



President's Message

.....Holly Van Valkenburgh.....

Marketing Nevada's Libraries and the Nevada Library Association

There was one NLA Board Member who was an exceptionally outstanding marketer of the Nevada Library Association this past year and she was recognized at the NLA/MPLA Awards Dinner with a special Presidential Recognition. Joanne Ross, Chair of the Southern District, has consistently marketed the Southern District and its excellent programs to the Nevada library world. Congratulations, Joanne, and keep up the great work!

This has been a year of good and not so good news for Nevada libraries. All Nevada libraries benefited from the statewide database funded by the State Legislature but the public libraries did not receive their State collection development funds. Some NLA members were active in their support for these items and in the attempt to pass electronic record legislation.

All library staff, trustees and friends were invited to participate in the "2003 Library Day at the Legislature" but only 42 were here for that day. Were you one of them? *If not, why not?* Your Senator or Assemblyperson might not understand why you did not come for the occasion – to sit with her/him and explain the needs of Nevada's libraries, particularly your/their own. It is to be hoped that next legislative session NLA members and the NLA lobbyist will market to the Legislature the needs of Nevada's libraries – public, school, academic and special

– as we provide services to our customers. Let's hope every Legislator is a customer of a library in Nevada. Is your Senator or Assemblyperson familiar with your library? *If not, why not?* Get him/her acquainted with you and your services now and s/he can be your advocate in 2005.

We are starting now to develop a marketing plan for the school libraries and their needs. Bill Strader, from the Department of Education, is spearheading a collective effort to inform the State Council on Libraries and Literacy and subsequently the State Legislature how desperately school libraries need assistance, both financially and with staffing. Are you going to be involved? *If not, why not?* School libraries create library users for the public, academic and special libraries. If we all work together, we can market all types of libraries for their common good.

The NLA Board and the NLA General Membership passed resolutions supporting the Freedom of Information in Libraries (see page 5). It is up to every member of the Nevada Library world to ensure that their Library Boards, City Councils, State and Federal Legislators are familiar with this Resolution and what it stands for. Will you do your part in this campaign? *If not, why not?*

I originally titled this article "If not, Why not"? So, instead of starting with that question, I will end with it: Are you involved in marketing your library and your library association? *If not, why not?*

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2004 Reference Institute



The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District is hosting "**The 2004 Reference Institute**", supported by the Nevada State Library and Archives with help from LSTA funding.

A three-day workshop for public library staff in rural and outlying area towns and cities and in Nevada, May 25- May 28, 2004 in Las Vegas, NV. The workshop will cover the philosophy of library reference services, the basics of traditional collections, special collections, and use of virtual reference resources and tools. Stay tuned for further announcements and details in the newsletter, NLA Listserv and website.

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Upcoming Events

2004

Jan 9- 14: ALA Midwinter, San Diego, CA

Jan. 23: A Technology Toolkit: Survival Skills for Everyone – College of Du Page Teleconference (see p. 12)

Feb. 6: New Tools for Enhancing Digital Reference - College of Du Page Teleconference (see p. 12)

March 12: Web Filtering: Policies, Software, Staff Training and CIPA - College of Du Page Teleconference (see p. 12)

March 26: Professional Toolkit: Skills for Advancement - College of Du Page Teleconference (see p. 12)

April 16: Joe Janes and Colleagues: Preparing for the Future of Digital Reference - College of Du Page Teleconference (see p. 12)

April 18- 24: National Library Week

May 25- 28: The 2004 Reference Institute hosted by Las Vegas-Clark County Library District

June 24-30: ALA Annual, Orlando, FL

August 11-14: NLA Conference – Lake Las Vegas Hilton, Henderson Nevada

Oct. 20-24: MPLA Conference Denver, Colorado - Joint with CAL



Viva Lake Las Vegas! : Celebrating Nevada's Diversity at the 2004 NLA Conference in Henderson

Joan Vaughan, 2004 NLA Conference Chair

Greetings, fellow Nevada library staff members! By the time this goes to press, many of us will have enjoyed a wonderful NLA 2003 Conference in Incline Village. Rest assured, the excitement will not end there. Plans are well underway for the 2004 Conference in Henderson.

The Hyatt Regency at Lake Las Vegas in Henderson



www.lakelasvegas.hyatt.com will be the host hotel for the 2004 NLA Conference. The Lake Las Vegas area is 17 miles from the Las Vegas Strip, and you immediately feel removed from all the Valley traffic and noise when you enter their gates.

The Hyatt has gorgeous rooms, several swimming pools, and a beach right on the lake. Attending this conference will truly help you get away so you can celebrate your library's successes, connect with your friends in the library world, hear many spirited speakers, and participate in dynamic programs.

The conference dates are **August 11-14, 2004**; quite a leap from the usual October dates. The August dates we chose are in between school sessions, after Summer Reading Programs, and before

fall programming gets into full swing again. We hope that the August dates will allow school librarians, special librarians, and other library staff who usually have public service desk commitments to participate at the conference.

We are also happy to announce that we were able to secure Hyatt room rates that are half their regular price. So please come enjoy a truly luxurious conference experience with us!

The 2004 Conference Committee began working in July to ensure that the Henderson conference is memorable and rewarding. This extremely talented, enthusiastic team includes:

- Felton Thomas, LVCCLD, NLA President
- Mae Giaimo, HDPL, Exhibits Chair
- Kristy Price, HDPL, Local Arrangements Chair
- Nancy Hutchinson, LVCCLD, Pre-Conference Chair
- Pam Zehnder, NLV, Programs Chair
- Dani Porter, UNLV, Publicity Chair
- Joanne Ross, LVCCLD, Registration Chair
- Sean Hill and Orin Fielding, HDPL, Technology Committee

Their contact information, as well as conference updates, appear on the Nevada Libraries website,

www.nevadalibraries.org. As in the past, we will be using the Nevada Libraries website as our main communication tool for the conference. Check often for updates, schedules, and announcements as they develop!

Our main goal for this conference is that you, the unique and invaluable staff in all Nevada's libraries, regain a sense of excitement and energy about your role in today's changing library world.

Yes, we are shaking things up a bit this year. We have changed the conference dates and we are holding the conference in a new city. But everyone involved in Nevada's libraries has proven that they are up to face the challenges of today's library environment.

Come join us as we celebrate Nevada's diversity, and revolutionize the future of Nevada's libraries!



2003 Southern District NLA Wrap-up

Joanne Ross - Southern District-Chair

Programs

Southern District held six programs this year. They were all very successful. Many thanks to the facilitators and the presenters of the following programs that were presented this year:

- **Special Collections or Where to go for the weird stuff**
Su Kim Chung, UNLV Manuscript's Collection
Thonni Mowikawa, Curator of Manuscripts, Las Vegas Museum and Historical Society
Kevin Clanton, Director, Clark County Law Library
David Schwartz, UNLV Gaming Studies Collection
- **Better Salaries & Pay Equity For All Library Workers**
Mitch Freedman-President of ALA, Director Westchester Library System
- **Storytelling Tips & Techniques**
Marsha Cutler, Librarian & Storyteller
- **Home School Families / Genealogy Resources @ Paseo Verde Library**
Julia Chavez, Administrative Specialist CCSD/Home Instruction Division
Paddy Harrigan, LVCCCLD Children's Librarian
Jennifer Fabbi, UNLV Curriculum Resources Librarian
Clark County Genealogical Society
- **Survival Spanish and CALL (Computer Assisted Literacy in Libraries)**
Carla Adkins, LVCCCLD CALL
Elena Barker, CCSD
- **Train the Trainer (NLA Conference Program)**
Gregory Robinson, Director Library Services, Nevada State Library

We couldn't have put together such successful programs without the help of many creative and highly motivated people. I would like to personally thank Lynn Best, Tammy Giesekeing, Joan Vaughan, Paddy Harrigan, Sandra Williams, Tam Anderson, Sufa Anderson, Eileen Horn, Florica Hagendorn, and Jennifer Church. Special thanks go to Laura Golod whose continuing support of NLA is valued and appreciated. And as always, thanks to everyone that helped us by posting our flyers and spreading the word. I hope we can work together again!



NLA wants YOU!



NLA wants and needs your involvement and support. It is time to renew your membership. Membership for Nevada Library Association runs from January to December. The 2004 membership renewals start January 2004. If you want to join NLA for 2004, the membership form is available at:

<http://www.nevadalibraries.org/member/membership.html>

NLA promotes library service and librarianship to all Nevada Libraries.

**Nevada Library Association
Resolution In Support of User Privacy and Freedom of Information in Libraries**

WHEREAS, the professional ethic of librarianship is to facilitate the free flow of information, to facilitate its distribution, and to protect the privacy of those who seek information, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Nevada has specifically singled out library use records in Nevada Revised Statute 239.010 to be exempt from inspection and “disclosed only in response to an order issued by a court upon a finding that the disclosure of such records is necessary to protect the public safety or to prosecute a crime,” and

WHEREAS, the USA PATRIOT Act, Homeland Security Act, and related regulations allow records of library users to be under surveillance without their knowledge or consent; and

WHEREAS, the new federal laws and policies disproportionately affect individuals who rely on public access to materials and computers in libraries;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nevada Library Association opposes use of government power to suppress the free and open exchange of ideas and information; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Nevada Library Association encourages librarians and library advocates to inform library staff, library users, and their communities about the federal legislation and regulations that impinge on user confidentiality and access to information; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Nevada Library Association condemns legislation or government action that threatens the constitutional rights and privacy rights of library users; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Nevada Library Association urges Congress to repeal sections of the USA PATRIOT Act and Homeland Security Act which violate fundamental rights and liberties guaranteed in the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights and laws of the state of Nevada; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Nevada Library Association, while opposing terrorism, affirms and upholds the efforts of librarians and library advocates to defend and support free and open access to information and privacy of library users; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution and the Library Bill of Rights be sent to the Governor of Nevada, the Attorney General of Nevada, to Members of both Houses of the Nevada Legislature, to Senators Reid and Ensign, and to Congressmen Gibbons and Porter and Congresswoman Berkley, and to others as appropriate.

Adopted by the Nevada Library Association, at the annual general membership meeting on November 8, 2003

MPLA LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The MPLA Leadership Institute would like to announce the following individuals who will be attending the 2003 Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico. Congratulations to everyone. We are thrilled to have another great group of individuals for the Leadership Institute!

David Alexander - South Dakota State University
 Kristen Becker - Kansas Wesleyan University
 Tracy Cook - Montana State Library
 Angela Creel-Erb - Arizona Western College
 Elizabeth Cuckow - Laramie County Library System
 Tamara Giesecking - Las Vegas-Clark County Library District
 Scott Goldy - Wichita State University
 Wendy Holiday - Utah State University
 Cindy Jaye - Denver Public Library
 Katrina Jones - Albany County Library (WY)
 Peggy Kaney - Northeastern State University (OK)
 Cecelia Lawrence - North Platte Public Library (NE)
 Olivia Li - Los Alamos County Library System (NM)
 Britton Lund - Salt Lake County Library System
 Kimberly Martin - Bonner Springs City Library (KS)
 Jeanie McCallister - Rapid City Public Library
 Jeanne Narum - Minot Public Library
 Nichole Ney - Phoenix Public Library
 Valerie Nye - New Mexico State Library
 Cassandra Osterloh - University of New Mexico
 Al Peterson - North Dakota State Library
 Lori Phillips - University of Wyoming
 Todd Quinn - Dakota State University (SD)
 Cylinda Richardson-Martin - Pioneer Library System (OK)
 Tom Riedel - Regis University (CO)
 Marla Roberson - University of Central Oklahoma
 Susan Simmons - Mamie D. Eisenhower Public Library (CO)
 Susan Spicer - Salt Lake County (UT)
 Rachel Vukas - EBSCO Information Services (CO)
 Michael Whitchurch - University of Utah

The Committee is also pleased to announce the following outstanding individuals who have agreed to serve as mentors during this institute:

Jane Hatch, Kansas
 Peter Kraus, Utah
 Debbie Iverson, Wyoming
 Dorothy Liegl, South Dakota
 Amy Owen, Utah
 Lola Todd, Oklahoma

MPLA CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

- ❖ **2004** Oct. 20-24 Denver, Colorado - Joint with CAL
- ❖ **2005** Nov. 5-8 Jackson Hole, Wyoming - Joint Conference with WLA

- ❖ **2006** No Conference - Transition year to spring conferences
- ❖ **2007** Albuquerque, New Mexico - Joint with NMLA
- ❖ **2008** To Be Determined
- ❖ **2009** Overland Park, Kansas - Joint with KLA, KASL and KAECT

JOIN MPLA TODAY

The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is an twelve-state association of libraries, librarians and friends of libraries in **Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming**. Its primary purpose is to improve present and future library services in the Mountain Plains region through development of librarians, trustees and library employees.

Membership Advantages

- Professional Development Grants for course work, institutes and workshops.
- Continuing education opportunities including conferences, workshops and special seminars.
- Information exchange and educational programs about technological developments and innovative library programming undertaken by MPLA libraries.
- Recognition of outstanding contributions to local, state and regional library services.
- Joint annual conferences with member states providing a marketplace of ideas where individuals can share their experience and talent with other librarians.
- Forums for personal contact among members and national leaders in the profession.
- Newsletter providing information about continuing education available throughout the region and outstanding library programs through news and feature articles.
- Annual Report and Membership Directory.
- Promotes regional efforts for resource sharing.
- Grants for states for pre-conference and continuing education programs.
- Opportunity for members to contribute to the profession.
- First year Personal membership dues are half price!

2003 NLA Budget Report

Nevada Libraries

Income	2003 Budget	Actual To Date	Notes
Dues [2003 dues received in 2002 = \$255]	14,000	10,712.50	
NEVADA LIBRARIES Income	500	175.00	
Misc. Income [interest, sales, etc.]	200	-	
Net Proceeds from 2003 Conference	24,380	-	
Kendall Memorial Fund	700	195.00	
Grants, Donations, Etc.	5,000	9,000.00	Includes \$8,000 Scholarships, \$500 Leg. Rec.
Income Total	44,780	20,082.50	
Expenses	2003 Budget	Actual To Date	
President	5,400	3,627.12	Includes Leg. Rec. (\$1,548.05)
President-Elect	850	807.82	
Exec. Secretary	500	85.00	
Treasurer	1,000	329.00	
Past-President	275	-	
NSCLS	600	529.20	
NED	100	-	
NWD	1,600	-	
SD	450	445.85	
ACTION	50	-	
ALA Delegate	2,110	1,043.00	
Awards	500	469.79	
CAPTAIN	20	-	
Executive Board Winter Meeting	1,704	1,158.38	
GODIG	200	-	
Govt. Relations	1,273	-	
Kendall Summer Reading Program	700	-	
MPLA Delegate	571	571.00	
NLA Lobbyist	5,000	5,000.00	
NYRA	750	456.24	
NNAG	120	-	
Publications	1,510	629.82	
RAISON	500	-	
Scholarships	5,000	9,024.00	
NCRL	350	519.54	
Webmaster	300	135.00	
Publicity	25	-	
Recording Secretary	25	-	
Membership	200	-	
Hotel Deposit for 2004 Conference	-	2,000.00	
Expense Total	31,683	26,830.76	
Net	13,097	(6,748.26)	

Note: Approved budget for 2003 reconfigured to combine Executive Board Winter one Meeting expenses into expense category. \$5,000 moved from President to NLA Lobbyist.

Nevada Library Association 2003 Awards

2003 NLA SPECIAL CITATIONS

Jeanne Sloan

Churchill County Library
Jeanne is totally involved with the "Friends" and the Library itself. She makes, things, does mailings, does story time programs and puts incredible effort and time into every one of these tasks. She willingly volunteers for anything that is asked of her and gives completely of herself.



Dana Hines

Cooperative Libraries Automated Network
As CLAN Coordinator, Dana's contributions to the establishment and organization of the Polaris system has been filled with long hours and the dedication to have the program running as smoothly as possible. Dana keeps up with the cutting edge of computer and communication



technologies, and these translate to improved services not only for the CLAN libraries, but for libraries statewide.

2003 DOROTHY MCALINDEN AWARD

Gail Veater

Nevada State Library & Archives
Gail's job description reads like many other library assistant positions – Assists readers in the selection of materials, maintains files and records, handles routine circulation duties, book inspection and shelving duties, supervision duties.



However, besides doing all these duties, Gail goes about ten steps further.

2003 TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR

Bud Fujii

Washoe County Library System
Bud has been a highly dedicates trustee, offering his wisdom, his professionalism, his thirty years of local government management experience, his sense of humor and above all, his compassionate belief in the library system as the fundamental building



block of our democratic society. He offers direction and guidance when needed and empowers the staff and other volunteers to achieve the library system's goals.

2003 LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR

Joan Vaughn

Henderson District Public Libraries, Paseo Verde Library
While Joan was Chair of the Southern District, she made a special point of trying to interact with the somewhat-neglected part of SD-NLA. Currently she has taken on the task of chairing the NLA Conference Committee for 2004 in Henderson.

Joan started her career at HDPL as a reference librarian. While she has moved on to the IT department at HDPL as the Internet Services Librarian, Joan still works the reference desk once per week. Additionally, Joan is responsible for coordinating public computer training at the Paseo Verde library. Joan is the first person that everyone wants on his or her committee or team. She coordinates numerous HDPL projects and contributes to a wide variety of service offerings throughout the district. Most important is her commitment to outstanding public service.



'Basque' in Knowledge: Read It, See It, Hear It, Know It @ your library™

By Susan Antipa



The 2003 NLA/MPLA Joint Conference commenced on Wednesday, November 5 at the Hyatt Resort and Casino in Incline Village, Nevada. REFORMA sponsored the pre-conference programs, which focused on providing library service to the Hispanic community.

Later that afternoon, thirty authors gathered in the Lakeside Ballroom. With the snow-capped Sierra rising out of Lake Tahoe in the background, the authors, illustrators and



Photo courtesy of Sharon Osenga

photographers mingled with participants and signed their books. Mark Twain, portrayed by McAvoy Layne, wandered through the crowd, entertaining people with stories and wit.

Attendees were offered a large selection of programs from the history of Nevada libraries to the mysteries of metadata. There was something for everyone: finding information on Yucca Mountain; creating a library-sponsored book club; reaching out to teens; serving as a library trustee; climbing the library administration ladder; and how to do it all with a laugh. Each night Duncan Deacy gave classes on casino gambling, and videos from the Nevada Experience series were shown.

On Thursday, the snow gods were held at bay by the collective consciousness of the conference committee. In spite of a dire weather forecast, the sun shone as the Tahoe Queen paddle wheel boat docked at the Hyatt, and the



passengers climbed aboard for a cruise of Lake Tahoe.

Later that evening, the Exhibitors' Reception filled the exhibit hall with camaraderie. Participants filled their plates from a beautiful table of hor d'oeuvres, visited with vendors, and chatted with colleagues.

Friday evening, the Presidents' Award Dinner offered a delicious buffet. In all honesty, the term "authentic Basque" cannot be used to describe the cuisine, but it was perhaps Basque-inspired.

The Zazpiak Bat Dancers from the Reno Basque Club entertained the group.



NLA president Holly Van Valkenburgh and MPLA president Jean Hatfield distributed a slate of award.

The Nevada Young Readers Award luncheon took place on Saturday. Children, young adults, and their parents joined the library crowd. Award winners Arthur Howard, Roland Smith, and Ben Mikaelson provided personal insight into their work with compassion and humor.

More pictures from the conference can be viewed on the MPLA website.

<http://www.usd.edu/mpla/conferences/2003/>



Photo courtesy of Sharon Osenga

White Pine County Library: Not Such a Lonesome Road

Author: Charity Cooper
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Date Published: Oct 7, 2003
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Computer Library Center, Inc.
Date Posted: Oct 8, 2003

Description: Contributor Charity Cooper (WJ member name: charityc) takes us to Ely Nevada to explore how this isolated community finds creative ways to fund its local library.



Drive east from Reno on the "The Loneliest Road in America" and approximately 320 desolate miles later you will find Ely, Nevada, population 4,500. With the exception of beautiful desert mountains, you will not see much along the way. However, once you arrive in Ely, you will be welcomed with a wealth of books and periodicals, free Internet access and friendly smiles, courtesy of the White Pine County Library.

The White Pine County Library serves an area that measures nearly 9000 square miles and it welcomes residents from more than 70 miles away and visitors from as far away as Europe. The library's remote location has presented its challenges, such as limited funding and distant technical support; however, the staff has chosen to not let any obstacle get in their way. They are dedicated to providing valuable services and resources to their patrons, whether they are members of the community or visitors just passing through.

The services at the White Pine County Library are extensive. They offer children's programs, "outlet" libraries at local senior centers, hospice programs, email classes, drug abuse resist education, and more, but none of these services would be available if it were not for the hard work, dedication and creativity of the staff. If you ask director Lori Romero what she is most proud of, she does not point to one of her many accomplishments while serving as director, she acknowledges the library staff and their dedication to their profession. "The library wouldn't be the facility it is, nor could I accomplish the things I have without their support," she says. "When I hear people say, 'what a nice library for a community this size,' I know we're doing something right."

One of the staff's biggest challenges over the years, as in many public libraries, has been finding the funding to keep the library doors open and its programs running. In 1995 the library was hit especially hard with budget cuts. It was about to lose half of its existing magazine and newspaper subscriptions and that is when, Romero says, "We learned to be creative." In order to avoid such a tragic loss, the staff came up with the "Adopt-A-Periodical" campaign, which called the community into action. The library staff made a plea through the local media asking residents and businesses to help save the library's periodicals. Each participant would choose a periodical to fund and in exchange a plaque with their name would be placed under their selected periodical. The program was a success and is still in place today, with the community continuing to

support half of the library's subscriptions.

Another demonstration of the staff's creative fundraising can be seen from the moment you walk into the library. In front of the circulation desk stands a "parking meter". The donation meter has collected approximately \$100 a month over the last three years and the staff has used the money for items such as conference chairs, carpeting and other items they were unable to acquire funds for through the county or through grants.

Romero attributes the success of this effort to the fact that they inform the community of exactly what the funds will go toward by posting a sign above the meter and updating their proximity to reaching their goal. She believes that if the patrons know where the money is going, they are more willing to donate and she follows this philosophy with all major projects.

Other funding has come to the library through grants, and Romero admits that all the library computers and networking equipment have been acquired with grant money. An example of one of these is the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation US Library Program grant. After applying, Romero learned that her library would receive two new computers. She also learned that she would have the opportunity to purchase more computers if able to come up with the funds. Recognizing the incredible opportunity, Romero immediately applied for another grant that allowed her to bring three additional computers into her library. She is now able to offer a total of six public computers to her patrons and

says, "The local residents are proud that our local library has such 'state of the art' computers and visitors are impressed by the equipment we have for a community our size."

With technology, however, comes the need for technical support, which has presented another obstacle for the staff at the White Pine County Library. Their "local" technical support offices are located in Carson City, 320 miles away. "We are lucky if we see them once a year," Romero says, "That is why it was so important to have someone on staff who was willing to take that responsibility." That staff person is Gayl Siemer. With no prior technology experience Siemer

expressed an interest when she was hired five years ago and Romero has been more than willing to support her. Going from knowing almost nothing about computers, Siemer is not only supporting the library's equipment, but is rebuilding old computers and sending them out into the community to organizations such as the local search and rescue team. "Gayl has gone the extra mile," Romero says, while expressing her appreciation.

The list is long when it comes to the accomplishments of the staff at the White Pine County Library, and it is proof that great things are not only achievable in large, well-funded libraries. Romero's advice to

other struggling libraries is, "Be proud of what you currently have to offer in materials and services. Set goals with a realistic timeline of what you want to offer and let the community know what they are. Involve the community in helping you get there; after all it is their library. When people know your plan and feel part of something, they will support you. Keep the community informed as you progress or if you experience a set back. Be creative with fundraising ideas and go after grants. Don't give up!"

You can reach White Pine Library Director Lori Romero at lromero@clan.lib.nv.us.

Las Vegas – Clark County Library District Named *Library Journal's* LIBRARY OF THE YEAR!

Thomson- Gail
www.galegroup.com/libraries/lib_year.htm
Library Journal
by John N. Berry III -- 6/15/2003

On June 23, 2000 – *Library Journal* presented Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (LVCCLD) with the 2003 Library of the Year Award. This prestigious award is co-sponsored by Thomson – Gail. Approximately 300 ALA participants met at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto to help celebrate.

Daniel Walters, the executive director of LVCCLD was handed the award statuette and a check for \$10,000 by Allen Paschal, president of Gale.

Paschal praised LVCCLD. "This is a library system that models what a 21st century library can and should be," he said. "It's more than a center for media, it's a center for community. It's

far-reaching strategic plan has resulted in dramatic expansion of library services to citizens from every economic strata and ethnic group, which I witnessed first hand when I visited the library a few weeks ago. It is impressive."

The editor of *Library Journal*, Francine Fialkoff, also honored LVCCLD, "Las Vegas-Clark County is extraordinary for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the development and implementation of their plan."

Back in 2000, LVCCLD began the planning process with a comprehensive survey of Clark County residents, asking them what they desired in a library. In response to this survey, the system added more bestsellers and other popular books, movies and recordings, and increased ethnic diversity in the collection.

Additionally, the new plan provided a significant increase in Internet services and considerable effort to develop libraries as community gathering places.

The library has placed particular focus on offering more bestsellers and a wide variety of ethnic materials. In some ways, the library operates much like a large bookstore. Bestsellers are drop-shipped directly to its 24 branches. Fialkoff notes that the budget allocated to buying books, movies and recordings far exceeds the national average. "Fully one-fifth of its operating budget goes to buying these materials... that's a figure that other libraries can only dream about," she said.

The library added more than 21,000 new items in Spanish to the collections; 203,000 items in languages other than English

LVCCLD – Library of the Year

Continued from Page 11

circulated in the last year. Walters noted the need for a more diverse collection of ethnic materials. "There was a tremendous reorientation toward the popular, and toward outreach and the Spanish language collections and services," Walters says, about the library's unique attempt to combine its diversity efforts with attention to in-demand reading.

"The bulk of our Spanish-language collections had been oriented toward citizenship and ESL. We didn't have many popular materials in Spanish. At the end of a long day, someone who principally reads and speaks Spanish wants to watch a movie without subtitles, wants to read a potboiler or a Western in Spanish, a romance," Walters says.

To provide a response to residents' requests, LVCCLD

began a dynamic schedule of author appearances, guest lectures and other performances to enhance more traditional book groups and story times.

The library views the award as a reflection on the entire community. "This is obviously a huge honor for the library," said Executive Director Walters, "but it's also an important statement about the quality of life in Las Vegas. This isn't just a vacation destination anymore. This is a great place to call home."

Soaring to Excellence 2004 - Toolkits for Advancing Your Career

Soaring to Excellence celebrates 10 years with a new series of teleconferences packed with practical information.

Friday, November 14, 2003

A Basic Toolkit: Good Manager and Good Employee Skills

Debra Wilcox Johnson, Johnson & Johnson Consulting-Wisconsin

The first teleconference of the 10th season covers the basic skills every library worker needs to know: how to be a good employee, how to be a good manager, communicating, problem-solving, customer service, and conducting effective meetings.

Friday January 23, 2004

A Technology Toolkit: Survival Skills for Everyone

Donna Fryer, GLOBAL Information Research & Retrieval—North Carolina

Technology skills are the focus of the second teleconference, with an emphasis on computer and Internet basics. Topics include online information retrieval, communicating electronically, and software programs you should know.

Friday, March 26, 2004

Professional Toolkit: Skills for Advancement

Linda Slusar, College of DuPage

The third teleconference addresses skills required for professional advancement for library staff. Topics include mentoring, creating professional portfolios, career ladders, professional organizations and meetings, and information about the American Library Association's current initiatives concerning library support staff.

Reference Series

February 6, 2004

New Tools for Enhancing Digital Reference

Details to come

April 16, 2004

Joe Janes and Colleagues: Preparing for the Future of Digital Reference

Details to come

March 12, 2004

Web Filtering: Policies, Software, Staff Training and CIPA

Detail to come

For program details: <http://www.cod.edu/teleconf/>

For more information: Holly Van Valkenburgh, hvanvalk@clan.lib.nv.us or 8000-922-2880

Up-coming NLA Elections - Candidate Biographies

PRESIDENT ELECT:

Ian Campbell

Ian is the Government Documents Coordinator at Washoe County Library System. He has held this position for over 13 years.

If elected, Ian will include intellectual freedom issues in his roster of projects during the legislative year he will serve as the President of NLA.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Patrick Dunn

My library career not only has taken me to widely dispersed parts of the country, but through a disparate and interesting array of library jobs and settings. Growing up in the Pacific Northwest, I attended library school at Columbia University in the City of New York. Upon graduation, I launched my career at the library at Fordham University, first as a Reference Librarian, and later in Acquisitions. After five years, I desired to return to the western U. S., enrolling in a graduate program at the University of Wyoming, where I performed archival work at the American Heritage Center.

My next professional position was Acquisitions Librarian at East Tennessee State University, where I stayed for five years. Another opportunity at western migration came as Librarian at a correctional facility branch of the Washington State Library. My contract could not be renewed past the first few months due to budget constraints, however, and after some re-training in computer networking, I found yet another niche in the field – that of public library reference, at my present position in Elko County, Nevada.

Statement:

“I believe that my varied experience, continued professional dedication, and enthusiasm for working with my colleagues across the state will be a great benefit to this position in the NLA. I have worked on a variety of library committees with goals such as new facility planning and public relations, and would love to be a part of an efficient and responsive organization, dedication to improving library service to the people of Nevada.”

ALA DELEGATE:

Victoria Nozero

Ms. Nozero has been at UNLV Libraries since 1995, and is currently Head of the Research and Information Department. She received her MLS from Catholic

University of America and a JD from George Washington University. Ms. Nozero received the 2001 McPhee UNLV Librarian of the Year Award. Among her many professional activities, Ms. Nozero served as Chair of MPLA's Government Documents Section, 1999/2000; Chair of ACRL's Instruction Section Policy Committee, 1998/99; and Chair of the LAMA, Library Operations and Management Section, Planning and Evaluation of Library Services Committee, 2000/2001. Ms. Nozero represented NCRL at ALA's 2003 National Library Legislative Day.

Statement:

“As ALA Delegate, my goal would be to effectively and fairly represented the positions of the Nevada Library Association as ALA considers issues of national and local import. I would also regularly communicate information received from ALA with NLA officers and other interested members.”

Michelle Rachal

Michelle Rachal, BA, Spanish is the Cataloging Assistant at the Basque Studies Library at the University of Nevada, Reno. Prior to this she was cataloger for the Nevada Prevention Resource Center, a library and distribution center for Federal and State government publication dealing with substance abuse and violence prevention. She is currently working towards her MLIS degree from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Michelle presented a workshop at the 2003 Substance Abuse Librarians & Information Specialists Annual Conference on how to maximize results using different Internet search engines.

Statement:

“I have been a member of both the Nevada Library Association and American Library Association since 1998. As ALA delegate, I will enthusiastically represent the interests of the NLA at the annual and midwinter council meetings and report back to the association on ALA proceedings.”

Jill Stovall

ED.S – Instructional and Curricular Studies –
Emphasis in Technology
M. Ed. – Instructional and Curricular Studies – Library
Media Specialist
B. S. – Special Education
Nevada Teaching Certification – Library Media
Specialist
Secretary – American Library Association, AASL
Affiliate Assembly
Delegate – American Library Association, AASL

Affiliate Assembly
Biographer – Nevada Women’s History Project
Writer – Kids Power online lessons
Responsible for opening collection, layout, setup for two new libraries.
2001 – Present
Library Media Specialist, Roy Martin Middle School
1999 – 2000
Library Media Specialist, Centennial High School

1997 – 1999
Library Media Specialist, Lied Middle School
1996 – 1997
Library Media Specialist, Deskin Elementary School

Statement:

“My experience as both delegate and secretary of the ALA Affiliate Assembly will enable me to enhance communication in the effort for both the NLA and ALA to work together for their common causes.”

Joe Tahoe, a librarian for 10 days, is terminated

Pine Nuts by McAvoy Layne

Reprinted with permission from McAvoy Layne and the North Lake Tahoe Bonanza, 11/12/03 newspaper.

Gazing out across a flat lake from my lifeguard stand I recognized the sternwheeler Tahoe Queen paddling north from Ski Run Marina. She looked so stately out there all by herself, like she owned the lake, deed and title. Her wake broke up a portrait of Mt. Talac that was reflected upon the water, and then continued its mischief along the west shore.

Finally she docked at the Hyatt where a couple hundred librarians boarded her. I knew they were librarians because their voices carried across the water to Dig Me Beach and I could hear them talking about David Toll and Dale Brown and Mark Twain. They were the talkingest group of people I have seen gathered together in quite awhile, and why shouldn't they be? They were about to take a ride on the Lake of the Sky and behold the fairest picture the whole earth affords. I smiled a wistful smile and wished I could go along with them.

As they pushed away I watched with my binoculars and observed a solitary librarian standing at the rail. She waved and I imagined she was wondering why I was sitting there in my stand with nobody at the beach. I saluted her and she got smaller and smaller as they made their way along the east shore toward Whitell Estate, until she was gone altogether.

I sat alone with my thoughts and found myself wishing I were a librarian. If you cannot find good company in books where can you find it?

But then I could never last more than 10 days as a librarian because I would be always asking patrons not to disturb me while I was reading, and eventually I would be terminated. But before that happened, I would make the most of my days, drifting from one classification of the Dewey Decimal System into the next.

Monday I would spend roaming the 000s, content myself with good journalism, and retrieve any Jim Clark columns I might have missed.

myself in philosophy. I have always wondered if a tree fell in the forest and nobody were around to hear it, if anybody would really give a damn.

Wednesday I would wile away my time in the 200s and try to find me a religion that wasn't prejudiced against any other religion.

Thursday I would spend in the 300s acquainting myself with the different customs of the world, and work on myself to be a little more tolerant of other people's peculiar ways.

Come Friday I would tackle the 400s, knuckle down on some English grammar, learn all about it, and start to use it maybe.

The following Monday I would dive into the 500s and the world of paleontology. I found a prehistoric toad in a lump of coal once, and not realizing what it was, tossed it into the fire.

On Tuesday I would enter the 600s and look up some home remedies for simple family complaints that would excuse me from ever having to see a doctor again.

Wednesday you could find me in the 700s where I would learn to play the harmonica, and the song, "If I'd a shot you when I first wanted to I'd be out by now."

Thursday I'd be in the 800s reading Milton's, "Paradise Lost;" I'd probably go home early on Thursday.

Friday would take me into the 900s, where I would study history until I found out the reason why it is that some men cannot get along with their neighbors. On that, my last day before getting fired, I would probably stay in the stacks right up until happy hour.

Yes, it's the librarian's life for me. Next to being a lifeguard on Dig Me Beach, I can't think of anything I'd rather be.

McAvoy Layne lives in Incline Village and visits schools throughout Nevada as the ghost of Mark Twain.

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Viva Lake Las Vegas
2004 NLA Conference