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Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin

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1986 RILA CONFERENCE REPORT

TRUSTEES' PROGRAM and VIDEOTAPES--CONTROVERSY AND PROMISE

Speaker: Jack Short

Reported by: Joan Ress Reeves, Trustee
Providence Public Library
and
Susan L. Reed
Pawtucket Public Library

Lending videotapes can double librarian's salaries within five years, claims Jack Short. Mr. Short, a former president of ALTA (the American Library Trustee Association) is currently Regional Manager of Coronet/MTI, a division of Simon & Schuster.

He believes that libraries should become the major source of "How to" and short subject videos. He doesn't feel that this would limit book circulation but quotes a study (Wendt/Butts, 1960) that found twice as many books were read when students had first watched related films.

Increased political clout is a benefit which Short sees libraries receiving from having video collections. He projects a 40% increase in library use. Along with this increased use will come more support at the polls, at budget, and bond issue times, increased library staff salaries, and larger materials budgets.

He admits that in the beginning money to develop video collections might have to come from book budgets; but he points out that dollars spent on videos reap higher circulation statistics than the same amount spent on books. He advocates that a library's video collection should initially number at least 100. Videos should be displayed. Libraries should look to video stores as the source for circulation systems and display racks.

Jack Short feels very strongly that video collections need a qualified staff member to provide reader's advisor service for videos and other material forms in order to attract different kinds of patrons with different needs. Although he agrees with the Rhode Island Attorney General's opinion on fees for video, he sees historical prerequisites for charging for multiple copies of a video as long as the first copy is available for free.

(Editorial Note: The speaker at these two programs was the same and gave basically the same presentation, so the reports have been combined for expediency.)

**THE MARCH ISSUE WILL FEATURE
PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

RESEARCH AND RHETORIC: A
SOCIOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION OF
THE FINDINGS OF THE MEESE
COMMISSION REPORT

Speaker: Russell Chabot

Reported by: Charlotte Schoonover
Kingston Free Library

From his opening remarks calling the Meese Commission Report on Pornography "an omen of censorship," Russell Chabot, Special Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Rhode Island, took aim and blasted the 1986 study for more than an hour.

Questioning whether pornography is a public problem in the first place, he accused the Commission of extreme agitation and hysteria over the issue. He suggested that the Commission artfully created a conclusion based on the debatable use of social science information and of witness testimony that more represented the opinion of those against pornography.

In general, Chabot stated the social scientists have tried to disassociate themselves from the Meese Report. He pointed out the pitfalls of interpreting sociological research in that the basic methods in the field--observation, clinical studies, and experimental research--are all prone to weaknesses in interpretation. In addition, he felt they ignored work in the field that supported other points of view.

The public hearings of testimony by 208 witnesses representing law officials, elected officials, alleged victims, citizen groups, etc., provided a substantial basis for the Report. Yet, no standards were used for the selection of these witnesses nor for the evaluation of testimony given by them.

Chabot noted that the Commission came up with 92 recommendations, solely of a law enforcement nature. The Report attempted to give validity to the idea that pornographic materials give rise to criminality. He accused the Commission of structuring data toward the premise that there is a link between pornography and violent crime. This, all done without regard to constitutional issues.

In conclusion, Chabot condemned the arrogance of the Meese Commission to use information as they saw fit so as to create "an image of the phenomena" of pornography in the United States.

STUDY OF LIBRARY AND
INFORMATION SERVICES IN RHODE
ISLAND -- AN UPDATE

Speakers: Dr. Elizabeth Futas
Bruce Daniels
Roberta Cairns

Reported by: Howard Boksenbaum
Barrington Public Library

Since Library Cooperation, the Humphry study of library service in Rhode Island, turned 20 in 1983, the idea of an update has been in the air. RILA and the Department of State Library Services (DSLS) have been doing some serious planning to effect such a study for nearly two years now. Bruce Daniels, Acting Director of the DSLS, has prepared an RFP (Request for Proposal) in consultation with a joint advisory committee. Elizabeth Futas, Director of the URI GSLIS, has been named chair of a management committee that will select a consultant and monitor the study's progress.

Mr. Daniels and Dr. Futas were joined by RILA President, Roberta Cairns, for this conference session in presenting the latest news about progress toward the study's implementation. Funding for the estimated \$80,000 the study will require has been found in the form of a grant of \$30,000 from Governor DiPrete's discretionary fund, and federal LSCA money in this year's DSLS budget. The assurance of funding has permitted a timetable to emerge: a contract with a consultant is expected by April 1987, and the study should be complete by the following April. The panelists expressed a certainty that the study will discover legislative needs, which could be translated into bills and presented to the legislature in 1989.

The primary objectives of the study will be to determine the effectiveness of Rhode Island's libraries in meeting the library and information needs of Rhode Islanders, and to point to directions for library development that will maximize that effectiveness. The study will pay particular attention to the role and structure of RHILINET (the Rhode Island Interrelated Library Network) which encompasses the Principal Public Library, Regional Library Centers, and Special Research Centers, and the DSLS. Input will be sought from as broad a base as possible.

INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES

Speakers: Daniel Austin
Florence Doksansky

Reported by: Carol A. Hryciw-Wing
Rhode Island College

"Are you planning to have children?" was the leading question in a mock interview of a candidate who was vying for the position of Director of the West Providence Library. The audience (numbering close to seventy) laughed knowingly at this, and at most of the other questions posed by the panel of three interviewers (Peter Bennett, Florence Doksansky, and Karen McGrath), as well as at the answers of the candidate (Beverly Lambert). Clearly, we were witnessing a demonstration of how **not** to conduct an interview!

Immediately following this brief skit, Daniel Austin, Personnel Director of the Providence Public Library, confirmed the five-member panel's intention to portray a very poorly-conducted interview with the idea of subsequently pointing out general and specific faults in this fictitious interviewing situation. Mr. Austin began by detailing the weaknesses and strengths of interviewing as a selection mechanism, sometimes drawing opinions from the audience. Among the major weaknesses he cited are the subjectivity, great expense, and relative inefficiency of the interviewing process, along with the prevalence among interviewers of poor interviewing techniques. On the positive side, Mr. Austin indicated that interviews can, if planned, structured, and implemented well, provide information about social and motivational factors and an applicant's experience and manner of communications. Focusing on positive qualities, asking open questions, and allowing the applicant to do most of the talking to interviewers who are attuned to the art of careful listening are also necessary to an effective interview.

Florence Doksansky, Assistant Librarian for Public Services and Collection Development at Brown University Libraries, spoke next and began by offering her observation that an interview should accomplish three objectives: (1) Determine how qualified the applicant is for the position; (2) Provide the applicant with information about the position and the organization; and (3) Make a friend [of the applicant] for the organization. In agreement with Mr. Austin, she favored a structured interview to allow better control over time

and the interviewing process. She suggested that questions addressing the particular responsibilities of the position, in addition to those which could garner information on an applicant's education, experience, skills, and personal characteristics, should be built into this structure. Particularly interesting were Doksansky's specific pointers and caveats to interviewers about the types of questions used, some situations to avoid in the process, and allowing enough time and providing the proper environment for the interview. She captured everyone's attention, finally, by quoting many of Robert Half's creative and effective questions as published in an article titled, "12 Questions for Better Interviewing," which appeared in the November, 1986 issue of U S AIR magazine.

The question-and-answer period which brought the session to a close yielded yet more useful information on a variety of matters not treated (or treated in a limited fashion) by the two speakers. Among the topics broached were whether or not salary and benefits information should be covered in an interview; possible differences in interviewing for non-professional, as opposed to professional positions, or change-of-career applicants; what recourse an applicant might have upon recognizing that s/he is caught in a poorly-structured interview; the legal advisability of asking only job-related questions; and who should be doing the interviewing for a professional position.

NETWORKING: AN EDUCATOR'S POINT OF VIEW

Reported by: Howard Boksenbaum
Barrington Public Library

Six vignettes reviewed the varying implications of -- and definitions of -- networking for six areas of library science. More importantly, six vignettes introduced (or reintroduced) six GSLIS faculty members to RILA.

Fay Zipkowitz, familiar as Director of the DSLS, now in her temporary new role as Visiting Professor at the GSLIS moderated the panel, tying the vignettes together with the theme of "libraries don't network; but librarians do." Leena Siitonen led off with a review of definitions of networking, and some related critical issues currently before the library community in the literature and

at symposia across the nation. Dr. Zipkowitz followed with the technical services viewpoint, stressing technical standards, staffing, and work organization.

Pat Jensen discussed the difficulties of establishing networking among school libraries or including school librarians in library networks. She averred that school librarians want to be included as AASL standards make clear, but are hobbled by formidable psychological, political, legal, communications, and planning barriers. Stuart Schneider spoke of networking implications for reference service, and Jonathan Tryon explained CCCD, coordinated cooperative collection development.

Elizabeth Futas, GSLIS Director, took the finale, expanding upon the "but librarians do" theme with an elegant and enthusiastic entreaty to the audience to seek out networks in professional associations and the lobbies of the halls of government.

GUTTENBERG GOES TO BITS

Speaker: Norman Desmarais

Reported by: Rae B. Cousins
Providence College

Norman Desmarais, Providence College acquisitions librarian, guided the audience on a survey tour through current and potential applications of laser optical publishing technology. The emphasis was on demonstration, exposing the capacity audience to the broad scope of audio, textual, and graphic products in 4 3/4" or 12" audio and video disk formats. Mr. Desmarais demystified this area by discussing production methods and problems and by clarifying terminology associated with this rapidly changing industry. Existing products, particularly those with obvious library applications such as bibliographic data storage and retrieval, would appear merely to scratch the surface of the potential for laser optical technology. Some prospective applications demonstrated or discussed which are bound to be of interest to librarians include full text daily newspaper storage and access, a system to organize incoming electronic mail, and interactive hierarchical data files containing both text and graphics. The erasable disk technology was predicted to be a year or two away.

The inevitable question, "Should we buy?"

brought an affirmative response from Mr. Desmarais, who currently uses the CD-ROM acquisitions product Laser Search. Cautioning that each institution must make cost/benefit decisions, he assured those present that standards for laser optical hardware are currently being finalized. Prices, still high, can be expected to drop as data disk production increases.

PRESIDENT'S SPEAKER: ANNALEE BUNDY

Reported by: John Bucci
Cranston Public Library

Annalee Bundy, the "President's Speaker," prefaced her remarks concerning Providence Public Library's (PPL) recent financial problems with a short history of PPL and its impact on the state.

Some of Mrs. Bundy's comments were concerned with various statistical comparisons in regard to money, staff, and PPL's endowment. She noted that PPL receives less than three million dollars per year while similar institutions such as the Springfield, Massachusetts and Syracuse, New York libraries receive much more. Mrs. Bundy also noted the decline in numbers of staff, the low entrance position salaries, the high liability insurance costs, and the demands the physical plants have placed on the budget. While all these problems have impacted on the library, PPL receives only one-half as much money from the state as from the city; and neither will increase its support unless the other does.

Providence's director also had some good news for the assembled RILA members. The PPL endowment has grown because of a moderately aggressive investment plan; Fundraising continues; the staff remains top-notch, especially for a large urban library; and the purchase of materials has not been sacrificed.

Mrs. Bundy closed her remarks with the hope that financial increases will appear in the near future and library hours and staff will also be increased.

(Editorial Note: The full text of Mrs. Bundy's speech will be in the March issue of the Bulletin.)

UNBLOCKING CREATIVITY: AN APPROACH TO PROBLEM-SOLVING

Speaker: Leda Whitman-Raymond

Reported by: Michele M. Mals
Central Falls Free Public
Library

Synectics is a liberating process which serves to disengage the mind from its usual patterns of problem examination. Basically, the power of the approach lies in the process, not necessarily the outcome. It can serve to elucidate and delineate problems as well as render them more convoluted and unmanageable. The purpose of the approach is to develop new frames of reference and new, previously unblazed perspectives.

Ms. Whitman-Raymond led a group of fifteen people through the process which consists of three discrete stages. Stage 1 entails the identification of a problem and its clarification. A problem is clarified by members of the group generating "How To" goal-oriented restatements of the problem. Everyone is encouraged to make a restatement no matter how tangential or loosely related this restatement may be. The "owner" of the problem from time to time responds to the restatements, informing the group which restatements impact significantly on the problem. The owner's reactions, in turn, help the group to develop some direction and to refine restatements.

Next, the group embarks on the metaphorical trip stage. The group selects a category... any category which serves as the substrate for vocabulary which is then produced in abundance.

Finally, each member of the group constructs a sentence containing a potential solution from the generated vocabulary. Stage 3, the potential solution phase, may result in intangible, figurative products. Innovative pragmatic solutions however, may arise after the "unblocking" exercise. Ms. Raymond-Whitman concluded that Synectics is a paradoxical process which can be summed up as follows: "An artist was asked why he stood before his work scrutinizing it with his eyes squinted. He responded that one can see more clearly when one's vision is blurred."

HOW TO RECOGNIZE, COLLECT AND VALUE RARE BOOKS

Speaker: James A. Visbeck

Reported by: Elizabeth Burns
Roger Williams College

The Monday afternoon session on "How to Recognize, Collect and Value Rare Books"..., presented by James A. Visbeck, of the Isaiah Thomas Bookstore in Worcester, Massachusetts, was most interesting and informative. The speaker had brought examples - particularly of miniature books for children - which he passed around among the audience. He had also brought some of the more standard tools for assessing book values, and he discussed the relative merits of each. His description of the rare book world was enlivened with fascinating stories of the wheeling and dealing involved. Anyone who has to handle gifts of books to the library, and who must assess the value of those that are to be sold, would have received much helpful information. It was a pleasure to listen to a somewhat arcane subject presented with enthusiasm and humor.

RHODE ISLAND 400th-- WHEN AND HOW TO MICROFORM LOCAL HISTORY

Speaker: Veronica Cunningham

Reported by: Denise Listovitch
Warwick Public Library

Veronica Cunningham, Director of Microform/Photoduplication at the North East Document Conservation Center, used a slide presentation in conjunction with her talk to reinforce her material. Following a brief overview of the varied materials found in local history collections, Ms. Cunningham presented the causes of collection deterioration (i.e. flood, fire, poor storage and handling) and maintenance methods available that can retard deterioration. Last, but not least, Ms. Cunningham spoke on why microform/photoduplication should be an alternative considered by libraries desiring to preserve and/or maintain a local history collection.

WHEN MY BROTHERS COME HOME

Speaker: Frank M. Chipasula

Reported by: Valerie J. Horton
Brown University

"I have nothing to give you, but my anger."

This quote is from a poem read by Frank Mkalawile Chipasula, a Malawain poet in exile, who spoke at a program sponsored by RI/JMRT.

Mr. Chipasula spoke about the necessity of poetry. Poetry is born out of pain, he said; you must learn to work through the pain and transcend it via poetic expressions. With words you have a tool for social change more powerful than guns. Hope is the central theme of his poetic vision.

Mr. Chipasula read several poems from the acclaimed anthology he edited, titled When My Brothers Come Home: Poems from Central and Southern Africa. While several of the works he read dealt with political suppression and terror, his goal was not to celebrate pain, but rather to give courage and inspiration. The last lines of his poem, "A Love Poem for my Country" illustrates this theme:

*"I know a day will come and wash away my pain
And I will emerge from the night breaking into song
Like the sun, blowing out these evil stars."*

STATE PUBLICATION CLEARINGHOUSE: THE RHODE ISLAND AND CONNECTICUT EXPERIENCE

Speakers: Mary Anne Golda
Albert Palko

Reported by: Martha Kellogg
University of Rhode Island

The state documents clearinghouse systems of Rhode Island and Connecticut were examined in a program sponsored by the CRIARL Government Documents Committee. The two main functions of both clearinghouses are acquiring state government publications and distributing them to designated depository libraries within the state, as well as to the Library of Congress, and to the Center for Research Libraries. Each clearinghouse also produces a checklist of its state government publications.

Mary Anne Golda, Technical Services

Librarian at the Rhode Island State Library and Coordinator of the State Publications Clearinghouse, described the Rhode Island program which was established by statute in 1985. Eleven full and twelve selective depository libraries have been receiving state publications from the clearinghouse since August, 1985. Albert Palko, Connecticut State Documents Librarian, reported on a similar program which has been collecting and distributing state publications to twelve depository libraries since 1977.

Both Palko and Golda described similar problems in the functioning of their respective clearinghouses. For example, identification and acquisition of state publications is not an easy task. Although all state agencies are responsible by law for supplying copies of their publications to the clearinghouse, often this does not happen. Palko estimated that in Connecticut only about 45-50% of the documents are actually sent automatically. The remainder must be aggressively sought by clearinghouse staff. Another difficulty is a perennial library problem: funding. Neither program has a budget. The Rhode Island law was passed with no funding and Golda has no staff except herself.

Creative methods of identifying and acquiring state documents--of doing much with little--were described. In spite of some frustrations, the state clearinghouse system which identifies, acquires, and distributes state publications was seen as a positive force in establishing control over these often elusive materials and making them more accessible to state residents and researchers.

WIND DOWN IN CAHOOTS LOUNGE: EXHIBITORS AWARD

An award was presented to a conference attendee who went to all the exhibits and had it recorded by each exhibitor on a form. Congratulations to Denise Listovitch for winning a \$20.00 gift certificate to B. Dalton Book Store.

THE PROBLEM PATRON-- WHEN AND HOW TO DO WHAT

Speaker: Peggy Gale

Reported by: Eileen Socha
George Hail Library

Peggy Gale, a social worker with a private practice in Cranston, Rhode Island, gave a very interesting and informative presentation on the "problem patron." The librarian expects proper behavior from a patron, as well as clear policies supported by the administration addressing behavior in the library.

When disruptive behavior occurs, the librarian must remember that it is usually caused by feelings the patron has about themselves and not with the library or librarian. Common sense is the rule -- by remaining calm, speaking slowly and softly, exercising active listening or offering a complaint form. There may be occasions when the problem is beyond common sense, and contacting other organizations such as the police department, mental health clinic, or child abuse hotline is required.

Mrs. Gale offered lots of knowledge and therapeutic techniques as well as a list of suggested readings and referral sources.

THE ART OF PERSUASION AND PREVENTION: A LOBBYING WORKSHOP

Speakers: Beth Perry
Henry Boeniger
Elizabeth Morancy
William Moore
Elaine Carrol

Reported by: Tanya Trinkaus
Roger Williams College

Beth Perry, State Library, moderated the following panelists: Representative Henry Boeniger, Chairman of the House Labor Committee, Representative Elizabeth Morancy, Member of the House Finance Committee, Elaine Carroll, Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center, and William Moore, Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce. These panelists explained, from different perspectives, how a citizen or a professional lobbyist can make the difference between a bill being passed, or a bill not even making it out of committee. Representative Boeniger explained committee structure, and how they study, revise, kill, amend, approve, and send a bill on the floor with a recommendation for action. He

explained that the committee meeting, even though public, is not the right place to lobby. Representative Morancy explained that knowing the power centers to approach is important. She discussed the importance of having a sponsor for a bill, and talking directly to representatives and senators. Elaine Carroll emphasized being accurate, being friendly, introducing yourself to legislators, and making contacts. Bill Moore, as a professional lobbyist, emphasized five points - (1) he is a resource to provide accurate information on bills related to the organization or field which he represents, (2) he represents a specific "interest group," (3) he needs to keep an ongoing head-count of which legislators are for or against what, (4) he tries to build support among non-traditional groups, and, above all, (5) he must respect the system (Assembly, rules, the institution). Beth Perry gave a few tips on what information the State Library has during legislative sessions such as copies of all introduced legislation, and the most recent status of all bills.

The entire session was very informative, ending with handouts and questions to clear up a few points. The panelists gave very good pointers on lobbying which revealed that research and effort are necessary, however the length of time needed to lobby may not be as consuming as one would expect. The panelists were friendly, informative and very approachable.

GETTING THE WORD OUT: PUTTING TOGETHER BROCHURES, FLYERS AND NEWSLETTERS

Speakers: Sally Hooton
Carolyn Rosenfeld

Reported by: Mala Davis
Middletown Public Library

This program, sponsored by the Publication Committee, was presented by Sally Hooton, Director of the Learning Connection, and Carolyn Rosenfeld, Vice President of Ink, Inc. First, the speakers listed the steps necessary to obtain the desired finished product. Both stressed the importance of thinking through the whole process and keeping it simple. Various factors such as size, fold, paper, color, ink, and type face all must be considered before approaching a printer. Familiarity with printer jargon was strongly recommended.

Sample flyers were shown as examples of what could be done. They ranged from cheap to pricey and from very effective to poor. Design of the product consists of color, size, space, and graphic elements according to Sally Hooton. She stressed that the design should draw the eye to the most important element and should make the flyer stand out when compared to others. Other important facts in designing a successful flyer is knowing the organization being publicized and being consistent.

Finally, the speakers considered the time factor and recommended two months be allowed to design, print, and send a flyer.

THE STEREOTYPICAL LIBRARIAN

Speaker: Norm Stevens

Reported by: Betsy Peck
Roger Williams College

Norm Stevens, Acting Director of the University of Connecticut Libraries, sent Rhode Island librarians into gales of laughter with his slide-tape presentation on the historical stereotypes of librarians. This mirth was fleeting, however, as many of us were left thinking "just what is the image we project?"

Opening the presentation with Robert Preston's bellowing performance of "Marion the Librarian," slides were shown depicting librarians throughout history in a variety of media along with witty prose, poetry and humor to support them. A male black-belted librarian, posing for a library poster in the process of a karate kick, was cited as an example of the male librarian asserting his masculinity. Another example which caused some noise from the crowd, was the image of the female librarian posed in the journals wearing a crisp, white blouse and bow tie at the neck; an image which Mr. Stevens feels makes us indistinguishable from other women professionals.

In summarizing his research and collecting of librarians, Mr. Stevens believes stereotypes of librarians have changed little over the years and in questioning the audience, found the same was felt to be true.

THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVE

Speakers: Sue Reed
Dorothy Frechette
Bruce Daniels

Reported by: Barbara Wilson
DSLS

This program gave a review of the Department of State Library Services (DSLS) telecommunications legislation which has been submitted to Governor DiPrete.

Sue Reed opened the meeting by explaining that the task force is trying to determine the communication needs of Rhode Island libraries. Dorothy Frechette of DSLS distributed a list of five goals of the RHILINET task force and reviewed the progress up-to-date. These included such goals as sharing bibliographic information statewide by including all Rhode Island libraries in a network sharing non-confidential patron information; providing better communications for messages, etc; and providing a more efficient delivery system. Problems arise when smaller libraries get into the high tech system and the delivery system. The findings of the task force will provide input into the second Humphry study next spring ('87).

Bruce Daniels of DSLS explained the proposal for funding the network and the delivery system study. The proposal would give five day (Monday-Friday) delivery to all libraries, perhaps through a vendor. No funding would be withdrawn from the regional centers, and they would no longer need to have a driver and vehicle. If acted upon favorably by the legislature, it would take effect in fiscal '88.

A lively question and answer session followed this well-attended program.

BUSINESS MEETING

Speakers: Roberta Cairns
Jon Tryon

Reported by: Tanya Trinkaus
Roger Williams College

The business meeting was conducted by outgoing President, Roberta Cairns. She introduced the old and new executive boards

AWARDS

and passed the gavel to incoming President, Jon Tryon. She announced that there were 230 registrants for the Conference this year. As always, the Personnel Committee presented a Salary Resolution - up 4% to \$19,000, which was passed by the body. Joan Reeves spoke on behalf of COLA concerning the tax deductible status of the membership, and of an upcoming program. The RILA Continuing Education raffle winners were announced by Maggie Horn - Kathy Ryan and Ronnie Thomas. Elizabeth Futas announced the URI raffle winner - Merrily Taylor.

Jon Tryon's speech stated that he had no specific goals, but that he depended on the membership and the committees to continue the work which Roberta had started - involving the membership and library support staff, and increasing the involvement of non-public libraries.

Anne Toll, past Treasurer, led a discussion of the RILA budget. After discussion by those assembled, the budget was passed. In honor of her year as President, Roberta was presented with a silver bowl from the Executive Board.

The meeting concluded with an announcement by Beth Perry that a new committee has been formed and needs support from RILA members - Bicentennial Celebration of the Constitution. She and Jon Tryon are the committee chairs.

Knight Edwards was named the 1986 Trustee of the Year for his continuing commitment to libraries over the past 30 years. As a Trustee of the Providence Public Library, he extended his commitment beyond that specific library to all libraries in Rhode Island by assuming a leadership role in the creation of the laws that developed the Department of State Library Services and the Interrelated Library Network as we know it. His constant support of libraries and their issues has made him a role model for trustees throughout our State.

The 1986 Special Recognition Award was presented to Old Stone Bank for its involvement, support and commitment to libraries and literacy. Old Stone's reading motivation project, LEAP INTO LITERATURE, is now in its second year and has been successful in encouraging children to read and, at the same time, sparking interest in American, as well as Rhode Island history.



Mrs. Knight Edwards received the Trustee of the Year Award on behalf of her husband, Knight Edwards, from RILA President, Roberta Cairns. (Photo by Joseph McGovern, DSLS)



A Special Recognition Award was presented to Old Stone Bank for their commitment to literacy and libraries. On hand to accept the award was Ann Lopes, Duffy & Shanley, Judith Rohrer, Old Stone Bank, Robert Burkhart, Old Stone Bank, presented by RILA President, Roberta Cairns, and Melody Allen, DSLS. (Photo by Joseph McGovern, DSLS)

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF
DESIGN MUSEUM OF ART TOUR
AND RECEPTION

Speakers: Frank Robinson
David Stark

Reported by: Lauri Burke
Barrington Public Library
Charlotte Schoonover
Kingston Free Library

A docent gave a routine tour of the museum's publicly accessible collections which lasted about one hour. It was enjoyable for the many who attended to see all of the art, but the "behind-the-scenes" tour did not happen and many were very disappointed. After the tour, Museum Director, Franklin Robinson welcomed everyone in the main gallery, encouraged them to visit anytime, and introduced David Stark, head of the Education Department. He informed everyone of the educational materials available to borrow such as kits about different aspects of art. He encouraged tours in the museum through the museum staff and welcomed any ideas from librarians. The attitude was an openness to communicate with libraries in the state. A delightful reception followed.



RILA members off to RISD for a tour and reception.
(Photo by Joseph McGovern, DSLS)

people

ANITA BOLOGNA, Director of the Rhode Island Library Film Cooperative, has resigned and accepted the position of AV Librarian at Bridgeport (CT) Public Library.

JOHN FOX CORY was promoted recently to the Assistant Director post at Cranston Public Library.

RAE COUSINS has been appointed an Information Services Librarian at Cranston Public Library.

JANICE DIFRANCO, Assistant Director at Warwick Public Library, is serving as Interim Director of the Rhode Island Library Film Cooperative for a year and one-half period, ending July 1988.

CHERYL MARAJ has been appointed Young Adult Services Librarian at Cumberland Public Library.

DEBBIE MONGEAU, Government Documents/Reference Librarian at Warwick Public Library, has been appointed Government Documents Librarian at the University of Rhode Island.

CATE L. ROBARTS, a recent graduate of the URI Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, has joined the Warwick Public Library staff as a Children's Librarian.

KATHY RYAN recently accepted the position of Librarian at the Rhode Island Training School.

CYNTHIA SYMANSKI is the new Children's Librarian at the Jesse Smith Memorial Library in Harrisville.

REBECCA TURNBAUGH, a recent graduate of the URI Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, has joined the staff of the South Kingstown Public Library (Peace Dale Library) as the Librarian II in charge of Technical Services and Reference.

The 1986 Conference Committee would like to thank the Exhibitors for helping to make this conference such a great success.

bulletin board

- The American Library Association (ALA) has received a \$560,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York for a project titled "Enhancing the Role of Video- cassettes in Libraries." The project will focus on acquisition and use of educational/cultural videocassettes by public libraries. ALA will develop training tapes and workshops on the use of video in libraries, produce a list of recommended videotapes and administer a videocassette recorder donation program to selected Carnegie libraries on behalf of the Carnegie Corporation. In addition, ALA will conduct a study to determine feasibility of a library video buying cooperative. ALA's Publishing and Communications departments will oversee production of the tapes and list, videocassette recorder donations and the buying cooperative study. ALA's Public Library Association will conduct the training workshops, the first of which is planned for ALA's San Francisco conference in June. Further details are to be announced in the near future.

- Providence Public Library (PPL) has been awarded a grant from the Champlin Foundation totalling \$302,997, enabling it to accommodate additional members in the Cooperating Libraries Automated Network (CLAN), the statewide system of library automation. The grant from the Providence-based philanthropic organization will be used to purchase additional hardware and software to upgrade the current system's information capacity. PPL, as the CLAN operations center, has all of the information for cataloging and circulation at member libraries stored on its data base. Included in the grant are funds to be used toward adding the Middletown Public Library and the South Kingstown Public Library to the CLAN system. This will bring the total number of CLAN members to 18 statewide. The extra power provided by additional equipment will enable the CLAN system to also accommodate a future merger with the Rhode Island Automated Library Consortium, a system similar to CLAN which now serves Barrington, Cranston, and the Department of State Library Services.

- The Pawtucket Public Library will be initiating online database searching through DIALOG Information Services, Inc. this

Spring. Funding for the equipment and training necessary to provide this service is being provided by a Champlin Foundation grant of \$4,468.

- The Community College of Rhode Island has established a Library Technical Assistant Program. Two courses are underway this semester and a full curriculum leading to the LTC Certificate should be in place by Fall of this year. All questions regarding the program should be directed to John J. Sousa, Dean, at 333-7126.

- The University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library and Information Studies will be sponsoring a Continuing Education Workshop on "Media in the Library: New Technologies and Their Impact on Library Services." The workshop is intended for librarians who evaluate and select nonprint media and it will emphasize videocassettes, videodiscs, and compact discs. The workshop, priced at \$25, will take place on March 21st from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM in Rodman Hall on the URI campus. Information is available by calling the GSLIS at 792-2978 or 792-2947.

- The Mental Health Association of Rhode Island has initiated a Speakers Bureau. The Speakers Bureau is comprised of professionals in the mental health field who can address groups on a variety of topics. The purpose of the bureau is to educate the general public about mental health and illness and to remove the stigma associated with people who use mental health services or who have a mental illness. Speakers are available immediately and can be contacted through the Mental Health Association at 272-6730.

- At the close of the RILA Convention, Debra Cohen, Conference Chairperson, selected the two winners for the L.B.C. Books drawing. First prize, a set of three Yankee cookbooks, was awarded to Susan Waddington of the Providence Public Library. Second prize, a copy of Japanese Prints was awarded to Ruth Tonpin of the Narragansett Pier Free Library.

- The Rhode Island Special Libraries Association is pleased to announce the publication of A Guide to Special Collections in Rhode Island. The directory lists collections by library, librarian, and subject. It is available for \$2.00. Please contact Abby Davis, 861-2900 or Linda Walton, 456-3869.

EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMITTEES

The Executive Board met December 2, 1986 in order to have the transition from the old Executive Board to the new Executive Board. All committees reported.

BUDGET AND FINANCE: The committee suggests establishing a line item budget for 1987. They also suggest that the Association have both a membership drive, and that the Annual Conference be viewed as a money-making project to help increase funds. Doug Pearce, Treasurer, is the new Chair of this committee.

CONFERENCE: A profit was made on the conference this year. Attendance was 200 on Monday and 120 on Tuesday. Evaluation forms expressed approval of the Marriott as the new location for the Conference, however there was some discontent with the meeting room locations. We were assured by the Hotel that this situation will be corrected next year. This conference had the highest number of exhibitors, which is probably because they prefer the Providence location. Next year the Conference will be October 25-27, 1987. The new chairs are Kathy Ryan and Karen Quinn.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Mary Anne Golda, Technical Librarian at the Rhode Island State Library, will be the new editor of the Legislative Newsletter. CoChairs for this committee will be Roberta Cairns and Liz Futas.

MEMBERSHIP: Renewal forms for RILA will appear in the December and January issues of the Bulletin. Individual renewals will be sent to those who do not send in renewals. The new Chair of this committee is Stewart Schneider.

PERSONNEL: The committee held an excellent workshop this year which they hope to repeat. Unfortunately, the fee is \$300 - \$350. The committee is hoping that DSLS and/or the URI GSLIS will be interested in sponsoring the program. Beverly Lambert will continue as the Chair.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Library ads should be appearing on television in late December.

Merrily Taylor, Chair, worked with a local ad agency to produce these ads. No new chair has been assigned for this committee.

PUBLICATIONS: Only 11 questionnaires were returned at the conference concerning the BULLETIN. The comments were basically good, however, the usual comments were made concerning timeliness and feature articles. The committee will do its best to improve these issues. Charlotte Schoonover is the new Jobline Manager.

TRUSTEES: Peter Fuller, Chair, is currently the only member of this committee. He thinks that due to lack of interest perhaps this committee should be disbanded. It was suggested that possibly COLA, which is currently working with "Friends" of libraries, might be interested in working with Trustees as well. The committee sponsored a very good lecture at the Conference. Peter will continue as Chair if the committee is not disbanded.

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM: The new chairs of this committee are Debra Cohen and Steve Thompson. The committee will be giving two presentations on Rock lyrics. The first program will be a February 23, 1987 Young Adult Round Table program. The second program will be March 10, 1987 at the RIEMA Conference. The committee has bookmarks, bumper stickers, and decals dealing with Intellectual Freedom.

JMRT: JMRT is working with the URI GSLIS to find a student to update the "Guide to the RI Library Community." There were no applicants this year for the \$250 Baker and Taylor Grassroots Grant. Next year we will have a student liaison to help promote the grant. JMRT is planning a trip to Trinity Square in February, and a workshop in CD ROM is being planned for April. The current president of JMRT is Amy Johnsen-Harris.

NELA COUNCILOR: The NELA booth at the RILA Conference resulted in 10 new RI members. Janet Levesque is the new NELA Councilor. She announced that Presidents of State Associations are able to receive free registration and a free meal at the Annual NELA Conference. The 1987 Conference will be in Boxborough (exact dates unknown), and the 1988 Conference will be in Sturbridge, October 22-23, 1988.

calendar

A Resolution has passed the 1986 Rhode Island General Assembly forming a commission to investigate establishing community service programs as alternatives to certain fines, imprisonment, and conditions of probation (e.g. alternative sentencing). The General Assembly has mandated that one member of this Commission be a member of RILA. John Fox Cory has agreed to be our RILA representative. We look forward to any comments John might have concerning the potential "alternative sentencing" program.

FEBRUARY 23 - Young Adult Round Table, "Rock Lyrics & Biographies." 3PM, Scituate Junior-Senior High School.

MARCH 10 - REIMA Annual Conference, CCRI-Knight Campus (Warwick).

MARCH 21 - URI/GSLIS CE workshop - Media in the Library: new technologies and their impact on library services. Rodman Hall, URI, Kingston, 9:30 - 3:30, \$25. For more information call 792-2978 or 792-2947.

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jobline

The Rhode Island Library Association has established a minimum recommended salary of \$19,000 for a full-time beginning librarian in 1987.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND HEAD OF PUBLIC SERVICES: Attractive New England town seeks librarian with MLS and three years of experience, including some supervisory responsibilities. Computer literacy would be an asset. Duties include supervision of the public service staff, budgeting and administering the salary account, and assisting the Director and Trustees in planning and policy-making. Salary: \$22,136 - \$28,568. Position open immediately. Send resume, name and numbers of three references, and letter of application. Applicants are invited to respond briefly to the following question: If you were advising a first-time supervisor, what three things would you enumerate as being most important about supervising others? Mail applications to Sharon A. Gilley, Beebe Library, 345 Main Street, Wakefield, MA 01880.

LIBRARY ASSISTANT EMPHASIS ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: JSI/WEI, two health and development consultant firms with a shared library, need a part time library assistant able to assume responsibility for maintaining all library functions through a four month period. Qualifications include: an understanding of basic library principles, procedures, goals and philosophy of service, relating specifically to special libraries; and ability to work with minimum supervision; good interpersonal skills; knowledge of general reference sources and basic reference sources in medicine, public health, population studies and education and development; an ability to coordinate acquisition services for main and regional offices; ability to perform original cataloguing, utilizing a modified AACR2 format, MeSH and LC Subject headings; a working knowledge of ILL procedures within the Greater Northeastern Regional Medical Library Program; an introduction to database searching, preferably with knowledge of the MEDLARS databases, specifically, MEDLINE, Health Planning and Administration and POPLINE. Major responsibilities are: acquisition of materials relevant to project development; serials control and journal circulation for current awareness; cataloguing and file maintenance; promotion of library services. Hours are flexible within a Monday-Friday, 8:30 - 5:30, 16-24 hours/week schedule. Salary: \$8/hour. Position to be filled from February through May. Direct inquiries to: Teresa Frydryk, Librarian, JSI/WEI, 210 Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111 (617-482-9485).

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!

PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

January 1, 1987 - December 31, 1987

DUES SCHEDULE (Circle category that applies)

First time member	\$8.00
Library school student (maximum 3 years)	\$8.00
Trustee	\$8.00
Retired	\$8.00
Affiliate	\$8.00

Renewing library personnel

<u>Salary</u>	<u>DUES</u>
Under.....\$ 8,999	\$ 8.00
\$ 9,000.....\$12,999	\$12.00
\$13,000.....\$16,999	\$16.00
\$17,00.....and above	\$20.00

RENEWING MEMBERS: Please check your listing in the 1986 Membership Directory. This listing will be repeated in the 1987 Directory unless you indicate below that there has been a change.

Please correct my Directory listing as indicated below.

I do not want my name listed in the 1987 Membership Directory.

Are you a member of ALA? Yes No

PLEASE list RILA committee memberships or offices held in last two years on back of form.

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS
Street/PO Box _____

Town/State/ZIP _____

LIBRARY or AFFILIATION _____

POSITION _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____

DUES PAID \$ _____

Contribution to ALA's Washington Office \$ _____

Contribution to RILA's Continuing Education Grant \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check payable to RILA and mail to: Stewart P. Schneider
GSLIS, Rodman Hall
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881



Inspired?

RILA's Committees have all worked together to make 1986 a great year!

Want to join in on the Fun and Cooperative Effort?

Just circle the Committee you would like to work on, fill in your name and address, and return this form to:

Jonathan S. Tryon
GSLIS
Kingston, RI 02881

CONFERENCE
MEMBERSHIP
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NOMINATING
BUDGET AND FINANCE

PUBLICATION
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
PERSONNEL
INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM
TRUSTEE

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Library affiliation: _____



RILA would like to thank vocalist Fran Farrell-Bergeron, and pianist Jean Robins, for entertaining us during the poolside reception. (Photo by Joseph McGovern, DSLS)

The RILA BULLETIN is published 10 times per year by the Rhode Island Library Association. Managing Editor: Linda Walton, Butler Hospital, 345 Blackstone Blvd., Providence, RI 02906 (456-3869); Feature Editor: Norman Desmarais, Providence College, Phillips Memorial Library, Providence, RI 02918 (865-2241); News Editor: Frank Iacono, DSLS, 95 Davis Street, Providence, RI 02908 (277-2726); Technical Editors: Debra Cohen and Veronica Thomas, East Providence Public Library, 41 Grove Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914 (434-2453); Jobline: Sheila Carlson, DSLS, 95 Davis Street, Providence, RI 02908 (277-2726); Advertising: Deborah O'Hara, 157 Briarwood Avenue, Middletown, RI 02840. Subscriptions: free to members; \$12/year in U.S.; \$20/year foreign. Deadlines: 1st of the month for features and 15th of the month for everything else. Features limited to four typed double-spaced pages and must be signed by author. Advertising: \$100 full page; \$50 half page; \$30 quarter page; \$10 business card size. Change of address: members contact the Membership Committee Chair and subscriptions contact the Managing Editor. Send claims to Managing Editor. For further information contact the appropriate Editor. Printing by East Side Copy, East Providence, RI (438-7878). 2673R52; LC 57-26438; ISSN 0146-8685.

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