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Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin



APRIL MAY 1983

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

150 EMPIRE STREET

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Indexed in Current Awareness
Library Literature
Z673R52 57-26438

Editorial Notice:

The Bulletin is published monthly except in August. News and articles should be submitted to the editor by the 1st. day of each month for publication by the end of that month.

The Bulletin is a publication for public, school, academic and special libraries of Rhode Island. Published by the Rhode Island Library Association, the Bulletin welcomes news and discussion of interest to RILA members. Articles contained herein, however, do not necessarily reflect the ideas of the RILA membership, or the Bulletin staff or advertisers. All articles about library and media matters will be considered. All should be signed and should not exceed ten double spaced typed pages unless the editor is consulted. Cover art should be done in black and white and should measure 7¼ inches wide by 6 inches high.

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RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
BULLETIN

April/May 1983

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



In this issue of the Bulletin, you will find two reflective articles about library education by Dorothy Frechette and Charlotte Schoonover, as well as a brief, down-to-earth report by Richard Robbins on using small claims courts to retrieve overdue books. There is also a report by Don Foos, of the Public Library Association, on plans for an ambitious archival project which may eventually lead to the creation of an American Public Library Museum.

In our continuing struggles to stay within our budget for this fiscal year, we have been forced to publish a combined April/May issue. As a result, we have had to delete some of the calendar and jobline listings. Our apologies for any inconvenience which this may have caused.

On April 27, the Bulletin staff and RILA President Howard Boksenbaum met to discuss ways to publish the Bulletin more cheaply and efficiently. The most important result of the meeting was the proposal that the Bulletin staff operate more as a committee with each member sharing and rotating the various publication responsibilities, including editing. This will go a long way towards preventing editor burn-out and staff boredom, and it is hoped that the publication committee will now be able to attract new members.

Also needed is a person with strong organizational skills (what the newspaper job ads enthusiastically describe as a "self-starter") who will serve as managing editor/chairperson of the publications committee. The managing editor will be responsible for managing the budget, chairing the committee, and attending RILA Executive Board Meetings.

If you've been looking for involvement in a professional and challenging activity--something to make use of your creativity and skills, and provide the spice of variety--joining the RILA publications committee may be just what you need. Call me at 647-2487 for further details.

Debbie Barchi



THE LIBRARIAN AS TECHNICALLY PROFICIENT HUMANIST by Dorothy B. Frechette

It comes as no surprise to professionals working in the 1980s that they must be prepared to update the skills needed to practice their professions. Medical specialists, for example, must keep up with new research and techniques, and they must often acquire technical skills to operate new equipment, either for use in their practices or even for continuing their educations. Currently, dentists take advantage of microcomputer programs designed to upgrade their skills and expertise; these programs even provide for self-testing and certification. Lawyers and legal assistants learn about data base searching via computer terminal in order to shorten research time and do a more thorough job of researching the legal precedents needed to present their clients' cases. This same need to acquire new skills applies to librarianship as well.

The acquisition of new skills is one of the primary motivations for librarians seeking continuing education. As defined by JoAnn Bell, "Continuing education is any learning activity used by a professional and which, in the mind of the learner, builds on some previously established base to extend and amplify awareness..."¹ Some of this additional training can be provided by graduate library schools in seminars and workshops for graduates; much of it must be sought outside the library school curriculum, especially if it applies to a specialized branch of librarianship. Some of the continuing education sought will relate more to the community or organization in which the librarian works, and will involve advanced study in the social sciences or in another profession.

In an effort to find out what skills and competencies today's librarians need, and which of these needs graduate library schools and library and information science associations can meet, the Department of Education has awarded a grant to King Research.² The project, which has prominent library educators as its advisory committee, will produce a quarterly newsletter and make its working documents available for examination, with an aim toward improving communications between employers and library educators.

How should this need for new skills be incorporated into graduate library school education? Perhaps the best approach is to try to anticipate future technological developments and their possible effects on social structures. A good example of this type of future speculation is found in an article by Tom Surprenant in a recent Wilson Library Bulletin,³ which discusses the possible use of the FM radio band for other types of non-broadcast information, such as electronic mail, financial data, electronic news, etc. While this type of study does not prepare a new graduate to expertly use a particular new technology, it does mean that this graduate will better recognize and accept the need to acquire a new skill when it is needed. According to Robert D. Stueart, "The exploding mass of knowledge has made it impossible to continue the idea of learning things in anticipation of possible future use; rather, students must learn to access and disseminate information effectively when the time comes."⁴

Does this mean that particular skills should not be taught as part of the graduate library school curriculum? Probably not, for both students and future employers are looking for particular skills and techniques currently used in libraries. A course in data base searching, children's library services, or LC cataloging, can often help a graduate find that all-important first professional position in a library. This acquisition of particular professional skills, however, means that some specialization has already taken place even before the student graduates and requires some thought and planning on the part of the student about the type of library in which he or she would like to work. Changing from one type of library to another later on in a person's career may require some re-training and the acceptance of a position at a lower level of responsibility than that currently held.

There are some generalized skills that should definitely be part of a graduate library school curriculum. Some of these are outlined in an article by Patricia Battin⁵ and include the ability to identify and analyze costs of service, prepare budgets, and make long-range plans. Skills or qualifications which need to be brought to librarianship also include many things which could not be completely taught in a graduate library school program. Problem-solving ability, managerial abilities, and the ability to "learn how to learn in a constantly changing environment"⁶ are either inherent, learned over the course of one's entire education, or acquired directly by experience.

What about the place of theory in librarianship? It is possible that this has become even more important than ever, for the theoretical base that deals with the role of a librarian is what will determine the role of a particular librarian within a particular institution. A library is not created in a vacuum; it is brought into being in response to the needs of a particular organization or structure at a particular time. If the library is to continue to function as a viable part of that organization, the librarians who staff it and plan for its future must be responsive to the changing needs of that social organism.

As a part of a changing social organism, can the library continue to concern itself with gathering and storing information in a particular form, i.e., books? What seems to be much more important to the members of a social organism served by any library is access to a particular piece of information, or to part of the cultural record in a particular format, which may not necessarily be a printed format. All "media" are created equal, in that the selection of the form depends both upon the message to be communicated as well as the intended receiver. Social changes, and changes in the perceived needs of members of a social structure are often reflected in changing technology. This, in turn, influences the choices that members make in their search for needed information, as well as their expectations about where and how they are likely to find the material or information that they seek. In Dr. Ching-chih Chen's "Citizen Information Seeking Patterns: A New England Study,"⁷ it was found that libraries were listed ninth by persons seeking information as being a place where they were likely to go. Only a small percentage actually used the library for this purpose.

Nevertheless, information science has now become an accepted part of most graduate library school curricula and has been incorporated into many of the names of graduate library schools themselves. The professional librarian/information specialist graduate should be a technically proficient humanist, who can identify and meet the information/library needs of his or her clientele. This clientele can be other professionals, the residents of a city or town, urban or rural poor, non-English speaking, handicapped, institutionalized, or those who cannot adequately use the resources of the library without professional help. The librarian/humanist relates to potential library users in determining, anticipating, and meeting their needs through the use of those technical skills required by the current structure of the social organism that he or she serves.

Footnotes

¹JoAnn Bell, "CE Attitudes and Opinions," Journal of Education for Librarianship, Summer 1980, p. 82.

²"King Research Study Will Peg Skills Librarians Need," Library Journal, December 15, 1982, p. 2296.

³Tom Surprenant, "Future Libraries," Wilson Library Bulletin, December 1982, p. 328-329.

⁴Robert D. Stueart, "Great Expectations: Library and Information Science Education at the Crossroads," Library Journal, October 15, 1981, p. 1989.

⁵Patricia Battin, "Developing University and Research Library Professionals: A Director's Perspective," American Libraries, January 1983, p. 22-25.

⁶Ibid, p. 23.

⁷Stueart, p. 1991.

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Dorothy B. Frechette is Chief of Planning, Development and Information Services at the Rhode Island Department of State Library Services.

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REFLECTIONS OF A VILLAGE LIBRARIAN by Charlotte Schoonover

As I gaze at the pencil sketch, "Miss Isabel Eddy in Her Christmas Shop," hanging on the wall next to the circulation desk, I wonder about my predecessor. She is the picture of the small town librarian in a certain era; with her gray-ing hair pulled back to the nape of her neck, wire-rimmed glasses perched on her nose, she stands a simple figure in a dark dress complete with brooch and pearls. Gently she smiles down at three young boys, hand extended to the neatly arranged rows in front of her: small boxes of every shape, a kaleidoscope, miniature bows and arrows, treasures from distant places.

It seems that Miss Eddy, Librarian at the Kingston Free Library from 1917 to 1942, was an important part of village life in those days. Not only did she keep the library in the famous colonial Court House well stocked with books and other proper reading material, but she became a memorable figure to the people of Kingston for her Christmas shop. According to Joseph W. Ince, "Her own creation was the Christmas store...stocked with inexpensive toys, gifts and surprise bags. Here children came to purchase toys and gifts, and parents came to purchase stocking gifts for children. Each year, at least \$100 was turned over to the library for the purchase of children's books...some years, sales did not make the \$100 goal and Miss Eddy made up the difference from her own pocket."¹

Of her education and training, I know nothing. Like so many others in villages and hamlets across America, she was probably a well-read, well-to-do, genteel single woman. She served the library without pay. And it was said on her retirement that she "gave freely of her time and energy during a period of 25 years."²

For twenty-five years, the small village library, beloved by local residents, flourished under her gentle leadership. She seemed to have a keen desire and singlemindedness to serve her rural South County community, and she provided a continuity in library service during a time when the village was undergoing changes in population and lifestyle due to the growth of the neighboring University of Rhode Island and the social and economic history of the period.

Another Rhode Island rural librarian comes to mind who stands as a real role model for me. Gladys Segar (who will be 92 in June and was selected as RILA Librarian of the Year in 1980) was educated and worked in large libraries in New York City and New Jersey. Returning to her home town for family reasons, at an age when most people are considering retirement, she became the librarian of the village library in Hope Valley and has spent the last thirty-odd years nurturing the Langworthy Public Library. She has made it a special place for adults and children alike in this town where a major gathering place is the Post Office on Saturday morning. With her joy and enthusiasm for books, reading, and self-education, she has truly given her town no small treasure.

She has also given something to me, because I was fortunate enough to be her assistant for three years while I was in graduate school. Quite unconsciously, of course, she has passed along her vision of librarianship to me and the many others who have had contact with her.

Miss Segar believes in the "patron first" school of thought. She has a great respect for individuals, young and old, and their respective needs and talents. And she has the rare ability to put diverse people together for the sharing of ideas. Her devilish determination to track down the answer to a tough reference question is an inspiration. Admirably, she has the knack of making a small library a welcoming place that hums with worthy activity.

How or when she developed her philosophy of librarianship would be interesting to learn. I do know that she received her formal library education at the Brooklyn Public Library, an outstanding training ground for would-be librarians of the 20s. Does formal education make a difference? Some would say so.

Miss Segar tells a story about the time she helped out one of the librarians in another neighboring community when the librarian was ill for several months. She found to her distress that the books were arranged in a rather unusual way: the shelves were filled with books in the order in which they had come into the library, "accession order," as it were. I don't remember how or if Miss Segar set things right, but when the regular librarian returned to work, she was heard to mutter repeatedly, "Trained librarian...humph!" Her feelings of inferiority about the accomplishments of "trained librarians" are unfortunate in light of the fact that she devoted more than twenty years of her life to a library in what proved to be quite a vital period of its existence.

There is a point to these quaint anecdotes and ramblings that I think is relevant to librarians and their education in the 1980s. To me as village librarian now in Miss Eddy's place behind the same ancient clapboard walls, the challenge in a small library is to integrate the demands of the information explosion and the technological age with the traditional needs of personalized service. True, my library is not an isolated rural library in an insular community any more. It is an active member in a three library, town-governed library system in a fast growing area of the state. Still, I cherish my daily contact with patrons, the pleasantries about peoples' lives, the conversations about favorite reading material. I see it as a way to interact with patrons, to learn more about what people want from their library, and to show them that the library is a basic part of their community.

So that you won't come away from reading this article believing that I don't have much faith in formal library education, I would like to devote the remainder of it to reviewing my own experience as a student and how I evaluate that experience after working as the librarian of a small community library since graduation.

My graduate school days began at the end of the hot summer of 1977. My classmates were the usual mixture of aspiring librarians and the URI-GLS was in the anxious and hectic days of preparing for reaccreditation. Over the next three years, I learned a lot of facts and figures. But most important, I gained a theoretical framework for my chosen profession. The library school experience helped me develop a professional attitude and respect for the profession. It taught me the necessary tools of the trade, the terminology, the basic techniques and practices, etc. Above all, it reinforced my own concept of the value of librarianship.

A significant weakness in the program was the lack of intellectual challenge; I wasn't forced to think critically. Several areas that I wish I could have had more classroom experience in were: management techniques, public relations, more sophisticated levels of collection development, and reference work. Other areas that deserve consideration in existing courses are: public speaking, the trustee/librarian relationship, interpersonal relations and staff training, and grant writing and fund raising.

Practically speaking, and on the light side, mini-courses should be made available on topics such as the following: "How to Live with Your Furnace," "Stress-Related Anxiety from Managing an Historic Building," "Elementary Carpentry," and "Memory Improvement."

My continuing library education comes, for the most part, from the people with whom I have contact. As valuable as the conferences, workshops, courses, and professional reading are, I find that I enjoy and learn from my colleagues, co-workers, administrator, and the librarians I work with on committees and in the South County region. I feel it is especially important to respect the people in our profession as transmitters and practitioners of the ideals of the profession. So, here's to our predecessors, our contemporaries, and the librarians of the future!

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- ²Bailey, Patricia, The Kingston Free Library and Reading Room: An Historic Study, 1970, p. 22.

Charlotte Schoonover is the head of a branch of the South Kingstown Public Library, the Kingston Free Library, and a 1980 graduate of the University of Rhode Island Graduate Library School.



GETTING TOUGH WITH DELINQUENT BORROWERS: SMALL CLAIMS COURT by Richard Robbins

Some time ago, I asked a friend if he'd decided to whom he would bequeath his large personal library. "I'm not worried about that," he said. "I just want to get back the books I've loaned to people." You've probably had the same experience. I have. At least half the books I've loaned have never come back. Come to think of it, I've kept books I've borrowed, too. Let's face it, returning things is a bit contrary to human nature. And well do we in libraries know it!

The small-claims court is yet another way to try to wrest delinquent items from borrowers who would be keepers. And why not? What do people do when they've been bilked--abused--denied use of their property? They SUE! Why should libraries be immune from this widespread mania that's even become a form of entertainment in television's "The People's Court"?

Let me tell you how the Warwick Public Library has been taking hard-core delinquent borrowers to court. First, pick out a number of patrons who have a sizable number of overdue items and have not responded to any of the notices and bills that have been sent. Run this list by the board of trustees. (There are some people in the community who should not be taken to court.) Send a "last-chance" letter to the patron saying that library property--in our case also city property--must be returned or court action will be taken.

At this point, something highly gratifying happens. The great majority of the books come back. For those people who don't rush back with their overdues, make out a "statement of plaintiff's claim" form and mail it to the court. Send \$6.75 with each statement. After a while--don't hold your breath--the court will send you and the defendant a "plaintiff's memo--small claims action," notifying her/him to show up in court. Then, of course, you come to court on the assigned date braced to face the malefactor. And what happens? Nobody shows up! The judge declares the plaintiff to have won the case by default.

At this point, you may pay to 1) have a sheriff go after the defendant to try to collect, or failing this, you may 2) get a "body attachment." We have only once proceeded beyond the court appearance, and only with number one.

To summarize, the last-chance letter is extremely effective in collecting overdues. The actual going to court isn't. But of course you have to go for those few who don't respond to the letter--you have to follow through on your threat. We hope the word will get around that we mean business about overdues and are willing to put teeth into the retrieval process.

If you are interested in going the small-claims court route, you should first go to your district court and get a copy of the booklet entitled "A Consumer's Guide to the Use of Small Claims Courts." This helpful guide will make it easy for you to tackle your most intransigent delinquent borrowers.

DIRECTORY OF DIVISIONS OF THE DISTRICT COURT

DIVISION	CITIES & TOWNS	DIVISION	
FIRST DIVISION 516 Main Street Warren, RI 02885 245-7977	Barrington Bristol East Providence Warren	FIFTH DIVISION 145 Roosevelt Ave. Pawtucket, RI 02865 722-1024	Central Falls Cumberland Lincoln Pawtucket
SECOND DIVISION Eisenhower Square Newport, RI 02840 846-6500	Jamestown-Newport Little Compton Middletown Portsmouth-Tiverton	SIXTH DISTRICT 345 Harris Ave. Providence, RI 02909 331-1603	Providence
THIRD DIVISION 222 Quaker Lane W. Warwick, RI 02893 822-1771	Warwick-Coventry East Greenwich West Greenwich West Warwick	SEVENTH DIVISION Front Street Woonsocket, RI 02895 762-2700	Burrillville Glocester North Smithfield Smithfield-Woonsocket
FOURTH DIVISION 1693 Kingstown Road W. Kingston, RI 02892 783-3328 and 49 Main Street Westerly, RI 02891 596-2407	Charlestown Exeter-Westerly Hopkinton Narragansett New Shoreham North Kingstown South Kingstown Richmond	EIGHTH DIVISION 275 Atwood Ave. Cranston, RI 02920 944-5550	Cranston Foster-Scituate Johnston North Providence



Director,
Richard W. Robbins
Deputy Director,
Janice B. DiFranco

WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

401-739-5440

April 8, 1982

Mr. Arthur Blank
600 Sandy Lane
Warwick, RI 02886

Dear Mr. Blank:

The Warwick Public Library has mailed you a notice to return overdue items. When they were not returned we mailed you a bill to cover their cost. To date we have not received the overdue items or any other word from you.

Every library user is important to us--we want to give everyone the best possible service, but this can only be done when books are returned. We are sorry it is now necessary to take court action, but we believe we have made every reasonable effort to encourage you to return overdue items.

This letter is your notification that if this property of the City of Warwick is not returned or the bill paid by the date given below, we will file suit in the Rhode Island District Court, Third Division.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Robbins

RWR/kad

Final Date: April 26, 1982

Number of Items Overdue: 4

Cost of These Items: \$38.88

BRANCHES:

Apponaug, 3267 Post Rd., Tel: 739-6411 • Conimicut, 55 Beach Ave., Tel: 737-6546 • Norwood, Pawtuxet Ave., Tel: 941-7545

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

, SC.

DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DIVISION.

STATEMENT OF PLAINTIFF'S CLAIM
(Small Claims Action)

WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARYPlaintiff

Residence 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI 02886

Post Office Address same as above

VS.

ARTHUR BLANKDefendant

Residence 600 Sandy Lane

Post Office Address Warwick, RI 02886

Account and nature of claim.

4 books due April 26, 1980 not returned. Cost of books: \$38.88

The Plaintiff hereby waives his right to appeal in the above action.

Warwick Public Library by Director Plaintiff.



PUBLIC LIBRARY HERITAGE:
A TASK FORCE AND A NEED
BY Don Foos

As an institution, the public library in its place in American life has made a major impact on each of our lives. Historically, the public library has a defined place in society. Institutionally, it is recognized as a conceptual source of information for the nation's population and, in this capacity, is charged with the responsibility of providing free library service to all. Throughout the years, many events have shaped the public library, and regardless of wars, depressions, economic hardships and governmental setbacks, public libraries have survived. The last survey report completed in 1977 by the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) indicated there were 10,134 public libraries of all sizes throughout the nation. Considering the existence of 29 public libraries at the time the nation was founded in 1776, and the COSLA figure of 10,134 in 1977, it can be concluded that over a 200-year time period, public libraries have become a recognized governmental institution in our American society. Public library heritage is an important aspect of American history.

The Public Library Association (PLA), under the leadership of President Donald J. Sager, considers public library heritage to be a vital part of archival information and is concerned with the preservation and accessibility of documents and artifacts important to the heritage of the American public library. To this end, a PLA Public Library Heritage Task Force composed of six PLA members was appointed in 1982 and charged with the responsibility to develop recommendations for the PLA Executive Board. In addition to the concern for the preservation and accessibility of historic documents and artifacts, the Task Force is to consider the relative benefits of a study associated with the creation and maintenance of a museum on the American Public Library.

The Public Library Association's Public Library Heritage Task Force held its first meeting during the American Library Association Midwinter Conference in San Antonio, Texas. As a main topic of discussion, it was suggested that state, regional and national library associations, agencies, historical societies, and library schools be contacted to find out "what's out there." In the form of a survey, the Task Force's fact-finding mission could result in the form of a Source Book of information about librarianship. Where it is and who's doing it, seem to be an important first step for the Task Force. Suggestions to establish or develop a "Heritage Trail of Libraries" depicting historic public library landmarks across the nation; to select/solicit a physical location to serve as a repository for public librarianship; to contact vendors as a possible source of revenue for a proposed oral history project that would involve interviewing public library pioneers; and to consider the development of an exhibition that could become a permanent museum at the 1992 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago were among the more important recommendations made at the San Antonio meeting.

As a result of the enthusiasm displayed by attendees at the first Task Force meeting in San Antonio, an open hearing, "Directions toward the 1992 World Exposition to be held in Chicago" was held on Friday, March 25, 1983, at the First Public Library Association (PLA) Conference at the Baltimore Convention Center. The early 9:00 AM time slot for the hearing did not project a heavy attendance at the meeting. To the joy of the Task Force chair and members, a robust group attended and provided many more recommendations and suggestions for the PLA Executive Board's consideration. The enthusiasm of the attendees forced the hearing overtime and the chair closed the meeting at 10:30 AM. Another open hearing is scheduled for Monday, June 27, 1983, 9:30 AM-11:00 AM, at the American Library Association Conference in Los Angeles.

Information from, and suggestions for, the PLA Public Library Heritage Task Force may be sent to Don Foos, Director, Library and Information Science Programs, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Library Suite 507, 33rd and University, Little Rock, AR 72204.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE MEETING IN LOS ANGELES. STATE AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES ARE NEEDED.

Don Foos is chair of the Public Library Heritage Task Force of the Public Library Association.



LEGISLATIVE NEWSFLASH!!



All our bills passed on Friday the 13th.
--83S546 Sub.B as amended: Remedies for theft and damage of library property passed at 9:30 p.m.
--83H5562: Expanding DSLS to include services to blind and physically handicapped citizens passed at 10:30 p.m.
--83H5840 Sub. A: Establishing a state publications clearinghouse for libraries, passed just after 10:30 p.m.
Look for details in the next issue. Great thanks to all our sponsors! Rep. Mary McMahon and Sen. David Carlin made extraordinary efforts in the late hours to get our bills through. Sen. Carlin along with Sen. Robert McKenna sponsored 83S546. Rep. McMahon and Rep. Maureen Maigret sponsored 83H5840, and Rep. McMahon sponsored 83H5562.

Senators Carlin and McKenna have been voted RILA's Legislators of the Year by the Executive Board. We will honor all of our sponsors at our legislative cocktail party at the Naval War College Officer's Club, June 7th. Please join us! Contact Beth Perry for tickets.

Thanks also go to the many librarians whose efforts made this success possible.



NEWS
from the
RILA EXECUTIVE BOARD

At its regularly scheduled meeting of February 22, the Executive Board concentrated on the Treasurer's Report, the Conference Committee Report, and the Goals and Objectives of RILA Committees. The following actions were taken:

Approved four strategies regarding the budget for the remainder of the fiscal year--

- 1) The Bulletin would be required to live on the balance it had left itself.
- 2) The lobbying budget would be \$1000 with approximately \$500 being RILA funding.
- 3) Postage was budget at \$350 for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- 4) The remaining budgets for expenditures were zeroed out.

Approved a motion that RILA accept no postage due mail.

Approved a motion that the Government Relations Committee pursue passage of the bill regarding theft of library property.

Approved a motion that the chairperson of the Conference Committee be authorized to enforce a deadline, set with the advice and consent of the Executive Board, for the submission of proposed Conference programs and speakers.

Approved a motion that RILA send a letter to the National Endowment for the Humanities expressing displeasure over the handling of the question of the extension of "A Lively Experiment".

Approved a motion to charge exhibitors \$70 per table for the 1983 Conference.

Approved a motion to allow the Trustee Affairs Committee to have more than 10 members.

Approved a motion to spend up to \$35 on incorporation expenses for RILA.

Approved motions to accept and endorse the goals and objectives as amended for the following committees: New Technologies and Personnel.

Approved motions to accept and endorse the goals and objectives of the Membership Committee with the exception of the budget which was deferred and of the Public Relations Committee with the budget contingent upon outside funding.

--At a special meeting March 7, the Board:

Voted 6 to 1 to authorize the Government Relations Committee to pursue passage of a bill to create a State Publications Clearinghouse under the authority of the Department of State Library Services, as per the Government Relations Committee's recommended revision of the State Public Depository Bill.

Approved a motion that the Personnel Committee submit to the Board its recommendations on the Personnel Section of the draft Standards for Rhode Island Public Libraries.

Approved motions to accept and endorse the goals and objectives of the following committees: Conference, Federal Relations, Intellectual Freedom, and Trustee Affairs.



RILA Committee News

conference

Planning for the 1983 Annual Conference on November 14 and 15 at the Sheraton Islander is underway. In light of increased costs experienced with the 1982 Conference, it is necessary to increase fees this year. Fees approved by the Executive Board are as follows:

\$10.00 per day for members

\$ 9.00 per day, pre-registration--members

\$25.00 per day for non-members

We would like to continue providing a quality conference and hope that you feel that even at the new prices, the RILA Annual Conference is still a good buy.

nominating

John Fox Cory of the Cranston Public Library has been appointed to chair of the Nominating Committee.

POSITION: PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR/RILA BULLETIN MANAGING EDITOR

DUTIES: The chair of the RILA Publications Committee is responsible for the overall editorial and financial management of the RILA Bulletin. Duties include:

- keeping Bulletin adequately staffed
- maintaining close communications among staff
- preparing annual budget proposal to RILA Executive Board
- managing budget
- attending monthly Executive Board meetings

REQUIREMENTS: The skills and sensibilities that make a good organizer are more important to this task than those that make a good editor. We are looking for someone who is able to utilize the considerable talent embodied in RILA to build an effective publications committee. Editorial skills will be a welcome addition, though a secondary consideration.

REWARDS: Insight into the organization and issues of RILA; Experience at producing a well-respected publication.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Bernie Schlessinger has officially resigned as Dean of URI/GLS.

Credit where credit is due: Margery Hudson Dumaine, Children's Librarian at Knight Memorial Library, shares the baby-delivering honors with husband Paul (Cf. March Bulletin). Margery caught the baby as it was delivered and for days afterward proclaimed to the world, "I was the first to hold new life."

More Changes at Cranston: Two transfers have taken place with the opening of Central:

- Claire DiFranco has become Oaklawn Branch Supervisor and
- JoAnne Sperlongano is now Knightsville Branch Supervisor.

Staff Promotions include:

- Isabel Wallace, Auburn Branch Librarian has been appointed Chief of Branches. She will also continue her position at Auburn.
- Doris Ehlert has been appointed Arlington Branch Supervisor and Outreach Supervisor.

At Central, staff promotions include:

- Marie Carnevale, Library Assistant in Circulation Services.
- David Greene, Library Assistant in Technical Services.
- Helen Mellor, Library Assistant in YA/AV Services.
- Janet Robitaille, Library Assistant in Children's Services.

Daniel Austin, former Director of Wayne County Public Library in North Carolina, has been appointed Personnel Officer at Providence Public Library. A native of New England, he earned his B.A. at the University of Massachusetts and his MLS at Simmons. He also holds an MA in Management and Personnel Management. He succeeds Frank Hannaway who has become Personnel Manager at Key Container Corporation.

Nancy Menaldi-Scanlon has been appointed Children's Librarian at Rochambeau Branch of PPL. She comes to Providence from St. Andrew's-Sewanee School in St. Andrews, Tennessee where she was School Librarian. She has also been Children's Librarian in the Melrose (MA) Public Library and Director of Public Arts Programs at the University of Kentucky Center for the Arts. She is a graduate of Kent State University and holds her MLS from Simmons and an MA from Northwestern University.

Laura J. Lalime has been appointed Desk Assistant at Rochambeau Branch. She has worked at the Cumberland Public Library for the past four years and is a graduate of Rhode Island College.

Stuart Sherman, Librarian Emeritus of the Providence Public Library and the John Hay Library at Brown University, died April 8 at the Falmouth Nursing Home, Falmouth, Mass. He had retired from Brown last June and moved to Martha's Vineyard.

John Bucci, Reference Librarian at Simon's Rock of Bard College in Lee, Massachusetts, has been appointed William Hall Librarian at Cranston Public Library. John had previously been a reference librarian at Cranston and Readers Services Librarian at St. Mary's College, St. Mary's, Maryland.

Carol DiPrete has been appointed Information Services Librarian at the new Central Library in Cranston. She holds an MLS from the University of Maryland and interned at Oklahoma State University. She has worked in high school libraries in Virginia and Oklahoma, at Cranston High School East, and was Serials/Reference Librarian at CCRI from 1976 to 1979. Carol has also worked as a part-time reference librarian for Cranston.

Dorothy Swain has been appointed Circulation Supervisor for the new Central Library in Cranston. Dorothy has been a library assistant at the William Hall Library for several years.

Grace Varghese, Librarian at the Health Sciences Library, R.I. Medical Center General Hospital, has recently earned her MLS from URI/GLS.

Paul Dumaine, Acquisitions Reference Librarian at Warwick Public Library, has recently been appointed Librarian at the law firm of Adler, Pollock and Sheehan in Providence. He replaces Mary Ames who has accepted the position of Assistant Librarian at Hinckley and Allen law firm.

Stalla Glassman is the new librarian at the Rhode Island Training School, Youth Correction and Education Center. She previously worked as a school librarian and a school counselor in Warwick and is a former president of the Friends of Pawtucket Public Library.

Mattie Gustafson, Tiverton Library Director, has been appointed the Reference Librarian at the Newport Public Library.

Joanne Sperlongano has transferred from the Arlington Branch of the Cranston Public Library to the Knightsville Branch as Branch Supervisor.

JMRT MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

RI/JMRT membership is now open to all professional librarians. Its new constitution provides for a new "continuing" membership category. Continuing members receive all notices and publications and are eligible to vote, but not hold office. Regular members still must be 36 years old or less; or have been in the profession six years or less; or have been in the state three years or less; or are attending graduate library school. A group that encourages participation in professional activities, the Rhode Island Junior Members Round Table was recently selected Number One in the country by the National Affiliates Council. To join now, please send \$5 to RI/JMRT, c/o Niki Thoreau, Membership Chair, P.O. Box 266, Peacedale, RI 02883, and indicate your membership status.

BULLETIN BOARD

TYLER ROAD RACE: The date for the third annual five-mile road race has been set for Saturday, May 14. The race has been a huge publicity and fund raising event for the library.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM: The slogan for this year's program from DSLS is "Readers are Winners." The booklists will be selected rather than extensive and emphasis will be on fiction. Masters for word-searches, crosswords and mazes will be available.

LIBRARY STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Newport Historical Society Library is looking for volunteer library students and archive management students. They have a number of interesting projects planned, including photograph cataloging, cataloging of rare books, book conservation and repair, cartographic repair and cataloging, and library design and space re-utilization. The librarian will provide letters of recommendation or reference for those who work on projects. For details call Tom Brennan, Librarian, 846-0813 during library hours, Tuesday-Friday 9:30 to 4:30 and Saturday 9:30 to noon.

"A LIVELY EXPERIMENT" ENDS: The two year humanities project, coordinated by Providence Public Library and funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, will be ending in May as originally planned. An attempt at a one-year extension will not be made because of problems that would occur because of interruptions in the program and staff. Christie Sarles and her staff will continue the program activities until the planned finale in May.

SERVING THE DEINSTITUTIONALIZED: DSLS Institutional Library Services (ILS) is presently working with Jody Bush, Head of Branches at Providence Public Library, Mary Frances Cooper, Acting Branch Librarian, and Millie Gomes, Outreach Librarian, of Knight Memorial Library on a series of programs for a Providence alternate care facility for mentally disabled adults. This is a first step in a new ILS program designed to serve any public library desiring assistance in providing services to the deinstitutionalized. Assistance may be in the form of consultation, training in special programming, loan of appropriate audiovisual materials or demonstration projects. Many former patrons of the institutional libraries are now residing in community group homes or apartments and can benefit from the services of their local public libraries. Contact Sheila Carlson at DSLS for more information. (DSLS Newsletter)

RECEPTION FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS: Providence Public Library recently hosted a reception to acquaint public officials with the facilities, programs, resources and services that PPL provides. Members of Providence City Council and the General Assembly were invited to the buffet reception. Presidents of the Boards of Trustees of public libraries statewide and presidents of Friends of Providence Public Library invited their respective local officials to attend. The Library opened the Washington Street entrance and held the reception in the Marble Stairway. Guests also had an opportunity to tour the 100-year-old Library.

PPL CORPORATE CAMPAIGN: Providence Public Library recently kicked off its corporate campaign to raise \$49,000 at a breakfast in the Executive Dining Room at Fleet National Bank. The corporate campaign effort comprises approximately half of the Library's CHALLENGE '83 "Your Chance to Make the Difference" goal of \$100,000.

LIBRARY SPRUCED UP: Pontiac Free Library in Warwick now has new carpeting in its public services areas. Last year the interior of the building was painted.

RIEMA CONFERENCE: The Rhode Island Educational Media Association's tenth annual conference was held March 15 at CCRI/Lincoln Campus. Almost 200 participants and exhibitors attended and 27 programs were presented. Western System Coordinator Paul Drake organized a presentation on the Rhode Island Interrelated Library Network, with panelists Dorothy Frechette (DSLS), Connie Lachowicz (South Kingstown Library) and Kevin Carty (Metropolitan Insurance Co. Library). The luncheon speaker was Beverly Schuch, Consumer Reporter on WJAR Television's "Turn to Ten".

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

-Rhode Island-

DATA PROCESSING LIBRARIAN: Providence Public Library. Assists in the operation, planning, development and improvement of the Library's machine-readable data bases and programs. Qualifications: ALA accredited MLS, minimum of 3 years professional librarian experience. Knowledge of systems analysis and computer techniques applicable to library operations is necessary. Salary: \$14,243-\$19,087. Application deadline: May 31, 1983. Apply to: Daniel Austin, Personnel Officer, Providence Public Library, 150 Empire Street, Providence, RI 02903. Telephone: (401) 521-7722. AA/EEOC Employer.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARIAN: Rhode Island State Library, State House, Providence, R. I. Duties: Maintain and oversee the Legislative Reference Bureau as provided in the general laws of R. I., Section 29-1-10. Provide legislative research as required by general assembly members and answer legislative information questions. Qualifications: MLS or a combination of education and work experience equivalent thereto. Background in law reference preferable. Salary range: \$14,446-\$16,139 unclassified service. Make application to: Susan L. Farmer, Secretary of State, State House, Providence, RI 02903. Application deadline: May 27, 1983. The Secretary of State is an equal opportunity employer.

-Massachusetts-


LIBRARIAN: American International College, Springfield, Massachusetts. ALA accredited MLS, administrative experience, managerial ability, and evidence of continuing professional development. Write: Dr. John F. Mitchell, Vice President for Academic Affairs, 1000 State Street, Springfield, MA 01109. (no closing date). EO/AA Employer.

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CALENDAR

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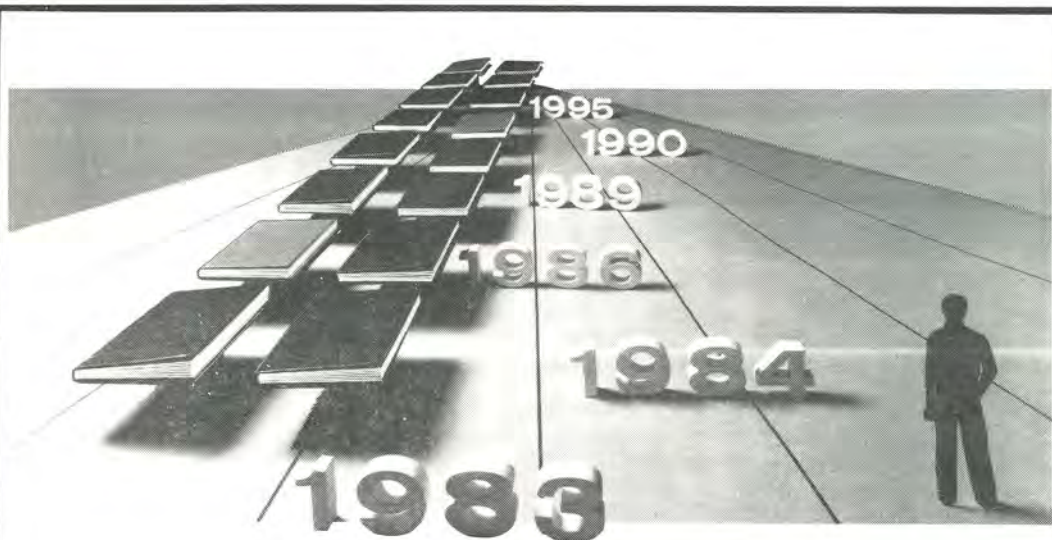
- May 25, 1983 Event: Western System Forum
 Place: Warwick Public Library
 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick
 Time: Noon - 3 pm
- May 25, 1983 Event: Trustees Reception
 Sponsor: RILA Trustees Committee
 Place: Aldrich House, 110 Benevolent St., Providence
 Time: 7:30 pm
 Contact: Connie Lachowicz
- May 26, 1983 Event: YART (Young Adult Round Table)
 Topic: Programming for YAs
 Place: N. Kingstown Free Library
 100 Boone Street, North Kingstown
 Contact: Margaret Shea, 277-2726
- May 31, 1983 Event: RILA Executive Board Meeting
 Place: Barrington Public Library
 County Road, Barrington
 Time: 2 - 5 pm



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