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Rhode Island Library Association BULLETIN



February 1978

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
150 EMPIRE STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

February 1978 Volume 50 No. 7
Indexed in Current Awareness
Library Literature
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EDITORIAL NOTICE:

The Bulletin appears monthly except in August. News and articles should be submitted to the editor by the 10th day of each month for publication by the end of that month.

The Bulletin is a publication for public, school, academic and special libraries of Rhode Island. Published by the Rhode Island Library Association, the Bulletin welcomes news and discussion of interest to RILA members. Articles contained herein, however, do not necessarily reflect the ideas of the RILA membership, or the Bulletin staff or advertisers. All articles about library and media matters will be considered. All should be signed and should not exceed ten double spaced typed pages unless the editor is consulted.

The Bulletin subscription rates are \$7.00/year for agencies or individuals not holding membership in RILA. Advertising rates per issue are \$20 per $\frac{1}{4}$ page, \$35 per $\frac{1}{2}$ page, and \$50 per full page. Call the advertising manager for further information.

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RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
SPRING CONFERENCE - MARCH 9
"HAPPY 75th BIRTHDAY RILA"

Providence Public Library 10am - 4pm

While wine and friendship crown the board,
We'll sing the joys that both afford;
And he that won't with us comply,
Down among the dead men let him lie.

-John Dyer, DOWN AMONG THE DEAD MEN

10:00am - 11:00pm - REGISTRATION AND COFFEE: Conference attendees will have the opportunity to chat with former RILA presidents and current officers to question what RILA has done in the past. Surprise event included.

POSTPONED TIL MAY 9

Because of the recent storm, and more impending bad weather, this conference has been postponed by the RILA Executive Board. Further information will follow in the April Bulletin.

NG: Attendees will have problems and board officers and then future goals, the Association will meet between members and alts of this session. Steering Committee will be in place for Libraries and

encouraged to enjoy at one of Providence's

many restaurants. A list of names, addresses and specialities follows this program.

2:30pm - 4:00pm - BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: Today the Association is 75 years old. Attendees are invited to join in celebration with birthday cake, champagne, favors and entertainment.

Note: Registration will take place at the door at a fee of \$3:00 to anyone wishing to attend. No pre-registration is necessary. For further information contact Spring Conference Committee members Janice Sieburth, Nadine Baer, Edna Nelson, Be^a Lufkin, Louise Dolan or Lee Flanagan.

RESTAURANT GUIDE FOR PROVIDENCE

-By Kathleen Paroline, Providence Public
Library

- A) Inexpensive - Save your money for next ALA convention or that
Caribbean cruise...
- Alexander's - Fast and efficient, with an extensive if not elegant
menu. 110 Mathewson St., Providence.
- Duck Soup - New York Deli that's well worth it if you avoid the
coleslaw and the crowds. 74 Dorrance St.
- Juliennes - Vegetarian, homemade foods served cafeteria style
in sunlit, plant-festooned loft.
124 Washington St.
- Leo's - Forget the neighborhood and enjoy the hugh deli sand-
wiches, or a steaming bowl of chili. 99 Chestnut St.
- Lupo's - Unusual, homecooked soups and Syrian bread sandwiches
whose ingredients vary from soybeans to ham and cheese
in a funky, old-time bar atomsphere.
377 Westminster St.
- MacDonald's - Hamburgers - They do it all for you.
134 Fountain St.
- Murphy's Deli - A Jewish Deli with an Irish bar-style that's
run by Greeks. An ethnic mixture that attracts droves of
City Hall pols. Gargantuan sandwich combinations.
55 Union St.
- Penguin's - From mouth-watering quiches to yogurt sundaes,
an eclectic menu that will satisfy just about anyone,
especially "Health-Food Freaks". 261 Thayer St.
- Throop Alley - Disco-Pub surroundings with a menu that runs
from make-your-own sandwiches to stuffed avocado.
One Throop Alley.
- B) Moderate - Allocate some of your hard-earned savings for
"A Day on the Town".
- Arboretum - Elegant, Folk-Art gallery surroundings compliment
the international cuisine but it means reservations and
a short trip by car. 63 Warren Ave., East Providence.
- David's Pot Belly - Omelets of every known (and undreamt of)
kind supplemented by Syrian bread concoctions in a pleasing
copper/rough wood setting. 100 North Main St.
- Left Bank - French cuisine accented by the Normandy-like grey-
stoned walls. 220 S. Water St.
- Luke's Luau Hut - Polynesian, Chinese and American foods that
taste best when served in the downstairs dining room.
59 Eddy St.

Ming Garden - One of the oldest and best Chinese restaurants in RI, where you can obtain everything from Americanized combination plates to authentic Szechuan fare. 141 Westminster St.

New Japan - A limited, but excellent and authentic Japanese menu. But only 6 tables! 145 Washington St.

Players Pub - The Edwardian interior decoration and its proximity are the best features of this otherwise standard restaurant. 194 Washington St.

Providence Provisions Company - Turn-of-the-century decor and a salad bar raised this restaurant to adequate plus level. Marriot Inn.

Rue de L'Espoir - Country-kitchen French food and atmosphere. 99 Hope St.

Tortilla Flats - Pray that Montezuma doesn't ~~wreak~~ his revenge and expose your taste buds to some South of Border spicy cuisine. 353 Hope St.

C) Expensive - Forget your budget and plan to visit Pawtucket on your next vacation.

Camille's Roman Garden - Old world service and surroundings heighten the experience of dining at one of RI's finest Italian Restaurants. Regional specialties. 71 Bradford St.

Capriccio's - A little stogy, but good French and Italian dishes. Corner of Dyer and Pine streets.

Old Canteen - Don't be intimidated by the big black Cadillacs outside and the "elegant" interior, and enjoy the Italian specialties. 120 Atwells Ave.

Vincent's On The Hill - From the Saltimbucca to the other 40 entrees, choosing your dinner may be a difficult decision but a taste-pleasing one. 177 Atwells Ave.

WANTED: EXPERT TYPIST FOR RILA BULLETIN

Some knowledge of libraries preferred.

IBM Selectric typewriter essential.

\$1.50 per page. Telephone Matthew

Higgins weekdays except Fridays, 9 am -

5 pm at 949-3630.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



"The sole responsibility for your life
rests on making the right decisions."

-NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION STUDENT
HUNTER MANUAL, 1973

It appears that the opportunity for making some of the right decisions for your library and your life as a librarian lies in the Rhode Island Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services. Despite the depressing effects of this winter's weather and the fact that the Governor's Conference will not be held for another twelve months, the idea of the Conference is already generating warmth and excitement. On March 9 at its 75th anniversary celebration and Spring Conference, Rhode Island Library Association members will be deciding what they think should be future goals for RI libraries and librarians. Their conclusions will be forwarded to the Steering Committee for the Governor's Conference. So we hope you plan to attend the RILA Spring Conference.

Secondly, Representative Victoria Lederberg, Chairwoman of the Governor's Conference Steering Committee, has expressed a hope to RILA's president that the BULLETIN would have a section on the Governor's Conference in every BULLETIN issue. We will, beginning with this issue. Anyone, the Conference Steering Committee members, members of the media or library associations, the Department of State Library Services, individual librarians, and citizens, is welcome to contribute any information or ideas to this section about or for the Conference.

We will try to print all information appropriate to the Conference, including any major statements or reports of the Steering Committee. As an open forum we hope this Governor's Conference column will give you a chance to express your views and to read of pertinent Conference information in the coming year. By the way, a large issue of the BULLETIN sometime next fall will be devoted solely to the Governor's Conference.

Finally, for the next several months we will revive a former feature of the BULLETIN and the now defunct Northern Libraries, "Chronicles of Callimachus." This column will be reserved for unusual ideas for the Governor's Conference, ideas which are considered radical, revolutionary, or simply taboo, but which should not be overlooked in this Conference, and major opportunity for self-examination in decades. When you read "Callimachus", remember Rollo May's advice in LOVE AND WILL:

"The only way out is ahead, and our choice
is whether we should cringe from it or
affirm it."

Letters to the Editor



December 29, 1977

Dear Editor:

It is reported in the January BULLETIN that school librarians in South Huntington, NY "earn" \$27,946. Bullshit. The question then is asked, "How much do you earn as a librarian?" You, the librarian reading the news, presumably are supposed to feel jealous and despise your own mean pittance. I respectfully submit that most librarians I have known in two decades from southern California to Maine and Florida to Washington State, actually "earn" 20-50% of what they are paid. The problem is not low salaries - it is finding people sufficiently competent that paying them a living wage can be defended vigorously rather than being a source of considerable embarrassment.

- Yours for a better tomorrow,
Curt Bohling



NEWS FROM RILA

-by Judith Plotz

President Ardis Holliday announces that the new RILA Constitution, with changes voted at the 1977 Annual Conference, is available. Members may request copies from her at Westerly Public Library.

The Government Relations Committee, after forging ahead with excellent work on a legislative package and negotiations with a lobbyist, suffered drastic setbacks in January. Anne Shaw, newly appointed Deputy Director of DSLS, has resigned as Co-Chair of the Committee. Curt Bohling resigned in December as reported in last month's BULLETIN. The RILA lobbyist Robert Perssons, has resigned also, because of the amount of work he has already as Public Relations Officer at the Providence Public Library. This leaves RILA without experienced Government Relations leadership at the beginning of the legislative season. The Executive Board decided to go ahead with the Legislative Party in spite of losses. Anne Shaw's last minute resignation contributed to the cancellation of the Trustees Workshops planned by the Committee for each region of the state. Ardis Holliday has appointed Charles Churchwell, of the Brown University, to chair the Government Relations Committee. It is to be hoped his strong leadership will get RILA programs going again. Charles Churchwell will speak to the Governor about allocations for libraries in his budget.

A Library Binding Workshop is being considered for April 14, cosponsored by the RILA Continuing Education Committee and the Graduate Library School, URI. Nadine Baer, of URI, brought the suggestion to the RILA Executive Board. For further information contact Bea Lufkin at DSLS.

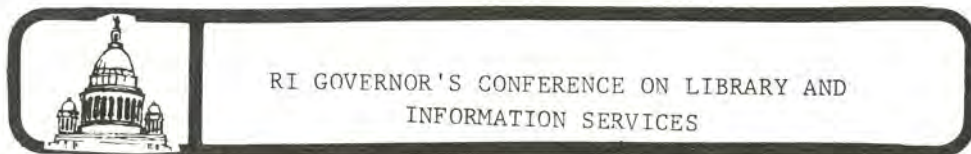
RILA Legislative Party

The Legislators' Dining Room at the State House was packed with people Wednesday afternoon, January 25th, for the RILA Legislative Party. Librarians and trustees were on hand. About quarter to four the legislative session broke with the nomination of Judge Weisberger for the Supreme Court, and legislators flocked to the RILA Party.

At first librarians and lawmakers seemed uncertain what to say to each other, but by the end of the afternoon, people had started to learn each other's names, activities and special interests. The party is a starting point from which politically-minded librarians can build their contacts.

Representative Victoria Lederberg, Chairman of the Steering Committee for the Governor's Conference, put in an appearance.

Bob Burford of Mohr Memorial Library, as he signed the bill (\$300) at the end, was satisfied with the results of this efforts in masterminding the party. Thanks for his good work!



We will run an article every month on the Governor's Conference until the Conference takes place. We welcome brief contributions on the Conference from any source: the Governor's Conference Steering Committee, RILA Committees, and Sub-committees, DSLS, library and media associations, librarians, and the general public. Send ideas, comments, whatever. This is your chance to be heard.

Our first news is a list of members of the Steering Committee for the Governor's Conference.

STEERING COMMITTEE

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

Representative Victoria Lederberg
Providence, RI
Chairman

Alice M. Avedesian
Librarian
Cranston East High School

Leo Bernier
Trustee
Woonsocket Harris Public Library

The Honorable Richard Bessette
Mayor of Central Falls

Richard Botelho
AV Specialist
Barrington Junior High School

Robert A. E. Cairns
Director
Barrington Public Library

Albert Carlotti
Board of Regents

Guido Cerilli
Providence, RI

Nancy F. Chudacoff
Librarian
RI Historical Society Library

Dr. Charles Churchwell
Librarian
Brown University Libraries

William Corr
East Greenwich, RI

Linda A. Cranston
Librarian
Textron

Dr. William Crosdale
Consultant
Educational Affairs
Governor's Office

Janina D'Abate (Mrs. John)
Librarian
N. Scituate Public Library

Louise Blalock Dolan
Coordinator
Island Interrelated Library System

Lawrence A. Eaton
Director
Pawtucket Public Library

Knight Edwards, Esq.
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Providence Public Library

Nancy Fain (Mrs. Lyle)
Providence, RI

George Favre
The Providence Journal

Gertrude Hochberg (Mrs. Lawrence)
E. Providence, RI

Senator Robert Janes
Barrington, RI

Ms. Diane Gordon Kadanoff
Assistant Director
Cumberland Public Library

Sherwin Kapstein
Executive Director
National Education Association

Helen E. Kelly
Anna Burns School, Pawtucket

Jean Ladd (Mrs. Kenneth)
Trustee
Westerly Public Library

Edward J. McElroy
AFL/CIO

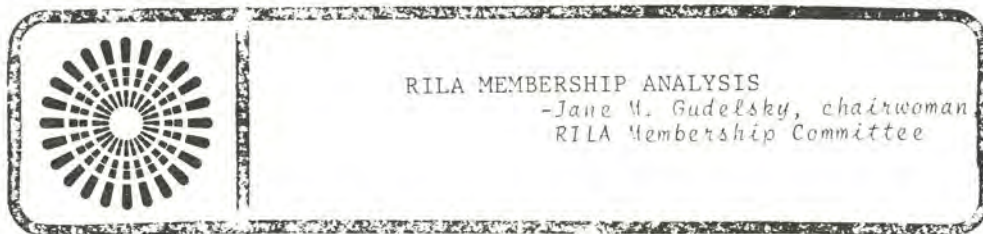
Joan R. Reeves
Providence

Mildred T. Nichols
Director
Career Counseling
Quonset

Capt. Earl Schwass (USN Ret.)
Librarian
US Naval War College

George E. Parks
Dean
University of Rhode Island Library

Representative Matthew J. Smith
Providence, RI



Recently, the RILA Membership Committee analyzed the current categories of membership for the fiscal year 1977-1978. In order to identify our strengths and weaknesses and in order to establish which categories we have lost our members, these statistics are compared to those for fiscal year 1976-1977. Those statistics were reported in the July-August issue of the BULLETIN.

Institutional Membership

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Members</u>		<u>Members</u>	
		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>
	1976-1977		1977-1978	
Public	30	79	25	76
Academic	2	5	2	6
Special	6	16	6	18
	38	100%	33	100%

Individual Membership

<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Members</u>		<u>Members</u>	
		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>
	1976-1977		1977-1978	
Public	173	33	178	35
Academic	83	16	92	18
School	31	6	34	7
Special	50	9	45	9
Trustee	70	13	46	9
Retired	35	7	48	9
MLS Candidate	19	4	29	5
*Other	63	12	39	8
Total	524	100%	511	100%

*Other includes business affiliates, unemployed members and those with no known library association.

Total Membership

	1976-1977	1977-1978
Individual	524	511
Institutional	38	33
Total	<u>562</u>	<u>544</u>

Gender of Individual Members

	1976-1977	1977-1978
Female	405 (77%)	398 (78%)
Male	119 (23%)	113 (22%)
Total	<u>524 100%</u>	<u>511 100%</u>

Individual memberships still account for the largest part of our total membership. There was though quite a decrease during the past year in the number of trustees affiliated with RILA.

Support from public libraries in the institutional category decreased this year while academic and special library membership remained constant.

The association's main weakness still appears in school category and it is this committee's hope to attract more school librarians during the coming year.

Special recognition needs to go to those Retired librarians and MLS Candidates whose categories were substantially increased.

RILA needs your support. Please join or renew your membership and encourage those you work with to do the same.



The Social Responsibilities Round Table of Rhode Island has published a "Job Hotline" on a regular basis for over a year now. We have enjoyed much success and we are grateful to the individuals who have contributed to our effort. The RILA Bulletin has generously offered to continue printing the SRRT Job Hotline in its monthly publication. We would like to stress that it is not necessary to join RILA to receive the Job Hotline. Just send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to either of the coordinators whose addresses are listed below and you will receive updated Job Hotlines each time there are new lists.

Coordinators:	Candice Civiak Providence Public Library 150 Empire Street Providence, RI 02903	Marcia Hershoff Cumberland Public Library Cumberland, RI
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WEST WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM. Coordinator of Children's Services. MLS required. Salary open. Send resume to: Mrs. Evelyn Albrectson, Chairperson, Board of Library Trustees, 106 Glendale Dr., West Warwick, RI 02893. Deadline for submitting resumes March 15, 1978.

BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS. 1. Elementary librarian. 2. Middle School librarian. These positions are available immediately. Persons interested must be eligible for a RI library/teacher certificate. Persons interested should send letters of application and resumes to: Dr. Aaron F. DeMoranville, Jr., Barrington Public Schools, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington, RI 02806. 401-245-5000.

MYSTIC SEAPORT, INC., G.W. BLUNT WHITE LIBRARY. Reference librarian. Qual: MLS, BA in Am. History desirable. Contact: Ann, Manager of Personnel Service, Mystic Seaport, Mystic, Conn. 06135 (Jan. GLS Joblist).

VINEYARD HAVEN PUBLIC LIBRARY. Director wanted. \$9,000/year. Send application and resume to Mrs. George Fiel, Chairperson, Library Board, Vineyard Haven Public Library, Box 1088, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 (EMR News, Jan. 30).

DANVERS, PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY. MLS from accredited library school, 5 years experience and demonstrated ability. Experience working with town meeting manager form of government desirable. Salary range \$15,900 to \$20,000. Letters of application, resume, statement of library service philosophy. Send to: George P. Gordon, President, Peabody Institute Trustees, 15 Sylvan St. Danvers, MA 01923.

LIBRARIAN III. Responsible for organization and maintaining periodicals collection and services, general reference work, ILL. Sunday and evening hours. 12 mo. faculty appointment. Sal. \$12,935 to ?. MLS ALA accredited school. 3 yrs expr. peri/ref. starting date May 15, 1978. Apply: Director of Personnel, Worcester State College, Worcester, MA 01602 AA/EEO.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN: (Bibliographic Services). Mass. College of Pharmacy, Boston, MA. Position open Oct. 1977, in charge of cataloging. Req: MLS/ALA accredited school. Biological and/or chemical sciences, background. Send resume to Barbara M. Hill, Librarian, Sheppard Library, Mass. College of Pharmacy, 129 Longwood Ave. Boston, MA 02115 AA/EEO.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN. For small urban institution with strong liberal arts orientation and doctoral programs in selective disciplines. MLS/ALA masters or PHD in subject matter desirable. 5 yrs adm. exper. mandatory. Position will be filled no later than Sept. 1, 1978. Application and resume and names of three individuals who will supply references to Dean Frank Puffer, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610 AA/EEO.

DIRECTOR. MLS/ALA accredited school. 10 yrs. exper., 3 yrs. adm. level. Sal. \$18, 837 to \$21,736. Apply Feb. 13 to Chairman, Board of Trustees, Sommerville Public Library. Sommerville, MA 02143.

LYNN PUBLIC LIBRARY. General Children's Librarian. College degree with specialization in education. Prior library experience required. Duties will be shared by two branch libraries. Salary range: \$9,241-\$11,641 (in nine annual steps). Beginning salary depends on prior experience. Letter of application with resume should be sent to Mrs. Dorothy C. Haywood, Chief Librarian, Lynn Public Library, 5 North Common St. Lynn, MA 01902 (Eastern Mass. Regional News, Jan).

LYNN PUBLIC LIBRARY. Genral Adult Librarian. Usual work with public and expansion of Extension Services Program for the Elderly. AB or BS degree plus prior library experience. Salary Range: \$9,214-\$11,641 (in nine annual steps). Beginning salary depends on prior experience. Letter of application with resume should be sent to Mrs. Dorothy C. Haywood, Chief Librarian, Lynn Public Library, 5 North Common St., Lynn, MA 01902 (EMR News, Jan).

NORTH ANDOVER, STEVENS MEMORIAL LIBRARY. Director, Newly enlarged and renovated building; 50,000 volumes. MLS from an ALA-accredited library school and demonstrated administrative ability with at least three years experience required. Salary Range: \$14,903-\$17,231; excellent fringe benefits. North Andover is an attractive New England town, 25 miles north of Boston; population 16,000. Send resume to: Mrs. Mary Flinn, Chairman, Stevens Memorial Library, N. Andover, MA 01845 (EMR News, Jan).

REVERE PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Director. MLS from an ALA-accredited library school; minimum of three years of public library administrative and supervisory experience. Salary: \$15,200. Send letter of application and complete resume to: Frank Tranfaglia, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Revere Public Library, 179 Beach St. Revere, MA 02151. (EMR News, Jan).

ROCKLAND MEMORIAL LIBRARY. Director. MLS from an ALA-accredited library school, plus at least three years of administrative exper. Rockland is an attractive town of 17,000 pop. with a 50,000 volume library. Salary to be negotiated. Send resume to: Mrs. Nora Keezer, Director, Rockland Memorial Library. Rockland, MA 02370 (EMR News, Jan).

SOMMERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY. Head Librarian. East Branch. MLS from an ALA-accredited library school; minimum of three years of professional experience in a public library, with some of that time in a supervisory capacity. Knowledge of and experience in children's programming helpful. Thirty-five hours per week to include some nights and Saturdays; Sundays at Central Library additional at time-and-a-half. Salary: \$11,786.24. Position Open: January 3, 1978. Apply to: Mrs. Annalee Bundy, Director, Somerville Public Library, Highland Ave & Walnut St., Somerville, MA 02143; tel. 623-5000. (EMR News, Jan).

REFERENCE LIBRARIAN: Reference desk work, computer literature searching, collection development, faculty liaison, preparation of library finding aids. Salary \$9-12,000, depending on qualifications. Contact: Dr. James C. McCampbell, Director, University of Maine Libraries, Orono, Maine 04473.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN. \$12,865. Professional experience required; MLS Contact: Mr. Joseph Quinton, Associate Director, Cambridge Public Library, Cambridge, MA 02138



CALENDAR

The RILA calendar is maintained by RILA's continuing Education Committee. If you have a date for any event of library/media interest, please telephone it to Pat Bisshopp, 438-9500, as early as possible. All meetings listed here are open to interested members of the library community.

- Mar. 6 "The Information Person," Speaker Dr. Joseph C. Donohue, HEW, GLS Colloquium, Memorial Union, Rm 322, URI, Kingston, 4pm.
- Mar. 8 Preview of films for adults, RI Library Film Cooperative, Warwick, 9:30-12:00; 1:30-4:00.
- Mar. 9 RILA Spring Conference: 75th Birthday Celebration, Providence Public Library, 10am-3:30pm.
10-11am Coffee with RILA Past Presidents
11:15-12:30 Business Meeting
Lunch
2:30-3:30pm Goals and Objectives
- Mar. 13 "Rhode Island Genealogical Sources," Adult Book Meeting, RI Historical Society, 9:30am.
- Mar. 16 RILA Executive Board Meeting, Peacedale Public Library. 2pm.
- Mar. 20 "Current Developments in Government Documents," sponsored by NELINET Government Documents Task Group, Dartmouth College, Hanover NH. Contact Ms. Jan Swanbeck, Boston College, 617-969-0100.
- Mar. 22 "Have You Read?/IX" Young Adult Roundtable, S. Prov. Branch, Providence Public Library, 9:30am.
- Mar. 23 "Program for Special Libraries Students," Special Libraries Assn. RI Chapter, URI Library.
- Mar. 29 "Job Hunting Skills," GLS Colloquium, Memorial Union, URI, 2pm.
- Apr. 2-8 National Library Week.
- Apr. 7-8 "Tell It Like It Is," Annual Conference, RI Educational Media Association, Cranston Hilton, Cranston
- Apr. 11 Young Adult and Children's Book Review Group, Westboro High School, Westboro, MA, 9:30am. Call Bea Lufkin, 277-2726 for information.
- Apr. 12 "Cookery," Adult Book Meeting, Newport Public Library, 9:30am.
- Apr. 13 RILA Executive Board Meeting, Brown University Library, 2pm.
- Apr. 15 "Annual Ingathering: Alumni Professional Development Seminar," Graduate Library School, University of Rhode Island, 8:45am-5:00pm.
- Apr. 24 "Retrospective Collection Building Sources," Young Adult Roundtable, South Kington High School, 9:30am.
- Apr. 26-27 Massachusetts Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services, Park Plaza, Boston.

Apr. 27-28 Annual Conference, Connecticut Library Association, Marriott Hotel, Stamford, CT. For information, contact Francys Searles, Fairfield Woods Library, 1147 Fairfield Woods Rd., Fairfield, CT 06430.

Jun. 24-30 "Toward a National Information Policy" ALA Annual Conference, American Library Association, Chicago. See American Libraries, Jan. 78, for details.

Sept. 24-26 Fall Conference, New England Library Association.

Nov. 1-2 RILA 1978 Fall Conference, Sheraton-Islander, Newport.

SEMIANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY BOARD'S
 PANEL OF COUNSELLORS

-E.B. Henry, JR. Captain, USN (Ret.)
 Librarian, Newport Public Library

As a new member of the Panel representing Public Libraries in RI, I thought some brief remarks about the last meeting might be of interest to RILA. In my own case I had not known much about the New England Library Board. Perhaps this is true for a number of us in the State. In fact one of the Panel's recommendations at the meeting was to improve NELB public relations and communications with rank and file librarians among others in our region. This truly is one of the Panel's primary tasks.

As indicated the Panel of Advisors meets twice a year, during the spring and fall. It is composed of 41 people, including six from each state representing the various types of libraries i.e., public, school-media, academic, and special. Lay people representatives from each state may also serve on the Panel. Panel members can promote the cause of two way communications between the NELB and the general public as well as between local and state officials, community organizations and foundations. They can, in panel committees or as individuals, assist in research of regional problems in library services and carry out other responsibilities as charged by the Board.

The NELB is composed of a principal state library official as designated by each public library agency from the six participating states. The current chairman is J. Gary Nichols of Maine. Mary A. McKenzie is NELB's Executive Director. Jewel Drickamer is presently the member from RI and Secretary-Treasurer of the Board. A New England Interstate Library Compact authorized the operation. Among NELB's major objectives are:

- a. To identify regional needs which can be met through cooperative planning and action.
- b. To encourage the development of continuing education for library personnel in New England.

Two products of actions by NELB are the establishment of the New England Serials Service and the NE Document Conservation Center, etc. are sound examples of improved and coordinated regional library services. It is hoped that each of these will become independent financially through the value of the services provided throughout the region.

New ex officio panel members of the Panel of Counsellors are Thomas J. Moccia, Vice-President, Public Affairs, New England Council; Elinor Hashim, President of NELA; and John Linford, Director, NELINET. Other ex officio members are: the Executive Director, New England Governor's Conference; and the US Office of Education Library Services Program Officer or their authorized representatives.

In my opinion, one of the more important recommendations by the Panel at the last meeting was for representatives of the New England Library Association, the New England Library Board and the New England Library Information Network (NELINET) to get together soon to review respective roles and responsibilities for regional cooperation. Such get togethers should be scheduled periodically for the future as well. They will be beneficial to all concerned.

Now, just a few personal comments in conclusion. The site of the semiannual meeting of NELB's Panel of Counsellors is the New England Center near the campus of the University of New Hampshire at Durham. It is a lovely spot. I had attended a library outreach workshop there several years ago and found it unchanged. Students from the University's Hotel School work at the Center and the service, food and accommodations are great. It was a pleasure to meet Board members and Panel members that I had not known. The various sessions, the speakers and reactors were all interesting and informative. It was a busy twenty-four hours, but very pleasant. Even the weather was OK. NELB and the headquarters staff can be commended on the arrangements and agenda for the meeting.



Preface:

Callimachus was a Greek grammarian, school master, poet, priest and critic of the 3rd century BC and he was one of the first five great librarians at the ancient library of Alexandria, an office he held until his death. Perhaps his major service to literature and librarianship was the arranging and cataloguing of the numerous writings collected in the Alexandrian Library. It is said that this bibliography ranged over 120 volumes, a mere fraction of the 800 works attributed to Callimachus. He was certainly one of the most influential personalities on librarianship and literature in the entire Greek world. No time server, no political compromiser, no paid hireling, he regularly voiced independent and unsparing criticism. Irritating and irreverent, a radical and a rebel, he spent his life speaking the theretofore unspeakable and unspoken. Characteristic of his thinking is his 15th epigram: "This that I say to you is the true tale, but if thou wouldst have the pleasant tale, a great ox costs but a copper in Hades."

Some think that his spirit still wanders libraries today and that some librarians are yet haunted by his presence. Indeed, I must confess that I am so affected and have been troubled by numerous nightly visitations. Nine chronicles of some of these conversations with Callimachus, roughly translated with my rusty Greek and approximately transcribed from my fragmentary notes, appeared years ago in the RILA BULLETIN and in the now defunct NORTHERN LIBRARIES OF RI.

That series was dropped in 1975 in a concern with offending some of our more sensitive readers (i.e. those with power, position and prominence to protect). We censored, mind you, not Callimachus's freedom of speech, but his freedom to be published. However, his visits since then have become so frequent, his pronouncements so vehement, his warning so dire, as they do become in times (such as the present preparation for a Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services) that your editor hardly knows a peaceful night's sleep any longer. In the hope of pacifying Callimachus somewhat, and finding a few hours sleep, your editor has promised to allow his old friend a few words each month in the BULLETIN.

CHRONICLE X Public Library Trustees

Only last night after a glass of English port (was it two?) as I dozed in my rocker by the fireside, I was disturbed by some murmuring at the other side of the study. Raising my head, and peering into the shadowy recess of the corner bookcase, I gradually made out in the gloom the lineaments of the not always welcome Callimachus. Apparently, he had been muttering for sometime, and I had wakened in the middle of one of his monologues. I fumbled for a nearby tablet, and what I managed to jot down ran somewhat as follows:

...but whereas some trustees have been the major force behind American public library development, some have been the major obstacle to it. Only last month while floating above a Department of State Library Services Christmas party, I heard one of RI's leading trustees assert that the problem with trustees is that 75% of them are "stupid" about libraries. Of directors who know this first hand, I do not think that any has ever publically stated that in a century, perhaps because each has been beholden to trustees good or bad for recommendation of past performance, for present position, and for future employment elsewhere. Nonetheless, many directors have found that many public library trustees have less knowledge of a library's actual operation and needs than many library clerks. So frequently public library trustees are ill educated in librarianship, partly educated, educated on a hit and miss crisis by crisis basis, a few hours a month while the professional librarians these days are fairly educated and further, continuously educating themselves day in and day out. Yet, in too many public libraries trustees do not give place to the recommendations of librarians. Trustees do not restrict themselves to policy decisions on the basis of their general knowledge of the business and political and social community.

Rather in fact, they insist on making the most trivial operational and procedural decisions which directors themselves would choose, if given a choice, to delegate to lower level staff. Meanwhile, even librarians with graduate degrees and years of experience in the field still make almost no decisions that extend beyond the quality of service given to an individual patron. Librarians for the most part follow the rules, and the independence of judgment that the American Library Association says characterizes the profession is almost impossible to detect.

How did this come to be? In the age of public library establishment in the nineteenth century, in the typical town, there was invariably a spinster of good family living in genteel poverty because of the prodigal financial losses of a father or brother. And the elders of the town, perhaps a judge, a lawyer or doctor, friends of the spinster's family, asked themselves how poor penniless Jennie or Emily might be provided for before she was driven to a life of sin in the streets. The choice was simple. Jennie or Emily, who was inept in most respects, was always a "cultured" lady who knew and loved books. So in the role of informal wardens the judge and minister appointed Jennie as respectable town librarian at a barely living wage. Since she knew little but books, however, the judge and minister retained control of the library building and its budget and its procedures and its public relations. So were born the original trustees, so were born trustee attitudes which pervade the library even today.

Today things have changed, and libraries are much more complicated than they were, and librarians are much better trained to deal with the complexities than trustees. Unlimited trustee governance of public libraries is one of the great nineteenth century anachronisms surviving today, a half century longer than it has been needed. I wonder if as your Governor's Conference on libraries approaches, some thought might be given to a new state law limiting trustee board authority to that of an advisory group and establishing the authority of a public library's librarians to govern participatively in accord with even more rigorous state standards for libraries?

The clock struck three. The shadows deepened and the silence grew as the fire died in the grate. Stiffly, I arose from my chair to creep to my bed for a few hours rest.



REACH OUT: THE MONTHLY COLUMN OF RILA'S
OUTREACH COMMITTEE

"Barriers to Library Service" was the title of a program at the RILA Fall Conference, sponsored by the Outreach Committee. The barriers discussed were: deafness, physical handicaps, adult illiteracy, and adolescent illiteracy.

Joan Carlson, of the Rhode Island School for the Deaf, spoke on deafness and libraries. She began by recommending Alice Hagemeyer's Deaf Awareness Handbook for Public Librarians as an excellent resource for learning about deafness and serving the deaf. She mentioned that most deaf adults do read, since deafness makes reading very difficult, and that the deaf are hard to find, since they tend to stay apart from others. The first step in serving the deaf is learning sign language, and a teletypewriter is also basic. Ms. Carlson stated that high interest/low vocabulary books are not the answer, nor are captioned films. She suggested that a dedicated interest and determination to reach and serve the deaf are necessary.

Vin Conlon, a handicapped patron of the Pawtucket Public Library, was a most enthusiastic speaker. Mr. Conlon thoroughly enjoys libraries, and appreciated the opportunity they afford for self-education. Unfortunately, libraries have almost always been inaccessible to him.

Mr. Conlon mentioned the main changes needed to suit wheelchair patrons--ramps, elevators, large rest rooms, and lowered drinking fountains and telephones. He is looking forward enthusiastically to the completion of the renovations of the Pawtucket Public Library to make it accessible.

Mr. Conlon urged librarians to work on removing barriers. He suggested contacting PARI (The Paraplegia Association of Rhode Island, Box 6906, Providence, RI 02904) and involving the handicapped themselves in your plans. He also suggested that librarians welcome handicapped patrons, and not wait to be asked for help.

Mr. Conlon, in stressing that there is no substitute for going to the library oneself, was an inspiring speaker.

Barbara Goldberg, of Project RATE (Relevant Adult Training and Education) spoke on illiterate adults. Project RATE has found that libraries are a comfortable and natural place for school, and holds several classes in libraries. A library card is a necessary tool in their program.

Ms. Goldberg stated that Project RATE clients are mainly interested in career education and skills. High School Equivalency is also a major concern, and she suggested that these tests might be given in libraries. She mentioned that high interest/low vocabulary books are not the answer, and suggested that the material most helpful to illiterate adults would be adult education books, High School Equivalency materials, and books on a high school level.

Michael Mahoney, of the Junction Program, spoke on adolescent illiteracy. The Junction Program provides day care for truant adolescents, many of whom have only a second or third grade reading ability. When tested, 85 to 90% were found to have learning disabilities. The program uses the facilities of the Olneyville Branch of PPL, particularly for films. Several of the involved children have re-entered school, and Mr. Mahoney feels that the space and attention given to them at the library has been a major factor in the success of the program.

"Barriers to Library Service" encouraged librarians to reach out to non-users. All of the speakers obviously respected libraries, and were convinced that they have a role to play in serving these groups.

GALLIMAUFRY

-By Matthew Higgins

NEW PPL DIRECTOR: Anna Lee Bundy has been appointed director of the Providence Public Library, effective April 3, 1978. Ms. Bundy has been director of the Somerville (Mass.) Public Library for the past five years.

GOODBY TO MASS. SCHOOL LIBRARIES: Alice Cahill, Acting Director of the Mass. Bureau of Library Extension, has informed school librarians and media specialists in her state that the Board of Library Commissioners has decided that the Bureau will no longer be responsible for serving school libraries in the Bay State. When the Bureau recently separated from the Department of Education, school libraries were left with the latter. Miss Cahill urged school libraries to try to convince the Dept. of Education and the legislature to allocate more money for school media services.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK GOODIES: the American Library Association is now accepting orders for 1978 National Library Week (April 2-8) materials. A greater variety of posters is being offered, centered around the theme of "Info to Go." For an order form, including a price list and color reproductions of available materials, write: 1978 Library Graphics, Public Information Office, ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, Il. 60611

CONTINUING ED COURSES AT SIMMONS: the School of Library Science at Simmons College is offering a series of continuing education courses or library institutes this spring. Varying in format from one to two days to six class sessions, the institutes will cover zero based budgeting, management strategy for children's librarians, conservation in libraries and archives, basic OCLC training, and cataloging of non-print materials. Librarians have been asking the graduate library schools to get out of the business of producing new graduates and to begin reeducating the old ones. It appears that Simmons

again is taking the lead in New England. So please consider their offerings. For information write to Dr. Ching-chih Chin, Asst. Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Library Science, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston, Ma. 02115 or phone 617 738 2224.

GOOD READING; Those of you interested in capricious firings of librarians may wish to read the ALA SCAMI case report in American Libraries, Jan. 1978, which report resulted in the censure of the Milton College Library. The sub-committee which investigated and filed the report was chaired by R.I. College Library's Richard Eisen.

GOVT. DOX WORKSHOP; the DSLS Newsletter of Jan. 1978 tells us that the New England Library Information Network Govt. Documents Task Group is planning a workshop on "Current Developments in Govt. Documents."

For more information about this March 20 event at Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., contact Ms. Jan Swanbeck, Bapst Library, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Ma. 02167; or phone 617 969 0100, ext. 3212.

ALA PAYS OFF; congratulations to Janet Place and Ronald Park, winners in the "ALA Pays Off" drawing, held at the November RILA Conference. Both Janet and Ronald won a year's membership in an ALA division of their choice. You too can receive a free ALA division membership if you join ALA as a new personal member in 1978: For details, contact Carol Hryciw, Adams Library, R.I. College.

ARBUTHNOT LECTURE; Boston Public Library and 20 Boston area institutions are hosting the 1978 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture on the evening of April 26, 1978 at the Boston Public Library. Uriel Ofek, Israeli children's literature specialist and author will be the featured speaker. For free tickets send a stamped self-addressed envelope to Irenemarie Cullinane, Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston, Ma. 02117.

CHELSEA CENSORS; Media Write in December 1978 reported that on Nov. 18 Federal Judge Joseph Tauro urged all parties to treat the case of the Right to Read Defense Committee vs. the School Committee of Chelsea as an intellectual rather than an emotional issue. Judge Tauro expects to take up to four months to decide the case.

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GHOST OF "THE SPEAKER": the American Library Association is still uncertain about what it thinks of its film "The Speaker". At the ABA executive board meeting on Nov. 3 the board decided to label the film at the request of past ABA President Clara Jones. The label or notice, to accompany each print of the film, will assert that it was not ALA's intent to suggest in the film that the inferiority of black people is a debatable question. ALA wants to make it perfectly clear, at last, that it believes in the equality of all people.

At the same meeting the ALA Executive Board established an "interdisciplinary panel" to review the film and advise the Association whether or not the film actually addresses the First Amendment!!! Since that is what the film was supposed to do when it was made last spring, this is certainly a good time to get around to a review.

Better late, even very late, than never. As you may recall at the RILA Fall Conference viewing of the film, Lee Flanagan argued that it does not in fact address the First Amendment guaranteed right to speak, but rather wrongly suggests that the First Amendment obliges us to listen. And, thank God, several other amendments to the U.S. Constitution protect us from the obligation to listen to, or even look at, things like "The Speaker." By the way, at a recent preview of the film at the R.I. Library Film Cooperative, one member voted to purchase the film, three voted not to purchase unless the Cooperative considerably increased its budget, and 12 voted that the film definitely not be purchased under any conditions. REQUIESCAT IN PACE.

FILE GRANTS: the R.I. Library Film Cooperative has just received \$ 4650 from the Old Stone Bank Charitable Fund toward the purchase of a long needed new film inspection machine. This grant follows on the heels of another from the Rhode Island Foundation for expansion of the film collection dealing with dangers and problems of alcoholism. David Green, director of the Film Cooperative, has proven to be one of the top grant getters in the state.

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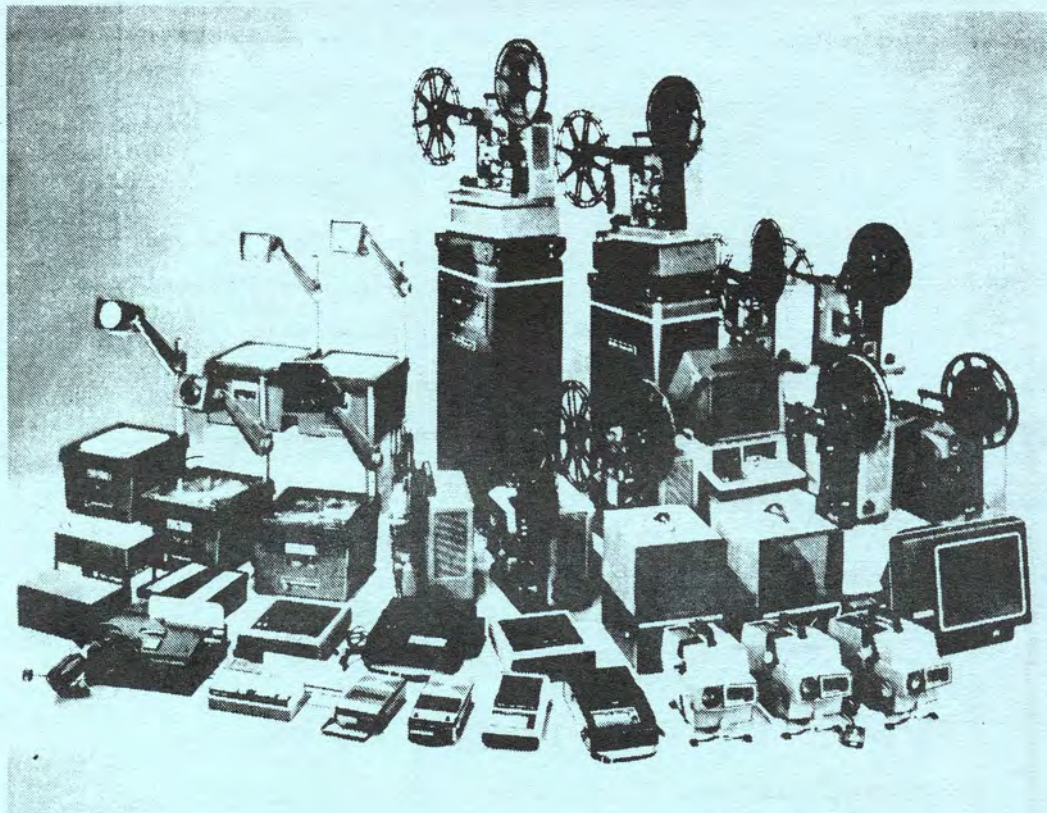
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