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0146-8685

Rhode Island Library Association BULLETIN



February 1979

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

February 1979

Volume 51 No. 7

Indexed in Current Awareness
Library Literature
Z673R52 57-26438

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 1/4 page, \$35 per 1/2 page, and \$50 per full page. Call the advertising manager for further information.

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Printed by East Side Copy
Providence RI 02906

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



The new year has started on a promising note for librarianship in Rhode Island: the Graduate Library School, University of Rhode Island, has regained accreditation by the American Library Association as announced at the ALA Midwinter meeting. Congratulations! GLS alumnae, present and prospective students, faculty, and employers of GLS graduates, may all breathe a sigh of relief that their professional status is now based on a firm foundation. For all librarians in the state the Graduate Library School should be a great resource for maintaining the quality of our professional knowledge.

In this issue we offer you an assortment which we hope is a preview of things to come later in the year. Lee Flanagan sends us a report on the Connecticut Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services. How will Rhode Island's compare? Lucy Salvatore, of the Graduate Library School faculty, presents a summary on library services to children in Rhode Island. As Susan Klein points out, this is International Year of the Child, and we plan further discussion of children's services in an upcoming issue. You will find a lively response to the January REACH DIRECTORY in the Letters to the Editor. Those who wish us to publish more Directory information, speak now. Children's services makes me think of storytelling, so I culled from The Sleeping Beauty some drawings by Arthur Rackham, to illustrate this issue, including a witchlike story-teller heading the Salvatore article.

REACH DIRECTORY Corrections and additions due by March 10, 1979. The Bulletin will publish changes for the January 1979 Reach Directory in the April issue. If you have information to be included please send it to Judith Meister Einhorn, Kingston Free Library, 1329 Kingstown Road, Kingston RI 02881.

Letters to the Editor



Editor's note: Letters to the editor may be abbreviated for lack of space.

10 January 1979

Judy Einhorn:

You and your Outreach Committee have done a fine directory, which obviously took many hours of work and will be most useful to all of us for years. Thank you from me and my patrons.

Yours,
Bob S. Burford
Mohr Memorial Library
Johnston

January 12, 1979

Dear Judy Einhorn:

I was disappointed to see the incomplete entry for the Champlin Library in the latest RILA Bulletin Directory of Libraries. Here is a photocopy of my file copy of the Outreach Committee Survey that I sent to you last year via the systems delivery box.

I am sorry that you did not receive it. However, I feel that if your committee wanted to publish a comprehensive directory of Rhode Island library services, it was silly to put "no information available," as the information that you sought was readily available from the Regional Coordinator or the Department of State Library Services annual reports.

It's a good thing to have such a directory - too bad it is not complete.

Sincerely yours,
Jean L. Nash, Director
January 16, 1979

Dear Jean:

I am very sorry that the information for the Champlin Library was not included in the REACH Directory. We did not receive your survey, nor did our follow up call reveal that it had been sent.

The Outreach Committee made the decision at the outset to prepare a directory based on the information contained in the questionnaire. We felt it to be the responsibility of each library to return the survey if it were to be included in the directory. We did believe, however, that a follow up call was necessary to insure that each library had ample opportunity to be included. This was done by committee members on a regional basis. Unfortunately, your situation indicates that this was not effective in all cases.

You state in your letter that the information we sought was readily available. This was not the case since if it were, we would not have gone to all the effort to compile the directory. We followed what we deemed to be the most effective means of gathering current information for each library. Our goal was to compile as complete and up-to-date a directory as possible given the cooperation of libraries in the state.

I do agree with you that it is too bad that the directory is not complete. The committee was certainly aiming for 100% return of questionnaires. Hopefully, the next directory will be complete.

If possible, the committee will try to publish the information for Champlin, and any other information that comes to our attention over the next few months in an upcoming issue of the Bulletin.

Sincerely,
Judith Meister Einhorn, Chairperson
RILA Outreach Committee

January 17, 1979

Dear Editor:

To attempt a compilation of information on public, academic and special libraries in Rhode Island is obviously an enormous undertaking. We feel it is unfortunate however, that the result of that undertaking, the publication of the "Reach Directory" by the RILA Outreach Committee in January's Bulletin is conspicuously incomplete. We are deeply distressed that the Directory went to press with a listing of "no information available" for a total of nine public libraries in the State.

Of particular concern to us is the fact that two Cranston branches, Knightsville and Oak Lawn, are so listed. If surveys were not received from these two branches we cannot understand why no further attempts were made to obtain the necessary information. Did the Committee investigate the possibility that the surveys could have been lost in the mail or delivery system? Did the Committee consider the possibility of illness, vacation leave, or just simply human error in the failure of these branches to return one of the survey forms that seem to have proliferated in recent months? Information about these two branches would have been available from any number of alternative sources. Couldn't a Committee member have taken the missing information by telephone if time were limited?

We are deeply concerned that the incompleteness of this Directory will cause negative public relations for Rhode Island libraries and librarians. What if this Directory is consulted by out-of-staters who have access to Bulletin issues through CALL or the Library of Congress; or by Rhode Island government officials or other library users? What will they think of this publication by librarians supposedly trained in research methods to track down even obscure information? What a pity no-one can use the well-organized "Index to Special Collections" to discover Knightsville's extensive "Astrology" or Oak Lawn's useful "Parent and Child" collections. (Yet oddly the index entry for "Animal Husbandry" refers the reader to #2, the identification number for Rogers Free Library, also reported as having "No information available.")

We urgently request that the Outreach Committee complete its well-intentioned work and that the Bulletin republish it in its entirety. A mere list of corrections will never reach all those who will file only the complete Directory. We commend the Committee on its hard work, but contrary to your refutation of the old joke, we do wish this "camel" could look more like a horse!

Sincerely yours,
Jim Giles
Anne Parent

Jan. 17, 1979

Dear Editor:

The reference staff at Pawtucket asked me to write and thank you and the Outreach Committee for the directory. We have had occasion to use it already and hope that from time to time you will update and publish this information in the Bulletin so those interested can update their copy.

Susan Reed
Pawtucket Public Library



NEWS FROM RILA

by Bill Bergeron

Four committees show special activity at present. The Intellectual Freedom Committee's efforts at organizing a mutual defense league with other organizations will be concentrated on at a February meeting. The Outreach Committee's directory is a subject of 'Letters to the Editor' this month.

The Government Relations Committee, newly chaired by Larry Eaton, has some tough problems to contend with this year. The committee will again be off on a scramble for such RILA concerns as increased support for regional centers and increased state aid. Larry reports that a legislative package will be developed from the early February meeting of the committee.

Larry and the committee will issue a fact sheet about Rhode Island libraries to be distributed via the regional deliveries and to be sent from libraries to their local senators and representatives. No one should be able to resist such a painless way to let legislators know who and where you are.

The last item under legislation, a problem for the committee is that the Governor's Conference is being held late in the legislative session. One hopes that the fruits of the conference are durable enough to last to the 1980 session. Surely, a new awareness of Rhode Island's libraries will benefit us now, but real progress in library service will take much planning, cooperation among library interests and the support of those we seek to serve.

The Personnel Committee, chaired by Earl Schwass, has reaffirmed with the executive board that the ALA's Security of Employment in Libraries is a statement for professionals and that those RILA members not in specified professional positions will need similar support. Earl feels that a model personnel manual, used as a guideline, will answer that need. To a question of employees already represented by unions, Earl noted the model policy as a guideline will inform the unions of RILA's concerns for terms of employment. Also in the committee's purview, written steps in the inquiry process were requested by the executive board. The next meeting of the committee should produce a report on the inquiry process and the model personnel manual.



RI GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

The Steering Committee of the Governor's Conference met on January 23 at 7:30 p.m. At the meeting the list of 150 delegates and 48 alternates was distributed. An informational meeting for delegates is scheduled for February 15. At that meeting the delegates will hear information about the conference and their role in it. Additionally there will be three mailings of information to all delegates.

The Conference Organization Committee is continuing to work on the program for the conference.

All Task Force reports are to be submitted to the Issues and Problems Committee by February 1.

Rick Robbins is chairperson for the Exhibits Committee and work is well under way in the planning for this part of the conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta A.E. Cairns
RILA Representative to the
Governor's Conference Steering
Committee



CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARIES -
Statistical Data From a Survey by the Ad Hoc Committee on Children's
Services of the Rhode Island Library Association
by Lucy Salvatore

The Rhode Island Task Force for Public Library Service to Children was started in October, 1976, by a group of children's librarians who were concerned with the situation in Rhode Island. They met informally as a committee for about one year and in 1977 were officially established as the Ad Hoc Committee on Children's Services of the Rhode Island Library Association.

In a position paper published in the January, 1977, issue of the Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin, the goals and objectives of the Task Force were noted:

- To reaffirm the importance of dynamic, quality service to children.
- To increase the public library's role in the total development and intellectual growth of young people.
- To establish criteria for the evaluation of service to children in public libraries in Rhode Island.

To enlist the cooperation and support of the library community, government officials and the community-at-large in pursuing these goals.

Discussions by the Ad Hoc Committee in 1977 identified a need for information about children's programs in Rhode Island. The group decided that the best way to obtain that information would be through a questionnaire distributed to Rhode Island public libraries.

The concerns discussed by the Ad Hoc Committee paralleled a national trend to evaluate children's programs in public libraries initiated by coordinators of children's work in large public libraries. In 1974, they viewed with alarm the changes that were taking place in their professional status and work, noting particularly:

"...elimination or 'downgrading of the position of coordinator of children's work' and 'the emphasis on generalists in public libraries rather than specialists' "1

The author feels that to these concerns should be added the emphasis on quantity rather than quality programs, one of the most dangerous infringements on any service profession.

On June 16, 1977, ALA sponsored a pre-conference workshop in Detroit to discuss the concerns that had been raised nationally in the area of children's services in public libraries. Lucy Salvatore, a charter member of the Ad Hoc Committee, attended the conference as an observer at the request of the Committee.

After this pre-conference, the questionnaire mentioned above was completed, and sent to each public library in Rhode Island, including branches and book-mobiles, in Spring 1978, to be filled out by the person in charge of children's services.

Of the eighty (80) questionnaires sent to libraries, 58 (72.5%) were returned. The data from the questionnaire were put in machine-readable form, and the computer at the University of Rhode Island was used to develop statistics. The results of the tabulation are summarized below by category.

Facilities:

A designated children's area was reported by 94.8% of the libraries responding. Of those who reported a designated children's area, 70.4% indicated that they were satisfied with the adequacy of this area. However, 39.7% felt that the area would not be flexible enough to meet their needs for the next five years.

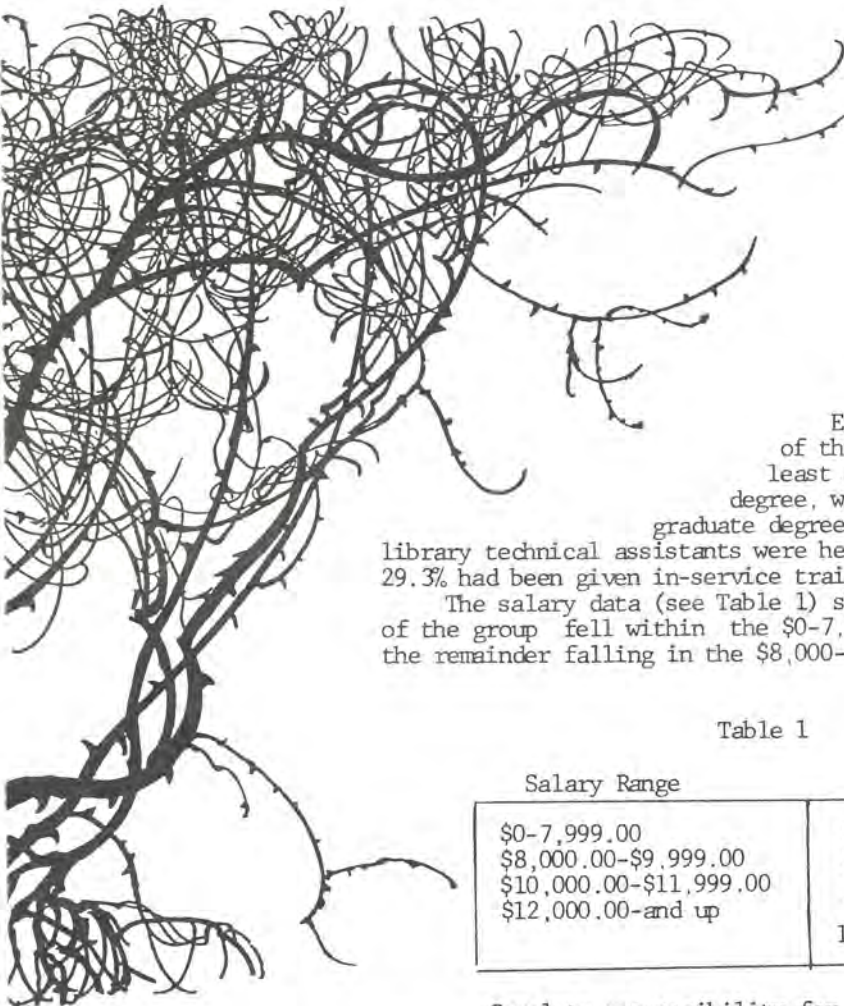
A children's area open to the public whenever the library was open was indicated by 75.9%; of the others (13.8%) who answered this question negatively, hours not open ranged from three (3) to twelve (12).

Staffing:

Of the official library titles reported by the respondents, 29.3% listed Children's Librarian, 25.9% Librarian. One reported the title of Assistant Director, Children's Services and one Director.

Of the 58 respondents, 41.3% had been in public library work for 5 years or less; 18.9% for 6-10 years; 18.8% for 11-20 years; and the remainder ranging from 22 up to 45 years.

It was also indicated that 19 (32.8%) of respondents spent greater than 30 hours in children's services, 7 (12.1%) spent between 20 and 30 hours, with the remainder covering the spectrum down to 0-2 hours. On the other hand,



24 (41.4%)
worked less
than 10 hours
in other services,
with another
14 (24.1%)
reporting 10-20
hours.

Educationally 60.3%
of the respondents had at
least an undergraduate
degree, with 46.4% possessing
graduate degrees. Certificates as
library technical assistants were held by 13.8%, and
29.3% had been given in-service training.

The salary data (see Table 1) showed that 50%
of the group fell within the \$0-7,999 range, with
the remainder falling in the \$8,000-\$12,000+ range.

Table 1

Salary Range	Percentage
\$0-7,999.00	50% (29 persons)
\$8,000.00-\$9,999.00	22.4% (13 persons)
\$10,000.00-\$11,999.00	13.8% (8 persons)
\$12,000.00-and up	13.8% (8 persons)
	100 % (58 persons)

Complete responsibility for selection of all
juvenile materials chosen was noted by 79.3% of the
respondents.

One half of the libraries reporting had neither additional
staff nor volunteers in any capacity assisting them in children's services,
while 34.4% had some kind of assistance. Of those libraries reporting
assistance from volunteers, 15.5% felt they were necessary, while 32.8% felt
they were somewhat or not at all necessary.

The question on whether or not there was always a children's services
staff person stationed in the children's area to provide service to patrons
drew a 46.6% affirmative answer. Among those who answered negatively, 67%
indicated inadequate coverage between 2 and 10 hours, with the remainder
reporting a range from 24 to 40 hours.

Programs:

Thirty one percent (31%) of the libraries indicated that there was no separate room for children's programs, but that children's programs were held either in other parts of the library or in such places as the outdoors, fire stations, school auditoriums and private garages. Of those libraries that did have separate rooms, 55.2% were more than satisfied with the adequacy of this space.

Of the factors which limit programs for children, 31% cited lack of staff time as the greatest factor, while space problems, lack of funds, and lack of materials were also cited. The funds available for children's programs were considered realistic by 41.3%, while 32.8% considered them somewhat realistic.

The libraries also indicated that 67.2% of the children's services staff performed outreach services, including school-connected programs, talks to parent groups, programs with youth organizations (other than school), and homebound visits.

Budget:

Participation in the planning of the library's overall budget was reported by only 37.9% of the children's services staff. Nonetheless, 63.7% felt that the funds provided by the library's budget for juvenile materials were more than adequate.

In estimating the percentage of the total materials budget spent on juvenile materials, 24% of the libraries reported between 5% and 20%; 31% between 21% and 30%; 27.5% between 31% and 40%; with the remainder reporting percentages of 50% (by 5.2% of the libraries), 54% (by 1.7%) and 81% (by 1.7%). Funds allocated were spent at the discretion of the children's services staff in 82.8% of the cases.

Selection:

Written juvenile materials selection policies were reported by 62.1% of the libraries. Guidelines used in libraries without written policies varied, most with personal selection and recommendations from others forming the basis for choice.

Table 2 indicates the selection tools used.

TABLE 2		% of Use
Selection Tool		
Booklist		75.9
Children's Catalog		69.0
School Library Journal		58.6
Horn Book		46.6
Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books		39.7
Appraisal		27.6
Elementary School Library Collection		17.2

Audio-visual materials were purchased on a regular basis by 32.8% of the libraries, but represented a generally small percentage of the budget expended.

On-the-job time allocated to children's services staff to evaluate the collection, to select media and to plan and conduct programs and other special services was rated as completely satisfactory by 53.4% of the libraries, and somewhat satisfactory by 34.5%.

Juvenile materials were borrowed on long-term loan from the Department of State Library Services (DSLS) by 67.2% of the libraries. Those not using the DSLS services reported generally that there was not a need to do this nor was there sufficient staff time to travel to get this material.

Circulation:

Juvenile borrowers in 34.5% of the libraries had no restrictions placed on borrowing. The remainder had some form of restriction placed on their juvenile borrowers, with the greatest percentage of restrictions, 19%, relating to "advanced, adult or expensive materials."

Separate cards for juvenile and adult borrowers were reported by 70.7% of the libraries. However, 15.5% of the libraries permitted children unrestricted access to library materials when they were in the junior high school (grades 7 and 8) and 10.3% permitted this when the child entered the 9th grade. Nineteen percent (19%) of the libraries started unrestricted access at age fourteen (14), while 15.5% of the libraries permitted unrestricted access at age thirteen (13).

Professional Development:

Table 3 indicates the organizations in which children's services staff hold membership.

TABLE 3

Organization	% Holding Membership
Rhode Island Library Association	75.9
New England Library Association	17.2
New England Round Table of Children's Librarians	3.4
American Library Association	8.6
Other	10.2

About 65.6% of the children's services staff members attend the Cooperative Juvenile Book Review meetings. More than half the libraries (56.9%) send one person on library time for an average of 4.4 meetings per year.

Conclusion:

This paper presents descriptive statistics derived from the questionnaire administered by the Ad Hoc committee on Children's Services of the Rhode Island Library Association. The committee is presently engaged in further interpretation of the results and in consideration of goals and objectives for future children's services in Rhode Island. The Committee thanks all those who took time to answer the questionnaire.

¹From Pre-conference Background. American Library Association President's Conference, Pre-conference Workshop, Detroit, Michigan, June 16, 1977.

*This paper was authored by Lucy Salvatore working with the following members of the Task Force.

Susanna Collins, Westerly Public Library; Dorothy Brown Frechette, DLS; Alice Forsstrom, Warwick Public Library; Leslie Peltier, formerly at the Robert H. Champlin Memorial Library, West Warwick; Judith Perlow, Pawtucket Public Library, and Michelle Vallee, Cranston Public Library.

The statistical work was done with the aid of Bernard S. Schlessinger, and Robert E. Giordano as consultants.



Computer Searching at URI
by Emily Schuder

Most of us have experienced the time consuming side of research known as manual searching. What a number of people don't realize is that locating current information from journal indexes needn't take hours since computer data bases have become available. Data bases organize and store journal entries. Retrieving this information generally follows the same logic used when searching manually. With the help of someone trained in computer operation, subject terms needed to retrieve relevant articles can be identified.

University of Rhode Island Computer Access (URICA) was started at the library in 1975. An average of twenty searches per year were performed until the 1977-78 year when it jumped to fifty-five. Already, in the first half of 1978-79 fifty-seven searches have been undertaken. Awareness of the availability of the on-line service seems to come from word-of-mouth and demonstrations to departments.

A broad range of data bases are available in the life, physical, and social sciences. Searches are available through the Lockheed System, Bibliographic Retrieval Service (BRS), Systems Development Corporation (SDC), and RECON, a governmental information system. (RECON is only available to university faculty and students.)

The procedure involves a meeting between the user and a subject specialist librarian, at which time the user fills out a form giving information on the search topic. Preliminary plans are made and relevant data bases chosen. Although the terminal is operated by the librarian, the user is present in case any changes must be made in the plan, and the user can also check the information as it is retrieved to assure that it is relevant to the subject being searched.

Charges vary with the data base used, the time spent on-line, and the number of off-line citations requested. Many of the searches are paid for

by grants or project funds but some are paid for by the individual. The average cost per minute on-line is \$1.25 and ten to fifteen cents per off-line citation.

Graduate students and faculty have made up the majority of URICA users although undergraduates and people from outside the university have also taken advantage of the service. It is a valuable tool for anyone needing up-to-date information from major journal indexes. In seconds, the computer provides citations and abstracts that would take hours of hand searching to uncover.

Anyone interested in more information on URICA can contact Jan Sieburth in the URI Library Reference Department at 792-5904.



THE CONNECTICUT GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE
ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES:
A DELEGATE'S VIEW

by Lee Flanagan*

December 6-8, 1978 - Hartford, Connecticut

"Be it resolved, that library and information services to all the citizens of Connecticut be designated in state policy as an essential service of the State."

- An Approved Conference Resolution

It was almost unbelievable. Probably even now, weeks later, some of us who were there are just beginning to comprehend what happened. It was a conference, a three day long conference, on libraries. And there was not a moment of boredom!

It began on a sunny December 6, 1978 when one hundred and fifty citizens from Connecticut gathered in Hartford for their Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services. From a far greater number nominated, these

*Lee Flanagan is Coordinator of the Region One Cooperating Library Service Unit, Waterbury, Connecticut.

delegates had been selected to represent a wide variety of geographical areas, age groups, occupations, minorities, and other interests. They met to identify the major issues confronting libraries and information services at the local, state, and national level, and to recommend action on those issues.

The Conference involved a whirlwind of nationally known speakers, colorful exhibits, late night-early morning caucuses, provocative workshops, a fine State Library video production ("For Future Reference"), and a delightful Christmas reception at the State Library.

The speakers without exception were intriguing, if not always agreeable to some of the delegates. Arthur White, who had just completed a book industry study on American reading habits, found book-readers pursue more leisure activities than non-book-readers. Delegates concurred, but tended to dispute White's assertion that older people are likely to read less. Mark Shedd, Connecticut Commissioner of Education, observed that on January 1 the State Library will come under the Department of Education, for administrative purposes only, and that he did not otherwise "anticipate a change in the relationship of the two institutions." Perhaps that was less than good news to Cooperating Library Service Units, the six library cooperative systems in the State. These systems are now legally obligated to serve all libraries and are struggling to overcome jurisdictional barriers between school and public libraries.

Douglas Edwards of CBS News noted that the number of American television sets is twice that of the combined daily circulation of newspapers in the United States. But he added that, while people now expect to see much of what they once read, book publishing is still growing at so fast a rate that the conglomerates are taking over. And the mass-market popularization that comes with the conglomerates may represent a greater threat to literacy than television. Both television and print, he concluded, will continue to have their own individual value when appropriately used.

John Berry, editor of Library Journal, observed that libraries are one of few institutions in American history to emerge uncorrupted. But then perhaps they have not been prominent enough in American history to be worth corrupting. State Senator Audrey Beck warned that there is little money in the public coffers and that library priorities must be chosen carefully. She also added that while libraries deal well with political funding realities on the local level, they do not fare well on the larger state and federal levels. Finally, Barbara Tuchman, author of A Distant Mirror, defended the library as the place for the experience of reading, not the place for a media center or a community center.

After two days of caucuses and workshops, various groups had formulated 63 resolution proposals. Then the Resolutions Committee worked valiantly all night long to clarify and categorize those proposals. On the third day, after hundreds of questions and corrections and amendments, a majority of delegates, under the able political chairing of Lawyer Samuel Cross and Judge Norman Buzaid, passed 53 of the resolutions. At one point where discussion was becoming labored and involved, Chairman Cross gavelled the meeting to order and humorously encouraged more efficiency in debate with the words, "I don't want to railroad anything - well, I really do, but I don't want to be accused of it."

Among the resolutions were requests that publicly supported libraries be made more accessible to: minorities, the handicapped, ethnic groups, the aging, those in prison, the educationally and economically disadvantaged, and adults in pursuit of continuing education. Greater access was recommended through longer hours, greater sharing of resources and automation in existing cooperative library networks, more individualized materials selection in accordance with community needs, expansion of libraries' delivery systems, and more publicity (such as putting the local library's telephone number in the front of a town's telephone directory).

Also voted were resolutions: opposing any cuts in the State Library budget which would result in service cuts, favoring certification for all librarians in school and public libraries, recommending mandatory education for children in the use of libraries, and suggesting regional warehouses for last copy storage of little used titles. And a resolution was passed urging that the financial requirements of large urban libraries functioning as resource centers be considered.

One of the most important resolutions of the Conference called for establishment of a free and independent State Commission on Library and Information Services, representative in membership of Connecticut's population, to formulate a state information policy, mandating library and information service to all citizens as essential. And this Commission was requested to seek the funding to achieve that service, to publicize it, and to carry out in general the resolutions of the Governor's Conference on Libraries.

From among the delegates and planners of the Conference nine delegates will be selected shortly to represent Connecticut at a White House Conference on Library and Information Services, October 28-November 2, 1979. The planners, State Librarian Charles Funk, State Conference Coordinator Chris Bradley, Associate State Librarians Sam Molod and Marjorie Hernandez, State Library Planner Leslie Berman, State Long Range Planner David Weill, the Conference Advisory Committee headed by Homer Babbidge of the Hartford Graduate Center, the Conference Planning Committee directed by Ernest DiMattia of the Stamford Public Library, Regional Cooperating Library Service Unit presidents, and scores of others who brought off this Conference, deserve considerable commendation for work extraordinarily well done.

While publicity was very weak before the Conference, the only difficulty with the Conference itself was that Governor Ella Grasso did not appear as scheduled because of a last minute conflict in commitments. This news cast quite a shadow on the feelings of people present. But when comedian Joey Russell, pretending to be an important Russian librarian, told a Conference luncheon audience that the Governor sent her regrets she could not attend, and then added, "Maybe lots you here want send regrets she your governor," comedy dispelled disappointment.

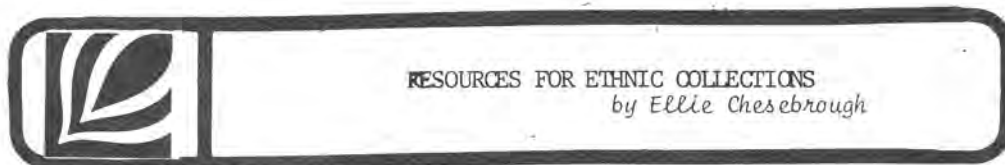
Looking forward, it is difficult to believe that the Conference will soon provide more actual funding for libraries from state sources. On the first day of the Conference it was disclosed that the State Library budget request for the coming fiscal year had been slashed approximately thirty

per cent. And apparently it has been cut again by State budget officers since that time. Next year it may be impossible to maintain current levels of state library service. Extensions of current services alone, as recommended by resolutions from the Governor's Conference on Libraries, would cost millions of additional dollars. That amount of money may not be available from the State to libraries for many years to come.

Overall, the clearest result of the Conference was to create a model for achieving solidarity amongst citizens and librarians on new directions for libraries. Delegates did not arrive at the Conference with that solidarity. On the first day the 150 delegates present seemed to have a thousand different vested interests. Perhaps on that day some delegates would have buried others if they could have. But by the third day, most people were ready instead to bury their differences and agree on what they felt to be most important for improved library service. That after all, within a three day time frame, was their objective.

Reassuringly, librarians and citizen delegates ultimately found that they agreed on most important points. They valued good library service, they wanted better, and they were willing to pay more for it. This solidarity, achieved through caucuses, informal discussions, workshops, and public debate, was thus the major result of the Conference.

In fact, the Conference provided so much of a model in securing a solid library-citizen front that it would be surprising if it were not used again by the State Library to gain united support for its upcoming statewide long range plan of service, and by the Connecticut Library Association to gain a consensus on library standards, library employee rights and responsibilities, library cooperation, library publicity, and library funding and legislation.



The Adult Book Meeting on Ethnicity held at the South Providence Branch Library, Tuesday, November 28, was an educational experience. Jana Varlejs from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissions described the process of identifying the library needs of ethnic communities. Tactics highlighted included contacting schools, churches, adult education classes and local ethnic organizations, researching the reasons why an ethnic group

left their native country, and determining what social attitudes (including those towards libraries) they brought with them as immigrants. She emphasized the importance of studying thoroughly the culture first and then going out to form an advisory group for a particular ethnic group's library programs made up of people from that community. Ms. Varlejs stressed repeatedly the need of employing library staff who speak the language of the ethnic group. A point was raised concerning the lack of employable librarians fluent in a second language. It was suggested that either a library should consider sending several staff members to a language school, or RILA, DSLS, and/or the GLS should consider making scholarships available to prospective library school students who are fluent in a second language that is spoken by a major Rhode Island ethnic group.

A basic library collection for an ethnic group should be comprised of a minimal reference collection with dictionaries and encyclopedias, a referral file which would include names of people able to do translations, recordings of music and current recreational reading materials (avoid translations of English-language works into another language and leave buying retrospective materials for the future). Shopping around for a trustworthy jobber who can offer advice on purchasing appropriate foreign language materials can save time by giving a librarian a head start on an active circulating collection. Genealogy and oral histories should also be considered as strong components for ethnic collections.

William DiRaimo from the Rhode Island Heritage Commission who also serves on the ethnic task force for the Governor's Conference, offered the librarians present his thoughts on how libraries can serve their ethnic communities better. His suggestions included having staff members who speak the language, sponsoring exhibits and oral history projects, providing translating services, advocating that community resource directories (like the CCS Directory) be published in different languages, having better public library and school cooperation regarding ethnic groups, and computerizing libraries to expedite resource sharing of ethnic collections. Mr. DiRaimo also mentioned a project being tackled by both the Heritage Commission and the International Institute to update a 1966 directory of Rhode Island ethnic organizations.

A bibliography of the resource materials discussed at this Adult Book Meeting is available from the author.



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, or mail it to her at Meeting Street School, 667 Waterman Ave., E. Providence, RI 02914. All meetings listed here are open to interested members of the library community, except as noted.

- | | | |
|------|----|---|
| Feb. | 14 | RI Library Film Cooperative Preview Session. Warwick Public Library. Adult films. 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Repeated at 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. |
| Feb. | 15 | YA Roundtable, Robert H. Champlin Memorial Library, West Warwick. "Controversy? Mediocrity? What's Happening in the YA World." 9:30 a.m. |
| Feb. | 15 | RI Adult Education Association Meeting. "Adult Education - the Student's Perspective." 9:00 a.m. President: Mary Lou Mancini, 725-5554. |
| Feb. | 15 | RILA Executive Board meeting. Barrington Public Library. 2:00 p.m. |
| Feb. | 15 | Film Preview Session for Institutional Librarians, Dept. of State Library Services, 9:00 a.m. For information call Mark Baldwin, 277-2726. |
| Feb. | 21 | Association of Health Sciences Librarians. Monthly meeting. Pawtucket Memorial Hospital. Evening. For details, contact Wendell Pols, Reference Librarian, Roger Williams College. |
| Mar. | 5 | Juvenile Cooperative Book Review. "Biography for Children," Providence Public Library. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. |
| Mar. | 12 | Adult Book Meeting. "Natural Foods." Kingston Free Library. |

February

RILA Reception for State Legislators, State House. For date, telephone Larry Eaton, 725-3714, by February 20, 1979.

Mar.	14	Rhode Island Film Cooperative Preview Session. Children's Films. Warwick Public Library. 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon; repeat showing at 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Mar.	19	Young Adult Round Table. "The Holocaust in Adolescent Literature." S. Kingstown Jr. High School.
Mar.	26-27	Rhode Island Educational Media Association (RIEMA). 6th Annual Conference. Cranston Hilton.
Mar.	28 or 29	Special Libraries Association meeting. Speaker: John Linford, NELINET. For information call John Stanley, 863-2146.
Apr.	3	New England Technical Services Librarians, Spring meeting. Speaker: Neal Kaske, Research Department of OCLC. Mount Holyoke College, S. Hadley MA. NELA members: \$8.75; non-members: \$9.75. Reserve by March 16, 1979, with Nan Berg, NELA, P.O. Box 273, Holden MA 01520.
Apr.	6-8	RI Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services, Biltmore Hotel, Providence.
Apr.	9	NELINET Government Documents Task Group Workshop: "Problems of Access to Information from the Federal Government." University of Lowell, Lowell MA. Registration: \$20.00. Contact David C. Heisser, Documents Librarian, Tufts University Library, Medford MA 02155. 617-628-5000 ext. 388.
Apr.	21	GLS Annual Gathering
Apr.	26	Special Libraries Association Meeting.





RILA•SRRT HOTLINE

The RILA Bulletin editors ask local library employers in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut to send us news of upcoming openings at any level in their libraries. There is no advertising fee. Write or call Barbara Cohen, Adams Library, Rhode Island College, Providence, R.I. 02908. Telephone 401-456-8125.

Job-seekers desiring a copy of the most recent monthly Jobline may obtain one by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the SRRT coordinator: Marcia Hershoff, 37 Greenbriar Rd., Greenville, R.I. 02828. In order for a job notice to appear in the *Bulletin*, it must be received before the 15th of the preceding month.

Cumberland Public Library, Director. Consisting of main library and small branch. Required: MLS and professional administrative experience. Salary \$13,000. Open May 1, 1979. Town residency required within 12 mos. Apply by Feb. 28, 1979, to: Mr. J. Joseph McKenna, Chairman, P.O. Box 211, Cumberland, RI. 02864.

Sudbury MA Public Schools. Librarian/Media/Specialist. Required: MLS, Certification as librarian and AV Media Specialist. Send resume to: Mrs. Chandler, Director of Media, Sudbury Public Schools, 280 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury, MA 01776. (Globe 14 Jan)

Waltham MA Public Library. Assistant Library Director. Major area of responsibility includes personnel, acquisition and public relations. Required: ALA-accredited MLS and 2 years administration experience. Salary \$14,784. Resume to: Thomas Jewell, Waltham Public Library, 735 Main St., Waltham, MA 02154. (Globe 14 Jan)

Providence College, Reader Services Librarian. Primary responsibility for Ref. Dept., 1-year position; beginning Mar 1979. Qualifications: ALA-accredited MLS and 3 yrs. experience in college library with strong interest in bibliographic instruction. 2d master's degree desirable. Contact: Joe Doherty, Providence College, Providence, RI 02918. (or call 401-865-2242)

American International College, Head Librarian. Required: MLS and second master's; 10 yrs of professional experience, with 5 years administrative. Salary: \$14,000-17,000. Available June, 1979. Send resume to: John F. Mitchell, VP for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, American International College, Springfield, MA 01109. (URI/GLS Dec 31)

Newport Hospital Librarian. Contact: Mr. Gus Cordeiro, Employee Relations Dept., Newport Hospital, Newport, MA 02840 (URI/GLS Dec 31)

Woonsocket Harris Public Library, Children's Librarian. Req: MLS and 2 yrs. approp. exp. \$163-179/wk. Contact: Joseph Gill, Personnel Dept. City Hall, Woonsocket, RI by Feb. 16.

Harvard University Divinity School, Technical Services Librarian. Supervises 3 professional catalogers, 5-6 support staff, and student help. Required: MLS; several European languages including German; several years appropriate experience; knowledge of LC classification and subject headings; AACR, and OCLC. Knowledge of CONSER desirable. Administrative and personnel skills desirable. Salary \$16,500-21,500. Apply to: Philip E. Leinbach, Asst. University Librarian for Personnel, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, MA 02138. (Chron 22 Jan)

Southern Connecticut State College, School of Library Science Faculty. Asst Professor, Assoc. Prof. Level. To teach courses in library science, information science, or instructional technology. Required: Doctorate; library science combined with information science and/or instructional technology; demonstrated performance in research, publications, grantsmanship, and college-level teaching. Salary: \$14,850-18,450. Send resume by April 13 to Dr. Emanuel T. Prostan, Division of Library Science and Instructional Technology, Southern Connecticut State College, New Haven, CT 06515. (Chron Jan 22)

Warwick Public Library, Information Services Librarian. For information services and coordination of materials selection. Required: Accredited MLS. Please send resume to Warwick Public Library (Prov. Journal 28 Jan)

Mohegan Community College, Audiovisual Librarian. Beginning date July 1, 1979. Required: MLS or equivalent and 2 years audiovisual library experience. Salary: \$12,502. Apply to Dr. Robert R. Pepin, Academic Dean, Mohegan Community College, Norwich CT 06360. Deadline March 15, 1979. (Prov. Journal 28 Jan)

Jobseekers - A New-England-wide (and possible wider!) phone-in Jobline will soon be available from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. We'll be relaying further information as it becomes available.

GALLIMAUFRY

by Bill Bergeron

RHODE ISLAND'S ALA-ACCREDITED LIBRARY SCHOOL: The Graduate Library School at the University of Rhode Island was granted accreditation by the American Library Association, as announced at the ALA Midwinter meeting in January in Washington, D.C. The School was first accredited in 1971, but lost this status when it was examined in 1976. Since that time people associated with the School have labored to upgrade its program so it would again meet ALA standards. The GLS continues to work on improvement: the Curriculum Committee is working on revisions for the MLS program, and continuing education offerings are planned on AACR II, public relations, law and librarianship, selection/censorship issues, and women in librarianship. (J.P.)

LIBRARY ASSISTANT AT CUMBERLAND. Darlene Dziok is the new library assistant at the Hayden Library. A Cumberland resident, she has worked at Pawtucket, for the Northern Region, at DSLS, and most recently at Lincoln Public Library. (B.B.)



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NEW ENGLAND DOCUMENT CONSERVATION CENTER: The New England Document Conservation Center, Andover, Massachusetts, has announced the appointment of Nancy Fischer Chudacoff, Librarian of the Rhode Island Historical Society, to serve as a member of NEDCC's Advisory Committee. Ms. Chudacoff holds graduate degrees from the University of Rhode Island and is a resident of Providence. She has published articles about Rhode Island history.

NEDCC has conserved many important Rhode Island historical documents including the Colonial Charter of 1662 granted to Rhode Island by King Charles II. Shortly after the Center became operational, RIHS called for Disaster Assistance for 2,000 water damaged books. The relationship has been a mutually beneficial one for both organizations.

A prototype for regional conservation centers in the United States, NEDCC is a non-profit organization established by the New England Library Board. Services are offered to help institutions safeguard the documents and records held in libraries, archives and other non-profit historical institutions. Fees are levied on an "at-cost" basis.

The New England Document Conservation Center established a micro-filming service as another means of preserving records, in December 1978. The purpose is to provide microfilming of the highest technical quality to meet the challenges posed by difficult-to-film materials, such as manuscripts.

SECOND ANNUAL GATHERING ANNOUNCED BY GLS: The GLS has set Saturday, April 21 as the date for its Second Annual Gathering, which will serve as the Official celebration of accreditation.

The speaker will be Peggy Sullivan. Dr. Sullivan is one of the candidates for the Presidency of the American Library Association, and is currently the Assistant Commissioner of the Chicago Public Library. She will be speaking on the topic, "A long look at lean years."

An Annual Gathering brochure will shortly be sent to all GLS alumni and persons on the GLS Friends list. If you wish to attend the Annual Gathering but are not an Alumnus, call the Dean's Office at the GLS to ask that a brochure be sent to you.



MEET YOUR LEGISLATORS. The Government Relations Committee is planning, at this printing, a cocktail party for legislators in late February. Watch for notices and plan to attend this unique opportunity to acquaint yourselves with your state senators and representatives and to acquaint them of your services, needs and concerns. (B.B.)

DOLLARS FOR PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY? PPL Director Annalee Bundy reports that a special appropriation of \$160,000 was approved the first time around by the Providence City Council. The action must be passed a second time to take effect; this may be on the agenda for the February 1st council meeting. Meanwhile the PPL request for \$160,000 from the state was turned down by Governor Garrahy. Providence Public will request funding from the state again for the 79/80 fiscal year. Without the financial support requested PPL will have to curtail services drastically, for instance closing all eight neighborhood branches. Ms. Bundy expects the Providence delegation to introduce legislation in the current session to get state support for library programs. (J.P.)





QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Now I am the librarian here as well."

"But you have just told me you were sexton here!"

"So I am. It is much the same profession. Except you are a true sexton, books are but dead bodies to you, and a library nothing but a catacomb!"

- George McDonald,
Lilith, 1895

A note to reference librarians:

"If one is working as a professional problem-solver, he must continually be alert to properly perceive the problem. The client, patient, customer, etc. may not always see his problem clearly, and the problem-solver is sometimes able to score heavily by curing the difficulties in a simpler manner through a clearer perception of what the problem really is."

- James L. Adams,
Conceptual Blockbusting;
A Pleasurable Guide to Better
Problem Solving, 1976

As an educator and therapist of severely disturbed children, my main task was to restore meaning to their lives. This work made it obvious to me that if children were reared so that life was meaningful to them, they would not need special help. I was confronted with the problem of deducing what experiences in a child's life are most suited to promote his ability to find meaning in his life; to endow life in general with more meaning. Regarding this task, nothing is more important than the impact of parents and others who take care of the child; second in importance is our cultural heritage, when transmitted to the child in the right manner. When children are young, it is literature that carries such information best.

- Bruno Bettelheim,
The Uses of Enchantment

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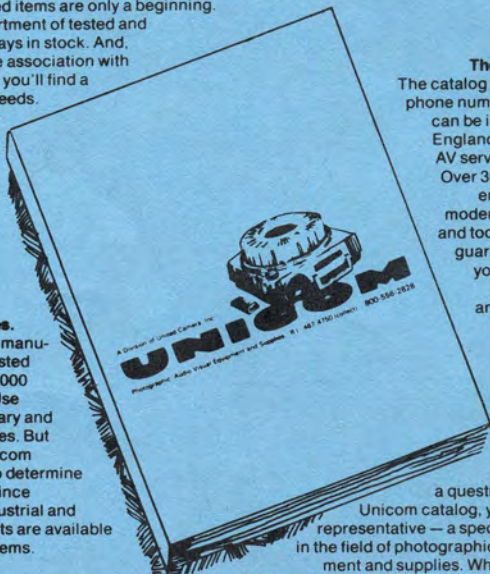
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