



Keeping Connected

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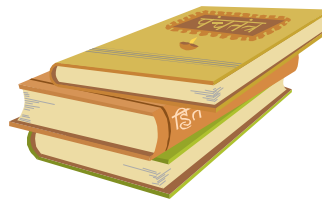
Pennsylvania Library
Association

West Branch Chapter Newsletter

Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of the West Branch Chapter Newsletter! This newsletter is intended to keep you up-to-date regarding the events of the West Branch Chapter, as well as current news and events of the

member libraries in the West Branch Chapter. We encourage you to contact us with ideas for stories, which can be focused on the people or the libraries of the West Branch Chapter. Read on to learn more about the

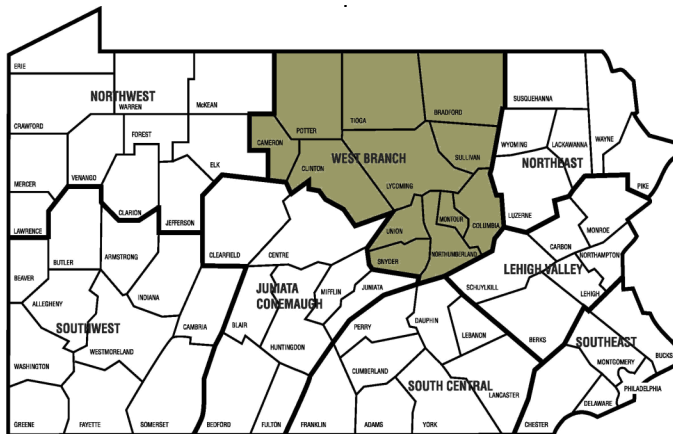


steering committee members, and a special event taking place in the Spring of 2010! We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Did You Know?

You are probably already aware of all of the benefits that you receive just by being a member of the Pennsylvania Library Association, but did you know that you also have added benefits for being a member of the West Branch Chapter? And did you know that when you became a member of PaLA, and indicated that you work in one of our twelve member counties, you automatically became a member of the West Branch Chapter?

Being a member of the West Branch Chapter is loaded with benefits, including a quarterly newsletter to keep you apprised of what's going on in other libraries within the chapter, an annual spring workshop dealing with issues



directly related to academic, public, school, and special libraries, and an annual fall social providing an excellent opportunity to have fun and make new friends. Most importantly, the West Branch Chapter gives you the opportunity to network with our 50 current chapter members, all of whom deal with similar successes,

The West Branch Chapter of the Pennsylvania Library Association is comprised of Academic, Public, School, and Special Libraries in Bradford, Cameron, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, and Union Counties.

issues, and questions, as you do on a daily basis so you can connect with them, rather than reinventing the wheel!

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Special points of interest:

- Don't forget to mark the annual workshop, taking place this year on April 30, on your calendar!
- Look inside to find out more about what's going on in our area libraries.

Featuring...



It Could be You!

Each quarter we would like to feature one of our members in our newsletter. If you, or someone you know, is working on a project, has been recognized in some way, or just has information that he or she would like to share with the rest of the chapter, please let us know. Our chapter and this newsletter is for you and about you! So, we welcome your thoughts, ideas, and opinions and look forward to sharing them with the rest of the chapter!

One More Benefit of PaLA: 20% Tuition Reduction at Drexel University Online

Why put your goals on hold? This spring, take the next step in your professional development with a top-ranked library science degree from Drexel University. With fully accredited programs online, Drexel offers you the opportunity to learn in a convenient format that works with your schedule. Plus, through PaLA's partnership with Drexel University Online, you are entitled to receive specially reduced tuition rates.

What are some benefits of Drexel Online? It offers top-quality library science programs in a convenient online format. PaLA members receive a 20% tuition reduction. It is ranked among the best by *U.S. News & World Report*. In graduating from Drexel Online, you would receive the same distinguished Drexel degree, as if you had attended on campus. You can apply online at no

cost, and begin class this spring!

Drexel offers Master's Degrees in several areas of specialization, including MS in Library and Information Science, MS in Information Systems, as well as offering an Advanced Certificate of Information Studies & Technology and a Certificate in Healthcare Informatics.

Visit www.drexel.com/pa-libraries to apply online, anytime, at no cost. If you apply by March 1 and are accepted, you will be eligible to begin classes this spring. Simply enter "PALA" as your partner code on your application to receive your 20% tuition reduction. For more information, visit www.drexel.com/pa-libraries or contact Drexel at 866-803-0053 or partners@drexel.edu.

Information provided by Drexel
University Online.



From the Chair

Welcome to another year and a new year of opportunities for the West Branch Chapter of PaLA! I am very excited to begin my duties as the Chair of the West Branch Chapter of PaLA and am looking forward to working with all of you to help make this the best year yet! Some of my goals for the chapter include keeping chapter members

connected and informed by way of this newsletter, encouraging networking through chapter get-togethers and trivia nights, and boost membership by reaching out to librarians and library workers in all fields, but especially those working in school libraries.

If anyone has any suggestions for improvement or growth I welcome you to contact me.

Nicole Staron is the 2010 West
Branch Chapter Chair.

Save the Date!

Save the date for the West Branch Chapter's spring workshop—10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, April 30, 2010 at the Professional Development Center, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Williamsport.

Keynote speaker will be Frederick Stoss, Associate Librarian at the University of Buffalo. Join him as he discusses "Sustainable and Green @ your library: Greener and Eco-Friendly Libraries in the New Century."

Stoss's presentation will include a history of the Green Library Movement and an intro-



**Frederick Stoss,
Associate Librarian,
University of Buffalo**

duction to "green" or environmentally friendly services, programs, projects, and opportunities for librarians.

Anyone wanting to keep current on "green" issues, policies, and initiatives, LEED Certification for new and renovated library buildings, and how to bring energy efficiency and conservation into libraries and commu-

nities won't want to miss this workshop!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn about
"Sustainable and Green @ your library:
Greener and Eco-Friendly Libraries in the New Century"

Stoss is the Biological and Environmental Sciences and Mathematics Librarian in the Arts & Sciences Libraries' Science and Engineering Library at the SUNY University of Buffalo. He is a member of the American Library Association and served on the ALA Libraries Build Sustainable Communities project and is the current Chair of the ALA Task Force on the Environment and is the creator and moderator of the ALA Green Libraries Community of ALA Connect.

By Stephanie Farr

Meet the Steering Committee...

As your local leaders of the West Branch Chapter of PaLA, the Steering Committee would like to take a few moments to tell you a little about ourselves, and our purpose. The West Branch Chapter Steering Committee meets quarterly to discuss issues, raise awareness, and plan for upcoming events and opportunities. Some members of the Steering Committee also serve on PaLA statewide committees, such as the Membership Committee, the Nominations and Elections Committee, the Intellectual Freedom Committee, and the Public Relations/Marketing Committee. Please read on to learn more about each of us!

Nicole Staron is the Library Circulation As-

sistant at the Madigan Library, Pennsylvania College of Technology. She enjoys reading, studying and teaching history, and working on various craft projects such as scrapbooking and quilting. Her favorite past-time, however, is spending time with her husband and 16-month-old son, Hunter! Nicole has been a member of PaLA for only one year, but is very excited to serve as this Chapter's Chair and all of the opportunities that it will provide.

The West Branch Chapter Steering Committee meets quarterly to discuss issues, raise awareness, and plan for upcoming events and opportunities.

Melissa Rowse, Vice Chair, is the Library Director of the Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library located in upper Northumberland County. In one day, she can be seen on the floor with the preschoolers, teaching a computer class to adults,

and chatting on Facebook with the teens. She joined PaLA because she believes in libraries—all kinds and all types as an essential element for democracy. A statewide association not only allows you to network with other professionals, but it also promotes library service for everyone. Melissa and her husband are true animal lovers and foster for a canine rescue organization, Haven to Home. Her favorite hobby is running and to be in the great outdoors whenever possible.

Stephanie Farr, Secretary/Treasurer is County Service Manager at the James V. Brown Library, Williamsport, where she oversees the bookmobile and other outreach initiatives. During her public library career she has worked in Tioga, Bradford, and Lycoming counties. A member since 2003, she became active

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Spotlight On...

Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library

The Montgomery House Warrior Run Area Public Library, located in McEwensville, PA, opened its doors in June of 1967. The library is named in honor of the two sisters, Jane and Margaret Montgomery, who willed the home, in which the library now resides, to the town of McEwensville. Although from the outside, it appears to be another quaint, ranch style home, the library has kept up with the times by expanding its resources to include items such as DVDs, computer software, and even Wii games! It's definitely a library worth checking out!

The Lycoming County Mobile Library is New and Improved

By Stephanie Farr

In an effort to keep money in the local economy, the James V. Brown Library, Williamsport, contracted with Spitler Vehicle Specialties of Montoursville to build its new bookmobile. This cooperative project, completed in December 2009, involved several Lycoming County businesses: Shirn's GMC of Williamsport ordered the chassis; Brodart Company's furniture division of McElhattan built and installed the shelving and desk; and Auto Trim Design of Muncy created the

vinyl graphic wrap. The landscape photograph used in the graphic was donated by local photographer Terry Wild of Terry Wild Studio, headquartered in Nippenose Valley.

Spitler's customizations included a generator and battery system to provide lighting, heating, air-conditioning, and electricity, plus a chair-lift for handicapped accessibility. The Lycoming County Mobile Library visits 46 locations monthly, serving all ages.



Hospitality Suite a "Sweet" Success

The West Branch Chapter was asked to help sponsor or participate in the hospitality suite, during the October 2009 Conference in Harrisburg. The suite was provided for all conference attendees, but especially those commuting to and from the conference on a daily basis. The suite, located in the Harrisburg Hilton, allowed attendees a place to take a break

and pick up some necessities that they may have forgotten to pack themselves.

The West Branch Chapter helped defray the cost of the suite, and also contributed various items such as travel packs of tissues, breath mints, gum, travel hand sanitizer, 100 calorie snack packs, shout wipes, feminine products,

dental floss, pain relievers, Tums/Roloids, travel hairspray, and bottled water.

Overall, attendees seemed very happy with the selection of items that suited their needs, and the West Branch Chapter was pleased to be able to contribute!

Meet the Steering Committee..

(From Page 3)

in PaLA to help bring the benefits of membership to rural librarians.

Professor Marilyn Bodnar, Intellectual Freedom Committee, is the Instructional Initiatives Librarian at Pennsylvania College of Technology's Madigan Library. She coordinates the library's instruction program, serves as the liaison to the business and law departments on campus, and has served on numerous college committees, in addition to being a member of ALA, PaLA, and ACRL.

Marilyn strongly believes in the value of information literacy, which is widely evident in the numerous projects for the library and college that she has completed or is currently completing. Marilyn's hobbies include attending theatre productions, listening to music, and, most importantly, spending time with her sons and their families. She is also currently in the process of helping her mother relocate from Florida to Williamsport, PA!

Jody Cole, Public Relations/Marketing Committee, is the Reference and Electronic Resources Librarian for Mansfield University. She completed her MLS from Clarion in December 2007. Before that, she managed a health information center and numerous health information Web sites for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She joined PaLA last year in an effort to reach out to other librarians, and attended her first conference in Harrisburg last year. Her interests are reading (she's a book club member in Wellsboro), walking, and eating good food.

Barbara McGary, Nominations & Elections Committee, currently serves as a District Consultant for the North

Central Library District located at the James V. Brown Library in Williamsport. She is the past chair of the West

Branch Chapter and currently serves on the Nominating Committee. She joined PaLA in 2003, her last semester of library school, and went to her first conference the following September. Barbara found the conference inspiring and knew she wanted to be more a part of her professional association. She has served on the steering committee for the West Branch Chapter since the spring of 2004

and she has thoroughly enjoyed building relationships and learning from other librarians in all types of libraries. Her hobbies are reading, wandering through the woods, and theology.

Diane Whitaker has been a member of the West Branch Chapter of PaLA since 1987. Thanks to her board wanting an informed director, she has been to 95% of the PaLA conferences. Like Barb, she finds the conferences inspiring and she enjoys meeting old and new friends.

There is always a workshop that she leaves with a "Wow! Look what I learned this year!" She has served as executive director of the Annie Halenbake Ross Library since November 1986; previously she was in Clearfield County as a Bookmobile Librarian, Coordinator of Youth Services, Branch Librarian; School Librarian; and Director of the Clearfield County Library Federation.

That puts her employed in the library field about 35 years. She is a member, and currently serving as President in a

number of community organizations—DAR, AAUW, Delta Kappa Gamma, Clinton County Cooperative Extension; she is secretary in Rotary and 4-H Development. Diane and her husband live in the woods of Beech Creek and are grandparents 5 times with a 6th on the way in March. She enjoys traveling (she's been to Alaska 3 times and another trip planned for 2010 or 2011), reading, the outdoors, and handcrafts.

C. Lynn Williams is the Director of the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library in Northumberland, PA. Although she is still a resident of Williamsport, she has become very attached to the residents and patrons of Northumberland. Directorship is a new road for her. She has always found membership in PaLA to be beneficial in adding to experience and knowledge. She has also been grateful for the mentoring and support. She finds this even more important now. West Branch offers another avenue for shared knowledge, mentoring and support that is much closer. She acknowledges, "We are a very large district. It is difficult to make connections. We have individuals in all corners now and if we can add to our membership, we will have a real opportunity to share, stay informed and support each other." Although she is

usually just ready for bed when she gets home, she does like gardening, flower arranging and reading. She also sings in a Praise Band.

As we all begin our new roles in the West Branch Chapter of Pennsylvania Library Association, we look forward to learning more about and meeting each of you! If you are interested in becoming more involved in the West

Branch Chapter of PaLA, or would like to sit in on a Steering Committee meeting, please contact us!

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West Branch Officers

Nicole Staron, Chair
Melissa Rowse, Vice Chair/Chair Elect
Stephanie Farr, Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Members

Marilyn Bodnar, Intellectual Freedom
Tracy Carey, Membership
Jody Cole, Public Relations/Marketing
Barbara McGary, Nominations & Elections

West Branch Steering Committee

Marilyn Bodnar
Pennsylvania College of Technology
Tracy Carey
Public Library for Union County
Jody Cole
Mansfield University
Stephanie Farr
James V. Brown Library
Barbara McGary
North Central Library District
Melissa Rowse
Montgomery House Warrior Run
Public Library
Nicole Staron
Pennsylvania College of Technology
Karen Temple
North Central Library District
Diane Whitaker
Annie Halenbake Ross Library
C. Lynn Williams
Priestley Forsyth Memorial
Library

**West Branch
Chapter**

Got Mugged!

Congratulations to our West Branch Chapter members who were caught wearing their West Branch ribbons at the PaLA Conference in October and won free PaLA mugs:

Janet Giguee, Spalding Memorial Library
Jeff Singer, Bradford County Library
Sheri Graves, Willis I. Lewis Memorial Library
Leslie Wishard, The Green Free Library

WB Reads

By Jody Cole

What we're reading is as varied as our backgrounds and positions. Melissa has been reading *Outliers*, a look at how some of us achieve enormous success, by Malcolm Gladwell. She's also reading Jamie Ford's debut novel, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. Steve Kluger's book for young adults, *My Most Excellent Year*, is also on her list.

C. Lynn Williams is reading Patricia Cornwell's *Scarpetta Factor*, the 17th forensic thriller featuring Kay Scarpetta as she tries to solve a murder, and Iris Johanssen's *Blood Game*.

History and vampire literature are interests of Nicole Staron, who re-

cently finished *The Historian*, a novel that combines both, by Elizabeth Kostova.

For her book club this month, Jody Cole read *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, a story of the German occupation of the Channel Island of Guernsey. She also read Tammy Greenwood's *Breathing Water* and is in the middle of Jeffrey Eugenides' novel *Middlesex*, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 2003.

If you'd like to share a book that you're reading with the rest of the West Branch Chapter, please send the information to Jody Cole at jcole@epix.net.

We Want to Hear From You!

Do you know a librarian or library worker who should be recognized in the chapter newsletter? Is your library hosting a big event, undergoing changes, or just wanting to share experiences with others in the area? Do you have a story that would be perfect for the West Branch Chapter newsletter? If so, send it to us! We are excited about the opportunity to network with our fellow librarians and library workers from the area, to gain insight from their experiences and applaud their achievements! Please send any ideas to Nicole Staron, West Branch Chapter Chair, at nstaron@pct.edu.