The 1999 West Virginia Library Association annual conference will be held Sunday, October 3rd through Wednesday, October 6th at the Clarion Hotel & Conference Center in historical Shepherdstown, W.Va. Following is a tentative agenda for this year’s event:

**Sunday, October 3**

4 - 6 p.m. Registration

West Virginia Library Commission meeting

*note: date and time change*

7 - 9 p.m. Social hour

**Monday, October 4**

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Registration

9 - 11 a.m. Working Relationship - Chuck Kinder [King’s Point]

Faculty Status - Panel Discussion with Ann Henriksson, facilitator [Wilmington]

11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Exhibits open [Salon A and Hall]

1 - 2:30 p.m. First General Session [Salons B & C]

2:30 - 3 p.m. Break to visit Exhibits

3 - 3:50 p.m. Programs and services for young adults [Lancaster]

4 - 4:50 p.m. G. P.O. Access - T. C. Evans, Government Printing Office [Wilmington]

Dealing with Controversial Issues in Your Library [King’s Point]

Panel discussion—Virginia Rougly will be the moderator

W.Va. Literature - Gordon Simmons [Salon B]

Creative Problem Solving - Chuck Kinder [Salon C]

5 - 6 p.m. Reception - Exhibit area

**Tuesday, October 5**

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Registration open

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Exhibits open

9 - 9:50 a.m. Director’s Roundtable - [Salon C]

Programs and Services for Young Adults [King’s Point]

Evaluating Reference Services - Karen Goff [Lancaster]

Trustees - Managing the Planning Process - Rebecca Van Der Meer [Salon B]

Public Relations - Taking Your Library Message to the World - Sue Eichelberger

10 - 10:50 a.m. Children’s Roundtable and Summer Reading Program [King’s Point]

VTLS Users group meeting [Wilmington]

Athena Users Group meeting [Jefferson]

Follett Users Group meeting [Berkeley]

SIRSI Users Group meeting [Morgan]

*continued on page 4*
Our 1999 annual conference is fast approaching and I hope everyone will get a chance to come to Shepherdstown October 4, 5 and 6. We have a very full agenda with a lot of different topics. I want to take this chance to thank those who worked on the conference agenda: Pam Coyle, Peggy Turnbull, Cheryl Harshman, Ann Henriksson, Christine Chang, Rebecca VanDerMeer, J.D. Waggner. It takes a lot of teamwork to pull a conference together and these are just a few of those who are working behind the scenes to make sure everyone has a worthwhile experience.

This will also be my final column as president. I can’t believe that the year has gone by so fast. I want to thank everyone on the Executive Board of WVLA for making this year memorable.

I would also like to thank the association for allowing me to be a part of such a wonderful group. I have made many friends over the years through my participation in the association and I am grateful for those friendships. I look forward to continuing to help the association in any way that I can.

To Pam Coyle, incoming President, I wish her every success and will help her in any way that I can.

Again, thank you all for a most memorable and rewarding experience. I look forward to thanking you in person at the conference in Shepherdstown October 4-6.

Betty Gunnoe

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**WVLA College & University Division**

http://wvnvms.wvnet.edu/~wvla/

Visit the WVLA College & University Division’s homepage. WVLA’s purpose is to promote librarianship and libraries to all facets of the academic and public communities in West Virginia. The College & University Division achieves our goal by circulating information to our members and providing professional development classes and workshops. In addition, you can take a look at these resources from this Web site:

**READY REFERENCE**

- Librarian’s Datebook: 1996-2005
- HTML Hints & Resources
- In the News Today
- NewsWorks (180+ newspapers online)
- Webster’s Dictionary
- Roget’s Thesaurus
- Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations
- On-Line Calculator
- State Rankings
- CIA World Factbook
- U.S. Gazetteer
- Country Studies
- Hoover’s Corporate Directory
- BigBook Web Yellow Pages
- Switchboard commercial/residential phone directory
- AT&T 800 Directory
- Area Code Lookup
- Zip Code Lookup
- Colleges and Universities
- Peterson’s College Guides
- Almanac of American Politics
- The White House Homepage
- Code of Federal Regulations
- The Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Historic Documents of the United States
- Internet Public Library Reference Center
- My Virtual Reference Desk
- Edmund’s Automobile Buyer’s Guides
- Today in History

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**Denise Giardina’s Place in the Literature of Appalachia:**

* A Symposium on the Writing of Denise Giardina

On September 25, 1999 at Ramada Plaza Hotel and Inn, South Charleston.

The fee for the symposium is $35. The program begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. The Ramada Plaza Hotel and Inn, Second Avenue and B Street, South Charleston, has rooms available at a group rate: $69/night. Call the Ramada for reservations and indicate you are a participant in the Denise Giardina literature symposium: 304-744-4641

Questions and information can be requested from Cathy Pleska, project director, 304-757-4109 or e-mail: catpleska@aol.com

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Charleston Businessman Featured in Book:

Highly recommended by Frani Fesenmaier

Known to many locals, Charles H. James III (AKA Chuck) is a scion of an old family of African-American lineage who carries determination and entrepreneurial talent across 4 generations to fill a chapter (complete with portrait) in Black Enterprise Titans of the B.E. 100s by Derek T. Dingle. A Charleston native, James details the fortunes of the family business from 1883, when his great-grandfather, James bartered household wares and pictures of recently assassinated President James A. Garfield for vegetables and then turned around and sold the vegetables for cash.

His grandfather, E.L., who attended Howard University, weathered the Depression to become Charleston’s sole supplier of fresh eggs under the name of Blue Ribbon Eggs. C.H. James, his father, put his Wharton School of Business education to use structuring the company using computerized purchasing and “tight-fisted” inventory control. Chuck James, a man less concerned with his salary than with the continuity and success of his business, reads Machiavelli, admires and applies the original principles of his business given by the founder: dependability, integrity, a pleasing personality, humility and human values. These tenets have led him, at the age of 40, to a dynamic partnership with Wendling & Sons (Kanawha City), a processing and distribution agreement with MacDonalds, a new business headquarters in California and a business generating 30.9 million dollars a year in sales!

Author: Dingle, Derek T.
Title: Black Enterprise Titans of the B.E. 100s
Black CEOs Who Redefined and Conquered American Business
Foreword by Earl G. Graves
Publisher: New York, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1999
98-51031
ISBN: 0471318531

Community honors former library director with tribute

The Putnam County Library was the logical place for the friends and family of the late Laeuna Erwin to gather and dedicate a stained glass memorial to her.

Erwin, who directed the fund raising for the current library which was constructed in 1974, was a legend according to library board member Russell Fry. A stained-glass iris, created by Donna Ball of Touch of Glass, now hangs in a window of the Local History Room at the library. “It’s something beautiful and lasting in her memory,” Fry said.

Library Director Peggy Bias, who began working at the library when Erwin was the Director, says Erwin was her mentor. “She was a wonderful role model and a true professional in every sense of the word,” Bias said.

Erwin was instrumental in bringing the bookmobile service to Putnam County in 1960 and began work on branch libraries for Poca, Eleanor, and Buffalo as soon as she became director.
Gates Foundation completes installations in West Virginia

More than two years after the West Virginia Library Commission made application for a Gates grant and a year and a half after the grant, valued at over $5 million, was awarded, staff for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation completed the installation of computers in West Virginia. The Ravenswood branch of the Jackson County Library and the Keyser/Mineral County Public Library both received their computers on August 23, one day after the Gates Learning Foundation was consolidated with the William H. Gates Foundation to become the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The Gates Library Foundation, set up in 1997 by Bill and Melinda Gates to provide equipment and training to public libraries in low-income communities, was reorganized in early February as an initiative of a new umbrella organization, the Gates Learning Foundation. The Gates Library Initiative, one of two initiatives comprising the Gates Library Foundation, has made grants to more than 1,300 underserved public libraries in 28 states. West Virginia was one of the first six states to receive a grant.

An additional infusion of $6 billion by Bill and Melinda Gates makes the new foundation the wealthiest philanthropy in the United States, with foundation assets now totaling $17.1 billion.

West Virginia’s grant includes equipment, software, training and support. Training will continue with those libraries receiving content servers now being offered Web page development opportunities.
ALA Councilor’s Report

by Joe Barnes

The American Library Association gathered once again in New Orleans for its annual conference. ALA Council revisited a number of issues of considerable importance to the profession when its time was not taken up with speeches from its small “activist” minority.

At Sunday morning’s Membership meeting—essentially an informal Council session at which non-councilors are welcome to speak—displeasure was voiced over ALA’s keynote speaker for the Conference, General Colin Powell. General Powell had spoken the night before at the opening general session to a crowd of perhaps 5,000 librarians, and had been well received. The retired general thanked librarians for the positive role they had played in his education, and he forcefully upheld First Amendment values. The activists, some of whom never heard Powell’s remarks because they were staging a protest in the lobby of the huge Convention Center hall, were undeterred from restating their opposition to the choice of a military leader and the high cost of his speaker’s fee (although most of the cost had been paid by a sponsor, West Virginia’s Library Corporation).

Immediately following, Councilors heard a report from the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC), which had approved the cost of a formal study on the impact of outsourcing and privatization.

Council text heard from the ALCTS Division and its Subject Analysis Committee on a perennial topic known as “subject headings and poor people’s policy.” The catalogers reminded activists about the volatility of humane, unbiased, subject headings. Undiscouraged, activists rose to the microphones to consume more time with thinly veiled denunciations of their immediate colleagues and the Library of Congress. This debate spilled into Tuesday’s session when Council soundly defeated Sanford Berman’s resolution which would have urged the LC to replace several heading and adopt 30 new ones such as Classism in Capital Punishment; Homeless Afro-American Women, Homeless People in Art; Right to Shelter; Interclass Friendship; and Poor Parents. In a not-unrelated action, Council debated a “Resolution on Sandy Berman” to censure the Hennepin County Library administration for his reassignment. That resolution was referred to an ad hoc committee.

On Tuesday Council was forced to listen again to arguments on another perennial, the issue of lowering the quorum for Membership meetings. As the entire ALA membership voted overwhelmingly by mail ballot a few years ago, and set the quorum at 1% of members, Council was not in the mood to entertain a proposal to lower the quorum to just 100 members (out of more than 50,000) and the resolution was defeated. As a kind of follow-up to the Sandy Berman resolution, Council debated a proposed amendment to the Library Bill of Rights, which would read, “Libraries should permit and encourage a full and free expression of views by staff on professional and policy matters.” Councilors wisely pointed out that, while the sentiment was laudable, the statement would fit better in the ALA Code of Ethics rather than in the Library Bill of Rights. The Code is meant to guide professional behavior, while the Bill of Rights is meant to underscore the intellectual freedom of library users. The resolution was sent to the Ethics Committee for further refinement in language.

During Tuesday’s long meeting Council also heard reports on the work of the Professional Educators Task Force, which convened a special Congress on Professional Education in April. Those who have followed library education developments may recall that Council focused attention on disturbing trends when it entertained a resolution which would have directed the LC on Accreditation to adopt the statement, “ALA accredits masters degree programs designed creation of four new task forces, each to deal with a different set of recommendations. Under the circumstances only a few Councilors, like your own, were thickheaded enough to vote in favor of CD54 a second time when the rest of Council formally defeated it “to clear the way” for the work of the task forces. The library educators who dominated this year’s Congress might be praised for taking a broad view of every kind of concern. They did not seem to care very much, though for the Council’s simply stated effort at preserving library education.

Wednesday morning’s council session was largely taken up with financial reports and questions. ALA’s budget for FY2000 will be $24.5 million, up from about $20 million in 1996. There were sharp questions from the floor, directed at Treasurer Bruce Daniels (by implications to the Executive Board) about excess optimism and possible over-reliance on returns from the Endowment Fund. Individual councilors expressed surprise over no new funding for intellectual freedom, or for continuing education. A number of councilors were disappointed with the performance of the Association’s investment portfolio. Never theless, the budget was adopted as presented.

A recurring theme in Council discussion throughout the 1999 sessions has been the impact of electronic communication on the internal working of ALA. One faction within the Association presses for e-meeting; another points out grave philosophical and practical objections. In fact, various ALA units and Council itself have benefited from electronic discussion between meetings, but participants are generally agreed that such discussions cannot replace meetings. The ALA website, like those of all the libraries in which its members serve, is a work-in-progress. An new Advisory Task Force on ALA Web links will help the Association in developing selections policies, promote involvement by the various divisions and round tables, and develop mechanisms for hearing complaints.
A WVLA Executive Board Meeting was held June 4, 1999, 9:30 a.m. at Pipestem State Park. Following is an overview of that meeting.

Members present:
Betty Gunnoe, President
Pam Coyle, First Vice-President
Dottie Thomas, 2nd Vice-President
Linda Lindsey, Secretary
David Childers, Treasurer
Joe Barnes, ALA Councilor
Judy Duncan, Past President
Ann Henrikson, College and University Division
Matt Marsteller, Special Libraries Division
Charles Hively, Roundtable Representative
Judy Rule, SELA Representative
David Price, Executive Secretary West Virginia Library Commission
Suzette Lowe, Public Library Division
Denise Ash, Co-editor WV Libraries
Sue Eichelberger, Co-editor WV Libraries

1. **Call to Order**
   President Betty Gunnoe called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. **Approval of the Minutes**
   Charley Hively made the motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting, Judy Duncan seconded, motion carried.

3. **President’s Report**

4. **Treasurer’s Report:** Dave Childers – Exhibit I
   Dave Childers presented the financial report, showing profits on both the Annual Conference and Spring Fling, and a deficit of $3,642.79 on the Library Appreciation Day.
   Judy Duncan made the motion to approve payment of checks #5790-5822, Ann Henriksson seconded, motion carried.

   Charles Hively made the motion to accept the Financial Report, Joe Barnes seconded, motion carried.

   Dave Childers made the motion to pay the honorarium for *WV Libraries* for next two issues, Judy Duncan seconded, motion carried.

   After some discussion, Joe Barnes made the motion to make a $200.00 contribution to ALA Intellectual Freedom Foundation and $100.00 to the ALA Washington office, Charley Hively seconded, motion carried.

   Judy Duncan made the motion to approve payment of checks #5790-5822, Ann Henriksson seconded, motion carried.

5. **Membership:** Dottie Thomas – Exhibit II
   Dottie reported 406 paid members, 13 Lifetime, 58 new members, and 85 academic members.

6. **Division Reports**
   - **College and University** – Ann Henriksson reported they are continuing to work on Faculty Status.
   - **Public Library** – Suzette Lowe asked about sending questionaries to Library Directors for their response to the Himmel & Wilson report. David Price pointed out that the entire report will be available on the WVLC Homepage next week and that the report had been "accepted" by the Commission, not "approved".
   - Ann Henriksson suggested putting it in *WV Libraries*, to educate the entire membership.
   - Sue Eichelberger suggested that the summary be printed in *WV Libraries*.
   - Suzette Lowe made the motion to send out a survey to the entire membership, Charley Hively seconded, motion carried.

7. **Roundtable Reports** – Charley Hively reported that he presented the ILL report to the Director’s Roundtable at their meeting in Clarksburg. The Director’s are evaluating the guidelines and he will report their findings at the next Executive Board meeting,

8. **ALA Councilor** – Joe Barnes reported ALA Councilor will be next month, with an emphasis on library education.

9. **Federal Relations Coordinator** – Betty Gunnoe reported that the federal Legislative Day, May 4th, in Washington was a success. The WV group met with Congressmen Wise and Rahall and representatives of Senator Rockefeller’s office. The group thanked Sen. Rockefeller for his work on the E-Rate. Betty stated they would like Internet usage figures and to send these to her.

10. **SELA Representative** – Judy Rule reported she had attended the SELA Confer-
ence in Atlanta and that members are needed.

Next year’s conference will be in October in conjunction with the Georgia Library Association, possibly at Jekyll Island.

11. **WV Libraries** – Sue Eichelberger and Denise Ash reported that the current issue is behind, there were problems with the printing, and that they had received two bids from printers. They would like to use the Spencer Newspapers at a cost of $570.00 for printing and $100.00 to do layout.

Suzette Lowe made the motion to accept the bid from Spencer Newspapers, Dottie Thomas seconded, motion carried.

12. **West Virginia Library Commission** – David Price reported the following personnel changes at the Commission: Karen Hiser will begin September 1st as General Admin. Consultant; Mary Hoage, Collection Development; JoAnn Cook will assume the position held by Dave Childers when he retires in October.

Mr. Price said the Commission is working on the 2000-2001 Budget and that one public hearing has been held and the second will be at the June Commission meeting. He would like input from all the libraries, letters, email, etc., on the Budget, think of it as a “wish list” from your libraries.

Also, the Himmel & Wilson report will be on the WVLC Homepage and the Library Skills Institute will be held in October at Jackson’s Mill.

When asked about IP addresses, Mr. Price responded that WVLC was working with WVNET to get an adequate number for all libraries.

13. **Committee Reports**

**Auditing** – No report

**Conference** – The committee met on April 30th at the Clarion Hotel in Shepherdstown to finalize plans for the conference.

Betty Gunnoe would like program suggestions by July 1st and explained that speakers were paid for travel expenses and hotel rooms would be provided if necessary. A $100.00 honorarium is given when deemed necessary, anything over that must be approved by the Executive Board. If a speaker charges a fee Betty needs to know about it right away.

**Constitution and Bylaws** – Josephine Fidler will continue as the chair. Betty reported that the Committee was asked to come up with solution for Board members who do not fulfill their obligations.

**Continuing Education** – Judy Duncan expressed her desire to hold several CE workshops in different locations around the state and would like suggestions.

**Elections** – No report

**Finance** – No report

**Handbook** – No report

**Intellectual Freedom** – No report

**Legislative** – It was suggested that our Legislative Consultant, Bob Ashley, be on the program at the Conference in Shepherdstown.

**Legislative Library Appreciation Day Dinner** – No report

**Marketing** – Judy Duncan reported that the committee had sold WVLA items at the KCPL Street Fair, they also have 25 afghans remaining for sale, and that Julie Spiegler needs help on this committee.

**Membership** – Dottie Thomas reported the committee will meet before September board meeting to discuss membership letters.

**Nominating** – Judy Duncan – Exhibit III

The possibility of hiring a CPA to do the bookkeeping when Dave Childers retired was discussed, but the cost and the difficulty of changing each time a new person was elected would make that impossible to do. Dave would like to know the results of the election for the position of Treasurer as soon as possible so that he can meet with them and discuss a new software to be used.

Judy Duncan presented the slate of candidates for the upcoming election. Charley Hively made the motion to accept the slate as presented, Dave Childers seconded, motion carried.

**Public Relations** – No report

**Resolutions and Awards** – Linda Lindsey reported that nominees have been received for the annual awards, the committee will meet to discuss these.

**Scholarship** – Judy Duncan reported that the USC students received the information about scholarships through their Listserv.

**Site Selection** – 2000 conference, Charleston House Holiday Inn, first week in November. 2001 conference in Cannan Valley, in October.

**Web Page** – No report

14. **Old Business**

15. **New Business**

16. **Correspondence**

17. **Announcements**

18. **Adjournment**

**Next meeting will be September 10 at the Days Inn in Flatwoods, make own reservations.**
WVLA

6TH ANNUAL READ ALOUD WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

“The Power of Story”

The 6th Annual Read Aloud West Virginia Conference is just around the corner. This year’s conference will be held Saturday, September 25 at the Charleston Civic Center. “The Power of Story” is the theme for this year and will feature author Patricia Polacco.

A pre-conference reception and fundraiser will take place Friday, September 24 at Kanawha County Library, 125 Capitol Street, Charleston, W.Va. Meet keynote speaker Patricia Polacco, as well as teachers, librarians and volunteers from around the state. Eat and mingle with the presenters before the conference.

Registration before Thursday, September 16 is $30 per person—after is $40 per person. Cost includes continental breakfast and lunch.

For more information or to register, call Mary K. Bond at (304) 342-7850 or Donna Calverat at the WVLC —1-800-642-9021.

New Outstanding Books for the College Bound list available

An up-to-date, revised version of the Outstanding Books for the College Bound list is available from the Young Adult Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). The list, published about every five years, provides reading guidance for college bound students and others looking for opportunities for independent and lifelong learning.

Outstanding Books for the College Bound is divided into five categories: fiction, nonfiction, biography, drama and poetry. In selecting the works for the list, the committee used a variety of criteria including readability, cultural and ethnic diversity, balance of points of view, contemporary and classical works, different genres and availability. The list includes both contemporary and classical literary selections. The revised list greatly expands on the number of poetry titles compared to the previous 1994 list. The inclusion of poetry as a separate category recognizes the attention it is receiving in libraries, schools, colleges and with the general public.

The list is available from ALA Graphics in a brochure format. A package of 50 brochures cost $30. To order, call 800-545-2433 press 7. The new list supplements and updates Outstanding Books for the College Bound: Choices for a Generation (ALA, 1996), which is available from ALA Editions at the number listed above.

The list is also available on the Web at http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/obcb/. Links to other Web sites that have information about a book or its author are given throughout the list.

Hupp Medical Library appoints new director

Brad Long, a medical librarian, has assumed the role as Director of Library Services at Ohio Valley Medical Center, according to an article submitted by Chuck Julian of the WVLA Special Libraries Division. Long, who resides in Wheeling, will oversee all library services including the Hupp Medical Library and the Nursing Library.

Long, previously employed at St. Francis Medical Center in Pittsburgh earned his bachelor’s degree in health sciences from Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania and his MLS from Clarion University of Pennsylvania.
The Library and Information Technology Association (LITA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), will host its 1999 National Forum November 5-7 in Raleigh, N.C., with the theme “Top Technology Trends.”

The two-day forum features three plenary sessions and more than 15 concurrent sessions. A preconference workshop will be held November 4-5.

The opening program at 1:30 p.m. on November 5 features Louis Rosenfeld, president and co-founder of Argus Associates, an information architecture consulting firm that has been a pioneer in porting the principles of information retrieval and librarianship to the Web. Rosenfeld will speak on “Librarians at Large: Applying Traditional Skills in Non-traditional Places.”

“Know When to Hold ‘Em, Know When to Fold ‘Em: Deciding When to Investigate, Deploy, or Abandon a Technology,” will be presented in the November 6 morning general session by consultant Joan Frye Williams.

Christopher Buja, international development manager of Cisco’s Advanced Internet Initiatives Division, will close the forum on November 7 speaking on “Using the Second Generation Internet: Learning, Libraries and Research.”

Concurrent sessions include such topics as: customizing library portals; creating interactive Web interfaces; managing access to electronic resources; proxy servers; copyright law; security; digital archiving; applied metadata; OCLC’s Cooperative Online Resource Catalog project; incorporating web-based mapping systems and more!

LITA President Barbra B. Higginbotham notes, “Our members, and the library field as a whole, look to LITA for guidance about technology trends. Our 1999 National Forum includes programming that expands on these trends, better equipping LITA members for the 21st century.”

Registration fees include a Friday evening reception, Saturday lunch, continental breakfasts, breaks and materials. LITA members pay $230, ALA members $275 (includes LITA membership) and non-members pay $325. Registration will begin this summer. For more information about the conference and lodging rates, see the LITA Web site at http://www.lita.org.

Grolier National Library Week Grant deadline October 15

U.S. libraries of all types are invited to apply for a $4,000 National Library Week grant sponsored by the Grolier Publishing Co. and administered by the National Library Week Committee of the American Library Association. The application deadline for the Grolier Grant is October 15, 1999.

The Grolier National Library Week Grant is awarded for the best library promotion/public awareness campaign tied to the goals and theme of National Library Week. The theme for next year’s National Library Week, April 9-15, 2000, is “Read! Learn! Connect! @ the Library.” The winner will be notified in December.

The application form and guidelines are available from the ALA Public Information Office, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Telephone: 800-545-2433, ext. 5041/5044. Fax: 312-944-8520. E-mail: pio@ala.org.

Information is also available from the ALA Fax-on-Demand by calling 800-545-2433, press 8, and on the ALA Web site at http://www.ala.org/pio/grolierapp.html.

The ‘FRIENDS & FOUNDATIONS of California Libraries’ ‘Bookends! Café’ Website (http://www.friendcalib.org) offers us cartoons of bookworm DEWEY, by Bill Price of Mission Viejo PL (CA). DEWEY has his own table at the Café (http://www.friendcalib.org/dewey/) and will share his views though downloadable ‘toons suitable for Web use or for print in your library publication.
A Century of West Virginia Authors

by Phyllis Wilson Moore, 1999

This is the second of a three-part listing of West Virginia authors. The first part was listed in the June issue of West Virginia Libraries.

- Hashman, Marc, born in Indiana. Marc, a resident of Moundsville, is a storyteller, poet, elementary teacher and a prolific writer of children’s literature. Uncle James and the co-authored Rocks in My Pocket are two titles from his long and growing list of books.
- Haydon, June, Spring Hill. Trail of Love. Haydon writes historical romance novels using the pen names Rosalind Fox and Taria Hayford. She also writes mystery stories.
- Janus, Christopher, Montgomery. Janus currently lives in the Chicago area. His youth novel Miss 4th of July. Goodbye, based on his family’s experiences in Montgomery during the Great Depression, is a popular Disney film portraying the struggles of Greek immigrants and African-American in the community. Novels, short stories, biography.
- Knowles, John, Fairmont. Knowles, now a resident of New York, is best known as the author of A Separate Peace. Of special interest to West Virginians is his novel A Vein of Riches detailing the rise and fall of a West Virginia coal dynasty in a town like Fairmont. Knowles was a finalist in the 1961 National Book Award competition.
- Kromer, Tom, Huntington. Attended Marshall University but, of necessity, became a hobo during the Great Depression. At the age of 28 Kromer published his survival story Waiting for Nothing. The style of the “strictly autobiographical” novel was emulated by Breech DJ Pancake. Short fiction, novels.
- Latham, Jean Lee, Buckhannon. In 1956 Latham became the state’s first Newbery Medal winner for her work of historical fiction, Carry on, Mr. Bowditch. Genres—historical fiction, screen and radio plays, nonfiction. Latham, one of our most versatile and prolific authors, had an outstanding career as author, playwright and writer for major television shows.
- Marshall, Catherine, lived in Keyser for ten years and is a graduate of Keyser High School. Her best-selling novel Christy, set in Tennessee, is her mother’s story. Novels, religious non-fiction, children’s literature, biography. Marshall was a National Book Award Finalist in 1980.
- Maynard, Lee, born in Crum. His novel Crum is a coming-of-age story. Maynard, a freelance writer for Readers’ Digest, lives in New Mexico and is working on his second novel.
- McNeill, Louise, born near Marlinton, lived and taught in many West Virginia counties. Gauley Mountain and Elderberry Flood are two of her best-known books of poetry. McNeill, a gifted historian, is one of the state’s longest-term Poet Laureates.
- McKinney, Irene, Belington and Buck-hannon. The Girl with the Stone in Her Lap; The Wasps at the Blue Hexagon; Quick Fire and Slow Fire; Six O’Clock Mine Report. Our current Poet Laureate teaches at West Virginia Wesleyan. Poetry and essays.
- McPherson, James Lowell, Born in Charleston. McPherson moved to Connecticut after graduating from WVU. He holds the distinction of being a Poet Laureate with no published book of poetry and the only West Virginia Poet Laureate to publish a novel: Goodbye Rosie.
- Milnes, Gerald, now of Elkins. Milnes collected the rhymes, riddles and verses in Granny Will Your Dog Bite and other Mountain Rhymes: a Knob Book and Cassette Classic and is the author of Play of a Fiddle: Traditional Music, Dance, and Folklore in West Virginia. Milnes is associated with the Augusta Heritage Festival music program in Elkins.
- Moore, Phyllis Wilson, Clarksburg. Researches the literary history of West Virginia. Her selected essays, poetry and book reviews are available in journals and anthologies such as Traditions: A Journal of Folk Culture and Educational Awareness published by Fairmont State College and the West Virginia Humanities Council. She received the 1995 Denny G. Plattner Appalachian Heritage Award for Written Excellence in Poetry.
- Musick, Ruth Ann, Fairmont. Musick collected and published folktales of West Virginia: The Telltale Lilac Bush, Green Hills of Magic, Coffin Hollow. She wrote poetry, short stories and plays. The Goat Man is her most popular play. Fairmont State College is home to the Musick collection.
- Myers, Walter Dean, Martinsburg. Now Is Your Time: The African American Struggle for Freedom; At Her Majesty’s Request: An African American Princess in Victorian England. Myers, a New Jersey resident, left Martinsburg around the age of three but returns to visit family and research his ancestors’ slave experiences at a plantation near Martinsburg. Myers is the winner of five Coretta Scott King Awards and a Newbery Honor. He writes poetry, fiction and history.
- Myers, Karl Dewey, Hendricks. The Quick Years. As a child Myers developed physical problems and could not walk. He had no formal schooling but was “more learned than many college graduates” according to Phil M. Conley, editor of The West Virginia Review. Conley mounted a campaign to see Myers appointed first Poet Laureate of West Virginia (1927-1937).
- Pancake, Breece, Milton. A stark collection, The Stories of Breece DJ Pancake, was published posthumously to national acclaim. The “why” of Pancake’s suicide at the age of 26 remains a sad mystery. Success seemed eminent; he was near completion of his Ph.D. at the University of Virginia and his stories were being published by The Atlantic. Poetry and short stories.
- Pedneaud, Dave, Bluefield. Pedneaux bestselling crime novels have unique titles based on police jargon: D.O.A.; N.E.D. His background as reporter, columnist and magistrate court judge provided him materials.
- Phillips, Jayne Anne, Buckhannon and Morgantown. Phillips is the author of Black Tickets and Fast Lanes, two widely anthologized collections of short stories. Her work is included in the 1980 O. Henry Award Prize Story Collection. Phillips’ first novel Machine Dreams was nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award. The roots of her fiction can be found in her early poetry Sweethearts.
- Post, Melville Davison, Romine Mills near Clarksburg. Post, a WVU graduate, is one of the state’s most revered authors. He is the author of two well-known novels, Dollhouses in the Hills and The Mountain School-Teacher. A short story is included in the 1919 O. Henry Award Prize Story Collection. Phillips’ first novel Machine Dreams was nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award. The roots of her fiction can be found in her early poetry Sweethearts.
- Price, Eugenia, Charleston. Price lived most of her adult life on St. Simon’s Island, Georgia. The location inspired best-selling historical romance novels: Lighthouse; New Moon Rising; The Beloved Invader. Price is also the author of inspirational books and biography.
- Rice, Otis, Hughestown. Rice has many history titles to his credit: Halffields and the McCoys; West Virginia; A History; West Virginia: The State and Its People. He is currently advisor for the West Virginia Humanities Encyclopedia Project.
- Rylant, Cynthia, born in Virginia, grew up in Cool Ridge and Beaver, and lives in Oregon. A graduate of Marshall University, Rylant is an inspiration to many authors. She thrives on writing and her honors are legion: 1993 Newbery Medal; 1987 Newbery Honor; 1983 National Book Award finalist. Genres: fiction, poetry, autobiography, and essays. Her first book When I Was Young in the Mountains, illustrated by Diane Goode, is a Caldecott Honor Book.
A note from the editors

West Virginia Libraries welcomes suggestions for articles from librarians, support staff, trustees and friends.

Articles may be submitted in writing, typewritten, by e-mail or on computer disk. If submitting material on computer disk, please use 3-1/2″ disk and save your file to disk as an ASCII file and submit a hard copy (printout) of the material on the disk.

Article Submission Schedule:
- January 15 for February issue
- March 15 for April issue
- May 15 for June issue
- July 15 for August issue
- September 15 for October issue
- November 15 for December issue

WVLA Conference Highlights!

NEXT ISSUE:

WVLAWest Virginia Library Association
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WVLA Membership Information
To become a member of the West Virginia Library Association, contact:

Dottie Thomas
Ohio County Public Library
52 16th Street
Wheeling, WV 26003-3696
Phone: 304-232-2044

NOTE: West Virginia Library Commission meetings are set monthly and dates will vary. Please check the WVLC website for the exact date, time, agenda and minutes each month at http://www/wvlc/wvnet/edu

Calendar

September
Library Card Sign-up Month
10 WVLA Exec. Board Meeting • Flatwoods
25–Oct. 2 Banned Books Week

October
National Literacy Month
3 WVLC Meeting
4 p.m. • Shepherdstown

6 WVLA Exec. Board Meeting • Shepherdstown
17-23 Teen Read Week
— Reading Rocks!
Read for the Fun of It

NEXT ISSUE:

WVLA Conference Highlights!