President’s Message

Ann-Marie White

This year is Nevada's sesquicentennial – 150 years in a land that was built on the promise of opportunity. Along the way, Nevada's libraries have played a role in fulfilling this promise. Today opportunities continue to exist in Nevada, due in no small part to library staff that tirelessly research, instruct, develop, and maintain the information we provide to our end users.

Since 1946, NLA’s mission has been to bring opportunities by improving our libraries and developing its personnel. This year is no different; however, it will be a unique year for NLA. We will not have an annual conference this fall. With the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas this summer, NLA will focus its efforts to innovate and improve ways to bring you additional benefits of membership.

If you are attending the ALA conference, remember that NLA members get a discount to attend if you apply our code. We will have a booth in the Exhibitor's Hall, so be sure to drop by, say 'hello,' and show your support. The conference will be a great place to network and gather ideas.

NLA is moving forward with statewide and regional programming, a long-time goal for NLA - to have everyone, anywhere be able to participate in quality professional development throughout the year.

Nevada's diversity and vastness presents challenges to delivering these programs, but by using existing technologies, the basic structure will be in place this year and can only improve from there.

Look for our first program on April 23rd, called The Ultimate Library Interview & Resume Workshop. If you cannot attend, it will be recorded and available to NLA members to view afterward.

2014 brings back Snapshot Day. From March 30 – April 5 many library organizations will be participating. Let your management know you want to be involved. The impact of Snapshot Day must not be underestimated. It is important to have all types of libraries, from all over Nevada, show how integral our work is in our communities. The information gathered can be used in many ways. It is both an effective advocacy tool, and an easy way to start a dialogue with your users.

Nevada libraries will use the data compiled from your Snapshot Day and bring it to the ALA National Library Legislative Day – when the nation’s library staffers advocate on behalf of their respective states. We bring to the attention of our state Officials awareness of what we do, the best that we offer, and what our needs are.

Now you can be an advocate, too! NLA is looking for members who are interested in advocacy and how to advocate. See Joan Dalusung’s article inside for more information.

I am very excited about this special year for Nevada and NLA. During it, I will continue to find ways to bring value to our membership, and seek ways to fit NLA into our busy lives. I encourage your support, your insight, and your contribution.

AMW
...Upcoming Conferences and Events...

- PLA 2014 Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN  March 11-15
- ALA 2014 Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV  June 26 - July 2

Happening in Vegas: ALA 2014

NLA members get a discount to the ALA annual conference! Just email Ann-Marie White at twamwhite@gmail.com for the discount code to use when you register for the 2014 ALA Annual Conference. Make sure your membership is up to date, or join at: http://www.nevadalibraries.org/about/membership.html

New ALA Members

New member of ALA? Apply for the 2014 New Members Round Table Professional Development grant. The deadline is Tuesday, April 1, 2014 by 5 pm (Eastern Time). The grant, sponsored by NMRT, will cover expenses to attend the ALA Annual Conference, June 26 – July 1, 2014 in Las Vegas, NV.

The application form and further information about the grant is available on the NMRT website. You must be a current member of NMRT in order to apply. To join NMRT, visit the ALA website and follow the “Join ALA” link to add NMRT to your ALA membership.

Library 2.014 Worldwide Virtual Conference

Now planning their fourth annual conference, Library 2.014 invites you to nominate dynamic speakers who will lead the global conversation about the future of libraries during the Library 2.014 Worldwide Virtual Conference, scheduled for October 8-9, 2014. Help shape this open online conference!

To nominate a keynote speaker(s), please fill out and submit the keynote speaker nomination form. All nominations must be received by March 31, 2014. Self-nominations will also be accepted.

As a reminder, the Library 2.014 conference will be held entirely online in multiple languages and time zones. Speakers do not have to speak English or travel for this conference. We look forward to your nominations!

In addition to keynote speakers, this open source conference thrives on the research and knowledge shared by the international library and information science community. This participatory conference is open to the public. Everyone is invited to submit a presentation proposal—be on the lookout for the official call for proposals in May 2014. For more information about the Library 2.014 Worldwide Virtual Conference, please email SanJoseSLIS@gmail.com.
Continuing Ed…

Nevada State Library and Archives
NSLA provides access to continuing education, including webinars, on a variety of topics. Check out the webpage often, as new information is added and the calendar gets updated regularly, under Development Services at: http://nsla.nevadaculture.org/ or on the event calendar at http://206.194.194.122/evanced/lpd/eventcalendar.asp

WebJunction
WebJunction provides monthly webinars on a variety of topics. Webinars will be archived for several months following an event.
http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction.html

Infopeople
Infopeople provides training for the California State Library. Although the training they provide is for California libraries, they do allow free access to their archived webinars.
http://infopeople.org/

PLA/ALA
Online courses, webinars, workbooks, forums and more available (for members) at http://www.ala.org/onlinelearning/ or http://www.ala.org/pla/onlinelearning

ALA launches free e-government webinar series

The American Library Association (ALA) and the Information Policy & Access Center (iPAC) at the University of Maryland at College Park are pleased to announce the re-launch of Lib2Gov, an online e-government resource for librarians. Over the past few months, both organizations have worked to transition LibEGov—a project supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through a National Leadership Grant—into Lib2Gov.

The redesigned website Lib2Gov allows libraries and government agencies to come together and collaborate, share resources and build a community of practice. Lib2Gov now provides a dedicated space where librarians can share materials, lesson plans, tutorials, stories, and other e-government content. The website offers a variety of resources from government agencies and organizations, including information on immigration, taxation, social security and healthcare.

In a few weeks, both organizations will host a new monthly webinar series, “E-government @ Your Library.” The webinars will explore a variety of e-government topics that will be of interest to librarians, including mobile government and emergency preparedness, response and recovery. All webinars are free and will be archived on the Lib2Gov site.
SNAPSHOT:
ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF NEVADA LIBRARIES

The Nevada Library Association would like to invite all Nevada libraries to participate in the 2014 3rd Annual Snapshot Day.

Snapshot Day is intended to assist in providing trustees, friends, patrons, and library staff with information about Nevada libraries for the purpose of advocacy on both state and federal levels. We ask libraries to choose one day between the dates of March 30th through April 5th and provide photographs, video clips and statistics for your chosen date. Programs and activities would be appropriate for this program.

We encourage all libraries to participate. Advocacy has become such an important part of our everyday lives, we need to remind those in government office of our importance. In a time where 23 states are still looking to cut library spending, advocacy has become key to our way of life.

It's fun and easy to do, so join us!

Storey County Update
Community Chest, Inc. respectfully thanks all those who donated to the match for our Community Foundation of Western Nevada Partnership Grant. Each donation helped make this Library Campaign a great success. We extend a special thank you to the Nevada Library Association because of all your support. We heard so many special library stories during this campaign. As you all know, libraries are the heart of a community and Storey County cannot be left without a library.

The amount support we received to restore library services in Storey County is breathtaking. We not only raised the $15,000 match required for the grant, but we indeed doubled the match. Storey County helped us achieve the last step to doubling the match. Our community, special donors, major supporters, and the county came together and raised $30,000! In addition to the $30,000 we raised, we received $15,000 from the Community Foundation of Western Nevada and $2,000 from the Leonette Foundation. Our $6,000 library budget is now $53,000. The library budget supports a staff person, programming, outreach, and establishing library sites in outlying communities of Mark Twain, Lockwood, and VC Highlands.

We hired a library staff person who started February 17. She brings to our library expansive experience in project development, management, and sustainability. Her experience with grants, policies, and outreach exceeded what we hoped for in a candidate. She has five years experience in library services and operating a library with minimal funding. Our budget for the Storey County Community Library allows for consistent hours, programming, and outreach to bring our rural library back to life!
Submitted by Pam Abercrombie, Community Chest Inc.
Advocating for Nevada’s Libraries
Joan Dalusung, Government Relations Chair

Advocate: One who supports or defends a cause.
We hear reports that Nevada’s economy is coming back slowly. Some of us may even be seeing some positive results from that recovery. Since the Great Recession that hit us around 5 years ago, most of Nevada’s libraries have been faced with budgetary setbacks, which resulted in a decrease in our open library hours, staff cutbacks, and limitations in our buying power for all library materials, including physical items, eBooks, and databases.

Yet, throughout this time, we all continued with our missions. We still offer a variety of story times to the children in our communities, which are so vital to the development of their early literacy. We host teen programming that includes the introduction of technology, which they can use to create professional-grade products for college portfolios. We teach computer classes, we provide computer access, we host timely and informative programs, and we provide informational and recreational materials to support lifelong learning for our adults. And all this is done with a smile and a passion for our work. We persist in believing in the mission of our libraries as equal ground for information access for all our citizens.

We know what we do every day. Now is the time for us to let others know what we do every day. We need to begin a continuing conversation with our city councils, our county commissions, our state legislators and our federal officials. We need to invite them to our Summer Reading Program Kickoffs, our author visits, and our outreach efforts in our communities. We need to encourage them to visit our libraries on any given day, to see our full computer labs, our raucous and wonderful story times, and the continual stream of folks who are checking out our books, audio books, and DVDs.

What if you don’t know the elected official in your district? Go to www.nevadalibraries.org > Legislation > Action Center, type in your address, and you will see your state and federal officials. Call them up. Invite them to your next big program. Invite them to your next small program! Keep them informed about the amazing, vital services we offer every day that make their districts a better place to live. We are all doing great work that strengthens our communities throughout Nevada. Let’s get the word out and ensure that our legislators know, as well.

The Nevada Library Association seeks to expand our Government Relations Committee. Our goal is to have at least one contact for each legislator. The contact should be from the legislator’s district to be most effective. Some of you have already let us know that you want to help with this effort. If you are interested in participating in this area, please let me know at jdalusung@hdpl.org or (702) 207-4282. Thank you.

Scholarships Awards--Correction
Lisa Peters was inadvertently missed in the announcement in the last newsletter.

Congratulations to the 2013-14 James S. McPhee’s Scholarship Awardees:

Lisa Peters, Kevin Bowman, Mayara Corn, Gloria Jertberg, Rochell Schriener, and Tammy Westergard
Churchill Library Valentines

Churchill County Children’s Library Jeslyn MacDiarmid (right) and Churchill County Library Board Trustee/Volunteer Ann Rapp oversee the teen Valentine Project.

LEGO® Creations Contest Reaches New Heights

The 2014 LEGO® Creations Contest at the Elko County Library had 54 participants this year, which is a record. We began the contest in January of 2012, and it has grown since then.

Participants entered their creations in one of five categories based upon their age or whether their creation was a family or team effort. The Library gave prizes for the first and second place winners in each category. The judging was quite close in all categories, with many great creations.

Participants had to use their own building supplies and could also use string, rubber bands, wire, tape, and glue if necessary. But, they could not use a LEGO® designed kit. We also placed a size restriction so that we could easily display the creations in the children’s area of the Library.

Our youngest participant was three years old and made the cutest red caterpillar with wiggle eyes. We even had a grandma enter. My favorite participant, however, was a little boy, who usually visits the library in the evenings with his sisters.

During the first few days that participants were entering their creations, he was closely observing each new entry, standing on his tippy toes to get a better view. Two days later he brought in his own creation where he used cardboard, duct tape, and paint to make a fully equipped motorcycle racetrack with grandstands. His creation contained the simplest of LEGO® building bricks, but he obviously used the materials that were available to him in a very creative way. Submitted by LaDonna Gunn, Youth Services Librarian

Dagoberto Achieves Success

Las Vegas Library patron and former CALL student Dagoberto Sanchez recently graduated from the Houseperson/Utility Porter training program at the Culinary...
Academy of Las Vegas. Four days later, he began work at his new job at Caesar’s Palace, where he works as a Houseperson.

Before attending the Culinary Academy, Dagoberto was a student in the Computer Assisted Literacy in Libraries (CALL) program. As a CALL student, Dagoberto attended a free six-week English as a Second Language (ESL) class at the Las Vegas Library, participated in a weekly English conversation group, and studied independently using the Library’s online resources. He achieved an educational level gain in just a few weeks.

During his class at the Las Vegas Library, he also participated in the ESL Transitions Project. Through this project, advisors work with students to create individual action plans, identify relevant post-secondary education and training opportunities, and assist teachers in customizing vocabulary instruction to meet the work and life goals of individual students. Working with his advisor, Dagoberto identified the training program at the Culinary Academy as a step toward achieving his goal of being selected for a job at one of the hotels in Las Vegas. Submitted by Tim McDonald, LVCCLD CALL

“Likes” and Love:
CSN libraries show appreciation

A friendly smile. A little kiss (the chocolate kind). It’s easy to make someone feel special and it’s always nice to feel loved. For the week leading up to Valentine’s Day, the College of Southern Nevada libraries celebrated with a simple message to their students: “Your Library Loves You.”

To prove it, all three campus libraries (located in Las Vegas, North Las Vegas and Henderson) offered candy and giveaways at the service desks, wore matching colors and badges, and took pictures to share the love online.

Construction paper, scissors, and glue was set out at the West Charleston campus library for students to make their own valentines or just enjoy an arts-and-crafts study break. The Cheyenne campus library hung Valentine’s Day decorations and gave out free CSN Library bags to students coming into the library that week. At the CSN Henderson campus library, students took “selfies” (or rather, “shelfies”) in the stacks to show their personalities—both pro and anti-valentine. These photos also made for great additions to the library’s new Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/CSNLibraryServices

Launched in January of 2014, Facebook is the library’s first attempt at social networking beyond the faculty focused “Tech Talk” blog they write (csntechtalk.tumblr.com). The libraries use the new Facebook page to share library news and activities as well as connect with students in a fun and interactive environment. After the “Your Library Loves You” campaign, the Facebook page will continue to promote “shelfies,” upcoming events, and contests.

During Nevada Reading Week (March 3-7, 2014) the libraries are hosting a “Six Word Story Contest” based on the idea from sixwordstories.net where participants construct a very brief tale of only six words. CSN libraries held the contest before in the spring of 2012, posting entries on a bulletin board inside the library. The Facebook page will allow for even more participation and the ability to share winners across a wider web world.

No matter what time of year it is, CSN libraries hope students know that the library is there for them. It’s a place not just to feel "loved" but to find resources that can help them succeed in college. The benefits of that relationship can last a lifetime.

Stephanie Espinoza, CSN Library Services
Duolingo Review
Do you want to sharpen your Spanish skills? I took a semester of Spanish in college, practiced for weeks with the Pimsleur CDs, but nothing has been as helpful or as fun as the FREE Duolingo app.

The app is very thorough, with over 60 topics, each with 3-10 lessons of 20 examples each. I like the variety. Sometimes you are translating from Spanish to English or vice versa by choosing from words on the screen. Other times you get to translate off the top of your head. Sometimes, Duolingo has you pronounce a sentence, though I don’t find that the app catches my mistakes. You are allowed to miss 3 out of 20 and still go onto the next lesson, though the app is smart enough to remember where you struggled and makes you go back and practice a few days later.

The sound of a trumpet when I succeed makes it feel very much like a game! I have been using the app for 6 weeks straight and find it nearly addictive. I highly recommend it.

Submitted by Joe Stoner, LVCLC Outreach

Book Recommendation
In celebration of Susan B. Anthony’s 194th birthday on February 15, 2014, Mona Reno suggests “Winning The Vote: The Triumph of the American Woman Suffrage Movement” by Robert P. J. Cooney, Jr.,

This award-winning popular history is particularly useful as more states celebrate 100 years since the question was put to voters at statewide elections. There were contests in Montana, Nevada, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Ohio, and Missouri in 1914, and major contests in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts in 1915.

Learn about the amazing activism of these contests for democracy. Read about each one in this visually stunning, oversize edition with over nine hundred historic photos and color illustrations of women in action.

Submitted by Mona Reno

World Book Night: What is it?
World Book Night U.S. is a celebration of books and reading held on April 23, when 25,000 passionate volunteers across America give a total of half a million books within their communities to those who don’t regularly read.

Each year, 30-35 books are chosen by an independent panel of librarians and booksellers. The authors of the books waive their royalties and the publishers agree to pay the costs of producing the specially-printed World Book Night U.S. editions. Bookstores and libraries sign up to be community host locations for the volunteer book givers.

After the book titles are announced, members of the public apply to hand out 20 copies of a particular title in their community. World Book Night U.S. vets the applications, and the givers are chosen based on their ability to reach light and non-readers. The selected givers choose a local participating bookstore or library from which to pick up the 20 copies of their book, and World Book Night U.S. delivers the books to these host locations.

Givers pick up their books in the week before World Book Night, and on April 23rd, they give their books to those who don’t regularly read and/or people who don’t normally have access to printed books, for reasons of means or geography.