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President's Message Full Steam Ahead!

By: Stephen Sweeney, CAL President



Happy February! We are already part of the way through the year, a third of the way through my term as President, and well into the 2013 legislative session. Thinking back to my column from the last issue and our 121 year history, it occurs to me

that we have some big shoes to fill. At many points in our careers, we have the "opportunity" to face an issue or two: what to do about that expensive journal subscription, that leaky pipe, how to approach customer service internally and externally, etc. Thinking about these issues, one of the great things about CAL is our shared history and camaraderie.

As members of CAL we can address these issues together, because they go beyond our Library type and position. Among the other contributions to this issue of the newsletter, you will see a message from Bethany Lanphere, Membership Committee Chair. Are you a current member? Do you know someone (perhaps at your library) that might benefit from joining CAL? Encourage them to join! Their voice will be valuable to our continued success, and we have opportunities for them. Four associations, four divisions, committee work, and many interest groups are sure to connect a new member with continuing members. Some of the most obvious benefits of membership include networking and problem-solving with colleagues in a variety of libraries, professional development at the annual conference and workshops during the year, and having an influential voice in the Colorado legislature through legislative work and the work of our lobbyists.

Speaking of the lobbyists, they and the Legislative Committee have been working hard to fund libraries

in Colorado. Hopefully you read last month about how "A Dollar Does It." \$1.00 per capita, or \$5,200,000, will improve library services statewide through a variety of avenues. It will bring a minimum of \$3,000 per library or school district, doubling the book and materials budgets in some rural areas; give all Coloradans access to more resources for learning through libraries; strengthen academic libraries in their preparation of students for productive lives; help our school libraries improve collections that research shows helps build educational excellence; and improve public libraries efforts to make more early childhood and family literacy materials available to all. Two ways we can make our voices heard are coming right up. Look for future announcements about CAL Lobby Day at our State Capitol in March. You have probably also seen the announcement for National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. on May 7 & 8.

What organization is not working on better vehicles for communication? Our website is one way CAL is working to improve in this area: from the Board to the membership, from CAL leadership to the members, and among members. We will unveil our new website by the end of this week. The functionality and other opportunities that this tool brings are almost limitless when compared to the pages of days gone by. The importance of not just having a website has not been lost on the Board. The website that you will be able to access is part of a larger association management software platform. Some of the increased capabilities over our previous site include: member registration and dues collection, including the ability for Directors to build member profiles for their Boards of Trustees; personalizable member profiles for all membership types, including social networking opportunities; the ability to search for (and find!) other members of the Association,

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Why Should I Belong to CAL?

By: Bethany Lanphere, Membership Committee Chair

When I ask my colleagues if they belong to CAL, I most often hear, “I used to be a member, but if I am not going to the conference, I don’t really see a good reason” or “I just don’t have money/time/interest.”

Speaking as the Membership Committee Chair for CAL, I ask that you reconsider.

Why should you belong to CAL? You should join because you are part of a community. The Colorado library community is made up of passionate people who care strongly about literacy, libraries, and learning. You should join because equal access to information, promoting democracy, and intellectual freedom are a part of your personal philosophy.

Simply put, there is strength in numbers. A well-organized group of passionate people with passionate supporters is hard for politicians to say no to. Through CAL you have the support of lobbyists who work continually on issues relevant to libraries; issues that have an impact in Colorado and our Nation. Become a member and help to support the next generation of library professionals who will continue the amazing work that you are doing now and ensure that they have a place to grow and thrive in their community.

What does CAL offer you? Never underestimate the power of the library community. CAL membership can mean new knowledge, leadership skills, personal connections and the opportunity to change your community for the better. You also have the opportunity to attend conferences and workshops to learn from individuals both inside and outside of our profession, individuals who are making a difference in Colorado libraries. CAL provides you with an environment to make great connections with people who are invaluable resources to you in growing your career or working on programs.

Can CAL change your life? It is largely up to you. In my own personal experience, every time I attend a CAL workshop, read an article by a Colorado library professional, participate in a committee discussion or simply enjoy a library program, I learn something new. I learn about myself and others in this amazing profession. I learn about applying new technologies and implementing new ways of thinking. I learn how libraries are making a difference all over Colorado. Most importantly, I am reminded of how much I love being a part of all that libraries offer to our communities.

Your CAL membership is critical to ensuring that our profession stays strong, relevant and influential. By joining CAL you are making a difference in your community and making a personal investment to the future of libraries, both locally and nationally. CAL membership means empowering yourself to become a vital part of that future and become a stronger member of the library community.

I invite you to not just join CAL, I invite you to participate. If you already belong to our organization, I invite you to encourage a friend to join. Join CAL and add your voice to those of other librarians. Collaborate, innovate, and inspire others with all that you have to offer.

Leadership Development Committee

By: Elizabeth Kelsen Huber and Joanna Nelson, Co-Chairs

CAL Leadership Institute (CALLI) is in full swing. The group met for the first time in October for a 1 ½ day session where they explored their strengths, leadership vs. management, influence and more. Since October participants have been exploring leadership themes by reading and discussing articles and books such as Resonant Leadership, The Truth about Leadership and articles from Daniel Goleman. Discussion has taken place online and via webinars. In February the group learned about leadership traits in action via a fantastic webinar that included presenters Mary Stansbury, Janine Reid and Jim Duncan. The group will meet again in person at the April CLiC Spring Workshop in Pueblo.

CoALA Update

By: Shelley Harper, CoALA President

Represent the Academics

The nomination of candidates to be President of CAL falls in yearly rotation among the Associations. This year CoALA has the right to nominate the presidential candidate(s). Don't let the Academics lose their turn at leadership within CAL!

The nominee who is elected will start as the President-Elect for 2013-14, will then move to President for 2014-15, and will finish as Past-President for 2015-16. Under this system, the new officers can learn the ropes from their predecessors.

If you are interested in meeting librarians from across the state, in shepherding CAL's activities, in serving your colleagues, and in the glory and honor of adding "CAL President" to your resume, then please notify CoALA President-Elect [Sarah Smith](#).

Starting a Statewide Conversation

Teaching students to be competent information users takes time. Students need to internalize concepts and practice using tools like databases and catalogs. Credit-bearing information literacy (IL) courses permit students the time to master IL skills. Some higher education institutions in Colorado offer credit courses in information literacy while others rely on one-shot or non-credit instruction.

For credit courses to take root and thrive, colleges and universities across the state must incorporate them into their instruction models. For example, imagine that Community College A offers a credit IL course. A student from that college who transfers to Four Year University will want the credits from the IL course to transfer. If Four Year University does not offer credit IL courses the student will not be able to easily transfer the credits. Students are unlikely to take non-transferable or hard-to-transfer courses. If students don't enroll, courses don't survive.

This issue is discussed in-depth in the article "Access to Information Literacy Courses in Colorado Higher Education" in the upcoming issue of Colorado Libraries.

I believe that academic librarians should begin talking about the status of higher education IL credit courses. If transferring credits for these courses is ever to occur smoothly, then the courses should be routinely available state-wide. To begin to address this issue, we need to discuss its parameters. We have to listen to one another to learn about the variety of conditions in which information literacy is taught. We have to speak to one another to offer workable solutions and best practices to our colleagues.

Questions that come to my mind include:

- Which institutions teach credit information literacy courses and which do not?
- What are the reasons why institutions do or do not offer credit IL courses?
- Is there consensus among Colorado librarians about the value and efficacy of teaching IL in credit courses?
- For those that do offer credit IL courses, who teaches them? Are they taught under the auspices of the library? Do your librarians have faculty status?
- What are the barriers faced by institutions that do not offer credit IL courses but wish to do so?
- If an institution does not offer credit IL course(s), does it teach another course for which it would offer transfer credit for a two-year college's IL credit course?

To discuss this issue with your fellow Colorado librarians, please post to the CoALA listserve.

Please join us for our Spring Workshops!

Note that the date for the Laramie workshop has changed to April 5, to avoid a conflict with the ACRL conference.

- March 15 at the Community College of Aurora - [Click here to register!](#)
- April 5 at the University of Wyoming in Laramie
- April 26 at Western State Colorado University in Gunnison
- May 10 online (hosted by CSU-Pueblo)

Keep your eye on the [CoALA web page](#) for announcements of selected presenters and topics

CASL Update

By: Christine Schein, CASL President

CASL will hold a day-long workshop (Howell in Denver) on April 27, 2013

Sessions will include :

- Flat Classroom
- Librarians as instruction teachers
- CASL Academy
- eBooks
- Differentiation
- iPad Apps
- Google Apps
- Engaging students in reading – literacy
- Digital Literacy

The CASL board is working on a repository of resources, videos, tutorials. The site will be named CASL Academy.

TIE 2013 Copper – June: CASL members will be presenting sessions that include:

- iPad apps
- Digital Story Telling
- Digital Citizenship
- Web 2.0 Tools
- iPad Writing
- ePortfolios for students

Children and Teen Services (CATS) Division

By: Nicole Burchfield, Chair

Some of you may remember the Mock Newbery we held in January at our last meeting. We had a great discussion and in the end we chose *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio as our Mock Newbery winner with *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate and *Crow* by Barbara Wright as our Honor books. How exciting that one of our Honor books was the winner of the real Newbery Award!

And, now onto the biggest news we have to share with you. You may have noticed a change in our name. Well, there is! We are now the newest division of CAL. We're very excited and we hope that all of you are as well. Your officers to start things off are Chair – Nicole Burchfield, Poudre River Public Library District; Chair Elect – Cydney Clink, Poudre River Public Library District; and Secretary – Geoffrey Gregory, Denver Public Library.

We are in the process of getting our bylaws sorted out and will have more info at our next meeting on April 19, 2013 at East Library, Pikes Peak Library District in Colorado Springs from 2-4:30 p.m. Our topic for this meeting will be grants. Something we can all use to help fund those exciting projects we've been thinking over and dreaming about! Don't forget to like us on Facebook – www.facebook.com/catsig. (I guess we'll have to work on changing that!) It's also easy to sign up for email updates from our blog where you can find ongoing discussion threads and current news and announcements – catsig.wordpress.com. (Another change to be made!)

One more thing: remember all those wonderful presentations presented by our members at CALCON? You can view the PowerPoint's and download the handouts on the CAL website. And, any of the presentations that were recorded can be purchased as well.

Here are the programs available that were presented by our members. Check them out!

- Get Your Game On
- Early Literacy Spaces @ Your Library
- Best Practices in Literacy Instruction = Best Practices in Libraries?
- miniThinkers: Innovations in Children's Programming
- Digital Media Labs in Libraries: From Grocery Store to Kitchen at the Speed of Bytes
- Extreme Outreach: Libraries as First Responders
- Tween Programs Extravaganza!
- Innovation Starts with You!

NPIG Update

By: *Bob Bennhoff, NPIG Chair*

The New Professionals Interest Group kicked off the year with a well attended panel event on “Getting Hired as a Professional Librarian”. The NPIGs have big plans of doing a lot more events during the course of the year. Keep an eye out for information about our informal networking happy hours as well as events focused on developing professional skills. We are striving to make all of our events both fun and free. It is a group that is open to all types of librarianship and all levels of experience in the profession. Looks for more information on upcoming events on Libnet, our Facebook page, or get on the email list by contacting Bob Bennhoff (bbennhoff@clicweb.org).

What is your CAL story?

By: *Bethany Lanphere, Membership Committee Chair*

While attending a CAL event or conference...

Did you meet your current boss?

Change your library position?

Find a project that has redirected your career?

Did something career or even life changing come about for you because of your membership in CAL?

If so, we want to know! Tell us your favorite CAL memories.

One of my best CAL memories is from my first CAL Board Retreat where I met my current director and spent an evening chatting about all kinds of things, some library related and some completely random topics. It is through CAL that I have met so many amazing people in the Colorado library community that I have learned from, collaborated with, and have resulted in life-long friendships.

CAL wants to hear YOUR story. Please send your stories to Bethany Lanphere at bclanphere@gmail.com.

We will share your experiences to inspire others.

Upcoming Events

- [CoALA Spring Workshop Series:](#)
 - Workshop I - Mar. 15th, 2013
 - Workshop II - Apr. 5, 2013
 - Workshop III - Apr. 26, 2013
 - Workshop IV- Online Webinar - May 10, 2013
- [Paralibrarian Division Spring Workshop:](#)
 - Steaming into the Future: Libraries Transformed | Mar. 28th, 2013