8-2004

West Virginia Libraries 2004 Vol.57 No.4

Pamela Coyle

Follow this and additional works at: http://mds.marshall.edu/wvlib

Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Recommended Citation
http://mds.marshall.edu/wvlib/71

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the West Virginia Library Association at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in West Virginia Libraries Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact zhangj@marshall.edu, martj@marshall.edu.
WVLA legislative goals 2005

Approved by the WVLA Executive Board
June 2004

The West Virginia Library Association supports funding for academic, public and school libraries. Because funds for academic libraries is provided through college and university budgets and school libraries receive funding through local boards of education, it is difficult for the Association to effectively lobby to increase funds to either of these types of libraries. Nevertheless we are concerned that cuts in funds to these libraries are seriously limiting their ability to meet the needs of the citizens of West Virginia.

- Support the appropriation of funds to subsidize the cost of transporting interlibrary loan materials between libraries

  * In the West Virginia Library Commission’s 2004 budget, $50,000 was removed from the personnel line item and a new line item created requiring that $50,000 be given to the WV Public Broadcasting Agency. We are asking that this second line item be removed and the $50,000 be restored to the Commission’s personnel budget.

- Increase grants in aid to public libraries to $6.50 per capita

- Increase funds for digital resources to $500,000. These funds help pay for such resources as Ebsco and Learning Express Library and benefit public, academic and school library patrons

- Support the West Virginia Library Commission’s request for funds to operate the agency including

  a. Restoration of funds cut from the personnel line item of the Agency’s budget*

  b. Continued support for Statewide Library Network (aka Infomine)

  c. Continued support for Services to libraries**

- Support legislation to restore an administrative position at the WV Department of Education to oversee the development of school library/media centers in WV public schools.

- $500,000 was appropriated in 2004 specifically to pay for the services which small, poor libraries receive from larger service center libraries. Services provided may include help with administrative tasks (like e-rate application), cataloging, staff training, and other tasks which small underfunded libraries had previously paid for with a portion for their State Grant in Aid funds. This appropriation makes it possible for the smaller libraries to retain 100% of their State Grants in Aid while still receiving support from service center libraries. We hope to see this continued.

Prepare for success

In the heat of summer it may be difficult to get one’s mind around the upcoming Legislative session. However, success does not come with the “clink” of a glass at a reception in March. Being successful during the session means being busy all year long. It will take the “active” voice of all members of WVLA to keep the needs of West Virginia libraries on the radar screen.

Here are just a few bullets as suggestions:

- First and foremost know the West Virginia Library Association’s Legislative Goals. Every Senator, every Delegate, every member of the Executive Branch should be hearing the same message regardless of where they are. A single voice with a clear agenda reverberates under the “golden dome.”

- Election year provides a unique opportunity to get candidates to take positions on library matters. Ask them direct questions. The question is not, “Will you support libraries?” What does that answer really mean? The questions that need answered are, “Will you support an increase in GIA to $6.50?”; “Will you vote to restore the Library Commission’s personnel budget?”; “Can we count on you to support the restoration of a position at the State Department of Education to oversee the school libraries/media centers in public schools?”

- Have a “meet the candidate” event at the library. Promote the event among your patrons.

- Know each of your senators and delegates on a first name basis. Make an appointment, go by their office or meet for coffee. This provides real time to discuss the library’s concerns. Also, be prepared to tell the library’s successes.

- Following the election, have a breakfast for your Legislative Delegation at the library. This again provides a relaxed atmosphere to thank them for their past support and to discuss your future needs.

- Attend the West Virginia Library —continued on page 2
Fellow members,

So many things have occurred since the last issue of WV Libraries, I hardly know where to begin. The Fall Conference at The Stonewall Resort is shaping up to be one of the best conferences the Association has ever held. The schedule has something for everyone, and our committees have made every effort to schedule in such a way that members don’t feel forced to choose between programs aimed at the same audience. A number of the vendors have already committed to conference and we have some new hopefuls as well. Of course, Patsy Stephenson will also have her marketing table there with lots of fun, new, library-related merchandise.

As some of you may know, one entire track of programming scheduled for Thursday will be devoted to School Library Media personnel. Since Thursday is Veteran’s Day, teachers will be off work from school and we’re hoping for a boost in attendance from this area. Beth Yoke reported that the Summer Refresher Workshops held at the Bridgeport Middle School were quite successful and all of the attendees were given information about the fall conference. Please help us to spread the word to the educators in your area who were unable to attend the workshops and may not know about the conference.

On a personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Conference Committee for their hard work, perseverance and assistance. I know that once the Fall Conference is over, we’ll all have a sense of accomplishment for such a tremendous undertaking. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you there.

Until then,

Charley Hively 2004 President, WVLA

PEP TALK

Although the summer is barely behind us, it is past time to begin working toward the upcoming legislative session. At its June meeting, the West Virginia Library Association adopted the WVLA Legislative Goals 2005. With elections rapidly approaching, this is perfect time to contact State and local politicians promoting these issues so important to libraries.

Some lobbying tips:

* Keep in touch with your legislators. (You can find out who represents you and how to contact them by looking at the Legislative link on the Library Commission’s homepage).

* Stay on top of election issues in your area. Know who is running against whom. (If you are confused about who is running, contact your County Clerk’s office).

* Attend Meet Your Candidate nights and other events which allow you an opportunity to speak with both incumbents and hopefuls.

* Set up a “Candidates Corner” in your library and ask candidates to provide biographies or issue-statements for it (this often brings them into the library to deliver the “stuff”); invite them to participate in special library events; send them a library news letter; have them come in for a special photo session delivering a Grant in Aid check, and put the resulting picture in the local paper; etc.

* Be prepared to talk knowledgably about library issues to candidates for office and to others who influence them.

* Plan now to attend WV Day in the Legislature - March 15, 2005.

The Legislative Committee hopes to build on the successes of 2004, when the WV Legislature not only supported Governor Wise’s proposed budget increases to libraries but added some increases of their own. In all, appropriations that support libraries rose by more than $800,000 from the previous year! We would like to see that happen again in 2005. Additionally, we have some things we hope to promote - like encouraging the preservation and reintroduction of libraries in schools (see the 4th Goal). None of this will happen, however, unless we all work together to make it.

At our 2003 rally on the steps of the State Capitol, Delegate Barbara Fleischauer from Monongalia County, warned us that we must become active and vocal advocates for libraries if we wished to successfully promote our agenda before the Legislature. Her words, as I recall, were “the squeaky wheel gets the grease”. Now is the time - the perfect time - to squeak.

Myra Ziegler, Chair
WVLA Legislative Committee

Prepare for success —continued from page 1

Association’s Legislative Day during the session. This is not the time to “start” telling your story, it is the time to remind your Legislators of the conversations you had “back home.”

The suggestions above are by no means a definitive list. They are more of a “starter kit.” The important thing is to help your legislators do the job they want to do.

We are very fortunate in West Virginia to be a small state where you can truly know your representatives. If you do not already know your Senators and Delegates, you will find them to be very hard working individuals. They have families and jobs beyond the Capitol and yet they willing give of their time in service to all West Virginians. They work extremely hard and very long hours at their tasks. It is very difficult for them to know every nuance of every issue before them. We have a responsibility to provide the information so that they can make the right choices.
The candidates are:

First Vice-President:
Martha Yancey, West Virginia University

Connie Clay, Princeton Public Library

Second Vice-President:
Olivia Bravo, Kanawha Co. Public Library

For Chair-Elect of the College and University Division:

Sharon Mazure

Sharon received her MLIS from the University of South Carolina with the first cohort of West Virginia students via distance education. Currently, she is a reference librarian at Fairmont State University, a position she has held for eight years. Prior to working at Fairmont State, Sharon was a children’s librarian at Marion County Public Library. Sharon also teaches online library science courses for Fairmont State. She has been a librarian for over 25 years.

Statement of Concern: I would like to see increased communication among the academic libraries in our state, as well as an expanded sharing of resources. I feel that the WVLA can be a meeting place, a sounding board, and a forum for discussion for our state’s libraries. Individual contact may be necessary to get others interested and involved. Together, we can work toward a common good.

For Secretary of the College and University Division:
Karen Nuckolls

Karen is the Head of Technical Services at WVU’s College of Law Library. She began her professional library career at The University of Michigan-Dearborn Library as catalog librarian and then Head of Technical Services. She has also held librarian positions at Skidmore College, a law firm in Philadelphia, and the Upper Hudson Library System in Albany, NY. She has been most involved with helping libraries implement and/or migrate to new systems.

Statement of Concern: One of the observations I have had concerning state professional organizations is the lack of participation by academic librarians, and I would hope to change that.

* * * * *

If you want to vote, make sure you have paid your dues. Check with Beth Yoke at byoke@mail.fscwv.edu.

---

**CHANGING THE FACE OF MEDICINE:**

Celebrating America’s women physicians

**Application Receipt Deadline:**
September 1, 2004

The ALA Public Programs Office, in collaboration with the National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland, announces a tour to 30 libraries of a new traveling exhibition celebrating the lives and achievements of women in medicine since they first gained admission to American medical schools 150 years ago. Applications to host the exhibition are invited from public, academic and medical libraries in the United States. Please visit www.ala.org/ala/ppo/currentprograms/changingthefaceofmedicine/changingmedicine.htm to download an application and guidelines or find out more about the exhibition. Applications must be received by the ALA Public Programs Office by September 1, 2004. Libraries selected for the tour will host the exhibition for a six-week period. Participating libraries are expected to present at least one program for library patrons and community members that features a lecture/discussion by a scholar on exhibition themes. All showings of the exhibition will be free and open to the public. The traveling exhibition has been made possible by the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health. Additional support provided by the American Medical Women’s Association. Excerpt taken from ALA Public Programs Office web site www.ala.org/publicprograms
OLIVIA BRAVO • WVLC 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Bio, statement of concern

• Originally from Santa Paula CA.
• Bachelors in Mexican-American (Chicano) Studies from California State University, Northridge, CA;
• Masters in Library Science from The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI.

I have 23 years experience as a librarian in both a large city system (Houston TX) and medium-sized system (Kanawha County). Currently I handle and maintain various special freestanding collections at KCPL such as non-circulating West Virginia materials, Careers, New Readers, Large Print, as well as much in the regular collection particularly dealing in the social sciences, law, crime and education.

Because of my work I have many contacts in the community from working on the YWCA Board of Directors to create and open the Sojourner’s Shelter for Women and Families. I currently serve as vice president for Literacy Volunteers of Kanawha County where I served as their president for 2 years. Through that affiliation there was increased literacy and library awareness and increased circulation of the New Reader materials by nearly 300%.

I am a member in good standing of WVLA and was a founding member of the Literacy Roundtable. I served as a chairperson for one year. As a result of KCPL’s adoption of the blue “ALA Read” sticker, it was adopted for use to identify the New Reader/Literacy books in libraries statewide.

I am also an active member of the Social Responsibilities Roundtable being past chair of the roundtable. I also served for one year as the Roundtable representative to the Board of WVLA.

My currently position is that of chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee.

In my past life I did strange things like work as a social worker for the Cuban Refugee Program (in California not Florida), a teacher of Spanish to teachers, and a police officer for the City of Los Angeles.

My time off is pretty much taken up with 10 dogs, terrier competitions, animal rescue and transport, and trying to veg out.

STATEMENT OF CONCERN:

The position of Second Vice-President is mostly to encourage and maintain membership in the organization. I would like to see more diversity in the organization and would like to encourage more individuals to join the organization. One-way is to show them how WVLA can be relevant to them. For one example, the paraprofessionals sometimes feel as though they have been overlooked in the overall scheme of things. Their strength will come in more numbers. Another concern is keeping the membership list current and available to those who need it.

My desire will be to work with not only the heads of all the sections but to listen to the concerns of all members regarding membership in WVLA to see where I can help out and get the job done.
South Jefferson Public Library celebrates new home

The Dedication and Grand Opening Celebration of the new home of the South Jefferson Public Library on April 17, 2004 was definitely a grand event. The weather was beautiful, the speakers brief, the entertainment outstanding and the food terrific. The new library sits on a little over an acre of land and provides 2800 square feet for library services including a separate meeting room and areas for reference, children’s services, offices, and storage. The public access computers for adults and children are located in partially enclosed alcoves. The new library is almost 7 times the size of its former outpost facility. Ground was broken for the new building on May 13, 2003. On January 10, 2004 community members of all ages helped move all the books and equipment from the old Shirley Road location to the new Church Street location in Summit Point. The library opened with expanded hours in February.

Director: Dana Jenkins

South Jefferson Public Library 49 Church St., Summit Point, WV 25446

The Jefferson High Pop Singers entertain the crowd.

New space for young people

Computers bring smiles to young patrons.

A new circulation desk works wonders.
WVLC expands online database access

Colleges, universities and K-12 schools in W.Va. now have access to tremendous full-text content

The West Virginia Library Commission announces an exciting development that will greatly expand West Virginia’s access to EBSCOhost online research databases. Beginning July 1, all EBSCO databases currently available to West Virginia public libraries will also be extended to the state’s academic and school libraries. Through this agreement, academic institutions and K-12 schools will now have unlimited online access to complete articles from thousands of journals, magazines, reference books, and other important sources. Users will find in-depth information on general research topics, education, business information, biographies, medical and nursing information, consumer health topics, and more. Funding to add school and academic libraries to the project was provided by Governor Wise and the Legislature in response to a 2005 budget request by the West Virginia Library Commission. Public library access is funded with federal Library Services and Technology Act funds administered by the Institute of Library and Museum Services and the West Virginia Library Commission.

These services are free to faculty, staff and students of affiliated schools. Additionally, users may access the databases from their homes 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information on this and other services available to your schools through the Library Commission, we encourage you visit us online at: http://librarycommission.lib.wv.us/E-resources.htm.

The following online databases are now available to all West Virginia public K-12 schools:

- **MasterFILE™ Premier** contains full text for 2,053 periodicals covering general reference, business, health, education, general science, multicultural issues and much more. This database also contains full text for more than 350 reference books, 84,074 biographies, 86,132 primary source documents, and an Image Collection of 107,135 photos, maps & flags.

- **Primary Search**, designed specifically for young students, contains full text for more than 60 popular elementary school magazines. All full text articles are assigned a reading level indicator (Lexiles). Full text is also available for over 100 student pamphlets. Additionally, **Primary Search** includes the Encyclopedia of Animals, and features Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia, providing students with easy-to-read encyclopedia entries written specifically for kids. The database also provides the American Heritage Children’s Dictionary, 3rd Edition from Houghton Mifflin, and an Image Collection. (American Heritage Children’s Dictionary by the Editors of the American Heritage Dictionaries, published by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved.)

- **Alt HealthWatch™** focuses on the many perspectives of complementary, holistic and integrated approaches to health care and wellness. It offers libraries an immediate resource of full text articles, from 140 international, and often peer-reviewed, reports, proceedings and association & consumer newsletters. In addition, there are hundreds of pamphlets, booklets, special reports, original research and book excerpts.

- **Business Source® Elite** provides full text coverage for 1,126 business periodicals ranging from general magazines to trade publications and top management journals. Business Source Elite will soon contain expanded PDF backfiles for 150 titles (back to 1985 or the first issue published for that journal). 10,000 substantial company profiles from Datamonitor are also included.

- **Regional Business News™** is a supplemental database for customers of Business Source Elite. With daily updates, Regional Business News provides comprehensive full text for regional business publications (including titles from Crain Communications). This database has full text for more than 60 sources.

- **Health Source®: Consumer Edition** is the richest collection of consumer health information available to libraries worldwide, covering such topics as AIDS, cancer, diabetes, drugs & alcohol, aging, fitness, nutrition & dietetics, children’s health, women’s health, etc. This resource provides access to nearly 300 full text, consumer health periodicals; searchable full text for nearly 1,100 health-related pamphlets and more than 140 health reference books. Additionally, **Health Source: Consumer Edition** contains more than 4,500 Clinical Reference Systems reports (in English and Spanish); Clinical Pharmacology, which provides access to 1,100 drug monograph entries and 2,700 patient education fact sheets; and Stedman’s Medical Dictionary. (Information provided in this database should not be viewed as a means for self-diagnosis or a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment.)

- **Health Source®: Nursing/Academic Edition** provides more than 550 scholarly full text journals focusing on many medical disciplines. Coverage of nursing and allied health is particularly strong. In addition, this database includes the Clinical Pharmacology database, providing access to up-to-date, concise and clinically relevant drug monographs for all U.S. prescription drugs, hard-to-find herbal and nutritional supplements, over-the-counter products and new drugs.


Questions and comments concerning the online databases should be directed to Karen Goff, Library Development Director, West Virginia Library Commission, 304-558-3978 or goffk@wvlc.lib.wv.us.
Films on women and Appalachia

By Steve Fesenmaier • July 29, 2004

Since I first came to West Virginia in September 1978 I have been very aware of the importance of women to filmmaking in Appalachia. Shortly before I moved here from Minneapolis I watched the Oscar-winning documentary by Barbara Kopple in the very suburban movie theater I visited as a child - The Edina Theater. I was stunned, never having seen such a film about our own country. When I arrived in Charleston there was a brand-new 16-mm print of the film sitting in my office. I had met Kopple at The American Film Festival in June in New York City, and immediately began promoting its showing around the state. Since then I have worked with many women filmmakers, both from in-state like Susan Burt and B.J. Gudmundsson and out-of-state, most notably Mimi Pickering from Appalshop and Mari-Lynn Evans from “The Appalachians.” Thanks to friends like Phyllis Moore I have discovered long-lost films like “Amy,” based on a book by Margaret Prescott Montague, and “Roseanna McCoy,” a famous version of the Hatfield and McCoy feud made in 1949. There have been landmark films about Appalachian women like “Coal Miner’s Daughter” and award-winning films about mountaintop removal like “Razing Appalachia” by Sasha Waters. The list below is based on my cumulative lists based on my annual Goldenseal filmographies. Goldenseal, because of its G-rated audience, has excluded descriptions of many of the most unusual films made by and about Appalachian women. Those films are included in this list. “Lost Love,” considered by several experts to be the best short fictional film made in West Virginia by a West Virginia filmmaker, is one such film.

Since I am a man of lists, as are most film reviewers, here is my own personal list of “Ten Greatest Documentary Films by or about Women in Appalachia.”

1. Harlan County, USA - Barbara Kopple
2. Stranger with A Camera - Elizabeth Barrett
3. Ashes to Glory - Deborah Novak
4. Dreadful Memories - The Life of Sarah Ogan Gunning - Mimi Pickering
5. Out of the Storm - B.J. Gudmundsson
6. The Texture of Life - The Tusing Sisters of Lost Creek - Judy and Ray Schmitt
7. Breaking Silence - The Story of the Sisters at Desales Heights by Tommie Dell Smith and Susan Pointon
8. Hazel Dickens - It’s Hard to Tell the Singer from the Song - Mimi Pickering
9. Immortal Essence: The Life and Writings of Danske Dandridge by Jim Surkamp
10. Belinda - Mimi Pickering

Mimi Pickering, a founder of Appalshop, is without a doubt the best and most productive woman filmmaker in Appalachia. I included her excellent film on Hazel Dickens in my recent “West Virginia Film Week” at the Pioneer Theater in NYC because Dickens if of course from WV and Mimi herself has made several of her best films in WV - two Buffalo Creek films and “Chemical Valley.” You should also note that Kopple has made several other films about Appalachia other than “Harlan County” - she made the official UMWA history film, “Out of Darkness” and a fine film about the Ravenswood Aluminum lockout, “Locked Out in America: Voices from Ravenswood.”

If you would like to obtain a copy of the complete 20 + page filmography “Appalachian Films by and about Women”, please contact me at: fesenms@wvlc.lib.wv.us.

You can see many more lists, articles I have written on Appalachian films, etc. at my homepage -http://www.ferrum.edu/applit/bibs/WVFilmIndex.htm. Thanks to Judy Teaford at Mountain State University for posting all of this material and keeping it updated.
By Steve Fesenmaier • April 14, 2004

Thanks to the persistence of Joe Jefferds I have discovered WV’s earliest film, “The Key to Power” (1920) (working title - The Romance of Coal.”) He contacted me about information on Caroline Gentry who was born in Charleston in 1870 and died in Charleston in 1939. He was motivated by an unsigned painting she created that hangs in the WV Humanities Council home, the Hubbard House, in Charleston’s East End. Several earlier researchers including WVHC director Ken Sullivan called me about Ms. Gentry. Their interest was to document the unsigned painting, and to find information on her personal life. She apparently worked in Hollywood for a decade as a film editor and writer. (She is co-writer of “Key.”) I searched the web and found much more info on the film, including that it was made in Charleston and Logan County in 1920. Thus the film predates the previous record holder, “Stage Struck” by five years. Since “Stage” starred the most famous movie actress in the world at that time, Gloria Swanson, there is much more info on the film - and Eastman House made two 16 mm prints of the film, one for the city where it was made, New Martinsville, and one for WVLC. I doubt if I will ever find a copy of “The Key” since no one connected to it was a super-star - and almost all silent films dissolved since they were put on nitrate film stock that dissolves over the years. Gentry was the director of the Teddy Roosevelt Film Archive (now part of the Library of Congress) and appeared in the Charleston Daily Mail March 11, 1931 in a story titled, “Authentic Historical Film Tells Picture Story of Roosevelt.” She traveled the world looking for film and info on Teddy, and the article claims that “she is the first person in the world to make a complete historic film, with continuity and authenticity, of a great person.” She spent around $100,000 producing the film. (B.J. Gudmundsson found the Daily Mail article after various Archives researchers had combed the microfilm of Charleston newspapers, looking for any info on her.) Personal details about her life still are hard to find. Not even WVU Archives director John Cuthbert could find anything on Ms. Gentry’s artistic output. We thus now have three feature films that serve as the foundation of WV cinema - “The Key to Power” (1920), “Tol’able David” (1921) (listed in the AFI Silent Film archive as being produced in West Virginia), and “Stage Struck” (1925).

You can watch 7 films made by Gentry on Teddy Roosevelt from your computer - search this page at the Library of Congress using her full name - http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/mdbquery.html

This newspaper clipping from the March 11, 1931 edition of the Charleston Daily Mail features a story and photograph of Caroline Gentry

The South Charleston Museum will be sponsoring a showing of some of her Theodore Roosevelt films on September 11 as part of their celebration called “Mound Day.” Dr. Dr. John A. Gable, director of the Theodore Roosevelt Association, has given us permission to show the films. It will be part of a series of “Early West Virginia Cinema” films curated by myself and Richard Fauss of the WV State Archives Division.

The South Charleston Museum will be
What an exciting start to the 2004-2005 school year-a new school, library, books, furniture, and computers! Spring Mills Middle School in Berkeley County will be opening its doors to students on August 26. The process of getting the library ready is a labor of love; opening a library is a career highlight. I am fortunate to have opened Potomack Intermediate School’s library six years ago for students in third through fifth grades and now have the opportunity to undertake a library for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders.

Once I was hired as the school’s library media specialist in February, I was to begin the ordering process while still working in my position as LMS at neighboring Potomack Intermediate School. Where to start? I asked teachers, students, parents, and other middle school LMS’s for suggestions of titles that they would recommend. I studied the WV Content Standards in order to develop a collection that would support the curriculum. Selecting the books, title by title, was rewarding, yet challenging. Reference materials, periodicals, and basic supplies had to be ordered while staying within the prescribed budget.

The school mascot will be the Patriots and the colors red and blue. I selected blue bookends to compliment the blue carpeting and red chair cushions. The furniture, shelving, automation system, and computers were all ordered before I was hired for the library position.

Watching the building of Spring Mills Middle School is exhilarating! Waiting to get into the library to start organizing is frustrating! As summer flies swiftly by, the orders have started arriving. Once we faculty members are able to gain access to the school in mid-August, the library work begins in earnest. I will make decisions on where to put nonfiction, fiction, and reference books, as well as furniture and technology for instructional and leisure use. All new materials will be processed and entered into the cataloging and circulation system. All students will be entered into the library computer system. Parent and student volunteers will help with these tasks. I will work with teachers to schedule times to bring their students to the LMC for orientation to the library and its offerings.

Hopefully, being surrounded by new facilities and materials will motivate the students to be excited about reading and researching. I am looking forward to a great school year!

Cindy Woods, Library Media Specialist
Spring Mills Middle School

### New directors in public libraries

During the past several months public library directors have been retiring and moving. WVLCLibrary Development staff provided the following list of recent changes.

- Cowen - Libby Heck; Fort Ashby - Cindy Shanholz (Jane Howser retired); Mason County - Kresta Harris (formerly at Cabell County) [see article]; Riverside - Pat Abbott (formerly at Sissonville); Ronceverte - Cherie Davis (formerly at Rupert; Valerie O’Brien retired); Rupert - Valerie Miller (Yes, Cherie From Rupert went to Ronceverte to replace Valerie O’Brien and was replaced in Rupert by a different Valerie); Saint Albans - Toni Blessing (formerly at Riverside); Summersville - Mary Lanham (Jean Clackler retired); Sutton - Mary Jane Stewart (Patty Long named Director Emeritus); Williamson - Larry Brown (Lola Henry retired); Wyoming County - Caroline Gaddis

If you want to have more information about your new director or other changes included in WV Libraries, please send them to the editor of WV Libraries, Pamela K. Coyle, 101 West King Street, Martinsburg, WV 25401 or e-mail the information/articles to pcoule@martin.lib.wv.us
Smithsonian adds links to WVU Libraries digital exhibits

Smithsonian Institution Libraries have added to its Web site links to four WVU Libraries digital exhibits.

The links are included in “Library and Archival Exhibitions on the Web.” The site lists nearly 3,000 library-related exhibits from more than 25 countries. In 2003, close to 16,000 people visited the site.

“We’re honored that the Smithsonian has taken notice of our work in the digital arena,” WVU Libraries Dean Frances O’Brien said. “Electronic resources and archives quickly became commonplace in academic libraries, and we want not only to compete in the field but to make an exceptional offering.”

The Smithsonian provides links to the following WVU Libraries exhibits: A Devoted Life: Grace Edwards Waters; Jesse Stuart Web Exhibit; Season’s Greetings: Holiday Cards from the West Virginia and Regional History Collection; and Vintage Valentines from the West Virginia and Regional History Collection.

The Smithsonian site can be found at: www.sil.si.edu/silpublications/online-exhibitions/online-exhibitions-intro.htm

WVU Libraries have several other digital exhibits, including one for the Isaac Asimov Collection, which has gained international attention. This online display, designed by Web Services Librarian Beth Toren, features visuals and descriptions of some of the more than 600 books, games, audio recordings, videos, and wall charts included in the Libraries’ Asimov Collection.

The exhibit received a mention in www.researchbuzz.com, and its guestbook has been signed by visitors from Spain and Belgium.

“For me, that’s the whole idea of the Web, to transcend geographic, among other, boundaries,” Toren said.

Toren sees great potential in the Internet for libraries because it is a simple way to make voluminous amounts of information accessible to a large audience at any time and any place around the globe.

She pointed to the antique Christmas and Valentine card exhibits as examples. While the cards were stored away in the archives, no one could see them unless they knew to go to the WVRHC (West Virginia Regional History Collection) at WVU in Morgantown, WV and ask to see them. But having something on the Internet opens the gates.

“We have thousands of people coming to our Web site,” Toren said.

Also popular on the WVU Libraries site are the digital recordings of nearly 90 of the Benedum Lecture Series presentations. The series originated two decades ago by then Benedum Professors who had an interest in fostering an enhanced intellectual dimension for the University.

“The users are definitely demanding more digital resources,” Toren said. “They don’t want just the latest material to be digitized, but historic things to be digitized, too.”

The WVRHC met that request with an exhibit of 200 historical photos of Storer College, established on October 2, 1867, in Harpers Ferry to educate former slaves.

The first African-American college in West Virginia has a rich history. In 1881, Frederick Douglass, a freed slave, abolitionist and author, delivered a speech at Storer College about John Brown. In 1906, Storer College was the site of Dr. W.E.B. DuBois’ Niagara Movement, which later became the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

New digital projects are currently underway at the Libraries, and Toren expects the focus on posting scholarly material to continue to increase.

“I think not just at our library but at all libraries we’re going to see their primary research materials, the things nobody else has, being digitized and made available, I hope freely, for researchers around the world,” Toren said. “I hope that becomes the model.”

WVU Libraries digital exhibits can be viewed at: www.libraries.wvu.edu/exhibits

Monte Maxwell, Development Representative
West Virginia University Libraries

The Key to Power
How it was made in W.Va.

The working title of this film was The Romance of Coal. It was filmed in West Virginia, near Logan, in the Allegheny Mountains, and in Charleston, as well as in New York and Washington, D.C. William Addison Lathrop wrote the first story for the film in collaboration with Caroline Gentry, a native West Virginian. Frederick A. Thomson started to direct the film on 27 May 1918 and shot interiors for scenes set in New York City. On 1 Jun 1918, E. Lloyd Sheldon was put in charge of the scenario and continued the collaboration with Gentry. At that time, Carroll Fleming was appointed director-in-chief, and Thomson presumably left the picture. In Jul 1918, William Parke took over direction when shooting began in West Virginia. It is not known whether Fleming actually directed any of the scenes. The film, originally six reels long, was to be released in late 1918, but the influenza epidemic caused a delay, and the armistice made it necessary to withhold the film until “war atmosphere” could be eliminated. It was subsequently cut to five reels and released in Jan 1920.
RPM Book discussion group

Sometime in the fall of 2003, I was contacted by a Virginia Mathews about a program she was overseeing for the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. She offered the Summers County Public Library a Viburnum Foundation grant through the Center for the Book for the purpose of providing a “beneficial family literacy program” to a targeted group within the recipient communities. Ms Mathews called the program Reading Powers the Mind and encouraged grant recipients to seek out and forge partnerships among organizations within the community. She very much wanted us to think about how to improve reading comprehension skills among our target group.

I was fortunate to have some pretty impressive potential partners waiting in the wings. First there was Jane Meador, Summers County High School English teacher turned literacy coach, who had been responsible for the formation of “reading circles” at the High School. These are mini book discussion groups which meet monthly at the High School and once a year read and discuss a book with the participants of the Library’s book discussion group. Then there was Karen Rodes-Hall who is the in-school suspension teacher at the Summers County Middle School and had been working with the Library’s adult literacy program in an effort to get some extra help for some of her most challenged readers. Working at the Middle School with Karen was Kim Rodes-Hall who is the in-school suspension teacher. From her position, Kim sees the kinds of problems children who lack good skills (social as well as academic) face and cause and wanted to be involved in “something positive”.

Our plan was to recruit volunteers from Jane’s high school group to act as mentors to some of Karen’s 6th graders. We asked Karen and Kim to “recruit” students who would benefit by the extra reading practice and discussions. Our goal was to improve reading skills among these middle school children. We hoped that the love of reading that has been evidenced by Jane’s group would rub off on the more reluctant readers from Karen’s and Kim’s group.

13 Middle School children were recruited for the program and assigned a reading mentor. Mentors were trained in techniques used to help emerging readers improve their reading skills with special emphasis placed on comprehension. Training packets were developed by Shalom Tazewell, adult literacy coordinator for Summers County’s LAMP program and another partner in the RPM crusade.

The group met once a week after school, at a nearby restaurant/coffee house where snacks were provided. Sessions lasted 1-11/2 hours. Students worked in groups of 3 - 4. Books were purchased with grant funds for each participant to keep. The readers took turns reading passages from their books and then stopping periodically to talk about what they had read. A van belonging to REACHH, the local Family Resource Center and partner number 5, was used to transport children. Grant funds helped cover mileage plus the cost of a driver.

With the help of our partners and later the readers, we chose appropriate books to be read. All the students read the same book. We read Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse in four weeks and came together as one group for the discussion. The second book, Dogsong by Gary Paulson, was much more challenging than the first and took seven weeks to finish. Parents and readers were invited to the final event - a hay ride at a local park.

As the end of school approached, participants were allowed to order a book for themselves so that they would have something to read over the summer. (One young man chose Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson. He says it’s slow going but he isn’t giving up!) Several of the participants were recruited to volunteer in the Library to help with the summer reading activities for younger children. Among their duties - reading to story hour groups and listening to younger children report on books they had read.

Did it work? Difficult to say whether it did what we had hoped. One participant who came to us failing every subject - but while he wouldn’t read a word for any of the adults he would go off into a corner with his reading “buddy”, a young man from the High School and read up a storm! We started with 13 and finished with 9 of the original group plus 4 more who petitioned to join. We had very positive responses on our evaluation surveys at the end and lots of fun while it was happening. We are working on plans to try it again in the fall.

Finally, in July, I was invited to attend a workshop at the Library of Congress organized by Virginia Mathews, featuring RPM programs from around the country. Jane Meador and Susan Hayden went with me. It was an intense two days but we came away with an appreciation of what can be accomplished with a little bit of cash and a lot of cooperation. We also made some connections which, hopefully, will prove to be helpful to us all!

Reading Powers the Mind

By Myra Ziegler, Director

Sometime in the fall of 2003, I was contacted by a Virginia Mathews about a program she was overseeing for the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. She offered the Summers County Public Library a Viburnum Foundation grant through the Center for the Book for the purpose of providing a “beneficial family literacy program” to a targeted group within the recipient communities. Ms Mathews called the program Reading Powers the Mind and encouraged grant recipients to seek out and forge partnerships among organizations within the community. She very much wanted us to think about how to improve reading comprehension skills among our target group.

I was fortunate to have some pretty impressive potential partners waiting in the wings. First there was Jane Meador, Summers County High School English teacher turned literacy coach, who had been responsible for the formation of “reading circles” at the High School. These are mini book discussion groups which meet monthly at the High School and once a year read and discuss a book with the participants of the Library’s book discussion group.

The group met once a week after school, at a nearby restaurant/coffee house where snacks were provided. Sessions lasted 1-11/2 hours. Students worked in groups of 3 - 4. Books were purchased with grant funds for each participant to keep. The readers took turns reading passages from their books and then stopping periodically to talk about what they had read. A van belonging to REACHH, the local Family Resource Center and partner number 5, was used to transport children. Grant funds helped cover mileage plus the cost of a driver.

With the help of our partners and later the readers, we chose appropriate books to be read. All the students read the same book. We read Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse in four weeks and came together as one group for the discussion. The second book, Dogsong by Gary Paulson, was much more challenging than the first and took seven weeks to finish. Parents and readers were invited to the final event - a hay ride at a local park.

As the end of school approached, participants were allowed to order a book for themselves so that they would have something to read over the summer. (One young man chose Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson. He says it’s slow going but he isn’t giving up!) Several of the participants were recruited to volunteer in the Library to help with the summer reading activities for younger children. Among their duties - reading to story hour groups and listening to younger children report on books they had read.

Did it work? Difficult to say whether it did what we had hoped. One participant who came to us failing every subject - but while he wouldn’t read a word for any of the adults he would go off into a corner with his reading “buddy”, a young man from the High School and read up a storm! We started with 13 and finished with 9 of the original group plus 4 more who petitioned to join. We had very positive responses on our evaluation surveys at the end and lots of fun while it was happening. We are working on plans to try it again in the fall.

Finally, in July, I was invited to attend a workshop at the Library of Congress organized by Virginia Mathews, featuring RPM programs from around the country. Jane Meador and Susan Hayden went with me. It was an intense two days but we came away with an appreciation of what can be accomplished with a little bit of cash and a lot of cooperation. We also made some connections which, hopefully, will prove to be helpful to us all!

By Myra Ziegler, Director

Sometime in the fall of 2003, I was contacted by a Virginia Mathews about a program she was overseeing for the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. She offered the Summers County Public Library a Viburnum Foundation grant through the Center for the Book for the purpose of providing a “beneficial family literacy program” to a targeted group within the recipient communities. Ms Mathews called the program Reading Powers the Mind and encouraged grant recipients to seek out and forge partnerships among organizations within the community. She very much wanted us to think about how to improve reading comprehension skills among our target group.

I was fortunate to have some pretty impressive potential partners waiting in the wings. First there was Jane Meador, Summers County High School English teacher turned literacy coach, who had been responsible for the formation of “reading circles” at the High School. These are mini book discussion groups which meet monthly at the High School and once a year read and discuss a book with the participants of the Library’s book discussion group.

The group met once a week after school, at a nearby restaurant/coffee house where snacks were provided. Sessions lasted 1-11/2 hours. Students worked in groups of 3 - 4. Books were purchased with grant funds for each participant to keep. The readers took turns reading passages from their books and then stopping periodically to talk about what they had read. A van belonging to REACHH, the local Family Resource Center and partner number 5, was used to transport children. Grant funds helped cover mileage plus the cost of a driver.

With the help of our partners and later the readers, we chose appropriate books to be read. All the students read the same book. We read Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse in four weeks and came together as one group for the discussion. The second book, Dogsong by Gary Paulson, was much more challenging than the first and took seven weeks to finish. Parents and readers were invited to the final event - a hay ride at a local park.

As the end of school approached, participants were allowed to order a book for themselves so that they would have something to read over the summer. (One young man chose Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson. He says it’s slow going but he isn’t giving up!) Several of the participants were recruited to volunteer in the Library to help with the summer reading activities for younger children. Among their duties - reading to story hour groups and listening to younger children report on books they had read.

Did it work? Difficult to say whether it did what we had hoped. One participant who came to us failing every subject - but while he wouldn’t read a word for any of the adults he would go off into a corner with his reading “buddy”, a young man from the High School and read up a storm! We started with 13 and finished with 9 of the original group plus 4 more who petitioned to join. We had very positive responses on our evaluation surveys at the end and lots of fun while it was happening. We are working on plans to try it again in the fall.

Finally, in July, I was invited to attend a workshop at the Library of Congress organized by Virginia Mathews, featuring RPM programs from around the country. Jane Meador and Susan Hayden went with me. It was an intense two days but we came away with an appreciation of what can be accomplished with a little bit of cash and a lot of cooperation. We also made some connections which, hopefully, will prove to be helpful to us all!
Cross Lanes Library gets ready for school

The Cross Lanes Branch of Kanawha County Public Library system is centrally located in the community. One public elementary school (grades K-5, enrollment 367) is located .4 mile to the west and the other public elementary school (grades K-5, enrollment 548) is .8 mile to the east. The middle school (grades 6-8, enrollment 664) that serves both Cross Lanes and the nearby city of Nitro is adjacent to the Cross Lanes Branch Library. Students from Cross Lanes attend high school in Nitro, and the bus stops near the entrance to the library. There is a large private school (K-12, enrollment 370) 1.2 miles from the library that draws students from throughout the area. The Cross Lanes Branch has study space for 34 people and provides 13 computers with public Internet access.

The Nitro Public Library, operated by the City of Nitro, is an affiliate of the Kanawha County Public Library system and works closely with the Cross Lanes Branch Library. We provide a page of information about the two libraries, our services, resources, etc. to both the middle school and the high school for use in their newsletters to parents. We try to be present at both schools for open house, orientation, and similar events. We display information about the library system and talk with parents, students, and teachers at these times.

For the 2003-04 school year Kanawha County Branch librarians developed a “Welcome to the Library” bookmark to distribute to students. One side features the local branch hours as well as services and resources available. The other side explains the system-wide “Rules of the House” so that students will know what behavior is expected of them at the library. At Cross Lanes Branch we took the bookmarks to the middle school for distribution to the students at the beginning of the school year. For the first few weeks of school a staff member greeted each student (elementary through high school) who entered the library. We handed out the bookmarks when greeting the students and offered to answer any questions.

Each summer the Kanawha County Library’s Marketing Department develops a special issue of our newsletter, “At the Library for Teachers,” which provides information about library policies, resources, and services of particular interest to educators. This is distributed through the public schools. Branch staff members deliver copies to our local private schools, nursery schools, and home school families.

As librarian of the Cross Lanes Branch, I contact each of the local school principals in July and offer to make a brief presentation (five to 10 minutes) to the faculty at a convenient time during the school year. This provides an excellent opportunity to promote library resources.

Several years ago Cross Lanes offered a program especially for students entering kindergarten. This proved to be very popular, and now “Off to School!” is offered at many Kanawha County locations each August.

At the Cross Lanes Library we know that each new school year brings new faces, new challenges, and new opportunities to help students in our community grow and expand their horizons.

Alice B. Riecks  •  July 11, 2004

New Chair of the Trustees Division appointed

The Honorable Sally Gavin Jackson is the newly appointed chair of the Trustees Division of the WVLA. She is also a new member of the association, a new member of the Intellectual Freedoms Committee and will be a speaker on a panel at the 2004 WVLA annual conference at the Stonewall Resort. The title “honorable” refers to her professional life as a family court judge, a representation of her strong commitment to the people of West Virginia. Born in the Washington, DC area, Sally graduated from Shepherd College (now University) in 1979. Starting law school at George Washington University when her daughter Beth started first grade, she graduated in 1982 and started her law career. In 1993, Jackson was appointed to the Martinsburg Public Library Commission and continues to be an active member of that Commission. Judge Jackson’s major goal for the Trustees Division of WVLA in 2004 is to involve more trustee members in the organization. To this end, she urges all librarians to encourage their board members to attend the annual meeting at the Stonewall Resort. This conference provides a great opportunity to network with other trustees to discuss issues facing West Virginia libraries in general and to find solutions to issues facing their library in particular.

‘Lost Highway’ will be produced as an audiobook

By Richard Currey

I wanted to give you some news — and no, it’s not a new book, I’m afraid, but it’s still exciting. My novel Lost Highway will be produced as an audiobook, with a planned release date sometime in the fall, very likely October. It will be done by a WV-based company and producer, and the plans are ambitious: a big, handsome 4-CD box set, including the book performed (with sound effects and music, etc.) plus a bonus CD with an interview of me (conducted by Robert Aubry Davis of XM Satellite Radio, program director for XM’s “The Village,” the all-folk & traditional music channel), and recreations (I guess that’s what you can call it) of the music described in the novel. (In other words, real WV musicians are coming together to “become” my fictional Still Creek Boys.)
In praise of a small library

By Margaret Demer

“I returned home December 27, 1945, several months after VJ Day, from Johnston Island, a little coral atoll in the Pacific so small we could see the ocean all around and the only living things were sea gulls, nothing green.”

The letter, from a local World War II veteran’s letter continued: “I took the streetcar from Union Station, Washington, D.C. to Mt. Rainer, Maryland and walked a mile to the little town of Cottage City near Bladensburg, Maryland, where I was raised. I had my sea bag on my shoulder and no one gave the first sign of recognition or asked where I had been....”

The letter was a thank-you note from a veteran to the Musselman - South Berkeley Community Library staff for a Veteran’s Day reception in honor of the local veterans interviewed by a Musselman High School junior, Angela Sirna, for the Library of Congress Veterans’ Project. This nation wide project collected the oral histories of veterans and civilians from World War II. The project culminated with the dedication of the World War II memorial on The Mall in Washington, D.C. Angela, with eighteen local interviews under her belt, was the only high school student, in the United States, selected to interview veterans at the dedication.

The veteran’s letter concluded with this paragraph:

“The reception was my parade. In all the years since the war I never spoke to anyone who had the slightest idea where Johnston Island was. To my amazement, at the reception, I met two vets that had landed on it more than once. We had a great time comparing notes and one asked me how I could have possibly stood to live there for more than one month, let alone nine.”

I mention this reception and this letter to illustrate the opportunities afforded to a small community library. While our library is unique, we are a combination public and school library, any small library can reach deep into the community and establish itself as one of the centers of outreach and recognition.

This is not the only way that Musselman-South Berkeley Community Library has stepped beyond the traditional role of the library. With the help and guidance of the school librarian, Barbara Frankenberry, the library club has presented a float in the Inwood Christmas Parade.

The library honored three “Pillars of the Community,” community leaders who represented the Musselman High School’s Pillars of Character, trustworthiness, responsibility, honesty, respect, caring, and fairness. Each honoree received a West Virginia glass apple. This event will be awarded yearly at the Golden Apple Awards ceremony.

The library will be represented at the Berkeley County Youth Fair as staff and library club members work the Four-H exhibition hall wearing T-shirts with our name and logo.

We attend area school PTA meetings, open after-hours for Cub Scout Troops working on local history badges, provide the supplies and directions for making valentines, and sponsor school events that involve the community.

One event involving the community is mock interviews, where students practice interviewing for employment with area business representatives. Next year we hope to expand this concept to a continuing education marketplace, where institutions such as Literacy Volunteers, GED, local vocational training centers, colleges, business schools, and financial institutions that provide student loans, discuss opportunities for the mature student as well as high school students.

A small library can cultivate the links it has to the community in ways that a larger library cannot. Conversations with patrons and a regular perusal of the local paper can lead to library recognition of those who benefit the community and who, in turn, build good relations for the library in the future. When librarians step outside the library door and involved themselves in the events of the community everyone benefits.

National Book Festival

If you’re in the Washington, DC area, on October 9, stop by the National Book Festival. Organized by the Library of Congress and Laura Bush and held on the National Mall, the 2004 Festival will feature 12 pavilions and over 70 authors. Children will find entertaining activities at the Let’s Read America pavilion, and visitors to the Pavilion of the States can fill up a map with mementos from each state’s Center for the Book booth. Stop by and visit the West Virginia Center for the Book contingent. In fact, if you’d like to volunteer to help at the booth, contact Karen Goff at the West Virginia Library Commission at goofk@wlc.lib.wv.us, for information on what you can do to help.

Authors included in this year’s Festival include Marc Brown, Richard Peck, R. L. Stine, Barbara Taylor Bradford, Jim Lehrer, Sandra Brown, Robert Parker, Catherine Asaro, Laurence Yep, Patricia Wrede, and many others.

For more information about the fourth National Book Festival, including a list of authors, activities, pavilions, and sponsors, check the website at www.loc.gov/bookfest/04.
This year’s Summer Reading Program “Under the Big Book: Circus Fun @ the Library” was “the greatest show in town” throughout West Virginia. Lions, tigers and especially clowns were everywhere.

Ronald McDonald was all over the state visiting libraries including Jackson County and Cabell County. Fuzzy and Stubbs kept everyone laughing at the Louis Bennett Public Library in Weston. At Cowen Public Library in Webster County, the staff transformed one room of their double instant building into a real big top, including tent, bleachers, and ticket booth.

The Summer Reading Program got a very nice endorsement from President of the West Virginia Board of Education, Barbara Fish. In an article in the August 4 Charleston Gazette, Ms. Fish praised our SRP for its promotion of books and reading and encouraged parents to take advantage all the services West Virginia libraries offer. She also praised her local library. Although she did not name it in the article, it is Wood County Public Library.

We are already looking forward to next year when the theme will be “Once Upon A Library.”

Suzy McGinley • Children’s Services Consultant
WV Library Commission

Staff and teen volunteer (above and below) clown around at the Fayette County Public Library in Oak Hill.

Ronald McDonald and assistant at the Cabell County Public Library.

The staff at the Fort Gay branch of the Wayne County Public Library (above center and at right) show off their circus decorations.

Barbara Gilbert’s Clown Story Hour at Cabell County Public Library.

Kids enjoys meeting the dogs at the P.A.W.S. program (above left) at Cabell County Public Library.
Library basics and beyond

Submitted by Rebecca Van Der Meer

Library Development is holding Library Basics and Beyond on October 11 – 13, 2004 at the Flatwoods Day’s Inn.

The program this year features:
• a 3-day Library Basics for new library directors that do not have a formal training background in library services on Monday through Wednesday, October 11 - 13;
• a 1-day Trustee Seminar on Tuesday, October 12; and
• 3 days of Beyond Basics on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for those not attending Library Basics.

Library Basics is designed to provide a basic understanding of the daily operation of a public library. The training includes administrative duties and responsibilities; a close look at local, state, and federal laws for libraries; collection management; funding; and roles and responsibilities.

The Trustee Seminar is designed to discuss issues that public library trustees need to be aware of so that they can provide leadership for their community libraries. Topics for this year’s one-day seminar include legalities of boards; what it means to be a member of the board; and evaluating the library director.

Beyond Basics is a variety of seminars for the public library staff, volunteers, or trustees. Some of the topics covered at this year’s Beyond Basics are fundraising (small scale); working with public schools; serving patrons with disabilities; making your library safe; and dealing with staff attitudes. You may pick and choose as many seminars you wish to attend.

As in the past, the West Virginia Library Commission and the Institute of Museum and Library Services sponsor Library Basics and Beyond. Lodging, meals, training materials, and programming are provided at no cost to you. You are responsible only for your transportation.

You must register for Library Basics, Trustee Seminar or any of the Beyond Basics seminars by September 15th. If you have not received a registration packet or if you have any questions, contact Rebecca Van Der Meer at 1-800-642-9021 Ext. 2011 or by email at vandermr@wvlc.lib.wv.us.

Conference information:

Conference is November 10, 11 and 12, 2004 at Stonewall Jackson Resort!

Deadline for hotel reservations at the Stonewall Resort is October 10th.

Call 1-888-278-8150.


Mailing address is 940 Resort Drive Roanoke, WV 26447.

Hollywood librarian and world premiere at WVLA

By Steve Fesenmaier

The annual state conference for librarians, to be held on Nov. 10-12, at the Stone- wall Resort near Clarksburg, will include the world premiere of Ray and Judy Schmitt’s biography of Abby Wathen, a Huntington actress and model. The film, “The Abby Spirit,” shows a young woman who had to overcome an untreatable and devastating disease to find her future in films and modeling. She is the daughter of WVLC adult services consultant Susan Hayden. The film will be shown on Wednesday night at 7 PM at the resort with an introduction by the filmmakers. Their new film on The Tusing Sisters of Lost Creek, Hardy County, “The Texture of Life,” will follow “The Abby Spirit.”

Another very exciting film event will take place - Ann Seidel, “The Hollywood Librarian,“ will be the keynote speaker, talking about her project to make a documentary about the Hollywood stereotypes of librarians - and show what the reality is. I have invited her to show the film in NYC next spring at a series I am programing at the Donnell Media Library called “Librarian Filmmakers.” She declined, saying that she will be editing her feature documentary at that time. Charley Hiveley, president of the state library association, has programmed this event.

For more info, contact me at: mystery12@charter.net. For more info on the conference go to: http://www.wvla.org/. The website for Ray and Judy Schmitt is - http://www.realearthproductions.com/.. The Hollywood Librarian can be found at: http://www.hollywoodlibrarian.com/.
A note from the editor

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

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 5221
Charleston, WV 25361