

Wisconsin Library Association Awards: Celebrating Excellence in Library Service

The Wisconsin Library Association is pleased to announce this year's library luminaries, selected as outstanding for their contribution to libraries and librarianship:

Library of the Year: **UW-Sheboygan University Library**

DEMCO/Librarian of the Year: **Kathryn Hanson**

Muriel Fuller Award: **Darla Jean Kraus**

WLA Highsmith Award: **Ruff Readers Program—Racine Public Library**

Special Service Award: **Chelsea Couillard, Christina Johnson, Catherine Phan**

Citation of Merit: **Mead-Witter Foundation, Inc.**

Library of the Year: UW-Sheboygan University Library (Jeffrey Ellair, director)

With the opening of a new, state-of-the-art facility in summer 2007, the UW-Sheboygan University Library now looks the part of a modern academic library. Housed on the first floor of the Acuity Technology Center, the library is appropriately situated at the main entrance to the campus. Director Jeffrey Ellair and staff have been systematically building and enhancing a program of progressive library services for well over a decade. User surveys, creative internships and open access to the entire community are hallmarks of this library's excellence.

DEMCO Librarian of the Year

Kathryn (Katie) Hanson, director of the Graham Public Library in Union Grove, is WLA's DEMCO Librarian of the Year. During her first 10 years as director, she doubled the size of the library and increased the number of staff. Hanson has overseen improvements such as library automation, public Internet access, hosting the Lakeshores Library System's Wide Area Network and being



Kathryn (Katie) Hanson, DEMCO Librarian of the Year

Union Grove's only public Wi-Fi network. In a time of shrinking budgets, Hanson has continued to expand library offerings and programs. This year, she will help the community celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Graham Public Library—fittingly, while she is WLA's DEMCO Librarian of the Year.



Library of the Year: UW-Sheboygan University Library

Muriel Fuller Award

Darla Jean Kraus, director of the Lakeview Community Library in Random Lake, is the 2009 Muriel Fuller Award winner. Kraus was appointed director of the library in 1976, and established joint library service with four municipalities in

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Association of Wisconsin Special Librarians

Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians

Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries

Wisconsin Library Trustees and Friends



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President's View

WLA Conference Provides Great Continuing Education Opportunity

There are many great reasons to be a member of the Wisconsin Library Association. In this article, I want to focus on one of them, the annual conference. I don't want to talk about it as the president of the organization, but rather as a public library system director. First, let me say to my friends in other areas of librarianship I am not ignoring you on this one, simply sharing my perspective.

In my role as a system director, I am also a "Continuing Education Validator." This means that I review the continuing education participation of certified library directors and signoff on whether or not it meets the stringent requirements for public librarian certification. One of the most efficient ways to reach the 100 hours (in five years) of continuing education is to attend association conferences. As a public librarian in Wisconsin, 24 hours a year may be achieved by simply attending the full conference of WLA and the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL). Not only is it efficient it is also rewarding with key notes, break out sessions and networking all being a part of the total educational experience.

In our library system (Mid-Wisconsin), we provide a continuing education grant for each library. Although the funds may be used for a variety of opportunities, we certainly encourage membership in WLA and attendance at conferences as a great way to use the grant. Not just for directors, but also other staff and trustees.



Walter Burkhalter

Okay, so it's just one benefit that I see in my "day job," but it's a good one. I just can't imagine life without WLA and the conference. Really, I'm not just saying that. If you have never attended a conference, I would encourage you to do so this year. No matter which area of librarianship you are in, you'll find the real "magic" is in the people you meet.

Hope to see you in Appleton!

Walter



The WLA Office is Moving!
 Friday, November 20, 2009
 New office address:
 4810 South Biltmore Lane, Suite 100
 Madison, WI 53718
 Same phone, fax, email addresses!
 Same smiling faces to serve you!

2009 WLA Board

President	Walter Burkhalter	WLTF Representative	Doug Lay
President-elect	Alberto Herrera, Jr.	AWSL Representative	Emily Wixson
Secretary	Tasha Saecker	WAAL Representative	Kathy Myers
Treasurer	Jan Berg	WEMTA Representative	Cara Cavin
ALA Councilor	Julie Schneider	SSS Representative	Cindy Wallace
YSS Representative	Marcia Sarnowski	Executive Director	Lisa K. Strand (ex-officio, non-voting)
WAPL Representative	Jim Trojanowski		

To contact the board, e-mail Walter Burkhalter at wburkh@mwfls.org or Lisa Strand at wla@scls.lib.wi.us.

June 12, 2009

The board took the following actions:

- * Approved a resolution in memory of Judith Krug for presentation during an ALA Council meeting at the annual ALA Conference

- * Approved the Awards & Honors Committee schedule for the 2009 Awards Banquet and requested that the committee propose a permanent policy for accommodating various awards from units and the Foundation, in addition to official WLA awards

- * Approved a request from the Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee to increase the number of committee members from 10 to 15

- * Stated the board's support for efforts to increase broadband access to Wisconsin libraries and asked LD&L to create a position statement on the matter.

President-elect Alberto Herrera, Jr. reported that Linda Vincent, Milwaukee Public Library-Zablocki Branch, and Melisa McLimans, UW Digital Collections Center, have agreed to serve as 2010 WLA Conference co-chairs.

The board discussed the various concerns, issues and opportunities surrounding the proposed restructuring into a different type of unit structure. Executive director Lisa Strand provided a document showing the differences between the current unit structure and a proposed option for restructuring. There were discussions about flexibility, clarity of expectations, retaining divisions and funding structure changes. The next step will be for the board to create a clear proposal of the changes they are recommending. The proposal will be presented to the unit leadership in mid-July for discussion at the August 14, 2009 meeting. 📄

WeLead Leadership Retreat: What it Takes to be a Good Leader

What makes a good leader? Entrepreneurialism? Vision? Personal Energy? After working through the Campbell Leadership Descriptor assessment tool, current protégés and mentors in WLA's WeLead program have a better understanding of the multiple components of effective leadership. On Friday, July 24, at a WeLead-sponsored Leadership Retreat, each participant was asked to select and evaluate a good leader, a poor leader and herself on nine various leadership characteristics. Participants included members of the WeLead Task Force, along with three of the Class of 2007 protégés and their mentors, who met for an overnight retreat at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. Participants included: Katharine Clark and her mentor Claudia Backus, Kelley Hinton and her mentor Linda Vincent, Melissa McLimans, Task Force members Gretchen Revie, Tasha Saecker, Pamela O'Donnell and Lisa Strand. The fourth protégé from the Class of 2007, Kyle Neugebauer, recently accepted a position as director of the Algona Public Library in Algona, Iowa, and was unable to attend.

The retreat began with protégés and mentors discussing some of the challenges facing libraries (and their leaders) today. Naturally, the state of the economy and its affect on library budgets was

near the top of the list. Other issues faced by attendees included changes in staff, consolidation, morale and ensuring that libraries remain a priority for resource allocators. Protégés noted the difference between persuasive power and institutional authority and the challenge of finding opportunities to hone leadership skills.

Each of the protégés left the retreat with a personal leadership profile and the promise to work through individual strategies with Deb Johnson of Johnson & Johnson Consulting. 📄

—Pamela O'Donnell, WeLead Task Force Chair,
Academic Librarian, UW-Madison College Library



Claudia Backus (left), mentor, and Katharine Clark, protegee, gather at the WeLead retreat in Appleton.

Candidates for WLA Board: WLA Vice President/President-elect

Jim Trojanowski, Director, Northern Waters Library Service

Other Professional Experience: Director, Vaughn Public Library (Ashland, WI) 1993–2004; Library Specialist, Metropolitan Community College (Omaha, NE) 1991–1993; Library Reader Services Specialist, Cedar Rapids (IA) Public Library 1989–1991

Education: M.A., Library Science, University of Iowa, 1989; B.A., History, University of Iowa, 1986

WLA Activities: WLA Board of Directors, 2000–2001; 2006–present; WAPL Chair, 2001; WAPL Board of Directors, 1997–2002; 2006–present


Other Activities: National Library Legislative Day, 2008, 2009; Library Information Technology Advisory Committee, 2006–2008; Wisconsin Strategic Visioning Summit Planning Committee, 2007–2008; Library Legislation and Funding Task Force, 2002; Wisconsin Public Library Standards Committee, 1999; Library Services and Technology Act Grant Reviewer, 1995 and 1999; Library Services and Technology Act Advisory Committee, 1996–1998; Library Services to Special Needs Youth Committee, 1998

Statement: In 1993, I moved to a community I barely knew to become a first-time library director. A few days into my new job, I began to feel overwhelmed by the size of the task before me. I had much to learn, and I wasn't sure I was up to the task.

Fortunately, I had able mentors who helped me get through the first few years. Over time, these people provided sound guidance, working with me to develop solutions to the problems I faced. Today, they are part of an expanding network I rely on whenever a new challenge presents itself.

The heart of this network is the Wisconsin Library Association. It is through WLA that I have met these mentors, colleagues and friends. And, as I speak to others about the importance of the networks I have established through WLA, I learn that they, too, have done the same.

Today, such networks are more important than ever. As we continue to receive bleak economic news and library budgets grow ever more threatened, Wisconsin citizens are making record use of libraries as they seek to weather the storm. How will we meet the challenge of declining budgets and growing expectations? The answer, I believe, lies not in any one of us, but among us as a whole as represented by WLA.

As president of WLA, I will seek to continue the work our association has done at building networks that permit us to develop collaborative solutions to our challenges. I pledge to listen and to learn as I lead the association, much as I have done in my career as a library director. At the same time, I pledge to continue to support opportunities for others to create their own networks as they seek to develop the skills necessary for successful careers. 



Rhonda K. Puntney, Youth Services and Special Needs Consultant, Lakeshores Library System

Other Professional Experience: Youth Services Librarian, Burlington Public Library, Burlington, WI, 1998–1999; Library Director, Grand Meadow Public Library, Grand Meadow, MN, 1997–1998; Information Specialist, Nelson Industries, Stoughton, WI, 1993–1996.

Education: M.A. in Library and Information Studies, UW-Madison, 1996; B.A. in Art History, UW-Madison, 1986.

WLA Activities: Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries, Chair, 2008; Outreach Services Round Table, Chair, 2006; Youth Services Section, Chair, 2003; Library Development and Legislation Committee, 2006–current; Conference Planning Committee, 2004 and 2006; Literary Awards Committee, 2009 and 2006; WeLead Mentor, 2005–2007; Youth Services Section, Director at Large, 2001; WLA Board of Directors, 2002–2003; Children's Book Award Committee, 2000–2001.

Other Related Activities: Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC) Public Awareness Committee, Chair, 2009; ALSC Caldecott Award Selection Committee, 2008; ALSC Budget and Planning Committee, Chair, 2006; ALSC Nominating Committee, 2004; Public Library Association (PLA) Public Library Systems Committee, Chair, 2005–2007; Association for Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) Conference Program Coordinator, 2009–2010; ALSC-ASCLA Pre-Conference Planning Committee, Co-chair, 2007; American Library Association (ALA) Conference Planning Coordinating Team, Chair, 2009–2010; ALA Advocacy Coordinating Group, 2009; Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) Diversity Committee Chair and Executive Board, 2007–current; LSTA Advisory Committee, 2004–2006.

Statement: We all know what a great resource our libraries are for the residents of Wisconsin. Each of us working at a library has stories to tell about how the library has made a difference in the lives of our patrons. Wisconsin has a reputation for excellent library services, creative collaborative partnerships and librarians who are strong advocates for their libraries in their communities.

In spite of the recent media coverage about how libraries are meeting the needs of individuals and families during the economic downturn, we continue to struggle with budget shortfalls that threaten our ability to continue to provide these excellent services to our residents who need them the most. I truly believe that by stepping up our advocacy efforts and sharing our stories with our funding agencies we can make a difference.

Most of my career has been spent in the area of youth services and special needs, so sharing stories has become an inherent part of what I do every day. We all tell stories to educate, entertain and enlighten regardless of our library setting and job titles. We exist to promote literacy at all levels: for children of all ages, teens, students and adults. Addressing these informa-



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Candidates for WLA Board: WLA Treasurer

Jan Berg, Director, DeForest Area Public Library

Other Professional Experience: Director, Kilbourn Public Library, Wisconsin Dells, WI, 1978–1988 ; Head of Technical Services, Head of Reference, Harvey Public Library, Harvey, IL, 1975–1978.

Education: *Rosary College* B.A., English and Political Science major, 1973. Graduated *summa cum laude*. *University of Chicago*, completed two semesters towards English masters degree, 1974. *Dominican University*, Masters Degree in Library Science, 1975.

Facilitator training for The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People–Winona State University, 2001. Facilitator training for The Four Roles of Leadership–Winona State University, 2003. Trained group process facilitator.

WLA Activities: I have been the treasurer of WLA since 2007. I have been a member of WLA for most of the years I have been a library director in Wisconsin. I chaired the Wisconsin Library Association, Small Libraries Committee and have served on the Special Needs Roundtable. I have presented at the WLA Annual Conference and at WAPL on various topics—mainly on early literacy and collaboration with community organizations, but most recently on how to circulate non-traditional library items.

Other Activities: I am a member of ALA. Presented a paper at the International Popular Culture Association, Oxford, England entitled “Libraries in a Changing World: The Virtual Library Meets the Authentic Library” in July, 1994. I have co-authored five books on early childhood activities aimed at providing children’s librarians with easy ideas to use that help very young children learn. I was elected to the local school board in 1997, and have been president of the DeForest Area School Board since 1998. I have presented at the state and national level about effective board governance and moving communities forward by using John Carver’s policy governance model, Stephen Covey’s *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, and Marvin Weisborg’s future-searching model.

Statement: I am submitting this letter of candidacy for the Wisconsin Library Association Office of treasurer for four reasons: 1) Because I was asked and because Bob said if I would agree to run for a second term it would make his job on the Nomination Committee so much easier. 2) Because I feel that having served a term in this office, I have a good grasp of what the job entails as well as what the financial condition of WLA is. 3) Because I am at a point in my career where I have the time necessary to commit to the duties of the office and 4) Because I look forward to continuing to contribute to this important organization.

While the director in the Dells, I wrote a series of state and federal grants that created volunteer literacy councils in a four-county area. Since 1988, I have been the director of the DeForest Area Public Library where I have overseen the automation of



Mary Murphy, Director, Wauwatosa Public Library

Other Professional Experience: Previously Director of Operations, St. Louis Public Library 1990–1993; Director of Branch Libraries, St. Louis Public Library 1988–1990

Education: M.L.S., UW-M; B.A., English Literature, University of Dayton, OH.

WLA Activities: Served on the planning committee for the 2008 Wisconsin Library Association annual conference.

Statement: Although I have been a member of WLA for 16 years, it was not until 2007 that I was active in giving back to the organization. For all those years, I benefited by the work of others in planning and putting together conferences, organizing Legislative Day, etc. Finally, in late 2007, I had the time to do something for the organization that had done much for me. The position of Treasurer within WLA is clearly defined. Reporting on the financial condition of the organization, with information provided by WLA staff, and participating in planning for the future financial health of WLA are the most significant aspects of this position. I am happy to serve in the position of treasurer of WLA, if the membership elects me to the office. 🍷



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Candidates for WLA Foundation

Jane Pearlmutter, Associate Director, UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies, 2002–present

Other Professional Experience: UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies, July 1999–Present, Director of Continuing Education; June 1993–June 1999, Outreach Program Manager; June 1985–June 1993, Outreach Specialist; 1974–1976, UW-Madison Social Science Reference Library, Bibliographer and cataloger

Education: M.A., Library and Information Studies, 1975 (UW-Madison)

WLA Activities: 2009 Scholarship Committee; 2004–2008 Finance Committee; 2000 Federal Relations Coordinator; 2000 Board of Directors, WLA Foundation; 2000 Past President and Board member; 1999 President; 1998 Vice-President/President-Elect, which included membership on Personnel Committee, Finance Committee, Committee on Organization; September 1995–November 1996, Program Chair, Annual Conference Planning Committee; September 1993–October 1995, Literary Awards Committee; October 1990–October 1995; Director, Education Section

Other Activities: 2007–present, Systemwide Extension Council, University of Wisconsin-Extension; March 2006–December 2008, LSTA Advisory Board, Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction; 2002–present, Board member, Ira and Ineva Reilly Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment; 1992–1994, Board of Directors, Wisconsin Center for the Book

Statement: Although all WLA members are automatically members of the WLA Foundation, not everyone is aware of the ways in which the Foundation's activities can benefit all types of libraries, or its role in financially supporting those entering the profession or seeking funds for professional development. Along with just about every other organization, the WLA's investments have taken a hit, and efforts to increase donations should be tied to what members want to see the Foundation do, and should offer opportunities for giving in support of specific activities. I'm a regular donor to the WLA, and having served on the boards of several nonprofits, I know it's easier to ask people to donate when you have already been a donor yourself. 📖



Joseph Rice, Director, Brown Deer Public Library

Professional Experience: Reference Librarian, Milwaukee Area Technical College; Sales Associate, First Weber Group Realtors; Department Head, Film/Video Center, Chicago Public Library; Interlibrary Loan Librarian, Chicago Public Library; Business Information Specialist, DDB Worldwide Advertising, Chicago, IL; Adult Services Librarian, Richland County Public Library, Columbia, SC; Cataloger, Richland County Public Library, Columbia, SC

Education: M.L.S., University of South Carolina, Columbia; B.A. in English, University of South Carolina, Columbia

Other Activities: Member, Wisconsin Library Association; member, American Library Association

Statement: The WLA Foundation provides valuable support to all types of libraries across Wisconsin by sponsoring awards and recognizing the achievements of the library community state-wide. If elected, I will work with the other Board members to expand the current Campaign for Wisconsin Libraries initiatives as well as explore other options for additional funding sources, programming and publicity. Those of us who work in libraries in Wisconsin know we're providing valuable life-changing services to library patrons every day. We need to work harder to make sure everyone knows about the value of the services we provide - and that's where the Foundation plays a crucial role in moving our image forward. Having worked in public, academic and special libraries as well as in the private sector, I bring a unique perspective to library service; I look forward to working hard to continue the programs and goals established by the Foundation. 📖



Wisconsin Library Association Awards

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1980. She oversaw the remodeling of a historic structure and moved the library in 1996. She also managed phase two of the building project in 2003, doubling the library's size. She has initiated many new programs, worked to increase library funding and convinced local officials to join the Eastern Shores Library System. Her efforts have paid off in steadily increasing library use.



Darla Jean Kraus, director of the Lakeview Community Library in Random Lake, 2009 Muriel Fuller Award winner

WLA Highsmith Award

The Racine Public Library's Ruff Readers Program is recognized with WLA's Highsmith Award. The collaboration between the Racine Public Library and the members of the Racine Kennel Club gives the children of Racine an opportunity to practice their reading skills with non-judgmental listeners—certified therapy dogs that visit the library with their handlers. The program fosters a love of reading with the 1,000 directly participating children and a relationship between the school and the library. It motivates pre-readers to begin reading and even helps patrons learn more about pet ownership and interactions with animals.



It motivates pre-readers to begin reading and even helps patrons learn more about pet ownership and interactions with animals.

Special Service Award

Chelsea Couillard, Christina Johnson and Catherine Phan share the Special Service Award for their Community Needs Assessment for the Red Cliff Tribal Library, conducted when all three were students at the UW-Madison School of Library



and Information Studies. In the summer of 2007, the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in Bayfield County began to discuss closing the tribal library due to declining usage and lack of funds. Funded by a Kaufmann Entrepreneurship Community Internship grant, the students made monthly visits between June and November 2008 to the Red Cliff Reservation and collaborated with tribal leaders and other advisors. Their work resulted in the restoration of some tribal library service.

WLA Citation of Merit



The Mead Witter Foundation, Inc., of Wisconsin Rapids, receives the WLA Citation of Merit for its third major noncompetitive grant program for selected public libraries in central and northern Wisconsin. In 2008–09, grants totaling \$382,000 were awarded to 68 libraries for reference and circulating print materials, library furnishings and computer equipment for public use, or special event programming and exhibits at the library. The Foundation has now given a total of \$1,206,000 in grants to libraries.

WLA congratulates the winners and celebrates their accomplishments at the WLA Conference awards banquet, scheduled for 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Thursday, October 22, at the Paper Valley Radisson in Appleton. For more information about the award winners, go to www.wla.lib.wi.us/awards/awards.htm.

In addition to contributions from DEMCO and Highsmith, the WLA awards program is supported by the WLA Foundation, through individual charitable contributions. The WLA brings together and supports people from all types of libraries to advance library and information services in the state. The awards program is one way the association acknowledges the dedication of its members to provide exemplary library service to the people of Wisconsin. 📖

Literary Awards/ Wisconsin Authors Databases

Are you in search of information on Wisconsin authors and their works? Here are two sites that can assist you in your quest:

* The home page of the Literary Awards Committee at www.wla.lib.wi.us/lac/ for listings of Notable Wisconsin Authors, RR Donnelley Foundation award winners and annual Outstanding Achievement award winners.

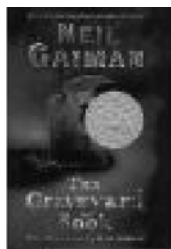
* The Wisconsin Authors Database at http://devweb.library.wisc.edu/~mnf/wisc_authors is a retrospective and contemporary resource for bibliographic research on books by writers from Wisconsin. This is a joint project of the Literary Awards Committee, the UW-Madison General Library System and the Wisconsin Center for the Book. 📖

Works by Wisconsin Authors Recognized: Elizabeth Burr/Worzalla Award and RR Donnelley Literary Awards Selected

While librarians find themselves busier than ever helping people with online job applications and new careers in today's economy, they also revel in finding a good read to share with library users. To that end, the Reader Section's Literary Awards Committee and the Youth Services Section's Children's Book Award Committee announce their top 2009 honors for books published by Wisconsin authors and illustrators in 2008.

***The Graveyard Book*, a young adult book written by Neil Gaiman, receives the Elizabeth Burr/Worzalla Award.**

Gaiman's *The Graveyard Book*, illustrated by Dave McKean and published by HarperCollins, has been selected as the winner of the 2009 Elizabeth Burr/Worzalla Award. The Burr/Worzalla Award is given to the most distinguished work published in the previous calendar year written and/or illustrated by a Wisconsin book creator.



The Graveyard Book follows the life of Nobody Owens, known as Bod to his friends and family. As a toddler, Bod wanders into a graveyard right after the violent murders of his family members. He is raised by a fascinating cast of afterlife characters who adopt and befriend him. The book is part coming-of-age story, part supernatural tale and totally mesmerizing. Playing on Kipling's classic *Jungle Books* in penning *The Graveyard Book*, master storyteller Gaiman grabs readers with a startling first chapter, which he follows with a less chilling, but nonetheless deliciously creepy, tale.

Barry's *What It Is* receives the RR Donnelley Award for adult literature given for the highest literary achievement by a Wisconsin author in 2009.



What It Is appears at first to be an eccentric writer's guide. In reality, it's a densely-layered treatise on setting aside inhibition, following your dreams and allowing your inner child to come out and play again. Barry offers us insights into how she overcame self-doubt, as well as the doubts of others, to follow her muse, and in the process, become one of America's leading cartoonists. Part memoir, part writer's guide, Barry does a brilliant job of using her own experiences to illustrate the belief that each of us has the power to create within us.



Five other books written and/or illustrated by Wisconsin book creators in 2008 received recognition for Outstanding Achievement in Children's Literature. They are:

The Adventures of Sir Lancelot the Great, Gerald Morris, illustrated by Aaron Reiner

Bird Lake Moon, Kevin Henkes

It's Not Fair!, Tom Lichtenfeld, illustrated (written by Amy Krouse Rosenthal)

Old Bear, Kevin Henkes

Monsoon Afternoon, Kashmira Sheth (illustrated by Yoshiko Jaeggi)

Outstanding Achievement

The Outstanding Achievement awards for adult titles written in 2008 by Wisconsin authors are:

North of the Port: Stories, Anthony Bukoski

Monsters of Templeton, Lauren Groff

The Aristotle Quest: Black Market Truth, Sharon Kaye

Rome 1960: the Olympics that Changed the World, David Maraniss

The End of the Straight and Narrow: Stories, David McGlynn

Lady of the Snakes, Rachel Pastan

Driftless, David Rhodes

Wreck of the Carl D.: a True Story of Loss, Survival, and Rescue at Sea, Michael Schumacher

Kinky Gazpacho: Life, Love, and Spain, Lori Tharps

Abroad for her Country: Tales of a Pioneer Woman Ambassador in the U.S. Foreign Service, Jean Wilkowsky

2009 Outstanding Achievement in Poetry

2009 Outstanding Achievement in Poetry awards for 2008 titles include the following four books:

Sudden Anthem, Matthew Guenette

Two Off Q: a Conversation in Poetry, Judy Roy and June Nirschl

In the Silence of the Migrated Birds, Austin Smith

For a Limited Time Only, Ron Wallace

Notable Wisconsin Authors

Finally, three authors were chosen for their body of work as Notable Wisconsin Authors.

Gene DeWeese is the author of multiple fiction titles for adults and children, including *The Doll with Opal Eyes* and *Jeremy Case*.

Margaret Ashmun wrote fiction, non-fiction and children's books and her works include *The Lake* and the Isabel Carleton series.

Pete Hautman, who spends part of each year living on the shores of Lake


Pepin in northwestern Wisconsin, was named the 2008 Notable Wisconsin Author for his impressive body of work for young adults. Hautman is also a distinguished writer of books for, as he puts it, "old adults," and is also collaborating with Mary Logue to write a series of mysteries for middle-grade readers. His teen novel, *Invisible*, won the 2006 Elizabeth Burr/Worzalla Award and *Godless* was a 2004 National Book Award winner. Four of his teen books have been named Outstanding Books by the Children's Book Award Committee.

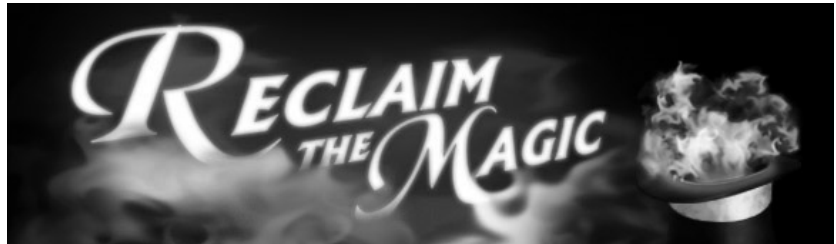
Each year, the Children's Book Award and the Literary Award Committees of WLA, composed of librarians from around the state, conduct an exhaustive review of works by book creators with Wisconsin ties. The Elizabeth Burr/Worzalla Award recognizes works for children or young adults and is made possible by the Worzalla Publishing Company, Stevens Point, through a grant to the WLA Foundation. The 2009 Children's Book Award Committee members are Leah Langby, Chair, Kate Fitzgerald-Fleck, Pat Freitag, Barbara Huntington,

Tom Hurlburt, Linda Jerome and Susan Pesheck. For more information about the committee's work, go to www.wla.lib.wi.us/yss.

The RR Donnelley Literary Award is made possible by Chicago's RR Donnelley Company through a grant to the WLA Foundation. The 2009 Literary Awards Committee members are: Ellen Jepson

(chair), Jean Anderson, Susan Belsky, Anne Callaghan, Caroline Haskin, Brian Kopetsky, Amy Lutzke, Rhonda Puntney, Deb Shapiro and Cece Wiltzius. For more information about the Literary Awards Committee's work, go to www.wla.lib.wi.us/readers/WLAC/lac.html.

For more information about the book awards, go to www.wla.lib.wi.us. 



Wisconsin Library Association 2009 Annual Conference

Tuesday, October 20 through Friday, October 23

Radisson Paper Valley, Appleton


For more information or to register:

<http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/conferences/2009/>

Puntney

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tional, technical and recreational literacy needs is a challenge we accept and strive to meet every day.


WLA plays a leadership role in supporting and enhancing the work we do with conference programming, mentoring and advocacy. Our strong professional association provides us with these tools and networking to become powerful and effective advocates for libraries, children and literacy in our communities. As WLA president-elect, I will work to maintain and increase these efforts across Wisconsin to strengthen our professional cooperation and collaboration amongst our colleagues, funders and patrons. As one of my youth services colleagues from Las Vegas once said, "You Wisconsin librarians rock!" I have no doubt that this is true and due in large part to WLA! I am honored to be on this year's ballot and I look forward to the opportunity to serve you as WLA president-elect. 

Berg

—continued from page 5

the collection, planned and carried out moving the library into larger quarters in a shopping mall, then helped design and oversaw the construction of a new library, and planned and carried out the move into that new library in February, 2002. During my time as director of the DeForest Area Public Library, I have written and administered a series of grants totaling over \$2 million—including a four-year, federal Even Start grant. I have reviewed grants at both the state and federal level, which included looking at proposed budgets for their plausibility. As an elected school board member, one of my duties is to oversee an annual budget that is more than \$30 million dollars.

All of which points to my abilities to create, administer and oversee budgets, which, in turn, points to my qualifica-

tions for the office of treasurer. I am very familiar with fiscal long-range planning, policy development, general accounting, and financial and statistical reporting. I have learned how to read an audit report and to know what areas in an audit may be problematic. I am a meticulous financial record keeper and "win" most disagreements with the municipality based on my financial records. I am aware of the duties and time commitment required for this office and am willing to devote the time and energy to do a good job. 

WLA Uses Online Balloting for All Elections

For the first time in WLA history, online balloting has been made available for WLA and unit elections this fall. Members have been provided a link via e-mail to vote for all WLA and unit elections in a secure and private online environment. Paper ballots will be provided to those without an e-mail address. Deadline for return of ballots is October 1.

Higher Education Day Is September 30

The state's constitutional officers, higher education institutions, and educational and financial organizations have joined together to declare September 30 the 4th Annual Higher Education Day (HED). The day was created to

- * Raise awareness among students and adults that higher education in Wisconsin is accessible

- * Inspire students of all ages to reach for postsecondary education as a goal

- * Provide information about saving for college, financial assistance, and other resources.

The 2008 HED included statewide contests for schoolchildren in grades 1-10 for which libraries could help promote and raise awareness. The goal of the contests is to get all students to think about how higher education might make their lives better. For more information, visit the HED Web site at: <http://highereducationday.wi.gov>, or contact Megan Perkins, Office of the State Treasurer, at 608-264-7886 or megan.perkins@wisconsin.gov.

HEADWLA Supports State's Request for ARRA Funds to Expand Broadband Access

WLA submitted a letter supporting Wisconsin's grant application for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to expand broadband access to schools and libraries throughout the state. The request to the National Telecommunication and Information Administration, which administers the \$4.7 billion Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP),

seeks to bring fiber to more than 473 sites in 300 communities that currently do not have fiber. Most of these communities are small towns and villages.

Bob Bocher, library technology consultant with the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning at the Department of Public Instruction, has been instrumental in the state's application for the federal funding. For the complete WLA position statement on broadband, go to www.wla.lib.wi.us/legis/.

Bob Bocher Named ALA Office of Information Technology Fellow

The American Library Association's Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) has appointed Bob Bocher, library technology consultant with the Department of Public Instruction's Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning, as an OITP Fellow. Bocher will provide OITP with strategic advice on an array of networking issues from the technical, policy and operational perspectives. Bocher has worked with OITP in a number of areas over the past several years.

"I am ecstatic that OITP will continue to benefit from Bob Bocher's extraordinary knowledge of all things related to libraries and telecommunications," Alan Inouye, director of OITP, said. "His knowledge is even more important now because of the heightened priority placed on broadband by the federal government (in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act), foundations and other key stakeholders." More information about Bocher's accomplishments and contributions to OITP can be viewed at www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oitp/people/oitpfellows/oitpfellows.cfm.

Milwaukee's Central Library to Get Green Roof and Energy Cells

By spring 2010, visitors to the Milwaukee Central Library will be able to tour the "green" roof and learn more about how green technology is improving the building's energy efficiency. Library director Paula Kiely said that the current roof needs replacing and the city of Milwaukee will fund the \$950,000 green replacement.

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District will provide a grant of \$250,000 to present education about the roof. Energy-generating photovoltaic cells will also be added, funded by the city's Energy Challenge Fund, We Energies and Focus on Energy.

Rock Springs Public Library Hopes to Reopen September 1

On June 7, 2008, Rock Springs Public Library held an open house to show off their remodeled building. The next day, the library was flooded and has been closed ever since. After more than a year, the library may finally reopen Sept. 1, 2009—provided they raise about \$20,000 more, according to director Norma Jean LeMoine.

UW-Milwaukee Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons Opens August 24

The remodeled UW-Milwaukee Golda Meir Library now houses the new Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons. The new space can hold up to 400 students in open and flexible study options. Usable space has expanded from 18,500 to 32,500 square feet, with increased quiet and group study options and 150 additional computers. Student surveys and focus groups were used to plan the project. The space is part one of a two-phase library renovation and expansion. Read the complete *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* article at www.jsonline.com/news/education/51647512.html.

"Scrapbook Wisconsin" Is Theme for Archives Month in October

The Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board, in association with the Wisconsin Historical Society, invites libraries to help celebrate Archives Month in October to raise the visibility of archives and archivists in Wisconsin. For more information about "Scrapbook Wisconsin," go to www.wisconsinhistory.org/archivesmonth/ or contact Emily Christopherson at emily.christopherson@wisconsinhistory.org or 608-264-6445.



West Bend Public Library Challenge: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

According to the Pew Research Center's Project on Excellence in Journalism, the ongoing book challenges at the West Bend, Wisconsin, Public Library was the third most blogged-about topic, following only news about President Obama's first six months in office and British television's Dr. Who, during the week of July 20–24, 2009. Indeed, the West Bend controversy reached far beyond the local news of West Bend Daily. With coverage ranging from CNN to ABC News to the UK's Guardian, the case became much more than a challenge to a handful of "questionable" GLBTQ books.

It grew from one parent's concerns over "sexually themed books" to demands to fire the Mayor to an array of lawsuits. Library board members who supported the library's position against censorship were denied reappointment; individual librarians were verbally attacked on personal grounds; opposing web sites appeared. The small community of West Bend, Wisconsin, was torn. One only needed to attend the public hearings to see, and feel, the tension and bear witness to the stress this was taking on the community. Michael Zimmer logged the full account of the events at <http://michaelzimmer.org/category/libraries/>.

Why did this case become so important? It is safe to say this case will be written about, studied and used for years in library education and advocacy. In it were all the makings of a classic challenge, and then some. New media, in the forms of social networking, brought this case from one community to a larger, interconnected community. The Pew Report shows the impact and significance of blogging, in particular, and how an issue can be transformed instantly. But, despite the fanfare, the core issues of intellectual freedom and professional ethics remain the central concern. The professional, theoretical and practical principles of intellectual freedom, in the face of changing technologies and changing politics, remain steadfast. As the late Judith Krug has said, "censorship is never the solution to any problem, be it societal or be it the kind of information or ideas that you have access to."

The School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee released a statement in support of the West Bend Library, which said, in part:

Throughout the history of the American public library, special interest groups have attempted to exert a disproportionate degree of influence on the development of a community wide resource. Whatever the intentions of any of these groups, the public library is required to maintain a standard of intellectual integrity within a sometimes-volatile situation.



The public library was developed to be the anchor of free inquiry in our democracy. We believe that mission is still relevant today. Over 15,000 public library branches throughout the United States maintain access to quality materials collected and arranged according to national standards developed by thoughtful and committed information professionals. The administration and staff of the West Bend Community Library are among those professionals and public scholars dedicated to principles of open access, inclusive collections and community service. The education of these professionals is rigorous and expansive, demanding sophisticated skills in assessment, development and leadership; it ensures their preparedness to take the lead in developing and delivering information resources to their communities.

Our colleagues at West Bend Public Library were indeed tested. Going through any challenge requires commitment, professional integrity—and guts. It is a long mental and physical process and, with each day, a new commitment to the core values of intellectual freedom in our profession is required. Our colleagues met this challenge and, while this case may not be over, it is our hope that they can be proud of their actions and their firm standing in the face of strong controversy.

For these reasons, the Wisconsin Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Round Table is honored to announce that the West Bend Public Library, and in particular, Director Michael Tyree and Young Adult Librarian Kristin Pekoll, West Bend staff, members of the Library Board, and supportive community members, specifically blog creator Maria Hanrahan, will be honored with the 2009 WLA/Proquest Intellectual Freedom Award. The nomination specifically stated:

Together and via their unique roles, the staff, the board and the community members have been able to defend people's right to read materials of their choosing — without barriers that prohibit access to information. I am in awe of all that they've faced and in all that they've accomplished. They are role models for us all.

Please join us to celebrate this award on October 22, 2009, at the WLA awards banquet. 📖

—Elizabeth A. Buchanan, Ph.D., Past Chair, Intellectual Freedom Round Table, Director, Center for Information Policy Research, School of Information Studies

—University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Michael Zimmer, Ph.D., Research Associate, Center for Information Policy Research



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CALENDAR of EVENTS

All meetings are held at the WLA office in Madison, unless otherwise noted.

SEPTEMBER

- 6 WLA Closed for Labor Day Holiday
- 15 Conference Committee
- 16 WLA Board of Directors

OCTOBER

- 2 WAAL Conference Committee
Library Development & Legislation (LD&L) Committee
- 9 WAAL Board of Directors
Nominations & Elections Committee
- 20-23 WLA Conference, Reclaim the Magic, Radisson Paper Valley, Appleton
- 20 WLA Board of Directors
- 22 WLA Board of Directors
- 22 WLA/WLA Board of Directors
Business Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 18 Wisconsin Libraries Say Cheese! A Day in Pictures
- 20 WLA Office Moves to 4810 South Biltmore Lane, Madison, WI 53718

DECEMBER

- 2 LD&L Committee
- 3 WLA Board of Directors
- 4 WLA Leadership Conference

To get an updated Calendar of Events, including links to more information about meetings and registration forms, go to <http://my.memberclicks.com/wla> and click on Calendar & Registration.