editor.

NARRATIVE:

Themes and submissions:

In the past year *Alki's* themes have been "Partnerships: We Are Not Alone" (the conference issue), "Forms of Library Leadership," and "Adapt or Die." We continue to receive submissions for all parts of the library community.

Our July 2006 issue is the conference issue, December 2006 will focus on rural libraries, and March 2007 theme will be "Changing of the Guard," focusing on recently retired and up-and-coming library workers.

Cost increases

Our printer, United Lithographers of Spokane, reports that because of cost increases in paper, printing plates, and "chemistry" that UL's fees will increase about 3 percent in 2006-2007. *Alki's* budget will be increased slightly to cover this projected increase. Walt's Mailing service reports no planned increases at this time.

***Alki* on the Web**

Pdfs of year-old issues are promptly placed on the WLA website, thanks to Evelyn. We continue to place our content on Wilsonline. Annual revenues from this source are small, under \$100.

***Alki* indexing project**

First expenditures for this project will be in this fiscal year (2005-2006). The *Alki* Committee will oversee this project. Tami Echavarría Robinson has already paid for the indexing course registration and has submitted a request to WLA for reimbursement. She will purchase the indexing software this summer; it is unclear whether reimbursement will come before or after July 1.

***Alki* digitization and copyright**

The editor is in the process of contacting authors for permission to digitize their 1985-1998 submissions. We are seeking legal advice on how to finish this project while limiting *Alki's* liability for copyright infringement. I expect the project to be complete by June 30.

***Alki* Committee news**

The past year has seen the departure of chair Carla McLean and Tami Echavarría Robinson. They have been replaced by Konny Thompson and Theresa Kappus, both of Gonzaga University. Margaret Thomas vacated her board position to become assistant editor. She will be replaced by Nancy Huling of the University of Washington. Mary Wise replaced Carla McLean as chair. The *Alki* Committee membership continues to reflect a balance of WLA interests and constituencies.

Editorial changeover

The changeover is going smoothly. Assistant editor Margaret Thomas has spent roughly three full days working directly with current editor Cameron Johnson and Laura McCarty, who has executed *Alki's* layout in the past. Margaret spent twenty hours completing a full layout for the March 2006 issue. A day was spent critiquing and completing this layout. Everyone learned from the experience. Margaret, Cameron, and Laura will work closely

together on July 2006's conference issue. Margaret will be fully prepared to assume the editorship in July 2006. Her first solo issue will be in December 2006.

WLA ONLINE Evelyn Lindberg

This has been a big year for WLA ONLINE. Our new web was launched successfully. We migrated to a new server which offers enhanced capacity and flexibility. New e-lists were set up for each Interest Group. A special board, committee & IG page was created to allow better communication between board meetings and to provide board documents prior to meetings; this increases the efficiency of the board. Online registrations were heavily used not only for membership applications and renewals, but also for conferences and larger workshops. This increase in use has been dramatic; through March 2006 nearly 27% of memberships for the year and more than a third of the annual conference registrations came via this service. Our library tracker page during the State Legislative session helped members keep current on bills of interest.

FEDERAL RELATIONS COORDINATOR Jan Walsh

Jan Walsh accepted a mid-term appointment to this position when Jan Sanders left the state. She has put together a strong team to attend National Library Legislative Day with her. Included are Kristy Kirkpatrick, Patience Rogge, Rand Simmons, Brian Soneda & Mike Wirt. Jennifer Maydole will join the group in Washington D.C. in May representing WLMA. Jan worked with the WLA board to assure that adequate funding for this be included in this year's budget and in ongoing years.

REPRESENTATIVE TO WASHINGTON COALITION FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT Patience Rogge

In the past year (April 2005-March 2006) I have attended seven meetings of the Washington Coalition for Open Government in person at the Seattle offices of Davis Wright Tremaine; and attended three meetings by conference call, and have missed two meetings because I was out of the country.

I have attempted to be an active member of the WCOG board and have taken my role as WLA representative seriously. I serve on the Outreach and Fund raising committees, and on a task force to compose public service announcements. I thank the board for their support of my participation in this most important organization. The following is a list of my activities:

April 2005--applied for a grant from the National Freedom of Information Coalition for \$5,000.00 to support WCOG's open public forums; managed WCOG booth at WLA conference

May 2005--drafted guidelines for WLA representatives to other organizations

June 2005--researched possible grant funding sources for WCOG, worked on James Madison Award event planning

July 2005--received word that NFOIC grant proposal accepted

August 2005--submitted grant proposal for \$20,000.00 for operating support to Seattle Foundation

September 2005--on vacation in France; James Madison Award presented at Seattle Public Library

October 2005--participated in conference call to discuss WCOG's upcoming meeting with Governor Gregoire; State Archivist Jerry Handfield nominated to WCOG board

November 2005--attended meeting with state Attorney General Rob McKenna in Seattle, brought up legislation pertaining to capture and retention of state documents published only in electronic form; sent letters of inquiry to Mott Foundation and Pew Charitable Trust for support for a project to survey state and local agencies on cost of public records requests and to publish a directory of public information officers

December 2005-- nominated state librarian Jan Walsh for WCOG board membership; advised WCOG board of ALA position on the Patriot Act; nominated WCOG for ALA's Eileen Cooke Award; introduced idea of WCOG's participation in Sunshine Week

January 2006--Jan Walsh elected to WCOG board and gave strong presentation concerning E documents legislation; WCOG board reaffirms its support for bill

February 2006--on vacation in Australia; Attorney General publishes Model Rules for compliance with Open Records and Open meetings acts

March 2006--submitted NFOIC grant proposal for \$15,000.00 for survey and directory mentioned above; WCOG holds Sunshine Week panel discussion at KOMO-TV studios in conjunction with nationwide "Are We Safer in the Dark?" activities; legislature passes E documents bill; planning WCOG booth at WLA conference and inviting WLA members to attend open public forum in Tacoma on April 19

REPRESENTATIVE TO STATEWIDE MARKETING INITIATIVE

Carol Schuyler

There have been two workshops sponsored by the State Library. One, "Getting to YES! Advocating for Your Library", is scheduled for February 23rd at Spokane Public Library and March 1st at Sno-Isle Regional Library. This workshop is focused on grassroots, low/no cost advocacy. The other, "Stories that Stick: Getting Your Tales Told in the Media", is scheduled for March 2nd at Anacortes Public Library. Its focus is learning how to build relationships with the media, develop stories that generate media interest, and be a successful spokesperson with local media outlets.

The posters and bookmarks that have been developed for this year are in the final stage of approval. The tag line for each one is: "Discover, Explore, Experience.....Dream" and "I need my library."

The characters are:

- a young father, "My friends said having a baby would change my life. They were right. I need....."
- a young woman, "My dad says I can achieve anything which is good because he's also my boss. I need....."
- a young woman as a student, "I know I have a lot to learn. I'm ready. I need....."
- a young woman, "I want to live a healthy life. I need....."
- a grandmother with her granddaughter, "I want my family to have every opportunity. They need....."
- a young man, "My community center helps kids succeed. I need....."
- a young mother, "I want to give my kids a world of possibility. I need....."
- a boy missing his two front teeth, "I'm a soccer star, a superhero, and master of the Internet. I need....."
- a middle-aged father, "At our house, family time is fun time. We need....."
- a young business woman, "I've got big dreams. I believe my company can change the world. I need....."

STANDING COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

ARCHIVES AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Kristy Coomes

The Archives Committee made significant progress in reviewing, discarding, and preparing to reorganize the many, many boxes of WLA records. Much remains to be done in the next year.

The WLA Bylaws did not need revising this year, though next year there will undoubtedly be changes as a result of the work of the Task Force on WLA Structure and Functions. Several Interest Groups revised their Bylaws and the bylaws for the new Interest Group on Library Unions were also reviewed.

AWARDS COMMITTEE Jan Walsh

The committee reviewed the nominations process and criteria, made some minor adjustments for clarity and consistency which were approved by the WLA Board.

Nominations were due on January 20, and after review by the Committee, award winners were announced. They will be honored at the Awards Luncheon at the WLA Annual Conference in Tacoma on Friday April 21st.

WLA Merit Award for Advances in Library Service, *Buff Hirko, Washington State Library*

WLA Merit Award for Outstanding Performance in a Special Area: *Jonahyn Woolf-Ivory, Sno-Isle Libraries*

WLFFTA Distinguished Service Award - Trustee Award # 1, *Tanya Patton, Dayton Public Library*

WLFFTA Distinguished Service Award, Friend/Foundation Award # 1, *Friends of Liberty Lake Municipal Library*

WLFFTA Distinguished Service Award, Friend/Foundation Award #2, *Kris Passey, Ed. & Pub. Arlington Times and Marysville Globe*

Candace Morgan Intellectual Freedom Award, *Joan Airoidi, the Library Board and Staff of Whatcom County Library System*

The President's Award and the CAYAS (Children and Young Adult Services) Award for Visionary Library Service to Youth are announced at conference.

WLA Awards Committee: Jan Walsh, Chair; Katie Cargill, Mary Carr, Sharon Hammer, Catherine Lord, and Deirdre Miller

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR 2008 Karin Ford (this becomes a voting board position after Conference 2006)

Contract negotiations were completed with the Hilton Vancouver Hotel and Conference Center and the Red Lion at the Quay Hotel for the April 15-18, 2008 joint conference. The contracts were signed by Carolyn Myall and Leah Griffith (OLA President). Karin Ford and Bridget Cain-Bushman, both from Fort Vancouver Regional Library District, worked with Liisa Sjblom (Bend Public Library and OLA Conference Chair), Gail Willis, and Kristy Coomes to develop specifications for the joint conference. For the first time, a conference management and consulting firm, EWE ME and Company of Portland, was employed to negotiate with the hotels on WLA and OLA's behalf for the most advantageous contract. The negotiation was at no charge to the associations because the firm receives commissions from the contracting hotels.

We expect to use the Red Lion at the Quay for two preconference workshops, two lunches, and about four program sessions. All other functions and the exhibits will be at the Hilton Convention Center.

EWE ME & Co. listed the following as some of the benefits they negotiated on our behalf:

1. No charges for function space (meeting rooms and exhibits).
2. Maximum single/double room rate of \$120 at the Hilton and set rate of \$99 at the Red Lion. (2008 rates)
3. Up to five "staff" guestrooms at 25% off the group rate at the Hilton.
4. Two complimentary one-bedroom suites at the Hilton and two at the Red Lion.
5. One complimentary room night for each 50 room nights paid for.
6. Five complimentary garage parking passes each day and guaranteed \$5 parking rate for those who stay at the Hilton.
7. \$500 maximum per day for all Internet connections, including in the exhibits.

8. Complimentary podiums/microphones, power cords and projector stands. Right to bring in laptops and projectors without fees.

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE Elena Bianco

The committee met to count officer election ballots in March of 2006 and in March of 2005. The elections were conducted by mail.

Committee Membership changes:

The committee is made up of Jane Shoop, Matthew Saxton and Elena Bianco, chair.

Jane Shoop has announced that she no longer plans to be on the committee in 2006-07. We need to find a new member to replace her.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE Kim Hixson

This committee conducted much of its business this year via email. The committee will continue to address fiscal issues fundamental to WLA including budget, transition of Treasurers, audits, conferences, and other items that impact the financial health of the organization.

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE Catherine Lord

Exploring the development of a statewide database to track intellectual freedom challenges

The IF Committee chair, Catherine Lord, spoke with the administrator for the Oregon State Library database of intellectual freedom challenges, to see if we might use their format and glean ideas for how to make such a database successful. She learned that Oregon has considered stopping the database because of lack of support. When queried why, there was a perception that some librarians were fearful of retaliation or backlash from having the information accessible by others. During the discussion, there was some interest on Oregon's part in doing this jointly. Catherine spoke with the WLA Board about the issue at the December 2005 WLA Board meeting, and it was decided to pursue this as a regional database, asking PNLA to consider serving as an administrator for this project.

WLA President Carolynne Myall made such a proposal to PNLA in a letter written shortly after the meeting. PNLA will discuss the issue at a later meeting. In the meantime, Carolynne brought the issue up at the public library directors' meeting. The directors voiced concern about the effectiveness and usefulness of the proposed clearinghouse, and needed a more convincing argument. Carolynne returned to the committee, and Catherine worked with Nancy Slote from the IF Interest Group to develop an argument in support of carrying out this proposal, which would support Tactic 1.2.4 of the WLA 2006 Strategic Plan: Develop a statewide advocacy and resource center for managing and tracking intellectual freedom challenges

Participation in ALA Law for Librarians conference, Chicago, April 2006

The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom received a grant to send the chairs for each state library intellectual freedom committee in the nation to a workshop in Chicago. The purpose of the workshop is to train committee chairs and other representatives from the state to go out and deliver a minimum of two IF trainings to their state over the following two years. Catherine Lord is attending this, and was also asked to present a train-the-trainer piece at the conference. Upon her return, she'll speak with people in the IF Interest Group, since the interest group bears responsibility for providing training and CE workshops through the state library association, and we'll plan how to carry out the goals of the workshop at that time.

Candace Morgan Intellectual Freedom nomination and award

The WLA IF Committee nominated Joan Airoidi, who was awarded the Candace Morgan Intellectual Freedom award. Joan very bravely and successfully stood up to the FBI, who tried to seize library circulation records for a particular book without an appropriate warrant.

MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE Linda Pierce

The Member Services has met this year and has been busy working on items from the Strategic Plan and other initiatives. The following are some highlights:

- Working on developing a new Committee charge
- Working with the Communications Coordinator on a new brochure
- Make more of an effort to follow up with first time members with a letter, give away, etc.
- Calling non-renewing members and investigating the possibility of automated email reminders for non-renewing members
- Investigating moving to a continuous membership year
- Improving the renewal form
- Possibility of volunteer request form
- Highlighting members on web pages and in Alki
- Developing a subcommittee to work on increasing academic membership and working with other academic library associations in the state
- New display board to use at conferences and other events
- Members:
 - Linda Pierce, Chair
 - Martha Parsons
 - Anne Bingham
 - Beth Gillespie
 - Carol Schuyler
 - Carolynne Myall
 - Evelyn Lindberg
 - Hester Kremer

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE Chris Livingston

The nominations committee this year had good geographic and library service diversity and worked hard to secure a strong slate of candidates for the office to be filled in 2006: The committee members were: Chris Livingston, Sue Anderson, Diane Cowles, Rick Newell, & Cindy Wigen.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE Angelina Benedetti & Lisa Oldoski, co-chairs

The Scholarship committee met on February 17, 2006, and interviewed candidates for the MaryAnn Reynolds Graduate Scholarship. This year's award goes to Erica Delavan, a student in the UW Information School's distance program. Erica's passion for community service inspired the committee.

The committee also awards grants to attend the WLA Conference. This year we are asking the Board to consider our motion to name the grants for Tony Wilson, a long-time committee member and past-Chair, who is retiring this year. Thank you, Tony, for your continued service.

If you are in the vendor area, please come by the booth of Susan Madden. All proceeds from her sales of jewelry and accessories go to support the work of the Scholarship committee. We are ever-grateful for Susan's commitment to the continuing education of our members.

TASK FORCE ON STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION Kristy Coomes

WLA President Carolynne Myall appointed the Task Force. Members of the Task Force are: Kristy Coomes, Chair; Priscilla Ice; Kim Hixson; Martha Parsons; and Gail Willis, support to the Task Force. The Task Force purpose is to identify, investigate and make recommendations in order to improve and enhance the organizational work of the Association. An example of the questions being investigated is: Should the WLA contract fully, partially, or not at all, the administrative work of the Association Coordinator, Treasurer, and conference committees? Are there internal process changes that would reduce workloads without downgrading communications and Association records? What will be the fiscal impacts of recommended changes?

A questionnaire was sent to past and present officers of the WLA and board members, to conference committee members, and others. People who have been involved in special activities, such as the WLA fiscal planning and organization or development of electronic capacities, were also contacted and have contributed information and suggestions.

One quote in response to the survey represented the thoughts of many:

I would just like to underscore the value that using members for as many functions as practical brings to WLA. Being able to be active and having meaningful hands-on duties helps us grow personally and professionally, and increases member commitment to the Association.

Thirteen positions and committees were identified as needing restructuring or expanding of responsibilities; some activities were suggested as prime possibilities for contracting, and/or there was a need for clarification of responsibilities or roles.

Many suggestions relating to Association fiscal processes and records have been adopted and others are still being investigated. For example, an Audit Committee was established as part of a new process that will reduce audit costs; bills are now being paid online; and the coding complexities of the Association budget will be clarified this summer. Establishing a contract with a new bookkeeping firm is being investigated.

One of the recommendations to reduce the workload of the Association Coordinator, in order to free time to devote to coordinating Association activities such as Legislative Day, was to encourage Interest Groups to move to electronic newsletters rather than print. This appears to be happening naturally as more WLA members have easy access to the Internet.

The position description for Coordinator of Communications is being revised to concentrate on WLA public relations. Other position descriptions are receiving minor updates and some positions, such as the WLFFTA representative, are receiving additional liaison responsibilities. Discussion with the WLA board point toward having the president appoint the conference coordinators, with approval by the WLA board, since the timeline for conference planning starts long before the WLA election cycle. This will require a bylaws revision if adopted. Handling the complexities and workload of the Webmaster, both with Association members and possibly a contract is being investigated since our current Webmaster will step down in July.

A topic yet to be addressed is establishing continuity and regular procedures for the annual Legislative Day.

The Task Force will continue its work in this next year and we may well be calling on members for information. We will undoubtedly be asking a variety of people to work on subcommittees, which address defined topics.

INTEREST GROUP COORDINATOR Anne Bingham

There is great and good news to report on the Interest Groups.

The larger Interest Groups thrived this year, CAYAS and RIG especially. Some Interest Groups suffered from lack of or changes in leadership, e.g. Grassroots and WLFFTA. Two interest groups have already merged: Technical Services Interest Group and Collection Development Interest Group have become CATS, Collection and Technical Services. WLFFTA and Grassroots are discussing a likely merger at the moment.

I think this is a good trend. It is difficult for the *active* membership of WLA to maintain the 15 IGs we started with this year. There are a few more IGs that are being run by a small handful of people, and I suspect that in a few years time when these current leaders need to move on, that we will have a few more mergers. If our membership remains constant, I think 6-10 larger umbrella Interest Groups would serve our needs, and they would be able to have actual steering committees with several active members rather than one or two people struggling to keep an Interest Group afloat.

The Interest Groups that are doing well are doing great, and the Interest Groups that have difficulties realize it and are merging into viable IGs, which is good.

The Interest Group coordinator has learned a lot this year, and plans on having an even better second year. In my new position as a school librarian, I am half of the staff where I work, and realize that I am not able to dedicate the time to my WLA duties as I could when I worked at a much larger institution. Hopefully I can make up for this with more experience next year. Attending all required WLA meetings can be a challenge.

Most of the Interest Groups submitted detailed reports of their many yearly activities—please see attached IG reports.

REPORTS FROM INDIVIDUAL INTEREST GROUPS

CATS (COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES) and Gail Goodrick

Sydney Chambers

The Collection Development Interest Group (CDIG) and Technical Services Interest Group (TSIG) memberships voted to combine into CATS to insure leadership and continued activity. The voted new bylaws and elected Sydney Chambers and Gail Goodrick as co-chairs for 2005-6.

CAYAS (CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT SERVICES) Kristen Snyder, Chair

The CAYAS Board met for their board meeting on January 21, 2005 in Kirkland. We finalized plans for the 2005 WLA Conference in Spokane and conducted normal CAYAS business. We met again June 11, 2005 at Dumas Bay to welcome our new board members: Deirdre Miller Chair Elect, Kristin Piepho Board Position #3, Amy Cassidy Board Position #4 and Tomi Whalen Newsletter Editor. We are very happy they agreed to share their time, gifts and talents.

Our 2005 Spring Workshop was well received on both sides of the state. Anita Sheneberger presented Fast and Fabulous Flannel Boards. Anita told stories highlighting the six early literacy skills in the morning session. In the afternoon, participants were able to create two flannel boards for their own use. The CAYAS Fall Workshop was also presented on both sides of the state. In October Teri Lesesne, professor at Sam Houston State University, presented Making the Match: The Right Book for the Right Reader at the Right Time. This program received great

reviews. The 2006 Spring Workshop hit a few roadblocks, but after much email discussion, *Get Graphic @ Your Library – Graphic Novels and Manga: Now What?* will be presented in May in Seattle.

Previously, Board Position #2 was responsible for coordinating a CAYAS presence at the Washington Homeschool Convention (WHO). However, WHO had decided to charge all “vendors” equally. CAYAS was not comfortable paying to advertise free services to homeschoolers. Also – the homeschool movement has grown and most families are strong supporters and heavy users of their local library. Board Position #2 is now responsible for coordinating a breakout session at WALE (this came as a request from WALE and WLA). At WALE 2005, Kirsten Edwards presented *Let’s get Together (yeah, yeah, yeah): Teen Programs in your Library*.

CAYAS’ contribution to the annual WLA conference in April included five programs and the annual CAYAS breakfast. The session on Collaborative Summer Library Program was jointly sponsored with the Washington State Library and another session, *Weed Seed and Grow Techniques for Maintaining Vibrant Youth Collections* was jointly sponsored with CDIG. The CAYAS breakfast opened with the announcement that Sally Grant (Whatcom County Library System) was the recipient of the 2005 Visionary Award for her stellar service to teens. The breakfast speaker, Robert J. Blake, shared sketches and stories of his work, focusing on his research of the 1925 serum run in Alaska. We all know that while Balto may have all of the fame, it was Togo who did the majority of the work!

Our board met January 21, 2006 in Bellevue to finalize plans for the WLA 2006 conference and plan for the Fall 2006 workshop. Chair Emeritus Lynn Stone is hard at work recruiting four new board members. The new members will be welcomed at our retreat in June.

GRASSROOTS! This IG is currently without a chair. Discussion is underway about the viability of merging with WLFETA

2005 chair Laura McCarty chaired a successful Library Legislative Day in 2005 and edited the Grassroots! newsletter through the 2005 Legislative session. Will Stuiwenga of the Washington State Library continued the newsletter successfully for the 2006 session.

IFIG (INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM INTEREST GROUP)

Elena Bianco & Nancy Slote

The IFIG has begun to reinvent itself this year with a new steering committee. Its primary goals have been to find active members of the IG and to identify topics and speakers for workshops and conference programs. The IG co-sponsored a Patriot Act program at the 2005 Spokane Conference with Joan Airoidi from the Whatcom County Library District, Lynne Bradley from ALA, Candace Morgan, and Jan Sanders from the Spokane Public Library. Laura Boyes (IF Committee Chair) moderated the session. The co-chairs assumed their roles in June, 2005, and did not have sufficient time to prepare 2006 conference proposals. Instead, they contacted each member of the IG with a short questionnaire in order to determine the interests of the membership. Future programs/workshops may include: an IF “refresher,” school library challenges, open government and Patriot Act updates. In addition, the membership indicated an interest in a web page with local and state content.

The co-chairs were guest contributors to the “Who’s on First” column in *Alki* on a current IF hot topic, access to government records and information. (“The E-document Shell Game, December, 2005). In addition, the IFIG sponsored a Sunshine Week satellite feed program developed by ALA and other organizations on March 13, 2006 at Shoreline Community College and Spokane Falls Community College entitled: “Are We Safer in the Dark? A National Dialogue on Open Government and Secrecy.” Local discussions followed each program. David Utevsky, a board member from the Washington Coalition for Open Government, moderated at Shoreline Community College. Spokane Falls Community College organized a panel discussion Greg Garneau, Gonzaga Law School, Doug Floyd, *Spokesman Review*, and Meike Mittelstadt, Spokane Falls Community College.

The IFIG will focus on developing 2007 conference proposals and redesigning and maintaining a web page for the upcoming year.

Steering Committee: Elena Bianco, Shoreline Community College, co-chair; Nancy Slote, King County Library System, co-chair; Joan Airolti, Whatcom County Library District

IGLU (Interest Group for Libraries and Unions) Susan Veltfort & Cher Ravagni Co-Chairs

Major activities:

Developed and submitted a program for WLA Annual Conference 2006, "Workplace Rights at Risk" featuring John N. Berry III, Editor-in-Chief, Library Journal. Also arranged for a Talk Table following the program to provide continued discussion with John N. Berry.

- Launched IGLU web page.
- Prepared draft of IGLU Bylaws to be submitted for approval by the interest group membership to be forwarded to the WLA Board at the April 19, 2006 meeting for acceptance.
- Developed IGLU promotional flier and created "basket" for the Meet 'n Greet at the WLA Conference.
- Finalized details of conference program, "Workplace Rights at Risk" and Talk Table.

NEXTGENWA (Next Generation Librarians)

Lisa Oldoski

Our group met for the first time at conference 2005. This conference we will be hosting the pre-conference Rev up your online services, and the session "Straight Scoop: A Candid and Irreverent Look at Library Work". In the coming year we hope to initiate a quarterly meeting in which newish librarians can get together to talk and share ideas.

OLE (OUTREACH AND LITERACY FOR EVERYONE)

Bonnie Gerkin and Theresa Gemmer Co-Chairs

We sponsored 2 workshops at the WLA last year, "Staying ahead with Safety" and "Learning to Read" adult literacy. Both programs were well attended and well-received with requests to repeat or expand on Lynne Price's program on adult literacy. Bonnie and Theresa presented 2 workshops on early literacy for the WALE conference in October of 2006 as well. We had our annual meeting at WLA and participated in the Meet and Greet there as well.

RIG (REFERENCE INTEREST GROUP)

Deanna Sukkar and Jennie Westlund, Co-Chairs

Co-chairs Elinor Appel and Shireen Deboo (2004-05) led a steering committee meeting, and RIG hosted a workshop on finding business, medical and U.S. patent information. Eight programs were sponsored at the 2005 WLA annual conference, and they held the annual meeting, at which new officers were elected.

Co-chairs Deanna Sukkar and Jennie Westlund (2005-06) hosted two meetings, attended the WLA retreat and Interest Group workshop, and attended two WLA Board meetings.

RIG organized and hosted tours of the Western State Hospital and McNeil Island Correctional Center libraries, the UW Health Sciences Library, the Washington State Patrol Forensic Laboratory Library the Seattle Public Library Central Branch and the Boeing Technical Library.

RIG offered three sessions of a workshop on statistical reference service, in three different parts of the state, and presented a business reference workshop on the UW campus.

A piece on ALA, WLA and RIG was created that was included in orientation packets for new UW iSchool students. The Co-chairs and Marketing Director visited two iSchool classes to talk about WLA/ALA and RIG, and hosted a "Meet 'n Eat" on campus, to recruit new RIG members. RIG sponsored a reference panel at the UW iSchool's iCareer week

RIG will sponsor five programs at the WLA 2006 annual conference, co-sponsor two programs with the Social Responsibilities Round Table, and hold its annual meeting.

RIG launched a shadowing program to connect RIG members with a list of library professionals willing to be shadowed at their workplace. The RIG logo contest resulted in an attractive "brand" for the interest group, and the revamped website is a resource-rich, easy to navigate "face" for RIG.

SAM (Supervisors, Administrators and Managers Interest Group) Troy Christenson

Here is a list of the things we have accomplished this year:

- A SAM web page has been created and posted in the IG section of the WLA web site.
- The bylaws have been revised with the help of Kristy Coomes and are currently in draft form, waiting to be approved by the members at the April 2006 WLA annual conference. They were a work in progress when I assumed the duties as Chair.
- A new SAM logo was created. It was approved by the Coordinator of Communications and the membership. It is now in use on the IG web page and all SAM related publications.
- An email distribution list was created for the group by Evelyn Lindberg, WLA Webmaster. Hopefully it will be a tool for communications between the members of the IG.
- As Chair, I participated in the WLA member retention drive by contacting a select group of past members who had not yet renewed for 2006.
- SAM and WALT cosponsored a pre-conference at the WLA 2006 Annual Conference titled: 'Corrective Action and Progressive Discipline: A Skill for New, and Not-so-New, Supervisors?'

The SAM Interest Group is struggling to find members to serve as officers and in getting active involvement in programming. There was a call put out shortly after the 2005 annual conference for a Vice-Chair and Secretary, but for which there was no response, nominations or volunteers.

While there were some replies to my query for training and conference topics, there is a need for additional membership support for this interest group. This year we will be looking for a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary once again.

SRRT (Social Responsibilities Round Table) Laura Park

SRRT's main activities of the past year have been to prepare pertinent programs for WLA 2006 conference. The members actively shared the ideas and brainstormed over email the programs that might be beneficial to the WLA community. We have 3 programs accepted to be presented at the conference: 1) Growing with Emerging Immigrant Group; 2) Medicine Wheel; 3) Promoting library services with culturally diverse populations. We are hoping to generate more membership this coming year.

TRIP (Technology Resources for Information Professionals) Tamara Georgick & Marilyn Sheck, co-chairs

TRIP is presenting "Can Your Phone Talk to Your Refrigerator and if So, What Do They Say About You?" at Conference 2006. They have already assured a smooth transition to next year by electing Chris Peters as chair for 2006-7.

WALE (Washington Association of Library Employees) Katie Cargill

At the 2005 Conference new officers were selected for the WALE Steering Committee. They are as follows: Katie Cargill, Chair

Karen Olson-ONeill, Secretary/Treasurer

Troy Christenson, Webmaster

Marie Byers, Communications Officer

A newsletter was sent out in December 2005, and another in March 2006. Our newsletter will be quarterly. The WALE Conference committee is underway making plans for the 2006 Conference, headed by Heidi Chittim.

Discussion is underway to change the content of the WALE webpage to make it more consistent with the content of the WLA webpage. Troy Christenson has received approval to work on a demo of what we would like the page to look like. Then it will go forward for approval.

Membership seems to be down this year. Katie Cargill will be contacting all of the people who did not renew their memberships in WALE and find out why!

Katie would also like to have a workshop sometime this summer sponsored by WALE. She is working on finding someone to present this workshop.

WALT (Washington Association of Library Trainers) Successes of WALT IG for 2005:

WALT developed a comprehensive website that contains tools and resources for all Washington Library Staff. The website has a new image and is much more user friendly. This is a valuable tool that is a bonus to every WLA membership. We invite everyone to visit the website and help us make it a valuable resource that meets your training needs.

At the 2006 WLA Conference, the WALT IG hosted the Meet & Greet event and demonstrated an interactive process that encouraged participant involvement. WALT's intent is to continue to model "Best Practices" that capture effective learning "moments" for WLA members.

WALT endorsed the Accelerated Learning workshop of Dave Meier. This national training provided a rare opportunity to train-the-trainer and WALT negotiated a deep discount for WALT participants and then provided \$150 scholarships to all WALT members who attended. This mitigated the costs for library systems and individuals. The training was exceptional and techniques and tools will initially be demonstrated by WALT members during a 2006 WLA conference workshop.

WALT co-presented with the TRIP IG at the 2005 WLA Conference workshop, "Online Meetings and Virtual Classrooms." The workshop filled to capacity because we targeted the need for library technology solutions.

WALT sponsored and presented two learning events for Washington in 2005. The presentations and total attendance for each are:

- 5-Star Presentations 160
- Meetings That Work 145

These learning events targeted for libraries were also offered to the local business communities; we received a great deal of positive feedback and support such as, “I didn’t know the library sponsored this kind of training,” and, “It’s great that the library sponsors training like this.” This demonstrates that public learning events through their libraries creates good will with communities.

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WLFFTA (Washington Association of Library Friends, Foundations & Trustees) Jim Grayson/Carol Schuyler

The Steering Committee met on November 29th. We have a conference call meeting scheduled for January 31st. We will also meet at the WLA conference in April.

Patience Rogge, Jefferson County Library Board of Trustee member, received the 2005 WLA Lifetime Honorary Membership Award for her outstanding service and commitment to libraries and to the Association.

We will have three positions open on the Steering Committee next year. It is a wonderful committee with energy and ideas directed toward the advocacy and promotion of libraries and library service and the support of trustees, foundations, and “Friends”.

We will need an editor for the “Advocate”. As its current editor, Jeanne Steffener has been dedicated in collecting articles and getting the newsletter ready for printing. Thank you, Jeanne. There was discussion at the meeting about going to an electronic format attached to our website with a more limited print edition for those members who do not have Internet access.

At the 2005 annual conference, the membership meeting featured performers Phillip and Vivian Williams presenting “Fiddle Tunes of the Lewis and Clark Era”. WLFFTA also sponsored two programs: “Trustees: You Are Not Alone” and “Building Library/Community Relationships”. Both programs were well attended and received positive feedback.

At the 2006 annual conference, WLFFTA is working with the pre-conference “Prospecting for Gold: Effective Fundraising Strategies”. Jeanne Thorsen, Executive Director of the King County Library System Foundation, Terry Collings, Executive Director of the Seattle Public Library Foundation, Jonna Ward, Deputy Director of the Seattle Public Library Foundation, and Nancy Patton, Volunteer Program Coordinator for Sno-Isle Libraries will be presenting. A full-day program on best practices for library fund-raising, it was first presented at the Public Library Association conference in Seattle.

WLFFTA is also sponsoring a conference program “Rebel With a Cause: Government Information as a Source for Grassroots Activism”.

The biennial “Friends’ Forum” is being planned for October, 2006. The tentative dates are October 7th or October 14th.