

University of Rhode Island

DigitalCommons@URI

RILA Bulletin

Rhode Island Library Association

6-1989

Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 62, no. 6

RILA

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin

Recommended Citation

RILA, "Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 62, no. 6" (1989). *RILA Bulletin*. Book 185.
https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin/185https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin/185

This Book is brought to you by the University of Rhode Island. It has been accepted for inclusion in RILA Bulletin by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons-group@uri.edu. For permission to reuse copyrighted content, contact the author directly.



Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin

Volume No. 62 No. 6

ISSN:0146-8685

JUNE 1989

THE WRITE STUFF....DIGITAL PAPER by Norman Desmarais

The early developers of optical media countered objections to the medium's "read-only" nature by responding that disks would be so inexpensive that, when filled, one would just throw them away like a piece of paper. After all, paper is basically a "read-only," throw-away medium. After one writes on a page, the paper is discarded, not erased and re-used.

Write-once media, which let users control what they record on the disc, but do not let them change it later, have been relatively expensive for both the hardware and the discs. Each unique disc leaves an archival trail, as written-on paper does. CD-ROM (read-only memory), on the other hand, has served as a publishing medium since a master stamps out multiple copies for distribution. The high costs of gathering, organizing, and preparing the data for this mastering on the CD-ROM disc account for a large portion of their relatively high prices. Thus, the contents as well as the search and retrieval software give the disc its value. When CD-ROM updates come out, the user generally discards the superseded disc. In cases of licensing agreements, the user returns the superseded disc to the producer who throws it away. With the information content outdated, the value of the disc decreases dramatically. CD-ROM then becomes a throw-away medium.

ICI Electronics is developing a flexible optical storage medium which it calls digital paper, also "read-only." It uses a polyester substrate (Melinex) which resembles somewhat Kodak's

Mylar, the substrate for videotape. A metallic reflective layer covers the substrate which then receives a coating of a polymer dye that is sensitive to infrared light. A protective overcoat completes the product.

The process of reading the information on digital paper and writing to it resembles that for optical disks. Digital paper has several advantages that include its variety of physical forms, high recording capacity, compactness, durability, indelible recording, long life, machine readability, and low production costs.

The manufacturing process produces digital paper in a continuous web in roll form. This process uses less material than rigid media, costs less to produce because of higher production rates and lower handling costs compared with batch manufacturing, and minimizes waste. The manufacturer can then cut sheets of digital paper into a variety of physical formats that include disk, tape, cylinder, card, strip, and tag. The tape could come in reel-to-reel format or get wound into cassettes. This type of manufacture results in a product that is easily transportable without risk of damage.

Tape

ICI is currently concentrating its efforts on producing digital paper in optical tape and disk formats. Optical tape has many

features that translate into a wide array of benefits. High-volume storage density requires less space for storage and allows for unattended operation because it needs fewer mounts/dismounts. High transfer rates provide more efficient operation and compatibility with existing equipment. Fast access time means higher usage resulting from low waiting cost. The variety of forms the medium can take permit the manufacturer to develop alternative packaging that can address different markets.

CREO Products Incorporated is developing a tape subsystem (Creo 1003 Optical Tape Storage System) for digital paper. It uses a proprietary transverse scanning technique that permits writing one terabyte of data on a 12-inch reel of ICI 1012 optical tape. The 880-meter tape can store the same amount of data as 500 two-gigabyte optical disk cartridges or 5,000 IBM magnetic tape cartridges.

Disks

Flexible optical disks provide significantly more storage capacity than magnetic media. This capacity reduces the number of manual operations required and allows for larger applications. The faster data access rates make them more user-friendly and can even accommodate image data which consumes too much space to make it practical to store on magnetic media. The lower media cost makes them very economical to use.

Half-height drives allow developers to design more compact systems that take up less desk space, thereby reducing storage costs. The competitive system costs make it easier for users to justify purchase, and can result in broader applications.

Bernouilli Optical Systems Corporation is developing a disk drive for use with digital paper technology. It uses the Bernouilli principal that states that air produces "lift" when it moves faster above a surface than below it, which also explains why airplanes fly.

Applied to optical disk drives, the hub and "Bernouilli plate" have a common axis. Placing the lightweight flexible disk in the drive reduces forces on the spindle and allows for fast spin-up time. The "Bernouilli plate" channels the air flow as the disk spins. This causes a difference in pressure which lifts the disk toward the plate. When the disk reaches a given speed, the air flow stabilizes it and

causes it to fly very close to the optical head.

Comparative Costs

Projections for hardware costs estimate the end-user price of Maxtor's 130mm magneto-optic drive at about \$6,000.00 for 500 MB capacity and \$4,000.00 for 400 MB on a 130mm WORM drive. These numbers into a cost of \$12.50 and \$10.00 respectively per megabyte of storage (1 megabyte = 1 mil bytes or characters; ca. 3000 bytes = 1 typewritten page). The 130mm Bernouilli drive is expected to sell for \$2,000.00 for a capacity of 1,600 MB and the CREO drive will cost \$200,000 for a storage capacity of 1,000,000 ML (1 terabyte). These reduce the hardware storage costs to \$1.30 and \$0.20 per megabyte respectively.

The storage capacities of the media range from 0.002 MB for paper (ASCII text) at a cost of \$0.005 (\$2.50/MB) to 200 MB for IBM 3480 magnetic tape at a cost of \$22.00 (\$0.11/MB) to 1,000,000 MB for an 880m (2880 ft.) tape of digital paper at a cost of \$10,000 (\$0.010/MB). A 130mm disk of digital paper that stores 1,600 MB and costs \$50.00 to \$55.00 would cost only \$0.31 to \$0.34/MB.

Some analysts still believe that digital paper will probably not threaten the market because of its "read-only" nature. However, given its large storage capacities and low costs, it has the potential for widespread applications. The "read-only" qualities would benefit those users who need to archive their data or who need to maintain audit trails. The economical storage qualities and fast transfer rates will allow users who need a dynamic environment to copy quickly and efficiently those active files to another disk or tape. They can then discard the old disk or tape and work from the new one.

Bibliography

David J. Owen. "New breakthroughs from digital paper." Inform, (Sept. 1988). p. 32-4.

Michael Strelitz. Figures from his paper presented at Optical Information Systems Conference, September 1988, Washington, D.C. ("Unpublished proceedings.") Strelitz

is Marketing Director for ICI Electronics, which holds the license for digital paper.

Norman Desmarais is Acquisitions Librarian at the Phillips Memorial Library at Providence College, and a well-known authority on technological innovations and change. He is Co-Feature Editor of the Bulletin and the author of The Librarian's CD-ROM Handbook, published by Meckler.

EDITORIAL NOTE: The spelling of disk comes from the computer environment where floppy and hard disks are spelled with a "k." Philips and Sony, the license holders for CD-audio, CD-ROM, and related technologies, use the spelling "disc" to distinguish the compact optical media from the magnetic media. However, when referring to optical disks as a generic term to include videodisc, WORM, CD-ROM, and others, most publishers use the spelling "disk."

DEPARTMENT OF STATE LIBRARY SERVICES AWARDS \$77,760 IN GRANTS TO LOCAL LIBRARIES

Bruce E. Daniels, Director of the Department of State Library Services, recently announced that \$77,760 in data conversion and incentive grants has been awarded through Library Services and Construction Act Title I funds.

The projects, libraries and amounts of the grants are as follows:

ESL LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA - EAST BAY

George Hail Free Library, Warren (\$8,500)

This grant will be used to establish an English As A Second Language (ESL) program in conjunction with the basic reading program to combat adult illiteracy in the East Bay area of the state. The program will serve non-English speaking adults in Barrington, Warren, Bristol, and portions of East Providence.

LIBRARY SERVICE TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Warwick Public Library (\$1,750)

This program will serve primarily child care providers and the children they care for in the City of Warwick, and is designed to increase the use of the library and children's literature.

FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM AT SOUTH PROVIDENCE AND SMITH HILL BRANCHES

Providence Public Library (\$18,363)

This program will target parents of pre-school children who do not use the library because of an inability to read, lack of education, English not being their first language, or a lack of familiarity with the services the library provides. Its goal is to reach non-reading and limited English speaking adults with pre-school children and introduce and encourage them to use library resources; and make materials on family literacy easily accessible.

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, WASHINGTON COUNTY AFFILIATE - RECRUITMENT AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Westerly Public Library (\$9,900)

This grant will be used to increase the number of students and tutors participating in the Literacy volunteers of America, Washington County, and will offer support group programs and activities relevant to the needs of those participants.

READ-ON: NORTH KINGSTOWN FREE LIBRARY SERVICES TO ADULT NEW READERS AND THEIR TUTORS

North Kingstown Free Library (\$4,219)

This program will promote literacy in the northern part of Washington County. Grant funds will be used to purchase new materials for the library's adult new reader collection; assist the Literacy Volunteers of America with photocopying and mailing costs; and hire a part-time literacy coordinator.

WOMEN'S ISSUES IN WORKFORCE 2000

East Providence Public Library (\$3,290)

The goal of this program is to make the library a recognized, positive agent in preparing East Providence citizens for Workforce 2000. Funds will be used to establish and maintain a collection of materials on educational and training opportunities for women; a reference file of community agencies which provide counseling, education and training for women of all income levels; and to sponsor a city-wide forum for citizens, business and community agencies on women's issues in Workforce 2000.

SOUTH KINGSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY
(\$6,545)

This project will help to develop a statewide automated network to meet the needs of patrons for materials not held by their local libraries. Computer terminals at Hale, Kingston Free and Peace Dale libraries will provide patrons with access to the location of library materials within the South Kingston Public Library.

MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY (\$2,000)

This project would add Middletown Public Library's local history and Rhode Island collection, various unique titles and an extensive gardening collection to the Co-operating Libraries Automated Network (CLAN), which would provide statewide access to these items.

ESSEX PUBLIC LIBRARY, TIVERTON
(\$8,000)

This grant will allow the Essex Public Library to join CLAN.

PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY (\$15,193)

This grant will be used to add 75,000 older bibliographic records to the CLAN data base in order to increase access to these materials.

people

ELAINE HEEBNER, Volunteer Coordinator of PPL and head of its literacy programs, will be joining the Peace Corps on June 3. Her assignment will take her to the Caroline Islands, which are a part of the Federated States of Micronesia. She will be working on community development as well as the teaching of English as a second language. As a part of her teaching, she hopes to develop a library program. Elaine has offered to write occasional accounts of her experiences for the Bulletin. We look forward to hearing from her and wish her all the best.

JANICE SIEBURTH, Head of the Pell Marine Science Library at URI, recently was promoted to Full Professor.

MICHAEL VOCINO, Chair of Technical Services at URI, recently was promoted to Associate Professor.

PAUL H. HALLIDAY, JR., becomes Technical

Services/Systems Coordinator at the Cranston Public Library on June 19. Paul is currently Assistant Administrator for Technical and Extension Services at the Fall River Public Library. He holds a BA degree in Anthropology from the University of Maine at Orono, and an MLS from URI.

WILLIAM KEACH and **ELIZABETH FITZGERALD** will join the Reference Staff of the PPL on May 22. Both recent graduates of the URI GSLIS, William has previous experience as stack supervisor at the RISD library, and Elizabeth has been involved in social work.

LYNN HARRIS, formerly a Reference Librarian at the PPL, has been appointed as Periodicals/Serials Control Supervisor.

calendar

JUNE 9: NELINET Interlibrary Loan Spring Meeting, Amherst College, Amherst, MA, 9AM-4PM.

JUNE 9: New England Round Table of Children's Librarians (NERTCL), annual workshop, Portsmouth, NH (see Bulletin Board).

JUNE 16: RHILINET Committee Meeting, Cranston Public Library, 2-4PM.

JUNE 24-28: American Library Association Annual Conference, Dallas, Texas.



*We encourage
browsing.*

**Brown
Bookstore**

244 Thayer St.
Providence, RI
Mon-Fri 9-6
Sundays 12-6

Index to Poetry for Children and Young People: 1982-1987

Compiled by G. Meredith Blackburn III
Spring 1989. 392 + xxxi pp. ISBN 0-8242-0773-4. \$48 U.S. and Canada, \$53 other countries.

Librarians, Teachers, Parents!

Your search for a practical and easy way to find poems
for children of all ages is over!

A New Addition to the Celebrated Series

The new *Index to Poetry for Children and Young People: 1982-1987* offers easy access to some 10,000 poems in 125 collections of poetry published between 1982 and 1987. Whether you're planning library programs or creating lesson plans, preparing reading assignments, studying children's literature, or simply trying to find appealing poetry for your own children, *Index to Poetry for Children and Young People: 1982-1987* is the resource you will turn to—again and again!



10,000 Poems Selected by Librarians and Specialists Nationwide

Designed with young children, elementary, and senior high school students in mind, this *Index* covers poetry collections of almost every type, including • collections of poetry by more than one poet • books of poetry and prose • selections from the works of a single author • anthologies with a theme • comprehensive collections. Organized for easy access, this *Index* helps you to find poems by subject, title, author, or first line. An *Analysis of Books Indexed* and a directory of publishers is also included.

Index to Poetry for Children and Young People Series

"Highly recommended."

—American Reference Books Annual

Providing access to a wealth of poetry, the seven volumes in the *Index to Poetry for Children and Young People* series index thousands of poems in over 700 collections published between 1897 and 1987. For details, please inquire.

**THE
H.W. WILSON
COMPANY**

950 University Avenue, Bronx, New York 10452



**To Order
Call Toll-Free
1-800-367-6770.**

In New York State call 1-800-462-6060,
in Canada call collect 1-212-588-8400.
TELEFAX 1-212-590-1617.

bulletin board

- "Information Access--The Fifth Freedom" is the topic for the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference All President's Program, Sunday, June 25, 2-5 PM, West Ballroom A, B, and C, Dallas Convention Center. For the first time, the program will be sponsored jointly by President F. William Summers and the ALA presidents of divisions.

Attendees will receive a program publication containing statements on divisional and association-wide access concerns as well as comments from the five guest speakers.

Speakers are: Arno Penzias, vice president of research at AT&T Bell Laboratories; Gordon Ambach, executive director of the Council of Chief State School Officers; Toni Carbo Bearman, dean of the School of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh; Wayne Wiegand, associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and Nancy Kranich, director of public and administrative services, New York University Libraries.

- NELINET has compiled a directory of fax numbers in New England libraries. If anyone is interested in purchasing a copy, please contact Priscilla Batting at NELINET for the Directory of Fax Numbers in New England Libraries order form. The cost for the booklet will be \$5.00 for members; \$7.00 for nonmembers.

- The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. is an independent, non-profit corporation that conducts research on the history and prehistory of New England. Its research findings are utilized to promote conservation and public awareness of archaeological remains as an important part of our cultural heritage.

This summer The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. will offer its second annual public field school in archaeology at the Lambert Farm Site in Warwick, RI. The Lambert Farm Site is at least 3,000 years old and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The site, however, will be destroyed by development in less than two years. Participation in the field school will help save this important resource and contribute new hands-on training in excavation and lab work as a member of a team conducting actual ongoing research on Rhode Island's endangered past. Over one hundred people have excavated at the Lambert Farm Site since last summer and

recovered prehistoric stone tools, food remains, pottery and other various artifacts.

Three sessions will be offered during the summer. Session 1 (June 5-June 23) lasts three weeks, and both Session 2 (July 3-July 28) and Session 3 (July 31-August 25) last four weeks. The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. will provide its facilities and equipment, and participants are required to provide their own transportation to the site and lab.

Enrollment is limited to fifteen participants per session, but people of **all** ages and backgrounds are encouraged to attend on a full-time or part-time basis. Both college and Rhode Island teacher in-service credit are available.

For further information, please contact Dr. Jordan Kerber or Alan Leveillee, Field School Co-Directors, at The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. at (401) 728-8780.

- On Friday, June 9th, the New England Round Table of Children's Librarians, in cooperation with the Massachusetts Library Association, will be presenting the 1989 Jordan-Miller Lecture, an annual program for children's librarians and others interested in the art of storytelling. This year, storyteller Heather Forest will present a combined workshop and concert which will be held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire at Yoken's Restaurant and Gift Shop. The morning's program will focus on "The Inner Workings of the Storytellers' Art." Participants will have the opportunity to explore "the uniqueness of the voice, body and imagination as instruments of storytelling." During the afternoon, Ms. Forest will present a repertoire of tales from around the world told in an interweave of music, movement and the spoken word.

This year's event will also include a dessert and coffee in honor of guest lecturer Heather Forest on the evening of June 8th to be held at the Portsmouth Public Library. Sponsored by the New England Round Table of Children's Librarians, the evening will also include a sampling of stories told by the Seacoast Storytellers. For additional information about the 1989 Jordan-Miller Storytelling program please contact Janet Eckert, WMRLS, 50 Main Street, Hatfield, MA, (413) 247-9306

RILA GIVES TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

RILA gave its annual Trustee of the Year Award to Norman Hall at its Spring Business Meeting, May 22.

Nominated by Mala Davis, Director of the Middletown Public Library, Hall has served in various capacities as a member of the Middletown Free Library Association since January 1967. Under his chairmanship the following year, the first professional librarian was appointed as director, a qualification that later became a state standard.

Mr. Hall took a strong role in the development of what is now the Middletown Public Library. In her letter of recommendation, Director Davis recounts the following actions instigated by Mr. Hall:

In January 1974, recognizing that the library structure could not serve the town into the future, he took a step that altered library service in Middletown forever. He petitioned the Town Council to acquire the former Navy Day Care Center, declared surplus property after the massive Navy pullout from Newport, as the site of a new library. The Council followed his suggestion and acquired the property, floated a bond for its renovation, and in August 1976 appointed Norman Hall Chairman of the New Library Building Committee.

Norman was not a chairman in name only. He attended countless meetings with the consultant, the architect and the contractor; was involved in many of the decisions about furnishings and decor; and handled the delicate negotiations concerning transfer of ownership of the physical and financial assets of the library to the town of Middletown.

In June of 1979 the library officially became a town department and Middletown assumed responsibility for its operation. In September the new Middletown Public Library was dedicated. The Council appointed Norman to the first Board of Trustees of the new library, and he served as its first Chairman. In 1982 he took a one-year leave of absence from the Board and devoted his energies to the fledgling Friends of the Library group, serving as Vice Chairman for Programs and Membership. Since 1983 he has been back as a trustee and hopefully will be reappointed in the fall for another three-year term.

The significance of Norman's role in obtaining a new building and town department status for the Middletown Public Library cannot be overestimated. Without his foresight and his continual efforts to promote the library, the tremendous growth of the past twenty years would not have been possible. Since 1967 the number of registered patrons has almost doubled, from 3,800 to 6,922; collection size has tripled, from 12,000 to 36,158; circulation has more than tripled, from 44,000 to 148,000. Most significant of all, the operating budget has grown from \$10,168 in 1967 to \$315,840 in 1988-89.

When the Trustees decided it was time to join the Cooperating Libraries Automated Network (CLAN), Norman made the Trustees' presentation to the Town Council and it was approved. Last year, Norman led a crusade to complete the almost nonexistent landscaping around the library. He wrote successful grants and oversaw the entire project once funding was obtained. As the Trustees consider expansion of the present library facility, Norman Hall is once again cast into the role of project leader, proving to be an invaluable resource of knowledge and experience.

Howard Boksenbaum, former Coordinator of the Island Interrelated Library System, spoke of Mr. Hall and his accomplishments at the May Executive Board meeting. "Norman Hall basically created the Middletown Public Library as a public library," said Boksenbaum. "He made the library a real part of the town."

SUBSTANCE ABUSE WORKSHOP: WHAT LIBRARY STAFF NEEDS TO KNOW

A Substance Abuse Awareness Workshop designed for Rhode Island library personnel will be conducted by Sandra DelSesto of Human Ecology Associates, an educational consulting agency involved in life skills education on Tuesday, June 13, from 9:30-11:30AM at the Cranston Public Library. The presentation will seek to familiarize librarians and staff with the current scope of the substance abuse problem on a national, state, and local level. The program is funded by a DSLS Incentive Grant. Please R.S.V.P. to Linda Archetto at the Cranston Public Library, 943-9080.

RILA HOLDS SPRING BUSINESS MEETING

The Rhode Island Library Association held its Spring Business Meeting on May 22 at the Cranston Public Library. Following lunch, President Douglas Pearce presided at the meeting, which was attended by approximately fifty RILA members.

Following the presentation of the Trustee of the Year Award made to Norman Hall and accepted on his behalf by Pete Ferber, present President of the Middletown Public Library, the meeting focused on two events of both legislative and long-range significance to libraries.

Joan Ress Reeves, a long-time advocate of libraries in Rhode Island, and currently Task-force Chair of the Second White House Conference on Library and Information Services (WHCLIST), spoke on its formation, plans, and goals.

Mandated by PL 100-382, sponsored by Senator Claiborne Pell, the second White House Conference will be held no later than September 30, 1991. That Conference will be composed of a membership of quarters: one-quarter professional librarians, one-quarter library supporters, one-quarter public officials, and the remaining quarter composed of the general public. The thirty-member Advisory Committee, which Mrs. Reeves heads, is currently involved in making sure that the Conference is funded, helping states with pre-Conference planning, and providing position statements on library issues crucial to improving library service in the 21st century.

Prior to the WHCLIST Conference, will be regional Governor's Conferences, which will lay the groundwork for 1990. Mrs. Reeves asked that RILA take an active role in this Conference. She strongly recommended that RILA not only assume an Organization Membership, but also be involved in selecting delegates to the conference and contributing to their training and knowledgeability in library issues.

"We need a spotlight for the issues," she affirmed, and WHCLIST provides that attention. The Annual Meeting of the delegates will be held in Portland, Oregon, August 17-19, with Becky Schreiber providing a Workshop on Leadership Roles.

Bruce Daniels, Director of DSLS and professional delegate to WHCLIST, gave an update on current library legislation. Following a concentrated effort by many library staff,

both Senate Bills, S923 concerning the Library Board of RI, and S939 on State Aid for Public Library Services were passed on May 10. Both bills have been amended to span a ten-year enactment, rather than four, ie. by the year 2000.

Daniels strongly urged all library advocates to contact their respective legislators as well as the Speaker of the House, the Honorable Joseph DeAngelis. He urged that legislators be reminded that no additional funding is called for in the 1990 budget, and that accountability, flexibility in phasing a ten-year program, and the streamlining of governance structure be stressed in all approaches to legislators. **(Editorial Note: Copies of the library bills and names of legislators are available from DSLS or from the Managing Editor of the Bulletin.)**

Following the speakers, President Pearce called for questions from the audience. Of concern was the new schedule for future RILA Conferences. Carol Drought, Conference Chair, described the transition phase of the Annual Meeting. On November 6, 1989, RILA will hold a one-day Conference at the Ray Conference Center at Butler Hospital. It will be a work-shop meeting, with three simultaneous sessions in the morning, followed by lunch, and the Business Meeting in the afternoon. In the Spring of 1990, RILA will begin a regular scheduling of its two-day Conferences. The first will be on June 7-9, at Salve Regina College in Newport. RILA will be experimenting in a non-vendor conference, which eliminates expense and space factors.

Other concerns of which RILA members might take note of are the possibility of renting a bus to the NELA Conference on September 24 in Springfield, MA., and the availability of ALA Charter flights to Dallas in June.

In response to a question concerning the possibility of a hired "Executive Person" to assist RILA Executive Board members and Chairs, President Pearce assured the membership that the concern is still present, and the financial commitment available, but that no direction had been decided. He felt that Committee Chairs had assumed large responsibilities for RILA activities during 1989, and the Board had decided "not to do anything now."

This account of the Spring Business Meeting comes from notes taken by Judith Paster, Managing Editor of the Bulletin.

TEMPORARY/PART-TIME LIBRARIANS

We have determined that there is a need in the library community to identify librarians (MLS) interested in working part-time hours, or as a temporary librarian. This potential employment pool would include those willing to work on weekends, evenings, and as temporary replacements for those on vacation, sabbatical, sick leave, or paternity leave. Institutions needing a part-time/temporary librarian could then have access to this group of qualified librarians who have expressed a desire to work in such a capacity.

All librarians interested in having their names referred to those needing part-time/temporary employees should complete the form below and sent it to:

Pam Stoddard
Government Publications Office
University of Rhode Island Library
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

When filling out the form be as specific or broad as fits your need. Pam will contact individuals if she is unclear about your statement. If you have any questions please call her at 792-2606. Feel free to include a resume, but be sure to complete this form.

TEMPORARY/PART-TIME LIBRARIAN

NAME _____ DATE _____

TELEPHONE _____

PREFERRED WORK SITUATION

Region(s) (i.e. Providence, Island, Northern, Western, Southern, etc.)

Time(s) (i.e. days, evenings, weekends, weekly, monthly, etc.)

Institution (i.e. academic, public, school, special, etc.)

Dates

AREAS OF EXPERIENCE (Reference, Circulation, Children's Services, Acquisitions, Cataloging, etc.)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE (Certifications, language fluency, knowledge of automated systems, storytelling, etc.)

W I L S O N

Library

B U L L E T I N

WLB—As You've Never Seen It Before!

More news. More articles. More special reports. More features and reviews. More illustrations and cartoons. More pages. More color.

A winning combination of hot news and in-depth analysis, *WLB* is essential reading for today's information specialist.

Getting Ahead in Today's Library World—*WLB* Gives You What You Need!

Only in **WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN** will you learn what some of the library world's leading professionals have to say about the issues that matter most to you:

PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

"I read WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN from cover to cover each month ...and the many regular columns help me keep up with the field. ...There is something in it for every kind of library and every type of librarian. I appreciate the color but it doesn't need a lot of flash and splash—it stands up on its own."

—KAY K. RUNGE
Director, Davenport Public Library
Davenport, Iowa

SPECIAL LIBRARIANS

"Barbara Quint's Connect Time, and Upfront News are must-reads for me each month...and the front covers...are perennial delights."

—PATRICIA BERGER
National Bureau of Standards
U.S. Department of Commerce
Gaithersburg, Maryland

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH LIBRARIANS

"I like the format of WLB very much...the cover invites you in. The layout is very pleasing to the eye and the articles are very good...it keeps me up-to-date with the whole library world."

—ROBERT STUEART
Dean, Simmons College Graduate School
of Library and Information Science
Boston, Massachusetts

SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

"As a review journal, WLB is the first one I read...I enjoy the variety—WLB speaks to all branches of library service. I read articles on academic, public, and school libraries and get useful information from all of them."

—ELLEN RAMSAY
Head Librarian, Amphitheater High School
Tucson, Arizona

A subscription to **WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN** guarantees you the kind of penetrating analysis and informed opinion you need. Order today.

To Order Call Toll-Free: 1-800-367-6770.

In New York State call 1-800-462-6060;
in Canada call collect 1-212-588-8400.

WILSON

Library

BULLETIN The Magazine for Today's Library Professional



THE H.W. WILSON COMPANY

950 University Avenue
Bronx, New York 10452

editor's notebook

On June 18, the William H. Hall Free Library will celebrate its re-opening after a year's closing, during which its premises have been vastly renovated. The Hall Library is located in the Edgewood section of Cranston, which is my own neighborhood.

As a resident of the area, I have long admired the handsome facade of the Hall, set back from Broad Street on a large grassy lawn. As a librarian, however, I have observed in the Hall Library, its history, past and present, a kind of paradigm for libraries throughout the state of Rhode Island. It is a history of which we, both citizens and librarians alike, can be proud.

The Hall Library is one of a number of libraries in Rhode Island that owe much of its beginning to the generosity of a single family. At the turn of the century, Edgewood was a village or community in its own right, and was regarded as a fashionable place to live. Many prominent Rhode Island businessmen lived in the area, including the original owner of my own house, Herbert A. Capron, founder of the Rhode Island Car Company.

William H. Hall was a prominent Providence realtor who, along with his wife Cleora, was instrumental in the early development of Edgewood. Indeed, it was Mrs. Hall who named the area. The Halls, along with their neighbors, contributed much to the public life of their town, including such improvements as street lighting and paving, a cross-town transit system, and the growth of schools and libraries.

The Edgewood Library Civic Club, founded in 1896, held premises at various locations in Edgewood, until Mr. Hall donated his house and grounds, as well as a substantial amount of money, to be used toward the building of a permanent library building. After Mrs. Hall's death in 1920, a Board of Trustees was appointed, which assumed the duties of the then-called Edgewood Free Library. The Hall residence served as a library until its demolition, making way for the elegant Renaissance Revival building, which stands today. A small clapboard out-building, and some foundation structures are all that remain of the original house.

The Hall Library, along with other neighborhood libraries in Cranston, such as Auburn,

Oaklawn, Arlington, and Knightsville, became a focal point of its community. Not only did it provide books, and later pictures and records to the public, it also served as a community center. The library boasted a large lecture hall, a smaller "music" room with a fireplace, and a park behind the building, which ran all the way to Warwick Avenue. The Edgewood Civic Club now held its regular meetings there. The handsome limestone building, modeled after the Pazzi Chapel in Florence, was both functional in its meeting the needs of a "public," and beautiful in its symbolic representation of the importance of the institution itself, to its neighbors, its trustees, the public passing by on Broad Street.

Following the Humphry Report of 1963, the concept of the neighborhood library gave way to the concept of centralization. Gradually, each local library joined the Cranston Public Library, with the Hall Library's joining only in 1971.

Though I was far from Rhode Island in 1971, I have read newspaper accounts of the Hall Library's merger with the Central Library, and can discern the pain that that change must have wrought among its librarians and patrons. With its 75,000 volumes, its own private endowment, and its position as a neighborhood symbol and center, joining a system of disparate neighborhoods, might well have been a difficult pill for many to swallow.

Yet in the eighteen years that have followed, the Hall Library can stand proud, not only as an integral part of a system, but also, as an institution that continues to try to meet the goals of its public. Nowhere can this commitment be seen better than in the renovation of its premises.

I visited the Hall Library recently and was given a tour by its present librarian, John Bucci, who is only the fifth librarian to head the library. Though John was still unpacking boxes of books, and the hammering and clanging of construction continues, the impression I found everywhere, from the worker who hastened to explain the new "parabolic" lighting fixtures, to the foreman Bill Armstrong, whose warm welcome showed pride in his work, to John himself,

whose enthusiasm for the accomplishments of the past year, is boundless.

And rightfully so. From the vaulted ceiling of the main reading room with its delicate chandeliers, glass medallions representing medieval printer's marks to the mahogany circulation "desk" which resembles a columned Greek temple, to the newly-milled mahogany Computer Access Catalog, one sees a perfect blend of old and new, the extension of a proud past that encompasses the needs of today's public. The "new" Hall Library is a pleasing physical embodiment of the marriage of esthetics and utility.

This harmonious blend of beauty and usefulness was no accident, John hastened to assure me. While construction has been on-going for a year, planning the renovation took four or five years, and involved professional librarians, trustees, and architects alike. Whereas, librarians placed public access and service as a primary goal, the Trustees, many of whose ancestors were original trustees of the Hall, were dedicated to a first-class restoration effort.

Happily, each side understood the goals of the other, and as the project reaches its conclusion, John says, "We got everything from the Trustees you could possibly have hoped for," and Mrs. Patricia Cottrill, Head of the Board of Trustees, exudes pride in the enhanced beauty of an institution that is an integral part of life in Edgewood.

On June 18, there will be many new features of the Hall that we probably won't see: a new roof and furnace, new wiring and plumbing, an air-conditioning system, and windows repaired and cleaned. However, there will be plenty to see: new entrances into the Library, making it possible for the handicapped to enter the Library and its function rooms, a large elevator, public bathrooms in pastel tiles, a baby-changing area, a children's sized bathroom for use during story hours, computer and typewriter rooms, an auditorium available for use apart from library hours, comfortable browsing and study areas.

The story of the Hall Library has a happy ending and an equally happy beginning. It should be a source of pride to all of us when an institution with a proud heritage moves gracefully and flexibly toward the twenty-first century, its traditions alive and intact, and its goals and plans for the future both thoughtful and exciting. Happy, happy Opening Day to librarians, Trustees, and all the residents of Edgewood!

Information for this edition of "Editor's Notebook" came from the **Statewide Historical Preservation Report on Cranston, RI**, research done by the Reference Staff of the Cranston Public Library, an interview and tour of the Library by John Bucci, and conversations with Patricia Cottrill.

The RILA BULLETIN is published ten times per year by the Rhode Island Library Association. Managing Editor: Judith Paster, 52 Seaview Avenue, Cranston, RI 02905 (467-8898); Co-Feature Editor: Norman Desmarais, Providence College, Phillips Memorial Library, Providence, RI 02918 (865-2241); Co-Feature Editor: Tanya Trinkaus Glass, Coventry Public Library, 672 Flat River Road, Coventry, RI 02816 (822-9100); News Editor: Frank Iacono, DSLS, 300 Richmond Street, Providence, RI 02903-4222 (277-2726); Technical Editor: Veronica Thomas, East Providence Public Library, 41 Grove Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914 (434-2453); Jobline: Pam Stoddard, Government Documents Department, URI Library, Kingston, RI 02881 (792-2606); Advertising: Linda Walton, Butler Hospital, 345 Blackstone Boulevard, Providence, RI 02906 (456-3869). A current list of RILA Executive Board members and committee chairs is available in Volume 62, No.1-2. 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. 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** Lewis Graphics, 636 Park Avenue, RI 02920 (941-7540). LC 57-26438.

Rhode Island Library Association
150 Empire Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Providence, R.I.
PERMIT NO. 210

S
PROV COLLEGE ARCHIVES LIBRARY
PHILLIPS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
RIVER AVENUE & EATON STREET
PROVIDENCE RI 02918