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President's Message

Ready! Set! Go! to Keystone...Innovating Colorado Libraries

By: Linda Conway, CAL President



Our library trustees and friends are some of our greatest advocates. You often find a list of their responsibilities on any public library website; but trustees and friends do so much more than what you will find on a website. They are library volunteers and our library community advocates because they love libraries. I asked Robin Gard, our current CAL Trustee and Friends division chair, to describe the job of a trustee, she responded, "It's a complex, important, and rewarding job." She then went on to describe library advocacy.

"Library advocacy is that rare non-polarizing arena where people of different backgrounds, politics, and experiences can come together and agree on the critical importance of libraries to each and every person in their community. It's so important to have trustees on board who bring their different skill sets into play to advocate for libraries. Trustees have a unique opportunity to help shape community resources for decades and generations to come. Being part of an "ensemble" made up of boards, staff, directors, patrons, volunteers...is also great fun. I know from various campaigns that people who don't agree on anything else can find common ground when they talk about their love of libraries."

Two recent events where trustees and community members are leading the way to advocate for libraries have occurred in Jefferson County, Colorado.

- Save Jeffco Libraries
www.savejeffcolibraries.org
- Support School Libraries
www.supportschoolibraries.com

The Save Jeffco Libraries initiative is still in the works. Our Jefferson County community advocates are working through some legislative and fiscal obstacles but according to their most recent update

they "are still alive and kicking." They are currently re-organizing to continue their efforts. Their challenge is complicated so I encourage you to visit their website on the above link for more information and to sign a statement of support.

The Support School Libraries initiative saved Jefferson County School District's librarians' jobs. After an intense campaign using social media and the voice of their community, the district decision makers decided not to cut librarian jobs to meet budget constraints. Because there is not a formal board of trustees for school libraries, the community advocacy voices came from their parents, students, teachers, and other community members. Support School Libraries continues to fight on behalf of school libraries as the governor's proposed budget for next year calls for another \$48 million in cuts to K-12 education. You can join them in their advocacy efforts for school libraries on the above link.

Our children will inherit the library community we create today. They will be our future advocates, trustees, and friends. The elimination of school librarians or public libraries can rob them of positive library experiences. We carry today's burden to define and build a strong library presence in our communities.

Look for an advocate in everyone you meet. Thank a trustee or a friend of the library every chance you get. These people are passionate about libraries and make up our community advocates. They are often silent and work behind the scenes. But, they are the fabric trying to hold our libraries together in these challenging times, and they are crucial to helping us bring our library visions to fruition. Spend some time with them to give them support and encouragement. Then, spend a few extra minutes with a child. Their futures will be shaped by the libraries and experiences we provide.

For more information about our Trustees and Friends Division, visit them on our CAL website:

www.cal-webs.org/Trustees.html

For more information about school library advocacy, visit CASL at <https://sites.google.com/site/caslsurive/>

News from the American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Conference - From the Chapter Councilor Perspective

By: Elena Rosenfeld, Colorado Chapter Councilor 2010-2012

ALA Election Time Nears

This March, ALA members should be receiving an email invitation to vote for ALA and Division leadership as well as any proposed changes to bylaws. Keep an eye open for your invite! If you are interested in hearing the ALA Presidential Candidate's forum, check out the [YouTube](#) video to hear both Gina Millsap and Barbara Stripling describe their proposed plans for ALA's future.

Councilors At-Large are also voted upon. This year, Martin Garnar is in the running. You can [check the ALA site](#) for a complete list of those interested in serving if you don't want to wait for your ballot.

Some Resolutions of Note

As well as providing oversight of the running of ALA, the ALA Council decides on whether proposed resolutions should move forward. This year, there were three resolutions **passed** by Council that may have direct interest to those of the CAL Membership:

1. Resolution Opposing the **Research Works Act**

The Research Works Act, HB 3699 has the purpose of privatizing information that is generated through Federally funded research works. This would remove the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Public Access policy that was implemented in 2008 which keeps the information private for 1 year and then gives the public access to any works that were funded by the Federal Government.

Reasoning: Government Information is supposed to be available to the public; an effort that is funded by the Federal Government rather than through private monies must also be made available to the public.

2. Resolution Opposing the "Preventing Real Online Threats to Economic Creativity and Theft of Intellectual Property Act of 2011" (**PIPA**) and the "Stop Online Piracy Act" (**SOPA**)

Both PIPA and SOPA restrict access and open exchange under the guise of protecting intellectual property rights. The result of either acts would threaten legitimate activities of US websites through increasing risks of civil & criminal liabilities and increasing corporate surveillance of online speech while failing to guarantee due process.

As such, ALA resolved to:

1. Urge Congress to reject both the S. 968, PIPA bill in the U.S. Senate and H.R. 3261, SOPA bill in the U.S. House of Representatives because they compromise such fundamental rights as free speech, intellectual freedom, and privacy in an attempt to target foreign websites and combat online infringement overseas.
2. Oppose any legislation that compromises ALA's core principles and stifles the dynamic, innovative potential of the global Internet.

3. Resolution Opposing Publishers and Practices that Discriminate Against Library Users

This resolution was brought forward by the New Jersey Library Association which passed a similar resolution – citing the concerns about how the publishing and other media industries are not allowing libraries to provide full content and/or timely access to materials – specifically looking at eContent and movies.

While discussion outside of Council included other av items such as Rosetta Stone, the focus on the floor remained on eContent.

The purpose was to give ALA wording to state the concern about these practices and to direct the current Working Group on Digital Content to continue their work with the publishers to find a way to resolve their concerns in a way that also supports public access to works when the library is their sole access point.

Anyone Monitoring the [American Library Association's Allied Professional Association \(ALA-APA\)](#)?

There has been a suggestion that ALA-APA Council be disbanded to better streamline the work of ALA Council (note: ALA Council also serves currently also serves as Council to APA). While a final recommendation is going to be brought to ALA Annual, there was detailed conversation about this concept.

The current opinion of ALA Councilors leans towards recommending dropping down to meeting one time per year (rather the current twice per year). While Council has minimal impact on the actions of APA, it allows for better communication with the ALA Membership about what is happening as there are more people talking about the program beyond just those on the Executive Board...or so is the thought.

If You Have Any Questions or Interest in ALA Council Happenings That Weren't In This Article: please contact me and I will be happy to try to answer any questions or move processes forward. I can be reached either at erosenfeld@highplains.us or 970-506-8567.

eINNOVATE:

eINNOVATE: elnnovate: the Paralibrarian Division's Spring-Loaded Workshop will be held on March 28, 2012, at the Community College of Aurora.

Spring-Loaded



Why should you attend? The annual Spring Workshop will assist all library staff in their professional growth and continuing education by providing opportunities for diverse sessions, networking and collaboration in a lively, one-day workshop.

Jamie LaRue will be our keynote speaker. He has been the director of the Douglas County Libraries since 1990. He is the author of *The New Inquisition: Understanding and Managing*

Intellectual Freedom Challenges. Jamie will speak on: *From Distributor to Publisher: the eVolution*. Douglas County has been developing an eContent system to directly manage that content. This presentation will demonstrate the system, and highlight the problems and the key issues of their strategy.

Some of our other speakers will be: Neil Strandberg and Matt Miller (Tattered Cover Bookstores), Carson Block (Carson Block LLC), Debbi MacLeod (State Library), Elena Rosenfeld (High Plains Regional Library District), Melissa Powell (Biblioease.com) and Camila Alire (former ALA President).

The workshop will be held from 8:30 am – 3:30 p.m. and will feature a keynote address, 3 concurrent sessions with 4 speakers per session. We are breaking with tradition this year and will not hold a silent auction. So, no waiting around this year for the results of the auction. You'll be able to get on the road right after the last session!

Instead of the auction we'll be featuring a "Dressing on a Dime" sale. We will offer gently used jackets, sweaters, scarves, purses and jewelry at penny-wise prices. And, if you think this is only for women, rumor has it that Ross Callender (Paralibrarian Division Chair-Elect) may part with a few of his signature (but gently used) shirts. So, start saving your latte money now (yes, brew it at home and skip the line!) and plan to spend it at the Spring Workshop. All monies collected will be used to fund scholarships for the professional growth of Colorado Paralibrarians.

Registration fees are \$39.99 for CAL members and \$69.99 for non-members, and include a buffet lunch and continental breakfast. Register on the CAL website: www.cal-webs.org. If you need financial assistance to attend, please apply for one of 5 scholarships, generously funded by CLIC. We will award 2 scholarships for CAL members and 3 scholarships for non-members. The process is very simple. Just go to the CAL website, fill out a short form and tell us in no more than 150 words how attending this workshop will benefit your professional development.

We hope to see all of you there!

Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Update

By: *Tiffanie Wick, CO Liaison to MPLA*

- A reminder that the next deadline for MPLA professional development grants is April 4th.
- Congratulations to our Colorado participants headed to the MPLA Leadership Institute in May:
 - Victoria Boone – High Plains Library District, Centennial Park
 - Michael Cox – Pueblo City-County Library District
 - Kris Johnson – Colorado State Library
 - Rose Nelson – Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries
 - Tiffanie Wick – Western State College of Colorado

Thanks to the Leadership Institute selection committee for their time and effort. Colorado had 9 applicants, five of which were selected... the most applicants and attendees of any MPLA state. A special thanks to Mary Katherine Katzer for taking my place on the selection committee so I (Tiffanie) could apply to the institute as well.

Trustees & Friends Division

By: Robin Gard, Chair

How's this for a job description?

WANTED: Community minded volunteer to serve on library board. Duties are fun, demanding, rewarding and difficult, sometimes all at the same time. Long hours, no pay, thick skin required!

Up side: There's no better cause than loving, supporting and advocating for libraries. You will have an opportunity to make your libraries and communities better. You will meet and interact with smart, innovative and dedicated library staff. In most cases, they'll make your board look good!

Down side: It's hard work, sometimes legally, ethically, politically and fiscally complex and tricky. You don't get paid but you are expected to keep current on laws, trends, community demographics, employment issues, political pitfalls, construction costs and election requirements. You'll have to sift through reams of information on the future of libraries, how to adapt to the digital world and intellectual freedom challenges. You'll be answerable to the taxpayers of your community on how your board spends their money and what services they expect.

That's a lot to ask of volunteers who bring diverse sets of skills and life experiences to their boards but most trustees wouldn't trade their board service and are proud to be associated with the library world.

Being a library trustee is important work. It is a position to be taken seriously and it requires preparation and ongoing development.

One way to make sure you're prepared is to join CAL, your state professional organization. We strive to help you acquire the information you need to do a great job for your library. We work hard to put together training and work sessions for our fall conferences. It's a great way to hear what's happening at other libraries and bounce ideas off your peers. Get involved and let us hear what you think is important. Along these lines, we are in the midst of revising our CAL Trustees & Friends Division web page to make it useful, relevant and easy to use. Check back next month and let us know what you think of our changes.

NEW! International Library Cultural Exchange Interest Group

By: Nancy Bolt, Co-Chair

On December 10, at the CAL Board meeting, the CAL Board voted to establish the CAL International Library Cultural Exchange Interest Group (ILCE-IG.) CAL procedures require on 8 signatures of current CAL members and we were able to get 20 members as well as more CAL non-members that we hope join to participate in ICE-IG. With the creation of ILCE-IG, the Bulgarian-Library Partnership Interest Group will become a sub-group under the new Interest Group.

Some of the interested CAL members met on January 13 to discuss what the ILCE-IG might do. Each of the participants talked about why they were interested in ILCE-IG and what activities their own libraries are conducting or interested in. At the end of the meeting we concluded that there are two major goals of ILCE-IG:

- Create international partnerships between Colorado and international libraries
- Share information on how to celebrate the cultural heritage of people who visit Colorado libraries

Some immediate topics that the group is exploring include:

- Look for Sister Cities in Colorado and which Colorado libraries participate in this effort
- Apply to do a program at the CAL 2012 conference
- Compile a list of international festivals that occur in Colorado
- Explore the websites of other states with international exchanges or grants
- Develop a fund-raising plan

The next meeting will be at the Boulder Public Library on Friday, March 9th at 3:00 pm. The current co-chairs will be Ghada Elturk of the Boulder Public Library and Nancy Bolt of Nancy Bolt and Associates.

In other news, Nancy Bolt has been invited back to Bulgaria to present again the two-day How to Write a Compelling Grant Proposal in Ruse in late May. Nancy presented this last year in Blagorevgrad and the staff at the Bulgarian Library and Information Association reported helping to revise a grant application according to the ideas presented in the workshop. The library received the grant from the EU.

Funding Continues As Top Legislative Issue in Colorado

By: Elena Rosenfeld, Legislative Committee Co-Chair

While the new session has started, Colorado's economy continues to be a high priority for state legislators. As of the January meeting, no legislation was introduced that appeared to have direct impact to Libraries. We can anticipate the possibility of other legislation efforts that are high profile to support campaign efforts.

- Many of the ballot issues that have come forward fit that "high profile" category. Two high interest issues are on legalizing marijuana and defining personhood (along with a statement about birth control). These initiatives may impact the candidate races and may increase voter turnout.
- Funding, however, will continue to be the primary issue. There is talk about a Republican effort to propose a homestead act (tax exemption) for seniors. If it moves forward, it would impact school and district tax bases.

Another area of interest this year is early literacy. Both the Governor and Lieutenant Governor are getting involved which may motivate action from the legislature.

Volunteers Needed for Colorado Library Lobby Day on Thursday, March 29th!

Representatives from all types of libraries in Colorado are needed. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Nicolle Davies, ndavies@ald.lib.co.us, or Amy Phillips, aphillips@coloradotech.edu.

Upcoming Events

- [Paralibrarian Spring Workshop](#)
March 28, 2012
[Click here to register!](#)
- [CoALA Summit](#) | May 25, 2012
- Ready, Set, Go.....to Keystone!
[CAL Conference 2012](#) |
October 18 - 20th
Keystone Resort & Conference Center

Leadership Development Committee

By: Elizabeth Kelsen-Huber

Applications are now available for the next CAL Leadership Institute (CALLI). Don't miss your chance to participate in a year-long program of self-discovery. Explore a wide variety of leadership topics, develop your own personal leadership style, and network with library staff from across the state. A recent graduate states it best:

"Overall CALLI has been a rewarding experience, and well worth the time! In addition to learning more about leadership, advocacy, ethics, and the skills needed to become effective change agents, CALLI participants have the opportunity to meet and network with amazing library leaders from across Colorado. The future of libraries may still be a mystery, but now I know that I want a say, and that I have the skills to join the conversation."

For more information and to apply please visit the CAL website or contact Elizabeth Kelsen Huber, Chair of the CAL Leadership Development Committee, ehuber@dclibraries.org

CALLING ALL LEADERS!



CAL Leadership Institute

2012-2013

Applications due to the CAL office by April 1st!

[2012-2013 CALLI Application](#)

[Curriculum Overview](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)