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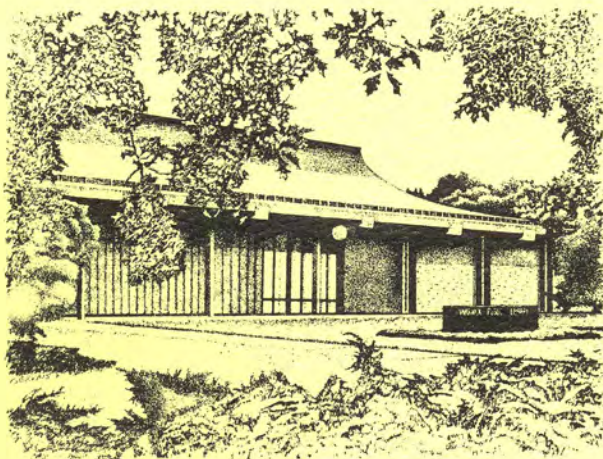
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Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin



WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

FEBRUARY 1982

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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. Cover art should be done in black and white and should measure 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide by 6 inches high.

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COVER ILLUSTRATION: The Warwick Public Library, built in 1965. The drawing is by Steve Gervais, done for the Friends of the Warwick Public Library.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



In this month's Bulletin you will find an interview with Arthur P. Young, Dean of the Library at the University of Rhode Island by Michael Vocino, Jr. In addition, Sam Streit and Roger Parks have contributed a report updating the work of the Committee for a New England Bibliography. We also include a brief but lively account by Lauri Burke and Diane Martin which reveals with refreshing candor the problems and successes of a recent young adult program which they ran in Barrington Public Library.

In this February issue we have the first of the reports by our news editor Sondra Giles. Remember in the future to send all news as well as reports about conferences and committees to Sondra whose responsibilities include the selection and editing of pertinent news items for the Bulletin.

Until you receive your March Bulletin which will feature articles on library service to children, try to keep warm!

Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor:

As one who did take the time to respond to your questionnaire, I cannot agree that a small response means a general satisfaction with the status quo. More likely it means a general lack of interest, and that is a sad commentary on librarianship in Rhode Island.

Judging from the comments quoted in the December Bulletin, it is apparent that those who responded are not malcontents airing their gripes. They are intelligent professionals who are concerned about a question that should concern all who claim to be professionals.

You have done an excellent job of editing the Bulletin. Those who are not interested are missing something valuable. We can't all be active in the Association, but we should be interested in keeping ourselves informed.

Sincerely,
Esther Small
Rumford, RI



LIBRARY COOPERATION: A Conversation
with URI's Arthur P. Young
by
Michael Vocino Jr.

The following is an interview conducted on September 18, 1981 with URI's new Dean of the Library, Arthur P. Young and elicits from Dean Young his views on cooperation between libraries and how those views might affect the cooperative relationship between Rhode Island's largest public university and the state's other libraries and library system.

Question: In general terms, what do you think of cooperative efforts between libraries?

Answer: I've always believed that libraries, all types of libraries, share more in common in terms of their functions, activities, and service responsibilities than areas in which they may differ. Each library has an obligation to serve its primary clientele, of course, but we share very similar concerns when it comes to the acquisition of materials, the organization of those materials, and the servicing of our resources. The major imperative for cooperation is the new clearly inevitable proposition that no one can go it alone and that self-sufficiency--always an elusive goal--is clearly out of sight for every library. Libraries must be able to identify their resources and those of the other libraries within their region, and after identifying them, be able to share them among the group in some equitable way.

Cooperation cannot simply be viewed as a series of projects or ideas. Cooperation has always meant the opportunity for librarians and others to exchange ideas and to sensitize each other to their respective missions and roles. It sometimes appears as a frustrating, directionless activity. You can keep your eye on a cooperative group and say "What's happened in the last two or three years?" It's important to show progress and projects--the fruits of your endeavors--but it's very difficult to quantify the value of exchanging views, ideas, options, and priorities. Our concern with all fields of knowledge and access to those fields, certainly in a bibliographic sense, make that kind of regular interchange very, very important. It needs structure and purpose but the interchange itself is vital.

Cooperation is dramatically accelerating because of inflation and diminishing value for the dollar, and for the very positive reason that we are now in a landmark period of librarianship with the advent of computerized bibliographic records. Once a library has either a major portion or all of its bibliographic records in machine-readable form, every single major function of the library is amenable, in varying degrees, to automative applications. I think that enhances the possibility for cooperation and resource sharing. It also means that the struggle for the dollar will be even harder and more difficult because these projects require substantial sums of money.

Question: Have you been involved in other cooperative operations elsewhere? And if you were, what were the major successes or drawbacks?

Answer: I have been fortunate in my career thus far to have been involved in a number of cooperative efforts. My career has been in academic libraries. I started off in the SUNY system and worked at the SUNY College at Cortland. New York has had a highly cooperative structure for several decades, and I participated on several committees of the regional Three R's Council for that part of New York State, one of which was concerned with union lists of newspapers and so forth. While I was at the University of Illinois obtaining my doctorate during the early 1970s, I worked for three years in the Library Research Center assisting the eighteen library districts in Illinois. These districts were multi-type library systems which contracted with the Library Research Center to prepare long-range planning and evaluation documents. That responsibility involved the preparation of a manual providing guidance on the development of goals and the very difficult task of identifying the criteria for the evaluation of progress toward those goals. After we developed the manual, several consultant visits were made to each of the systems. Public libraries predominated. They had already achieved a fairly high degree of cooperative relationships within their region but hadn't done very much in terms of long-range planning. By the time I had left, fourteen or fifteen had gone through the challenging and difficult exercise of coming up with five year evaluation plans. Of course, that was tied to LSCA funding requirements, the federal government, and so forth. I've read that that process is still being continued. I found that assignment a particularly valuable experience. Some of the service programs in the public libraries were more exciting in some respects than what goes on in academic libraries.

At the University of Alabama, I served on the Governor's Committee for Libraries and several other committees of the State Library. They are at the beginning stages of developing multi-type library cooperative districts. I was involved in the setting up of a district in the northwest region of Alabama and the laying out of projects for consideration. This was just getting off the ground by the time I left.

Question: Tighter economic times seem to make people and institutions more restrictive. Considering the economic limitations of most libraries in terms of staff, material, etc., at what level should we cooperate with other libraries, if at all?

Answer: Most cooperative efforts are largely informal in the sense that the individual libraries which are part of a cooperative enterprise contribute with the understanding that they retain the autonomy necessary to serve their primary clientele. There are certain exceptions with contractual relationships but, by and large, the networks that you hear about around the country are somewhat informally organized. In that sense, it is a quid pro quo proposition and there can be that time when you realize that the mandate to serve your local clientele must come first. It's

becoming increasingly difficult to determine what that point is when you must either step back from your cooperative posture or even withdraw altogether. I don't know if anybody who has come up with the formula to determine when that option must be invoked. A sense of collective involvement is important, I think, particularly in times of diminishing financial resources, to highlight the needs of all libraries to the decision-makers, the politicians, the foundations, and others to assist libraries in fulfilling and advancing their mission. I think it's self-defeating to go it alone too early when the dollars become scarce.

Question: If CRIARL is really to be meaningful and go beyond ILL, for example, how do you deal with the ego - the politics - of individual libraries and librarians in developing a truly reciprocal cooperative system? For example, such a system might consider cooperative acquisition ventures. How do you tell the faculty at URI that the librarians at Brown will now be the exclusive selectors in certain subject areas or vice versa?

Answer: Cooperative acquisitions and the delimiting of selection responsibility among libraries are propositions that have been around the library field for decades. Coincidentally, I just finished a lengthy interview with perhaps the most visible proponent of the proposition in modern librarianship -- Robert Downs of the University of Illinois, now retired. He was proposing that back in the 1930s. You're quite right that a decision to identify discrete subject selecting activities is a very difficult proposition to pursue. First of all, it's an issue that transcends libraries and librarians. I think that librarians can play a critical role in building the edifice, but it ultimately requires the concern and approval of university and college presidents, and certainly concurrence within the higher education community of Rhode Island. It would be really difficult to achieve within CRIARL because you have state, federal and private institutions.

I think that a cooperative acquisitions venture is worth exploring, and I suppose there is some of it going on by default in terms of the curricular emphases of various universities. I would assume that Brown, for example, does not collect as extensively in the literature of oceanography as this institution does but that's an historical fact. It wasn't a decision initiated by librarians and one predicated on resource sharing. I think some limited experimentation would be desirable. Now as to faculty and student reactions, I think one can generate understanding for cooperative selection, but institutional approval will be difficult to obtain. Understanding for that kind of proposition comes when university governing bodies and executive leaders come to grips with identifying priorities for support of the curriculum at various levels.

A good friend of mine, Dave Kaser, former director of the Cornell University Library and presently at Indiana University, recalled several conversations with his university president that went something like this: "Dave, I want you to build on strength in the library. We can't do everything. Build on the strengths you have." Dave would then look at him and say, "Give me one, tell me one!" He said that in five years he didn't get one.

It's humorous, to be sure, but also substantiates the fact that libraries essentially mirror the curriculum of the university. Until such time as colleges and universities identify curricular priorities, life will be very difficult for libraries and librarians. A lot of second guessing is required. We hope we can do it in the most professional way possible.

Question: How do you avoid elitism as exhibited by some libraries in the sharing of their resources? For example, Cornell has been accused of being less than enthusiastic in its participation in the FAUL Cooperative System in New York.

Answer: I think that most state institutions have a concern for at least limited cooperation. Cornell is a mixed, private-public institution and has a land-grant operation as well. Inherent in cooperation is a degree of equity. You cannot have a perception--and sometimes it is just a perception until actually proven--of the "haves" and "have nots". It's a really tough balancing act to convey a sense of reasonable input and output in a cooperative enterprise.

Equity arrangements are important. For example, DSLS supports a position here for interlibrary loan activities and many other network systems have come up with equity mechanisms for reimbursing resource centers and libraries. If URI or Brown, for example--they are two of the larger libraries--find that their interlibrary loan traffic is five, ten, or even twenty times on the lending side more than on the rest of the region, that's a problem which can start to impinge on your primary clientele mission.

Question: You may not have had time to get a real sense of this, but how do you perceive the university administration's support for cooperative efforts? Is it strong, weak, or somewhere in between?

Answer: I have a generalized perception of a pretty good attitude on campus toward cooperation. There are many exchange programs and continuing cooperative activities with many different agencies of the state. I perceive a reasonable climate and would proceed believing that the residual support would be there.

Question: Do you see an expansion of cooperative efforts between academic libraries from Rhode Island to the possibility of including other regions, say southern New England or even New England itself?

Answer: The only thing I know so far about the New England region is that there are meetings among counterpart administrators of the land-grant schools. There has been some activity recently to promote cooperative computer applications.

Question: What do you see as the role for the URI Library within the state?

Answer: Being the state's land grant institution, and its comprehensive institution of higher education, the University has a flagship role, if you will, in promoting quality education in the state and I would think the natural corollary of that would be a leadership role for the URI Library. To fulfill that role and make it meaningful, it will be important to emphasize our contribution to the development of libraries and education throughout the state.

Question: How active do you plan to be in promoting cooperative library services within Rhode Island's academic community?

Answer: I intend to be very active.

Michael Vocino, Jr. is a cataloger at the University of Rhode Island.

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Background and Progress of the Committee
for a New England Bibliography, 1969-1981

by
Samuel Streit and Roger Parks

Students, teachers, librarians, indeed all those concerned with the history of New England have long been aware of the absence of any adequate bibliographical keys to the vast written historical resources of the region. The sole purpose of the Committee for a New England Bibliography from its inception has been to develop and carry forward a program which would meet this need by the most effective and economic means possible. The Committee was formed in 1969 by a group of twenty historians, librarians, historical society, and museum personnel, all of whom recognized the total absence of bibliographical control over the rich and rapidly growing published history of the region. In 1970 the Committee was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, and that same year a general plan for a seven-volume series of Bibliographies of New England History was developed.

Financial support for the project was first sought from, and demonstrated by, the libraries and the academic and historical institutions of New England, and then directed more broadly toward local foundations and the private sector. Over the past ten years of active effort, the overwhelming majority of financial support has been provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities. To date, four NEH grants totalling \$423,440 have been made spanning the period from November 1972 through June 1983; these grants requiring matching funds in the amount of \$99,164. Continued NEH support to ensure publication of the Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New England volumes seems assured, providing the required proportion of matching funds can be raised by the Committee during the current grant period and in the future.

The overall direct cost of the project, which will approximate \$815,000 without consideration of the enormous voluntary contribution of time and unreimbursed expense of members of the Committee, is indicative of the magnitude of the effort involved. More to the point, it puts in reasonable perspective the direct support required from sources within Rhode Island.

Each New England state must raise the matching funds necessary to publish its volume. Under the provisions of the NEH grants, each dollar contributed in Rhode Island actually generates more than five dollars for the project. The Committee needs contributions totaling \$20,000 for Rhode Island: A Bibliography of Its History and for the Rhode Island share of the New England volume. The estimated total direct cost of the Rhode Island volume and Rhode Island's share of the New England volume is \$118,000. Because so many skills, services and facilities are donated to the Committee's efforts, over 80% of the NEH grant and its matching funds can be devoted to salaries and wages.

With adequate funding in hand, the work progressed in refining editorial guidelines, searching out and employing a qualified full-time editor, and seeking a publisher sensitive to the professional criteria established for the series. Editorial research was begun for the Massachusetts volume in 1972 and a contractual publishing relationship established with the G. K. Hall & Co. of Boston in 1974. The Massachusetts and Maine volumes were published in 1976 and 1977 respectively, with the New Hampshire and Vermont volumes following in 1979 and 1981. The Rhode Island volume is now actively in preparation and is scheduled for publication in the summer of 1983.

Research for the Rhode Island volume began in August 1981. The editor, Roger N. Parks, initially has been carefully surveying the collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society, which has probably the most complete holdings anywhere relating to the history of the state and its communities. After that phase of the work is completed in early 1982, he will search for additional entries in other major Rhode Island libraries, as well as several outside the state.

The works cited include serial articles, many of them in hard-to-find periodicals, as well as books and pamphlets. A core list of more than 200 scholarly and popular periodicals has been searched for each of the volumes in the series. The Rhode Island volume will also include many entries from such serials as Rhode Island History, the Narragansett Historical Register, Newport History, and the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Society Notes.

Each volume in the series is organized geographically. Entries relating to the history of the state itself are found in the opening section, followed by those for each county. The final section contains the entries for each city and town. Total entries in the four previous volumes have ranged from more than 13,000 for Massachusetts to between 5,000 and 6,000 each for Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. The total for Rhode Island will probably be somewhat lower than for any of the previous volumes, not because its history has been less studied than other New England states, but because it simply has far fewer communities than any of the others.

Providence and Newport will occupy sizeable portions of the volume. The entries for Newport will cover a range of subject matter including early settlement and history, 18th century commerce and slave trade, occupation by the British and the presence of French troops, the Newport Tower, Touro Synagogue and the early Jewish community, and Newport as a summer resort, literary community, and home of tennis tournaments, Jazz Festivals and the America's Cup races.

While Newport and Providence will be the communities best represented in the volume, some of the other towns will have as many as several dozen entries each. A lengthy author-subject index, will make the several thousand entries in the volume highly accessible to users.

Within carefully defined editorial guidelines that have provided a high degree of uniformity to the series, the Rhode Island volume will be as nearly comprehensive a listing as possible of writings on state and local history. A few types of materials are excluded as a class--newspaper articles, for example, which are usually ephemeral in character and would be extremely expensive and time-consuming to search thoroughly. Biographies are also excluded as a class, as are most primary documents. The guidelines are sufficiently flexible, however, to permit inclusion of individual works that come to the editor's attention and are judged to be of special significance. Biographies of major figures such as Roger Williams, for example, will be included because of their importance to understanding the history of the state. A series of historical articles in a newspaper that came to the editor's attention would also be included, as would series of primary documents or edited documents that include a historical introduction.

Exceptions such as these notwithstanding, the bibliography will cite virtually everything of substance that has been written as history or that includes a significant historical dimension about Rhode Island, its cities and towns, churches and other organizations, its people and their economic, social and political activities, and the like. It will be a useful reference and research source for anyone who wants to gain an understanding of any phase of Rhode Island history.

Samuel Streit is Assistant University Librarian for Special Collections, John Hay Library, Brown University.
Roger Parks is the editor of Rhode Island: A Bibliography of Its History.

Samuel Allen Streit, Vice Chairman
Committee for a New England Bibliography, Inc.
Box A
Brown University
Providence, RI 02912

Enclosed is a contribution/pledge of \$_____ to be paid by _____ for the support of the Bibliographies of New England History project. I understand that my contribution is fully tax deductible.

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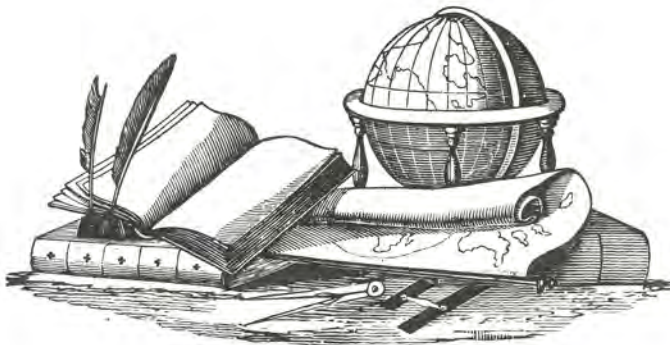
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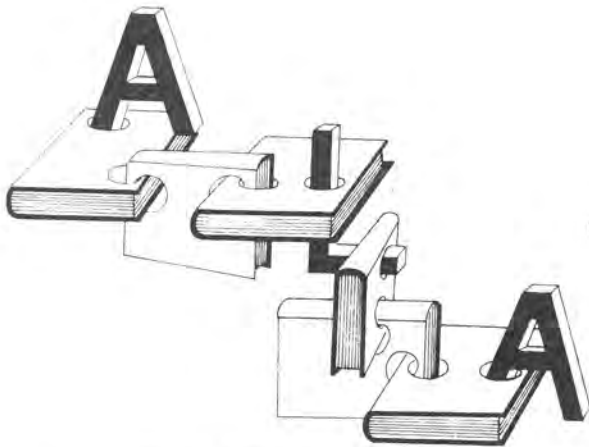
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Checks should be made payable to the Committee for a New England Bibliography, Inc., and sent to Samuel Allen Streit, Vice Chairman for Rhode Island, at the above address.

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GROUP TRAVEL FOR ALA PHILADELPHIA

Would RILA Members and Friends be interested in a group transportation arrangement to ALA in Philadelphia in July? It is possible to charter a bus for the round trip if members would like to travel together. It could cost as little as \$38.00. We need to know if you would like to go for three days or four. A minimum of 47 people is required. The trip would begin in Providence and there could be a stop along the route in South County or Connecticut if desired.

Inexpensive rooms are available through either Drexel University Office of Residential Living or the University of Pennsylvania Summer Conference Housing Coordinator. Housing costs would be \$13.50 to \$20.00 per person per night.

Depending on the number of responses, a number of possibilities exist. If you are interested in having RILA sponsor such a trip, please return the form below by February 26th.

* * * * *

I would like to participate in a trip leaving early Saturday morning, July 10th and returning late Monday night, July 12th (3 days, 2 nights)

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HORRORS, HORRORS, HORRORS:
Programming for Young Adults
by
Lauri Burke & Diane Martin

Once upon a time, two librarians who were bright, idealistic and naive embarked upon a mission to provide programming for young adults. The librarians thought and thought about what the "children" would like and came up with a subject that proved darker and more dangerous than even they had anticipated. Yet, because this experience did provide some rewards, they would like to share with you the saga of their journey through the wasteland of: Classics, Dark and Dangerous.

We, Diane Martin and Lauri Burke are the two intrepid programmers mentioned above. We felt that because the young adult population had been somewhat neglected in the past, we should develop a program that would not only entertain this age group but also introduce them to quality literature. We chose filmed versions of classic horror and mystery tales by Edgar Allen Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle, and W. W. Jacobs. In order to encourage the recognition of the difference between film and the printed word, we designed this film program to include the discussion of the literary content of the stories.

Since our space for programming at the Barrington Public Library is severely limited, our director, Ruth Corkill, graciously offered to let us use her office for the film showings. This room comfortably seats twenty people and we anticipated that we would get an audience of approximately fifteen. Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. was the time selected for the showings, as we thought that the evening time slot would make our audience feel that we respected them as adults. We booked four films of short stories from the R.I. Library Film Co-op and chose stories that we had enjoyed as young adults. They were: The Cask of Amontillado and The Gold Bug by E.A. Poe, Silver Blaze by A.C. Doyle, and The Monkey's Paw by W.W. Jacobs.

Photocopies of the short stories were prepared in advance for the program. We also researched the authors and their works in order to lead comfortably the discussions. We entitled the series Classics, Dark and Dangerous and prepared a flyer listing and annotating the films. The flyer featured the picture of a rather ominous looking spider spinning a web. Kathryn Swanson, the librarian at the Middle School, was very helpful in publicizing the program by distributing the flyer and setting up a "Horror Classics" book display.

On the evening of the first film we set up twenty chairs in the director's office. Much to our amazement, more than forty-seven

eighth graders filed into the room. We seated them on the desk, the table, the floor and practically on top of each other in order to cram all of their bodies into the available space. Since their own burgeoning sexuality is a prime source of concern at this age, there was a great deal of giggling and poking in the ribs going on. We cut our planned introduction short in order to keep a modicum of control. After the film The Cask of Amontillado was shown, we also shortened the post-film discussion as they were restless and uncomfortable--and let's be honest; so were we! We handed out copies of The Cask of Amontillado and The Gold Bug (the next scheduled film) for them to read at home. A quick decision was made to use carpet squares for seating during the last three film showings to save space as we had no other room in which to move.

The second week, Lauri was ill and unable to attend the program. Diane showed The Gold Bug to over thirty young adults and ten adults who wandered in as unexpected guests. Although the carpet squares alleviated some of the seating problems, the size of the group precluded any meaningful discussion. However, in an attempt to insert some literary content, Diane did give an introduction to Poe and his works prior to the showing of the film. In concluding the program, copies of the story Silver Blaze were given to interested students.

The third week Diane caught the dread "Public Service Flu" and Lauri carried on alone. Silver Blaze was shown to an audience of twenty. Due to mechanical difficulties with the projector, no discussion took place during this session.

The final film in the series was The Monkey's Paw. This was perhaps the most gripping film of the four and was seen by an audience of fifteen very interested young people. With a group of this size we did initiate a fruitful discussion of the film and the short story. This, at last, was the type of group with which we had anticipated working.

Obviously, we encountered some problems in the execution of the series. The participants in the program were not required to register, so we had no clear idea of how many young people we would have in our audiences. In our publicity we stressed the entertainment value of the films rather than our expectation that the young adults would come prepared to discuss the short stories. Consequently, we got a much larger than anticipated crowd who wanted to be entertained by a "scary" movie. They also seemed confused by the length of the films as they have generally been conditioned to expect a feature length format. The sheer size of the groups coupled with the small room caused crowd control problems and precluded any effective group discussions in the first three programs.

We also learned the value of previewing films before booking them--especially for this particular age group. Although we did preview the films to prepare for the discussion, we had already

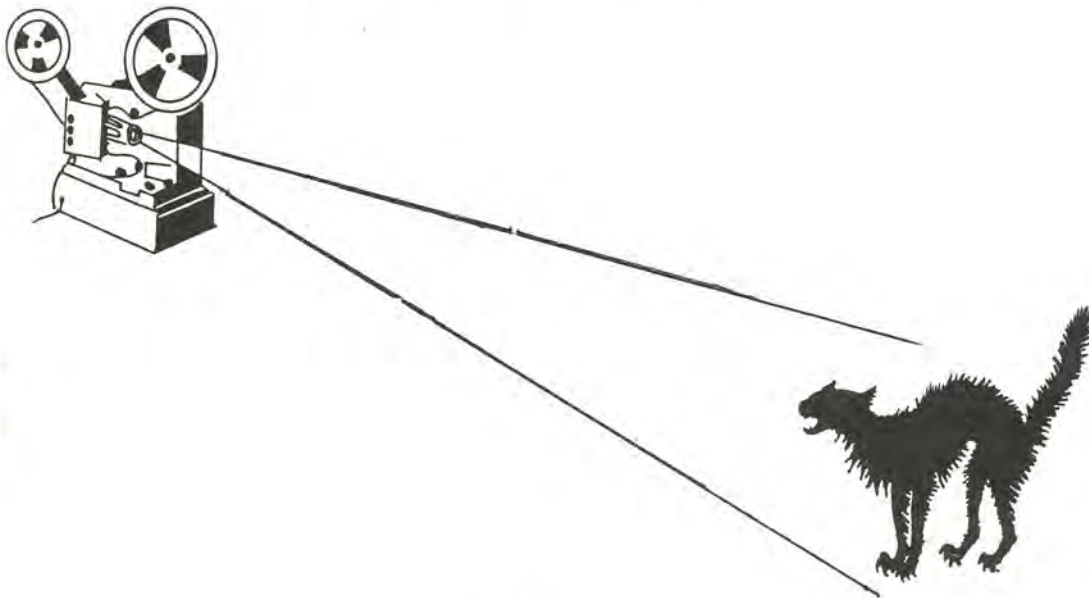
booked them for specific dates, thereby inadvertently placing the most exciting film last. Unfortunately, our first film in the series, The Cask of Amontillado, was not exciting enough to hold the attention of our large audience of restless adolescents.

On the positive side of the ledger, we experienced excellent cooperation from the local middle school librarian and therefore our publicity reached a high percentage of the target audience of seventh and eighth graders. The theme was also very well chosen; horror is obviously a popular subject area with adolescents. Since many students did read the short stories, they were introduced to quality literature in the genre that they might not otherwise have encountered. The large turnout indicated to us that there is a potential audience for future programming efforts.

In retrospect, the series was not perfect, but it was a success. Next time, we will offer two separate programs. The book discussion group will be limited to a certain manageable number and registration will be required. There is also a need to provide a program for sheer recreation, so...

The two bright, idealistic and not so naive librarians will embark again upon a journey to provide programming for young adults. But this time, in following the well-known dictum to "Make 'em laugh", it's gonna be COMEDY!

Lauri Burke is adult services librarian at Barrington Public Library. Diane Martin is youth services librarian at Barrington Public Library.





RHODE ISLANDERS MEET TO DISCUSS LIBRARIES

On December 2, more than 50 Rhode Islanders met at the State House to discuss the library situation in R.I. The group consisted of delegates to the R.I. Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services, leaders of the professional library community, and representatives of trustee, Friends, cultural and educational groups throughout the state. Sponsored by the White House Conference delegation, the meeting was led by Rep. Victoria Lederberg, chair of the delegation.

Fay Zipkowitz, Director of the Department of State Library Services, and Rita Stein, representing the R.I. Educational Media Association, outlined a grim financial picture for libraries under federal and state budget cuts. There is a strong possibility that all Federal support for libraries will be eliminated from the 1983 budget. The proposed block grants would imperil school library and media-center funding.

John Iemma, of the R.I. Department of Economic Development, stressed the importance of libraries to the state, particularly as they affect business and industry.

Bruce Daniels, Deputy Director of DSLS, and Joan Reeves reported on the September meeting of the White House Conference on Library and Information Services Task Force (WHCLST) in Detroit. Bruce Daniels reported that WHCLST is firmly established as a national organization. A survey of states and territories revealed that the White House Conference has, indeed, had an impact of libraries nationwide. Significantly, those states that have broad-based, active statewide coalitions of library supporters have seen substantial increases in state aid.

Task force delegates expressed concern about increasing censorship and urged library supporters to speak out on this issue. They also felt that it is important to oppose the elimination of the Department of Education. Although this looks imminent, it has not happened yet. Congress needs to know how the public feels.

The outstanding message of the Detroit conference, Joan Reeves reported, was grass-roots action and coalition. Virtually every speaker and every delegate stressed a recurring theme: We must go back to the grass roots, to our citizenry, to our Governor's Conference groups; we must join in coalition with all kinds of groups with common interests; together, we must take action to support the cause of libraries throughout the country.

Bernie Schlessinger, Dean of the Graduate Library School at the University of Rhode Island, reported on the September Conference to Develop Priorities for Library Service in R.I. in the Eighties. This group of library leaders met to discuss ways of implementing Governor's Conference resolutions. Having established priorities, the group felt that the next step was to form a coalition for action.

Anne Parent, president of the R.I. Library Association, suggested that the Association's legislative information network, already established, could be an active force for advocacy in conjunction with a citizens' support group.

Victoria Lederberg then asked the entire group to discuss where we should go next. The discussion focused on the need for visibility for libraries, for public relations, and for lobbying. Bernie Schlessinger offered to convene a group composed of the White House Conference delegation, leaders of libraries and library-related organizations, and the Planning Conference Steering Committee, to discuss a statewide coalition of library advocates.

Several people suggested that a Rhode Island library fair would give libraries visibility statewide, would be an excellent public-relations vehicle, and would show legislators that they have a large group of constituents who care about libraries.



MEETING NOTES

COALITION FORMED:

On January 13, Bernie Schlessinger, Dean of the Graduate Library School at URI, convened a meeting of people interested in libraries, including the White House Conference delegation, the present and immediate past-presidents or chairpeople of library and library-related organizations, and the Steering Committee of the Conference to Develop Priorities for Library Service in Rhode Island in the Eighties, at the Department of State Library Services.

Questions considered by the gathering were: Should a state-wide coalition be established? Can it be a valuable and continuing entity? Who should lead it if it continues? And, what should it do?

The participants agreed that a coalition should be established: to serve as a means of communication among all kinds of groups interested in libraries; to encourage support from library Friends and trustee organizations and other groups, such as educational unions, community, cultural, and humanities groups, etc.; and to urge advocacy for libraries. The participants felt that, rather than establishing an entirely new organization, the coalition should work with existing organizations, with the support of DSLS. A library fair, as a means of public relations for all libraries should be considered.

Bruce Daniels suggested that the Coalition should establish task forces for three functions:

1. To provide coordination among professional groups
2. To provide coordination among Friends' and trustees' groups
3. To work out a broad-based system or network for library advocacy

Joan Reeves was named chair of the Coalition, which will probably be called COLA (Coalition of Library Advocates). She appointed a planning committee, consisting of Howard Boksenbaum for the professional group, Christian King for Friends and Trustees, Beth Perry for political action and advocacy, and Herman Rose to investigate a library fair. The committee will meet on February 2 at DSLS and will report to the Coalition on February 8.

BULLETIN BOARD

- WHOM DO YOU KNOW? -- Do you know a "celebrity" who might be willing to speak for libraries? The RILA Public Relations Committee is embarking upon a project to enlist celebrities to make brief service announcements about libraries on television and radio. If you know a likely candidate who would be familiar to Rhode Island audiences, please send your suggestions to Lauri Burke, Public Relations Committee Chair, at the Barrington Public Library; or call her at 245-3106.
- Mark your calendars now for the 1982 Annual Conference to be held November 8 and 9 at Newport's Sheraton Islander in the new conference facilities. The RILA Executive Board (noted smokers included) has agreed to recommend that there be no smoking in future conference meetings.
- The New England Library Board has announced that it has discontinued its newsletter which was primarily a listing of workshops and conferences around New England. The NELB will, however, continue to serve as a clearinghouse for dates for programs.
- A committee is investigating the possibility of a RILA package trip to the ALA Conference in Philadelphia this July. Watch the Bulletin for more information.
- The new edition of Financial Assistance for Library Education, 1982-1983 has been received by RILA. Copies are available at local libraries. For further information on ordering multiple copies for your institution, contact Sandy Giles at Providence College Library, 865-2242.
- Rhode Island public libraries were delighted to find themselves the recipients of Champlin Foundation checks this past December. The libraries shared \$125,000 which was allocated by the Foundation's trustees according to comparative statistics supplied to them by DSLS. The Champlin Foundation, since it began in the mid-1970s until this year, has been an anonymous donor to many charitable organizations. Its funding comes from the estate of George Champlin, a Warwick industrialist, who died in 1980. He was the last of a direct line leading back to Pilgrim John Alden. Since Champlin's death, the trustees are under instructions to put its name on the checks and to publish a list of gift recipients each year to keep future trustees responsible. The Foundation's instructions to the libraries to buy books with the could not have pleased them more.

--NOTICE--The News Editor invites and urges all R.I. libraries, from the largest to the smallest, to submit news items of interest to librarians for publication in the Bulletin. Our readers have expressed interest in knowing more about you and what you are doing. They especially want to know who are your new staff members, who is changing positions within your institution, in what professional activities you are involved, and who is publishing. Help us to keep them informed. Deadline for news items to be published in the following month's Bulletin is the 15th of each month. Items may be sent through the system delivery to Sandy Giles at Providence College.





PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

- Arthur Young, Dean of Libraries at URI, is the new CRIARL representative to the Government Relations Committee of RILA.
- Richard Olsen, Library Director at Rhode Island College, will continue to serve as the Federal Relations Coordinator. There is also a Federal Relations Committee consisting of Dick as chair, Bruce Daniels and Joan Reeves, White House Conference delegates.
- Bruce Daniels, Deputy Director at DSLS, has agreed to represent RILA at Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. on April 20, 1982.
- Several committees of RILA have new chairpersons or co-chairs. Lauri Burke, Adult Services Librarian at Barrington Public Library, has accepted the chair of the Public Relations Committee. Bill Bergeron, Technical Services Librarian at Cranston Public Library, is the new co-chairperson of the Intellectual Freedom Committee. Regina Slezak is now the co-chair of the Conference Committee. Regina also recently began a new position as Librarian of the Riverside Branch of the East Providence Public Library. She was formerly Coordinator of Children's Services at East Providence.
- Congratulations to Elaine Miller of the Essex Public Library in Tiverton! She is the winner of the drawing for a free RILA membership sponsored by the Conference Committee. Her name was chosen from among those who filled out the Conference Evaluation Form.



conference

- The Conference Committee wants YOUR IDEAS for topics and speakers for the 1982 Conference. The Committee is also looking for new Committee members. If you want to get involved in the excitement of planning and implementing a conference and/or if you have any suggestions for programs, please contact Pat Thibodeau (Women & Infants Hospital) or Regina Slezak (East Providence Public Library--Riverside Branch). See the "Bulletin Board" for the 1982 Conference dates and watch for more news on the conference in future issues of the Bulletin.

government relations

- The Government Relations Committee is very busy at this time coordinating the submission of library legislation and keeping tabs on all bills that affect Rhode Island libraries. They have received the approval of the Executive Board to expand the committee membership to 15 and to add ex-officio members as they see necessary.

intellectual freedom

- The Intellectual Freedom Committee is submitting an amendment to RI Law Title 38, Chapter 2: Access to Public Records. The law reads: "For the purposes of this chapter, the following records shall not be deemed public..." It is followed by a list of twenty exemptions. The committee's proposed twenty-first exemption reads:
"Library records which by themselves or examined with other public records would reveal the identity of the library user requesting, checking out or using any library materials."



NEWS
from the
RILA EXECUTIVE BOARD

- RILA Executive Board members have accepted certain responsibilities for the year. Beth Perry, Past-President is the Board's liaison with the legislative assistant. She is also working on pulling together policies and procedures for the Association. Fran Farrell, Secretary, is routing the mail for the Association. Vice-President/President Elect Howard Boksenbaum is the RILA Committee coordinator, and Sam Streit, Member-at-Large is the Board's liaison with the Umbrella Resolution Task Force.
- The Board has established the Intellectual Freedom, Personnel, Government Relations, and Public Relations committees for the current year.
- The JMRT petition for Round Table status in RILA was approved with the proviso that JMRT provide a representative to the Executive Board to serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board. This status will continue pending annual review at the first meeting of the new Executive Board.
- The Executive Board has endorsed the draft of the Umbrella Resolution as the basis for an educational campaign. The Board has also voted to support any DSLS request for increases in grants-in-aid and to support the state documents depository bill which is being resubmitted at this legislative session.
- President Anne Parent and other board members have been actively pursuing contacts with elected officials at fundraisers and other political gatherings so that RILA can begin to become a recognized presence at them.



CALENDAR

- February 22 Sponsor: New England Round Table of Children's Librarians section of NELA
Topic: Workshop on stimulating children's reading comprehension
Speaker: Joanne Cunard, Assistant Professor of Education, College of St. Rose, Albany, NY
Place: Children's Resource Center, Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Fee: \$4.00 for NELA members, \$5.00 for non-members
Contact: Richard Ashford (617) 738-3151
- February 23 RILA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Place: Warwick Public Library
Time: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- February 24 Topic: Information Providers and the Role of the Library
Speaker: Prof. Ching-Chih Chen, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College
Place: Middletown Public Library
Time: Meeting at 10:00 a.m., Coffee at 9:30 a.m.
- March 9 Topic: Services to the Non-English Speaking
Place: North Kingstown Free Library, 100 Boone Street, North Kingstown
Time: Meeting at 10:00 a.m., Coffee at 9:30 a.m.
- March 10 Sponsor: R.I. Library Film Cooperative--Southern Region
Topic: Adult Films
Place: North Kingstown Free Library
Time: 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon, 1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Discussion & brown bag lunch 12 noon to 1:00 pm
- March 16 NINTH ANNUAL RIEMA CONFERENCE
Place: Community College of R.I., Lincoln Campus, Route 246
Time: 7:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
Contact: Lillian Desrosiers, Bristol Community College, LRC, 777 Elsbree Street, Fall River, MA 02720 (617)678-2811, X107 & 108
- April 7 Sponsor: New England Technical Services Librarians
Topic: spring meeting--Microcomputer Applications in Libraries
Place: Hogan Center, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA
Time: 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Contact: Helen Shuster, Gordon Library, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (617) 793-5413



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 Elizabeth Rogers, Providence Public Library, 150 Empire Street, Providence, RI 02908. Telephone (401) 521-7722.

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: Mary Frances Cooper, Providence Public Library, 150 Empire Street, Providence, RI 02908. In order for a job notice to appear in the Bulletin, it must be received before the 15th. of the preceeding month.

Employers and job-seekers also have access to the New England Library Jobline, a free service of the New England Library Board. Employers call (207) 622-4733 to place a position announcement on the Jobline. Those interested in learning about open positions in New England, call (207) 623-2286. The Jobline is updated with a new tape each Friday.

-Rhode Island-

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN: Responsible for programming, planning and collection development, and services of Children's Department. Qual.: ALA/MLS required, experience desirable. Salary negotiable. Town residency required within 12 months. Send resume and 3 references to: Personnel Committee, Cumberland Public Library, Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland, RI 02864.

-Massachusetts-

SCIENCE REFERENCE: Harvard University: Provides reference services to undergraduates in general science and to faculty and graduate students in math or statistics. Participates in bibliographic instruction, library exhibits, searching reserve lists and bibliographic data bases, and in maintaining and selecting reference collections. Requires MLS, science background; knowledge of one Western European language; public service experience; organizational ability; on-line reference experience. Available immediately. Rank and salary dependent on qualifications, \$14,600 minimum. Send resumes to: Philip E. Leinbach, Harvard University Library, Widener Library, Cambridge, MA 02138 (Chron. of Higher Ed. 1/20)

DIRECTOR, HEALTH SERVICES LIBRARY: Library serves entire range of health and health related professionals at Boston and Grafton campuses and provides services to New England Medical Center and affiliated hospitals. The University is about to begin an ambitious program of expansion with a new library building and state-of-the-art technology. It is seeking a qualified librarian with MLS, MLA accreditations and a solid background in automation and library administration. The academic rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications. Applications with resume and the names of 3 references should be sent prior to March 1, 1982 to Murray S. Martin, Chair, Search Committee for the Director, Health Sciences Library, Wessell Library, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155 (617-628-5000, ext. 239) (Boston Globe 1/10)

-Connecticut-

LIBRARY TECHNICIAN, Town of West Hartford: Work is chiefly concerned with technical process of library operations, with emphasis in the specialized area of children's library work. Introduce young readers to juvenile collections; participate in planning and conducting story hours; operate audio-visual equipment; provide reader advisory and reference services. Requires high school diploma plus five years of appropriate library experience; or bachelors degree supplemented by 1 year of appropriate library experience. Other satisfactory equivalents of education and experience also acceptable. Salary range: \$13,754-16,068. Applications available at Hall Community Centers, 50 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT 06107 (Hartford Courant 1/10)

BRANCH LIBRARIAN: Directs full service branch with staff of 7, 100,000+ circulation and GEAC computer system. Responsible for book selection and programming. Salary: \$20,112-25,040. Qual.: MLS and four years' minimum experience. Send letter of application and resume to: Denis M. Lorenz, Director, West Hartford Public Library, 20 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT 06107 (LJ 1/15)

COMMUNITY SERVICES LIBRARIAN: Coordinates public relations, programming, fund raising, volunteers and outreach for system. Assists at reference desk. Qual.: MLS and two years' minimum experience. Salary: \$18,784-23,331. Send letter of application and resume to: Denis M. Lorenz, Director, West Hartford Public Library, 20 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT 06107 (LJ 1/15)

HEAD OF CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT: for busy library in intellectually stimulating suburb. Outstanding opportunity to develop programs, work in community and participate in planning for new building. MLS and supervisory experience required. Salary range: \$17,447-\$24,549. Send resume to: Joan B. Peach, Director, Westport Public Library, 19 Post Road East, Westport, CT 06880 (NYT 1/17)

COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF MICROCOMPUTERS
IN NEW ENGLAND LIBRARIES PLANNED

If your library is currently using or planning to use such microcomputers, the New England Technical Services Librarians (NETSL) would like to know. Please send the following information to Mary Balmer, University of Connecticut Library, U-5A, Storrs, CT 06268: the name and address of your library, the name and telephone number of the person in your library to contact with any questions about the equipment, the brand of equipment used including all hardware, the software used including programs developed in-house and those purchased elsewhere, and the present and planned uses of your equipment. All contributors will be sent a complimentary copy of the completed list. Please send in all information as early as possible but no later than March 15, 1982.

ACRL CE OFFERINGS AT
ALA'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) will be sponsoring eight continuing education courses at the ALA Annual Conference in Philadelphia this summer. The courses will range in length from one to two days and will deal with the following areas: Management, Library Skills, Survey Skills, the Environment, and Professional Development. For further information regarding fees, times, and registration forms, please contact Barbara Macikas, Program Assistant, ACRL/ALA, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611 (312) 944-6780

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