



April.-May. 2013

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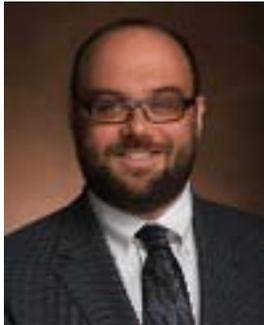
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## President's Message Full Steam Ahead!

By: Stephen Sweeney, CAL President



Recently, I have been thinking about the bigger issues that affect our Association. From budgets to stakeholders, from the conference to spring workshops, our continued focus as an Association is on membership. Our

members, you and me, make it possible for us all to thrive. If you have read this newsletter since I became President after the last Conference in Keystone, you have noticed that membership is my theme. Together, we can accomplish so much more than we can individually. From our own identification of library by type (i.e. school, public, academic, special) to our affiliation by type-of-work (i.e. Circulation, Technical Services, Interlibrary Loans, teaching, etc.), we have much to learn from one another.

The legislative session this year is a great example of library folks of all stripes coming together around a common goal; "A Dollar Does It!" A dollar really did it, as CAL worked successfully with our Legislative Committee, our Executive Board, our lobbyists, our Trustees, you! (our members) and our friends at the State Library to secure \$2,000,000 in the budget line for State Grants to Publicly Funded Libraries. These monies will go to early literacy projects across the state in different types of libraries.

A successful project like A Dollar Does It stresses the importance of becoming a member, remaining a member (and becoming active), and renewing

our personal and institutional memberships as they come up. Financial difficulties are something that many of us face at one time or another. Membership dollars represent a very real revenue stream for CAL. Without members, CAL simply does not exist. Without membership dollars, there is a greater burden on finding alternative sources of funding for the Association. Have you referred your colleagues and friends to join CAL or renewed your own membership? Knowing the good work we accomplish together, would you refer someone to CAL? If you answered YES, I say thank you! If your answer is no to either question, please let me know what CAL is not doing successfully to recruit or retain you as a member.



**CALCON13**  
**Full Steam Ahead**  
[Register Today!](#)

## Seeking Nominations

By: Kari May, CAL President-Elect

As President-elect, it is my pleasure to chair the Nominations Committee, which helps recruit the next round of leaders for our organization. Vacancies on the Executive Board this year are the Treasurer and CAL President-Elect. Following the rotation established in our bylaws, we are seeking a President-Elect from the Academic Association (CoALA). If you are interested in running for either office, or would like to suggest one of your colleagues, please contact me at [Director@elbertcountylibrary.org](mailto:Director@elbertcountylibrary.org).

Each Association and Division also has officer positions available, as defined in their bylaws. In the next month I will be contacting each Association or Division to help facilitate completion of a list of candidates for the offices up for election this year.

I volunteered to run for President of CAL because I believe that the strength of our organization lies in all of us working together, sharing our strengths to help advocate for libraries, network with each other, and broaden the impact of library services throughout Colorado. I hope you will give serious consideration to joining me in an elected position.

## Trustees and Friends Division Update

By: Robin Gard, Chair

Good news to report for libraries, trustees and advocates on several fronts!

We have been urging support for the state library funding request and asking you to contact your legislators and have your boards adopt the resolution. Happily, many of you responded.

Now we're pleased to announce that the Joint Budget Committee for the State Legislature included a \$2 million budget line for libraries in the Long Bill for the first time in years. What this means: a line item for that amount will be included as part of the Library Services section in the budget bill. This will be debated and voted on by House and Senate before the end of the session. Barring change or deletion during the hearing and voting process, and assuming no line item veto before signing, the funds would be available to fund grants for library materials in eligible school, public, and academic libraries after July 1.

Thanks to all who took the time to help in this effort.

And speaking of advocacy, the CAL Executive Board voted to re-institute the annual Outstanding Trustee Award. This gives our Division an opportunity to recognize dedication and achievement by a Colorado library board member.

There are many hard-working trustees out there, so be thinking of worthy nominees from your libraries. The

nominating process will be advertised and will open soon. Check the CAL Web Page after May 1 for details.

Trustees, Friends and advocates – take the time to check out our new web page and all the possibilities. Be sure to join our Trustees & Friends group – you'll find us under Divisions on the main page in the blue menu boxes on the left. Just click on the Trustee & Friends link and then on Join This Group.

Robin Gard

[homerun2@prodigy.net](mailto:homerun2@prodigy.net)

Chair, Trustees and Friends Division

## Paralibrarian Division Update

By: Karyn Pelz, Paralibrarian Reporter

The Paralibrarian Division's Spring Workshop "Steaming into the Future: Libraries Transformed" was held March 27th at the Community College of Aurora. Kari May, President-Elect of CAL, welcomed attendees to a full day of informational sessions. Jim Duncan,



Executive Director of Colorado Library Consortium (CLIC) presented a fascinating keynote "Steaming, Rocketing & Warping: Libraries Move at Different Speeds." During the lunch buffet, State Librarian Gene Hainer updated everyone with his "State of the State Library" address. Opportunity tickets for bountiful gift baskets netted \$161.00. This money will be used for continuing education scholarships for paralibrarians.

Thank you to all of our presenters, IMI, and our attendees!

We would especially like to thank CLIC, who sponsored 4 scholarships. The scholarships were awarded to: Bonita McDaniel-Arkansas Elementary School, Robert German-High Plains Library District, Cheryl Baker-Douglas County Libraries and Kate Gesick-High Plains Library District.

Remember to visit our Facebook and LinkedIn pages.

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## Greetings CAL Members!

It's been a busy spring for Colorado libraries! I've thoroughly enjoyed being out in the field and meeting the people behind all of the terrific programs and services that are offered in our libraries. Along with the workshops and information sessions I attended this spring came lots of new friends and colleagues. That is one of the benefits of being a CAL member that I truly value. Creating opportunities to connect with other library professionals is something that CAL does brilliantly. Where else can I have breakfast with the State Librarian, lunch with the CAL President, and learn from amazing people from the Colorado State Library and CLiC? My CAL membership brings that all together for me. In one week, my membership paid for itself through discounted registration for the CAL Paraprofessional Spring Workshop and CAL advocacy efforts in the State Grants to Libraries Act.

In an ongoing effort to show how CAL brings us together to promote libraries in Colorado, I'm asking each member to please share their favorite CAL stories. It might be a new library adventure that you embarked on because of something

## Tell Us Your CAL Story

I have been a member of CAL since I moved to Colorado in 1998; actually it was CLA since that was before the decision to merge the separate associations together happened. When the Associations merged in 2001, the first full conference with all of us together focused on collaboration across library types. Sharing my perspective from a public library, I worked with Nancy Edmonds, then Director of the Aims Community College Library, to co-present on eBooks in libraries. The positive energy I have experienced from networking and talking with librarians from around the state inspires me, every day.

Kari May – CAL President Elect

I joined CAL in 2007, shortly after being appointed as a brand-new trustee in a brand-new library district. I really appreciated the conference offerings and the chance to ask questions of other library board members statewide.



you learned at a CAL workshop or conference, or a new friend that you met through CAL that has helped you network into a new position. Share your stories with us!

If you have a story you would like to share, you may email me at [bclanphere@gmail.com](mailto:bclanphere@gmail.com), or connect with me on [www.cal-webs.org](http://www.cal-webs.org) and share on the Membership Group Feed. I look forward to reading about all of the great moments in your CAL history.

Best Regards,  
Bethany Lanphere, Chair, CAL Membership Committee

Now, six years later, I am active in the Trustee & Friends Division and have benefited so much from my continuing involvement in CAL. There's nothing like chatting with peers to re-discover how many challenges and issues we all have in common. CAL provides a terrific platform for education, training, advocacy and networking. So, please support libraries -- by joining and supporting CAL!"

Robin Gard, Chair, Trustees and Friends Division

**JOIN CAL TODAY!**

[www.cal-webs.org](http://www.cal-webs.org)

## Call for Award Nominations!

Do you know someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve libraries in Colorado? A person, library or committee who has completed an amazing and innovative project within the last year designed to bring better library services to users? A volunteer that shines? A Trustee that has earned your library's trust, and more? The CAL Awards Committee strives to recognize excellence in library services throughout the state of Colorado but we need YOUR help. You are encouraged to nominate the best of the best for the 2013 CAL Awards, to be presented at the Colorado Association of Libraries Conference in Loveland, CO, in October, 2013. Nominations will be accepted May 1- June 15, 2013 for the following categories...

Colorado Librarian of the Year  
Library Advocate Award  
Library Community Partnership Award  
Library Project of the Year  
Colorado Library of the Year  
Career Achievement Award  
Outstanding Library Volunteer  
Unsung Hero Award

And new this year... The Outstanding Library Trustee Award.

Please visit

<http://www.cal-webs.org/?page=AwardsList>

to view a list of the awards.

Nominate today at

<http://www.cal-webs.org/?page=AwardsFormPage>

## Many Thanks to Everyone Who Spoke with Your Legislators!

Pursuing the State Funds for Publicly Funded Libraries Grant Line Item

The effort to restore funding to the State Grants to Libraries Act in 2013 has achieved its goal. Thanks to contacts from many individuals, trustees, and friends of libraries plus the under-the-dome work of CAL's lobbyists, the two million dollars for libraries has been restored to the state's budget. The "Long Bill" (SB13-230) has cleared the House and Senate and should be signed by the Governor by the end of April.

The State Library will work with the Colorado library community to finalize a plan for distributing the funds

and a way to measure and report on how the monies were used to help meet early literacy needs in Colorado. The State Grants to Libraries Act calls for a minimum of \$3000 per library, with a per capita amount for libraries serving larger populations. School library funds will be distributed through the school district. According to statute (CRS 24-90-401) the funds may be used for educational materials. A footnote in the funding bill directs that funds be targeted to early literacy efforts.



What You Can Do to Help!

Continue to talk with your legislators. THANK them for their support of this line item. And, as programs move forward, share stories about how their support is helping your Library support the community. And, Thanks for Another Great Lobby Day! The 2013 State Lobby Day event was held on Thursday, March 21 from 8a to noon. This year



we had two students lead the Pledge in the House. In addition, Amber Valdez, part of the CAL lobbying team, once again helped us receive a proclamation. This time, declaring March 21, 2013 as COLORADO LIBRARY DAY. Messaging continued to focus on how libraries are helping Colorado's economy along with the focus on early literacy initiatives to help produce a more literate and educated society.

David Bondarchuck, owner of Scratch Bakery, returned to share his culinary expertise and his story of how the Denver Public Library was a key to his success. Special thanks go to Kimberly Young, from the Pueblo City-County Library District and CALLI Cohort member,

who took the lead on getting volunteers to participate in this year's event.



Floor

Student representatives from the Cole Arts & Science Academy leave the House

## Yes, money is tight - no, I don't think bankruptcy is in our future!

I've found myself saying these words more than once lately, and Stephen suggested I bring a report of our financial condition to you, the members. Yes, our financial position is tenuous right now. We've had a fiscally tough time during the past year, but we've been there before, and we'll probably be there again, so we don't need to panic – we just need to pull together to get the CAL train back on the track! Your Executive Committee, CAL staff and the entire Executive Board have been doing just that.

Just for some perspective, four years ago we were facing a very similar position, and several libraries stepped up to keep our organization going through an infusion of monetary support. Then we had three pretty darn good conference years, and the memberships were up. We're now in a bit of a slump, but you can all help by renewing your membership and supporting CAL Conference this October – and encouraging your friends to do so as well!

So, how bad is it? We depend upon memberships (30%) and conference (65%) for income. The remaining 5%, still very important to us, is gleaned through the many workshops provided by different divisions, associations and committees. In 2010, our net income from conference was \$98,045. In 2011 it dropped slightly, to \$91,821. However, in 2012, although it didn't exactly lose money, the net income was only \$25,636. Income dropped significantly, but expenses rose by over \$10,000. That drop in projected income had a decidedly negative impact on our cash reserves.

Our other mainstay of income, memberships, brought in \$87,515 in 2010, \$84,570 in 2011, and dropped by over \$20,000 in 2012, to a total of \$63,989. Already this year, however, we have tripled income for institutional memberships, and we're rockin' and rollin' with individual memberships. That has helped us get through the 1st quarter of the year. We can't let up, though, as we've expended our "rainy day" fund to get us this far.

Monthly expenses are about \$12,000, to cover administrative costs such as our management company (CAL staff), lobbyist fees, web site maintenance, and miscellaneous operating costs. I'm sure that by now you're all aware of the great work of the lobbyists to help restore library funding statewide – and it looks like that will probably happen. Our management company is the broad-based support arm of the organization, helping to maintain our finances, support membership activities, provide workshop support, implement and maintain a new, robust web site, and a myriad of other things. We just can't do without either of these major support pieces.

We're working hard on new fund-raising initiatives, investigating and implementing ways to cut costs, and would really appreciate the support of each and every one of you! Please help YOUR state association through renewing your membership, inviting and encouraging your peers to join the organization, and attending workshops and the annual conference in October. Thanks!

Chris Brogan  
Treasurer



The CAL Conference Planning Committee has been working hard to bring you something fresh and new for CALCON13. While the CAL Conference has offered up some fantastic educational content and networking opportunities over the years, we've taken your feedback and some of our recent conference themes to heart. So we're taking an [innovative](#) approach to the conference and offering up [illumination](#) from outside the library world to prepare us to [transform](#) our perspectives and enable us to [team up](#) and move [Full Steam Ahead!](#)

When CAL President, Stephen Sweeney and I were brainstorming for this year's conference theme, we were already planning some dramatic changes to the format and experience. Capturing the essence of this new conference experience was proving elusive. What we kept coming back to was the desire for the conference to be more than just a passive learning opportunity. We wanted it to be a practical, unifying, thought-expanding experience that left attendees not just inspired, but primed to take action back in the real world.

Around the same time, the steampunk world and its intriguing aesthetic were playing on my mind more and more. I had been drawn to steampunk since before the term was in popular use (going back to my early childhood when I was watching Wild Wild West on TV, and reading Jules Verne), but recently there's been a surge of interest worldwide and it is becoming more and more prevalent in popular culture – Gail Carriger's Parasol Protectorate series enjoyed significant time on the NY Times Bestseller list; Guy Ritchie's Sherlock Holmes movies with Robert Downey, Jr. and Jude Law are certifiable blockbusters; and even Justin Bieber adopted a steampunk look for his "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" video.

While it's hard to nail down a definitive definition of steampunk (even among its ardent ambassadors), the term generally refers to the blending of elements of the Victorian era (usually fashion, etiquette, clockwork, zeppelins and steam-powered machinery) with modern

and future technology (think Tesla coils, lasers and the things of science fiction). It's born out of Victorian romantic fiction with scientific influences – H.G. Wells, Jules Verne, Mary Shelley – but now encompasses so many alternate histories, that the steampunk possibilities are seemingly endless. Which is one of the characteristics that draws me to it.

I also see parallels in steampunk to the library world. Libraries have a respected and storied history that is fundamental to our place in the world, but we face a world where technology is making radical leaps forward and often forcing us to do the same. Both the steampunk and library worlds value knowledge, science, and wit. Steampunk embraces a future without limits, which is something most of us in the library world are trying to incorporate into our organizations and communities. Which brings us back to our theme – we decided to borrow the power and imagery of a steam engine to help illustrate a conference full of momentum and action. CALCON13 strives to honor the best of the past and infused it with all the possibilities of the future, so we hope you'll join us for a spectacular conference experience. We'll be sharing more details about the new format and our amazing lineup of guests in the coming months. <https://calwebs.site-ym.com/?page=CALCON>

Seana O'Grady  
CALCON13 Conference Chair

Full Steam Ahead!  
CAL Conference 2013  
October 17-19, 2013  
Embassy Suites Loveland

For more about the steampunk movement:  
The Steampunk Bible: An Illustrated Guide to the World of Imaginary Airships, Corsets and Goggles, Mad Scientists, and Strange Literature  
By Jeff VanderMeer, S. J. Chambers  
Steampunk: An Illustrated History of Fantastical Fiction, Fanciful Film and Other Victorian Visions  
By Brian J. Robb

[Steampunk \[Wikipedia\]](#)

[Steampunk Images \[Pinterest\]](#)

## CALCON13 is Full Steam Ahead Register Today!



Register by June 7th to get the best price!

The CAL conference is shaking things up in the spirit of innovative conferences like TED and the recent Risk and Reward conference. The focus will be on broad, inspiring and interactive ideas surrounding the topics of Fortify, Pitch, Dare, Engage and Launch.

We hope you will join us to participate in an innovative CALCON!