

REPORTER

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2010

VOLUME XXVIII ISSUE 6



WIA-KA-TAI-MOE-SHE-KIA-KIAMI
BLACK HAWK A SAURIE BRAVE

PUBLISHED BY F. W. GRENDOUGH, PHILAD.

Drawn, Printed & Coloured at T. T. Dewson's Lithographic Establishment No. 94 Walnut St.

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The Illinois Library Association Reporter

is a forum for those who are improving and reinventing Illinois libraries, with articles that seek to: explore new ideas and practices from all types of libraries and library systems; examine the challenges facing the profession; and inform the library community and its supporters with news and comment about important issues. The *ILA Reporter* is produced and circulated with the purpose of enhancing and supporting the value of libraries, which provide free and equal access to information. This access is essential for an open democratic society, an informed electorate, and the advancement of knowledge for all people.



ON THE COVER

The cover art is “Portrait of Black Hawk.” Thomas McKenney and James Hall. *History of the Indian Tribes of North America*. Philadelphia: Daniel Rice & J.G. Clarke, 1836–1844. The Augustana College Special Collections holds many materials related to Native Americans with a particular focus on the Black Hawk War. McKenney and Hall is one of the most renowned studies of Native Americans from its time, and is especially well known for its portraits of chiefs. For more information on Augustana’s special collections, see article beginning on page 10.

The Illinois Library Association is the voice for Illinois libraries and the millions who depend on them. It provides leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library services in Illinois and for the library community in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all. It is the eighth oldest library association in the world and the third largest state association in the United States, with members in academic, public, school, government, and special libraries. Its 3,700 members are primarily librarians and library staff, but also trustees, publishers, and other supporters.

The Illinois Library Association has three full-time staff members. It is governed by a sixteen-member executive board, made up of elected officers. The association employs the services of Kolkmeier Consulting for legislative advocacy. ILA is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization.

The *ILA Reporter* is published six times/year (Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Dec.) and is a benefit of ILA membership; the subscription rate for nonmembers is \$25. ISSN 0018-9979. Designed by Verso Design Corp., Joliet, Ill. Printed by Aspen Printing Services. Indexed by H.W. Wilson in *Library Literature & Information Science*. The *ILA Reporter* was first published in 1962.

See ILA calendar for submission deadlines for the *ILA Reporter*. Copy should be submitted by e-mail to ila@ila.org. You are encouraged to include digital or film photos (black/white or color) and graphics (on disk or camera-ready) with your articles, which will be included on a space-available basis.

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Bringing the Outside In . . . and the Inside Out are the ILA Reporter lead articles for 2010.

As society experiences changes in technology, communication and community, and the economy, librarians are reexamining how, when, where, and to whom they offer services. From education to advocacy, marketing to materials, topics will cover a range of issues important to libraries today.

"Once upon a Time: Storytelling and the ILA Legislative Network," the December lead article by Nancy A. Ashbrook, Glenview Public Library, announces plans for ILA's new advocacy support system and points out the value of true stories; and the My Turn column by Kathleen McSwain, Chicago Ridge Public Library, offers some advocacy tips.

This series of articles in the 2010 ILA Reporter aims to highlight efforts of the bricks-and-mortar libraries in our communities, businesses, and schools, to adapt to the ever-increasing virtual demands of our society and the evolving ways in which we are learning, communicating, and seeking information.

| Nancy A. Ashbrook, Glenview Public Library |

Once upon a Time: Storytelling and the ILA Legislative Network

A TRUE STORY

Patron (approaching the reference desk): "I don't think a public library will have anything on this topic, but I've been trying to find something for a while with no luck. I figured I'd try talking with a librarian."

Reference librarian: "Certainly. That's what we're here for. What are you trying to find?"

Patron: "I'm looking for information on natural gas leases. There's plenty of info out there on companies and stuff, but nothing for the people."

After a little questioning, it turned out that the patron owned property in Pennsylvania with a number of relatives and was looking for examples of typical terms in natural gas leases to use in negotiation with a company. As landowners, they wanted to know what they were getting into and protect themselves against a "bad deal."

Searching with a fellow librarian, I found quite a bit of information from a landowner's perspective, including numerous issues of a newsletter from a law office dealing with terms and legal language used in natural gas leases. The patron was effusive in his thanks.

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“To be an advocate is to raise your voice on behalf of an issue and join in common cause with people who share your same passions.”

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Every day, librarians and library staff answer questions and help patrons navigate a complex and often challenging environment of electronic resources: e-mail, job applications and professional resources, literacy resources, homework and education-related services, community information, e-commerce, social networking applications, online government sites, and so much more. Libraries struggle — and often succeed! — in meeting the needs of a public clamoring for more assistance, more computers, and more communication between groups of people.

Advocacy, that sometimes overused word, is what turns these “true stories” into genuine support for libraries, enabling them to provide more of the things their patrons want and need.

ADVOCACY WORKS BEST CLOSE TO HOME

The word advocate comes from the Latin word for voice. To be an advocate is to raise your voice on behalf of an issue and join in common cause with people who share your same passions. One voice can be an advocate; many voices united in advocacy can be powerful enough, and passionate enough, to create lasting change.

Just the word advocacy can make the rank-and-file librarian feel overwhelmed or out of his or her depth, seeing it as the job of library administrators and directors. Or perhaps it seems to be something completely outside of the local library realm, being the job of big-time lobbyists in Washington, D.C., pumping lots of money into one campaign or another in support of someone else’s agenda. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The most effective advocacy always occurs closest to home, when it engages the very constituents that elected officials represent. Mobilizing a single close acquaintance of an elected official can be worth more than ten highly paid lobbyists, leveraging a unique personal connection that no paid political lobbyist can provide. And there are very few institutions that have the ability to touch and motivate more people at the local level than the local library.

Illinois libraries are uniquely positioned to make a lasting impact, with resources, support, and information available to make us effective advocates. The Illinois Library Association (ILA) is looking to make 2011 a year of greatly increased activity, as the need has never been more pronounced.

TOOLS FOR ADVOCATES: THE ILA LEGISLATIVE NETWORK

At September’s ILA conference at Navy Pier, the association formally unveiled its plans for the new ILA Legislative Network. This new structure brings focus and organization to statewide library advocacy under a single banner, providing the necessary training, direction, and tools to be maximally effective.

The network will be organized regionally throughout the state, and dozens of advocates have already signed up to participate in this exciting and growing part of the ILA mission. Mike Grady, ILA’s new advocacy consultant, explained his approach: “Advocacy works best when it occurs locally. No one can make the case to a legislator about the importance of libraries better than the local librarians and the constituents that use these services.”

Grady, who has a broad base of experience with Illinois legislative issues and players, added, “We are building a structure that will allow us to identify, recruit, train, and mobilize local advocates in every legislative district in the state. In doing this, we have the potential to unlock real power in advancing our cause.”

In addition to Grady’s knowledge and experience in providing leadership and strategy, the foundation of the network will be regional advocacy training to make all Illinois’s library supporters confident and effective advocates.

For information on training activities in your area, send a message with ILA Advocacy Network in the subject line to mgrady@michaelalexanderassociates.com.

ONCE UPON A TIME: THE STORY BEGINS

In the meantime, here's a primer to get started. Consider this a teaser of just a few of the things you will learn if you join the ILA Legislative Network!

Step 1: What's the problem? Brainstorm with your colleagues to choose an issue you care about. It might be something small, and right in your backyard. Or something large, such as how the library is funded. We all know funding is in short supply, but how much does the public really know about how library funding works? Do they understand the devastation that has occurred recently and what future cuts will mean to "their" library?

Step 2: Research, research, research. Zoom in on a specific angle and possible solutions. Find out how the problem started. What are other people doing about it? People base their beliefs on personal experience, values, and needs. What are other people saying about the issue?

Step 3: Get others involved. Form partnerships with others who care about the issue and can help give voice to solutions — friends and neighbors, library associations, your patrons, community leaders, school officials, and clergy. Who else is working on the issue? What advocacy efforts have been effective — or not so effective?

Step 4: Here's the heart of the matter. Tell your story. Join with your partners to identify VIPs who will listen to you and have the influence to bring about change. If possible, attend a public meeting (or two) where you can observe how your potential VIPs make decisions, handle issues, and promote their agenda. Is the library on their radar? Be compelling. Clearly show the benefits — what's in it for you, me, and the community. Sometimes all it takes is just one person telling the story to a few people — those in a position to really do something to make a difference.

Step 5: Keep telling your story. One pitch does not make a game. Ongoing effort is needed from all your partners for success to occur. If VIPs jumped on board based on your story, thank them and ask what's next. If they're not on board, thank them for their time. Spread your good work — ideas, research, and progress — to others who can move it forward even more. Use what you've learned to educate and inspire others.

The new ILA Advocacy Network will hold four regional training sessions in January, February and March to help you make the most of your library's 2011 advocacy efforts. Mike Grady, ILA's advocacy consultant, will bring examples of how to turn the experiences of your library's Snapshot Day into marketable tools to use with legislators and other decision makers, as well as getting you up to speed on working with the new ILA Advocacy Network. Send a message with ILA Advocacy Network in the subject line to mgrady@michaelalexanderassociates.com for more information.

THE STORY CONTINUES

Why use storytelling in advocacy efforts? According to Amy Spaulding, author of *The Wisdom of Storytelling in an Information Age*, "... listening to stories develops the imagination, by requiring the hearer to join with the teller in creating the story within his or her own mind's eye. Second, it teaches critical thinking skills, such as cause and effect. Third, it teaches moral thinking — not in terms of rules, but in terms of guidelines, teaching principles that can be adapted to the reality of shifting situations — learning the spirit of the law rather than the letter. Fourth, storytelling makes abstract issues feel personal, and thus understandable, and creates an impact on each individual listener. Fifth, and finally, myth seems to be the language of our subconscious, and that is not going to change, no matter how technologized we become."

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Think of the story of King Solomon. When we hear this story, we “see it” in our imaginations — the lighting, the majesty of a king making a heart-wrenching decision, one peasant greedy and conniving, the other giving up the child of her heart to save the baby’s life. We think of other possible solutions, and consider “what-if” scenarios. What about the legalities of the situation? Could the peasants have provided documentation of their “ownership?” We feel the emotional pull of giving up a child, the family tie that breaks. Finally, we put ourselves into the story and become part of that community. The story is memorable because it makes a connection to our own lives. Put in journalistic terms, it provides a who, what, where, when, how, and why.

BACK TO THE BEGINNING

Think about how to turn the true story at the start of this article into an advocacy story.

First, add a little narration:

We’ve all been there. Thinking we know all the answers, or we can find the answers using the Internet. After all, everything is on the Internet, right?

Then mix in some dialogue and personalize things.

Recently, a patron — let’s call him Harry — walked up to the reference desk at my library. “I don’t think a public library will have anything on this topic,” he said, “but I’ve been trying to find something for the past six months without any luck. I figured I’d try asking a librarian for help.”

Sally, our reference librarian, responded with a smile, “Certainly. That’s what we’re here for. What are you trying to find?”

“I’m looking for info on natural gas leases,” Harry said. “There’s plenty of info out there on companies and stuff, but nothing for the people.”

“The library has a number of databases we can search for your information that aren’t on the Internet,” Sally told him. “Let me ask you a few questions, and then see what we can find.”

Harry explains about the property in Pennsylvania, the offer from a company to lease the land, and how as landowners, they want to know what they’re getting into and protect themselves against a “bad deal.”

Sally runs a search, finds several hits, and makes Harry an offer he can’t refuse. “Would you like to know how to do this? I could set you up over there and show you,” she says, pointing to a terminal.

Harry can’t believe his luck. He says he’ll be happy to tell anybody the story about what happened when Harry met Sally . . . at the library. Who knows, maybe it will even become a movie. Now that’s advocacy!

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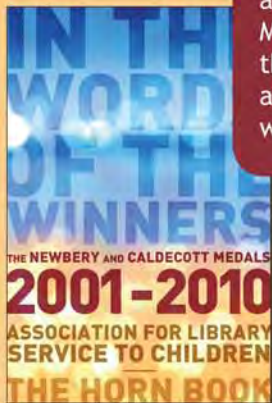


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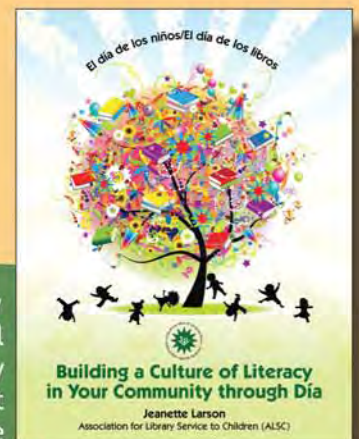


Two new Editions from the Association for Library Service to Children

Educators, librarians, scholars and book lovers alike will delight in this one-stop source of information on the most distinguished awards in children's literature—the Newbery and Caldecott Medals. Organized chronologically, each year's entry includes the Horn Book Magazine review of each winning book, medal acceptance speeches, and biographical essays about the year's winners. Available January 2011.



Celebrate multicultural family literacy with a new book by Jeanette Larson. Honoring 15 years of El día de los niños/El día de los libros, this new publication chronicles the history and mission of Día, and how Día is celebrated in different communities. Whether you currently celebrate Día or are interested in learning more, this book provides an indepth look into this year long celebration. Available April 2011.

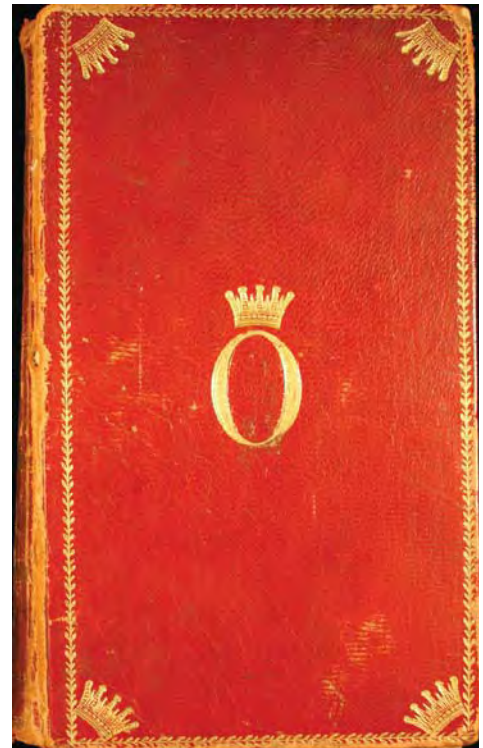


A Royal Beginning for Everyday Use: Special Collections at Augustana College

“The beginning of the library is almost a fairy story. Few college libraries have such an auspicious start in a royal palace.” Conrad Bergendoff, Augustana College President Emeritus, 1990

When the fledgling Augustana College and Theological Seminary, founded by Swedish and Norwegian ministers in 1860, sent a plea for support to influential leaders in Sweden, the result was astonishing. King Charles XV invited an Augustana representative to select five thousand volumes from the Royal Library of Sweden. Many of the books selected were in French (King Charles XV was descended from Jean Baptiste Bernadotte, a general under Napoleon, who became King Charles XIV John of Sweden), but Swedish, Norwegian, German, and Greek were also represented. These books arrived at the college in 1862 and were set up in the basement of the Immanuel Church in Chicago, at the intersection of Superior and Wells Streets. The college’s first home was in a small frame schoolhouse behind the church.

Anders Lindeberg. *Svensk Biografi*. Stockholm: Olof Grahn, 1818.
From the Charles XV collections, showing the royal insignia of his father King Oscar I.



The following year, Augustana moved to Paxton, Illinois, and eventually settled in Rock Island in 1875. These fortuitous moves saved King Charles XV's books from the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 that destroyed Immanuel Church, and the books survived to form the core circulating collection of the early library. While prized for their royal affiliation and as a symbol of the quality of education the college hoped to provide, they were ultimately for student use. Fewer than two thousand of those original volumes remain in the collection today, with some given to the Norwegian faculty who left in 1870 to later found Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and others lost over the years through attrition and disrepair.

The surviving volumes from the original Charles XV collection are but one subset of the library's Special Collections today, which holds rare books, manuscripts, and archival collections spanning topics such as the Upper Mississippi River Valley, Native Americans, children's literature, British and American literature, women's and gender studies, the Reformation, printing history, local history, and Augustana College history. Special Collections holds 16,000 printed volumes; 2,317 linear feet of manuscripts in just over three hundred collections; and about sixty thousand images of various types.

“Just as the books from the Royal Library of Sweden were meant for early Augustana students, so too are the treasures in today's Special Collections.”



Augustana students working in Special Collections.

ACCESSIBLE AND WIDELY USED

While these materials are featured in exhibitions and can be used by the public, it is in their use by Augustana students and classes that these materials really shine. Just as the books from the Royal Library of Sweden were meant for early Augustana students, so too are the treasures in today's Special Collections.

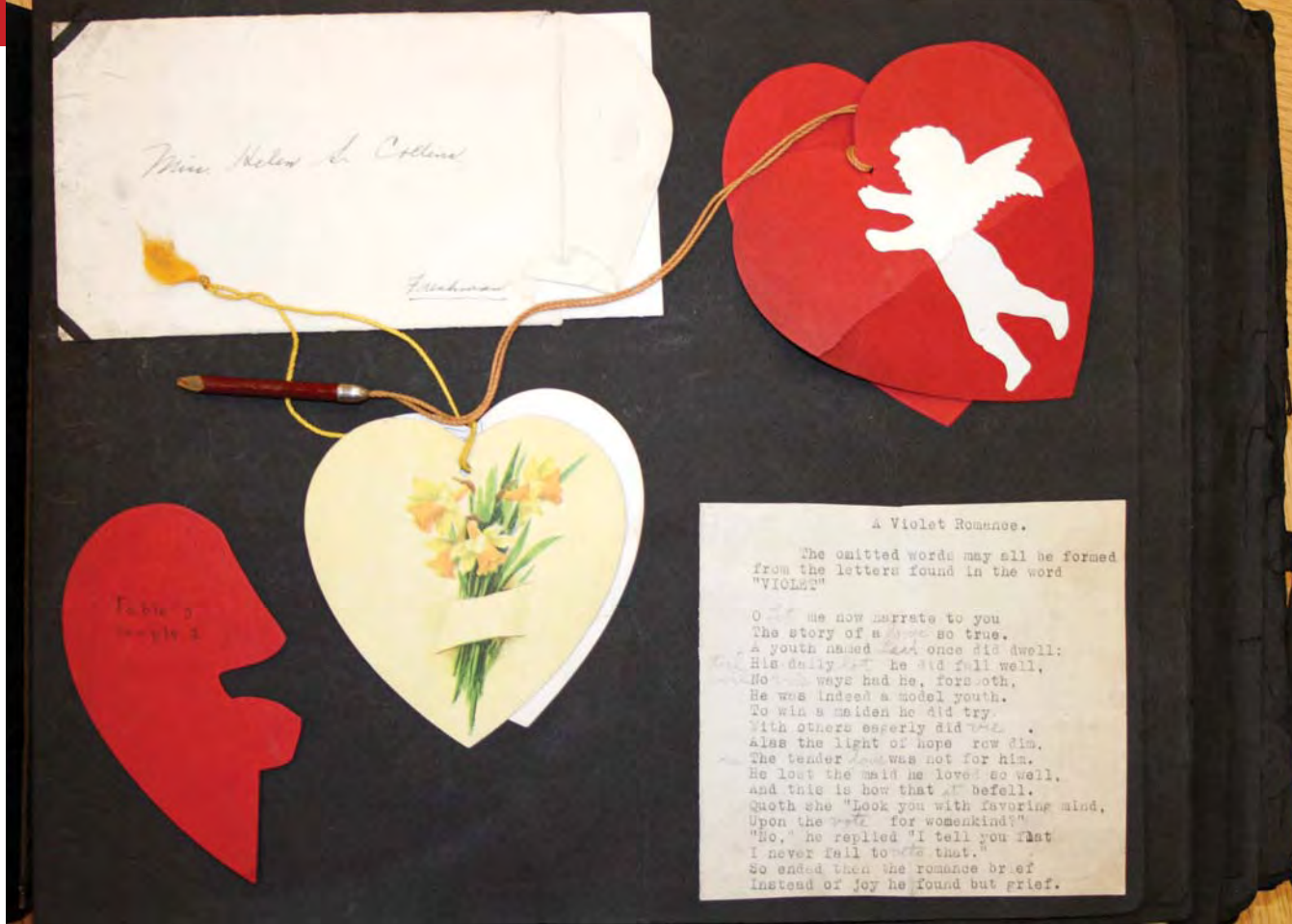
Classes and student researchers in a wide variety of disciplines, including English, history, geography, art history, women's and gender studies, French, and German, use materials in Special Collections. First-year general education classes as well as upper-level classes, including senior seminars and senior research projects, have benefited from Special Collections materials. During each of the past two academic years, student reference interactions in Special Collections totaled nearly one quarter of the student population (600 out of 2,500). This wide variety of usage shows that special collections materials can be a vital, living part of an undergraduate college.

Students in history seminars, for instance, explore the history and significance of Rock Island's West End Settlement through an impressive collection of primary source materials. The West End Settlement, founded by Susanne Denkmann Hauberg, was modeled after Jane Addams's Hull House. Using Susanne's diaries and glass plate negatives of the settlement house, taken by her husband, John Hauberg, students are able to place the settlement house within the Haubergs' wider charitable, political, religious, and social justice activities.

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“West End Settlement, Child Gardeners.” John Henry Hauberg Papers, MSS 27. May 29, 1915 glass plate negative of boys who worked in the settlement's gardens.



Helen S. Collins Scrapbook, 1919–1922, MSS 25. This scrapbook documents Helen's involvement in social activities while she was a student at Augustana College from 1919–1922. It includes photographs, newspaper clippings, invitations, programs, letters, scorecards, ticket stubs, and fellow students' autographs.

[continued from page 11]

Other projects using the Hauberg papers include Susanne's planning of a prairie-style house designed by Robert Spencer, a colleague of Frank Lloyd Wright, before her marriage to John Hauberg; John's fascination with and support of Native Americans; John's extensive amateur photography; and the couple's progressive-era activities, including prohibition, promoting child welfare, and conquering vice in the Quad Cities in response to local gangster John Looney's gambling, prostitution, and extortion activities. Because the Hauberg papers are extremely wide-ranging, they provide a wealth of information for students as they search for connective threads among published sources, archival materials, and the lives of the collection's creators.

Augustana's Native American book collection includes many titles on the Black Hawk War in the nineteenth century. Using accounts published around the time of the war, such as the many editions of Black Hawk's autobiography held by Special Collections, and the unpublished papers of John Hauberg, students in a history seminar are asked to contextualize how Black Hawk and his story were used by later residents of the area. Hauberg, in addition to being a prolific photographer, was an amateur historian and anthropologist who interviewed many of Black Hawk's descendants on reservations in Oklahoma and worked to promote the Sauk heritage of the Rock Island area.

CONTENT AND CONTEXT

British authors such as John Milton, Edmund Spenser, and John Donne are well represented in Special Collections. One English literature survey class, British Literature to 1660, frequently comes to Special Collections to learn about manuscripts and early printing and to discuss books as physical objects. These students are able to handle and examine early, published examples of texts they are reading in class. Students are asked to compare special collections books to typical twenty-first century books, to divine what they can about the intended audience of the book and how it was used from its physical appearance, and to think about the ways the physical book influences the reading of the text.

Special Collections holds a number of scrapbooks, mostly from the early twentieth century, chronicling the lives of young women. These are very popular resources for women's and gender studies classes. Students select single items or pages from scrapbooks, and attempt to place the event chronicled, often an event as "normal" as a basketball game or bridge party, sometimes one as "important" as attending a suffrage meeting, within the larger context of women's history, using our scrapbooks as micro histories or microcosms.

IDEAS TO REPLICATE

Special Collections librarians often work closely with classes in Augustana's first-year general education sequence. These courses are designed to be interdisciplinary in nature and include significant research and writing skill-building assignments. Many of the courses have an Augustana College history component for one of their writing assignments, helping students gain a deeper knowledge of the college and allowing them to understand both change and continuity on campus.

One first-year class studying environmental history works on a project exploring the geographical and built-environment history of the campus. Using a wide variety of sources such as photos, college catalogs, city directories, the student newspaper, and

secondary sources, students are able to construct histories of specific spaces on campus and then report on them to their classmates. Students are often surprised at what they discover, especially those who find that areas they considered "green space" had previously been home to buildings and that nearly all of the campus has been repurposed over time. Many of these first-year projects are easily replicable at other institutions that have college archival collections.

Special Collections at Augustana College is a thriving learning laboratory, often full of student researchers discovering the pleasures of working with primary documents and proving that, as William Faulkner once stated, the past isn't dead — it isn't even past. **IA**

Kate Greenaway. *Almanacs*. New York: George Routledge, 1884–89; 1890–95. Special Collection's holdings are strong in children's literature, especially those of the golden age of British illustration in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.



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Glenda Zahra Baker and Emily Hooper from In the Spirit energize the audience about the value of storytelling.



Green Literacy Gets Off to a Great Start

October 22, 2010, marked the kickoff for a great partnership between the Illinois Library Association (ILA), the Field Museum, and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). The first sixty librarians to sign on to the project are already putting their new tools to work to transform what it means to be green, and there's plenty of time and lots of ways for everyone else to get on board.


The ILA Marketing Committee applied to DCEO last year for funding to launch this innovative project, and despite the state's budget woes, received support from landfill use revenue that has to be dedicated to "going green." The whole idea behind the project is to expand the Reduce/Reuse/Recycle mantra with two new "R's," and libraries are the perfect place to begin. The fourth "R" is to rethink, finding new and more sustainable ways to help both people and the planet survive, and the fifth is to "relate," focusing on how communities can do this together.

Jennifer Hirsch, an anthropologist at the Field Museum, was instrumental in developing this incredible one-day workshop and a wealth of ideas and support at the project Web site, www.gogreenila.info. And ILA Marketing Committee Chair Denise Raleigh from the Gail Borden Public Library District in Elgin was the driving force that sought funding and put the pieces together.

Workshop participants started the day with exploration and discussion of the Field's *Ancient Americas* exhibit, discovering how the land and its people have constantly gone through cycles of exploitation and adaptation. Being "green" is hardly a twenty-first century invention, and recognizing that art and culture are as much a part of our environment as science is a way to make changes more rooted and sustainable.



The goal of the workshop is to get libraries all over the state to develop community projects and measure their impact. Project resources include case studies, tools, facilitator guides, resource links, and a blog for sharing. Waukegan Public Library's Elizabeth Stearns, one of the workshop participants, said it best when she noted that libraries are just the place for "green literacy," and also the place to make sure we don't have a "green divide" between rich and poor.

All of the workshop content, including an online tour of the *Ancient Americas* exhibit, is available at www.gogreenila.info and will also be presented in a Webinar to be held in early 2011. The *ILA Reporter* and *ILA E-newsletter* will carry regular updates in each issue through the coming year. For more information on how to get involved, contact Denise Raleigh, draleigh@gailborden.info. 

2010 ILA Annual Conference

Conference Statistics

Total attendees: 2,084

Exhibit booths: 170

Major Speakers: Opening General Session speakers Siva Vaidhyanathan and Nancy Kranich, Al Gini, ILA's resident philosopher and professor of philosophy at Loyola University Chicago, author Elizabeth Berg, 2011 iREAD illustrator David Catrow, and Peter Sagal, host of National Public Radio's "Wait, Wait ... Don't Tell Me" and author of *The Book of Vice: Very Naughty Things (and How to Do Them)*.

Conference Registration

	2010 Chicago	2009 Peoria	2008 Chicago	2007 Springfield	2006 Chicago	2005 Peoria	2004 Chicago	2003 Springfield	2002 Chicago	2001 Springfield
Full	673	460	767	580	844	616	736	527	699	579
Single day Tuesday	190	51	242	68	281	35	151	39	161	46
Single day Wednesday	191	77	269	109	233	122	282	119	258	66
Single day Thursday	194	10	77	12	66	24	98	8	83	47
Preconference only	0	0	16	5	32	6	108	151	151	73
SUBTOTAL	1,248	654	1,371	774	1,456	803	1,375	844	1,352	811
Speakers	147	65	83	74	100	27	105	78	133	102
Free expo passes	220	91	326	141	206	50	236	100	426	88
Exhibitor representatives	469	187	407	227	368	207	392	202	503	236
TOTAL	2,084	997	2,187	1,216	2,130	1,087	2,108	1,224	2,414	1,237

Hotel and Booth Statistics

Hotel Rooms Reserved by ILA	685	994	695	795	592	783	575	918	554	861
Hotel Rooms Used	384	737	611	939	690	945	626	1,169	605	896
Number of Companies	149	101	157	125	137	113	151	132	165	117
Number of Booths (including any paid canceled booths)	170	118	178	142	158	129	170	144	173	112.5
Total Square Feet	17,000	11,800	17,600	14,200	15,800	12,900	16,700	14,400	18,600	12,250

747 early bird registrations accounted for 64 percent (versus 84 percent last year) of final paid registration figures; 328 advance registrations accounted for 27 percent (versus 8 percent last year) of final paid registrations; and on-site registrations accounted for 14 percent (versus 8 percent last year) of final paid registrations.

ILA expresses its sincere appreciation to the following sponsors and donors of this year's conference:

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ILA wishes to thank our sponsors and all those individuals and organizations who have given generously of their time and talents to make this conference a success.

Photos by Dennis Pryber



Peter Sagal, the featured speaker at the 2010 Illinois Authors' Luncheon, was a big hit with dinner attendees.



Best-selling author Elizabeth Berg's presentation was a highlight of ILA's second-annual Speakers' Series.



The annual DiversiTea featured poet Haki Madhubuti, founder of Third World Press.

2010 ILA Annual Conference Award Photos

Photos by Dennis Pryber



Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial/DEMCO Award
Vandella Brown (r), Illinois State Library, presented by John Ison (l), DEMCO, Inc.



Crosman Memorial Award
Lauren Jensen (r), Monmouth College, presented by Kathy Underriner (l), Brodart Co.



Davis Cup Award
Dianne Happ (r), Peoria Public Library, presented by Heather Vulpone, ABDO Publishing Company (l).



Robert P. Doyle Award
Jan Adamczyk (r), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, presented by ILA Executive Director Robert P. Doyle (l).



Golden Ticket Award
Magi Henderson (l), Glen Carbon Centennial Library, presented by ILA President Gail Bush (r).



Highsmith Library Innovation Award
The Ray Bradbury Storytelling Festival Award presented by ILA President Gail Bush (l) to Richard Lee (c), Waukegan Public Library, and Elizabeth Stearns (r), Waukegan Public Library.



Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year Award
David H. Carlson (r), Southern Illinois University Carbondale, presented by Allen Lanham (l), representing the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois.



Librarian of the Year Award
Anne M. Hughes (r), Glen Carbon Centennial Library, presented by Elisa Topper (l), LAC Group.



Robert R. McClarren Legislative Development Award
Kathleen McSwain (r), Chicago Ridge Public Library, presented by Mary Weimar (l), ILA Awards Committee chair.

Awards



Jane O'Brien Award

Patricia Neubauer (l), Orland Park Public Library, presented by ILA President Gail Bush (r).



Deborah Dowley Preiser Award

Alissa Williams (r), Pekin Public Library, presented by ILA President Gail Bush (l).



Alexander J. Skrzypek Award

Phyllis A. Jacobek (r), Mokena Community Public Library District, presented by the ILA Awards Committee chair Mary Weimer (l).



TBS, Inc. Technical Services Award

Tony Siciliano (r), Metropolitan Library System, presented by Joy Anhalt (l) from the Resources & Technical Services Forum.



Trustee Citation

Noreen Lake (r), Des Plaines Public Library, presented by ILA President Gail Bush (l).



Trustee Citation

Margaret J. Danhof (r), Fountaindale Public Library District, presented by ILA President Gail Bush (l).



Sylvia Murphy Williams Award

Leni Matthews, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (l to r), Lisa West, Dominican University, Janis Elmore, Dominican University, and Nancy Gallegos, Dominican University.



Reference Services Award

My Info Quest Award presented to Barbara Galik (l) by Amy Hanaway (r), Reference Services Forum co-manager.



Jeanne Gilborne and Ellen Johnson School Librarianship Scholarship Award

ILA President Gail Bush (l), Emily Sergeant Award (c), Illinois School Library Media Association President Jeremy Dunn (r).

ILA Public Policy Committee (PPC)

The past year was perhaps the most stressful on record for Illinois libraries, creating an atmosphere of uncertainty for anyone trying to address statewide, regional, or even local public policy issues. The dramatic and unforeseen events of 2010 included abrupt suspension of services by one of the state's regional library systems and major reductions in service by others, layoffs at all systems, and discussion of major system restructuring.

The impetus for much of this was a statewide budget shortfall, resulting in deferring payment of appropriated obligations. At the end of the state's fiscal year on June 30, regional systems had received only 57 percent of their FY 2010 funds, with no clear sense of when or if additional funds will be forthcoming.

While ILA members and their libraries also faced upheaval on the local level as a result of the general economic climate, the ILA Public Policy Committee focuses primarily on state level issues. The committee's role is to provide guidance and counsel for the association's activities in relation to items before the Illinois General Assembly and in the hands of state governmental agencies.

Even prior to the events of the past year, some in the library community recognized the need to re-examine current regional structures. One of the major goals of last year's PPC Action Agenda was a statewide Summit on the Future of Illinois Library Cooperation (FILC), held in November 2009 with support from the Illinois State Library. Seventy members of the Illinois library community met to discuss issues, concerns, options, and opportunities.

Three task forces emerged from the summit, addressing the critical issues of structure, services, and funding as they relate to statewide cooperation. A draft plan, based on the task force reports, is being presented to ILA membership and appropriate state agencies and will be a basis for much of PPC's work in the coming year, as we move from plan to action in several key areas.

Library Jobline of Illinois



<http://www.ila.org/jobline>

Positions for Librarians and Support Staff

All employer job openings are listed on the ILA Web site (www.ila.org/jobline) for 30 days and the cost is \$100.

2010 ILA Public Policy Initiatives

Introduction

The work of the association in the public policy arena is a critical role for a membership organization that represents not only the library profession, but also the communities and residents of the state served by public, school, academic, and special libraries. The ILA Public Policy Committee (PPC) provides a broad overview of the areas of concern and through setting an annual action agenda; both monitors and directs attention to key issues, topics, and events throughout the year.

One of the major areas of state level support for libraries has been through regional library systems that facilitate such services as delivery and other ways of sharing materials through catalogs and electronic resources. As the current regional system structure evolves, PPC will work to keep ILA members, stakeholders, and the public informed of the benefits, needs, and value of effective resource sharing for all types of libraries and all Illinois residents.

The committee works closely with the Illinois State Library, maintaining open and clear communications and offering input from the broader library community to state officials. The state library, in turn, provides an overarching structure for statewide library services, such as per capita grants and other programs and assistance.

Throughout the coming year, PPC will meet regularly to review any and all legislation with potential beneficial or harmful consequences for the library community. Working with legislative and advocacy counsel, the committee will pay attention to issues ranging from library funding to intellectual freedom to pension reform for public employees. Its work will be shared with members through ILA's communication channels and all members are encouraged to be active participants in keeping libraries on the agenda in their local communities and in Springfield.

2010 ILA Action Agenda

The Illinois Library Association is committed to serving as an advocate for libraries by developing legislative initiatives that improve funding for libraries; protect intellectual freedom and patron confidentiality; expand access to information and library resources to all Illinois residents; and increase the effectiveness of Illinois libraries.

Library Funding

The Illinois Library Association will work with a broad coalition of library advocates to improve funding for libraries. The association will:

- Implement the recommendations of the Future of Illinois Libraries task force regarding the most efficient use of available library funding resources.
- Seek full funding for public and school library per capita grants at state statutory limits.
- Seek full funding for the services provided through regional library systems.
- Support legislative proposals that mitigate the harmful effects of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Act ("tax caps").
- Oppose legislation that would result in a reduction in local funding to libraries.
- Work with the legislature to increase the Illinois Secretary of State's budget in order to increase the funding for the Illinois State library.

Intellectual Freedom and Privacy

The Illinois Library Association is committed to protecting intellectual freedom and privacy while providing open access to information for all Illinois residents. The association will:

- Continue to educate the public on the safe use of the Internet, including interactive Web applications, by children.
- Continue to oppose legislation mandating the use of Internet filters in libraries.
- Encourage governing boards of schools and libraries to develop an Acceptable Internet Use Policy with input from their community.
- The association will continue to oppose legislation that erodes the privacy of library users.

Access to Library Services

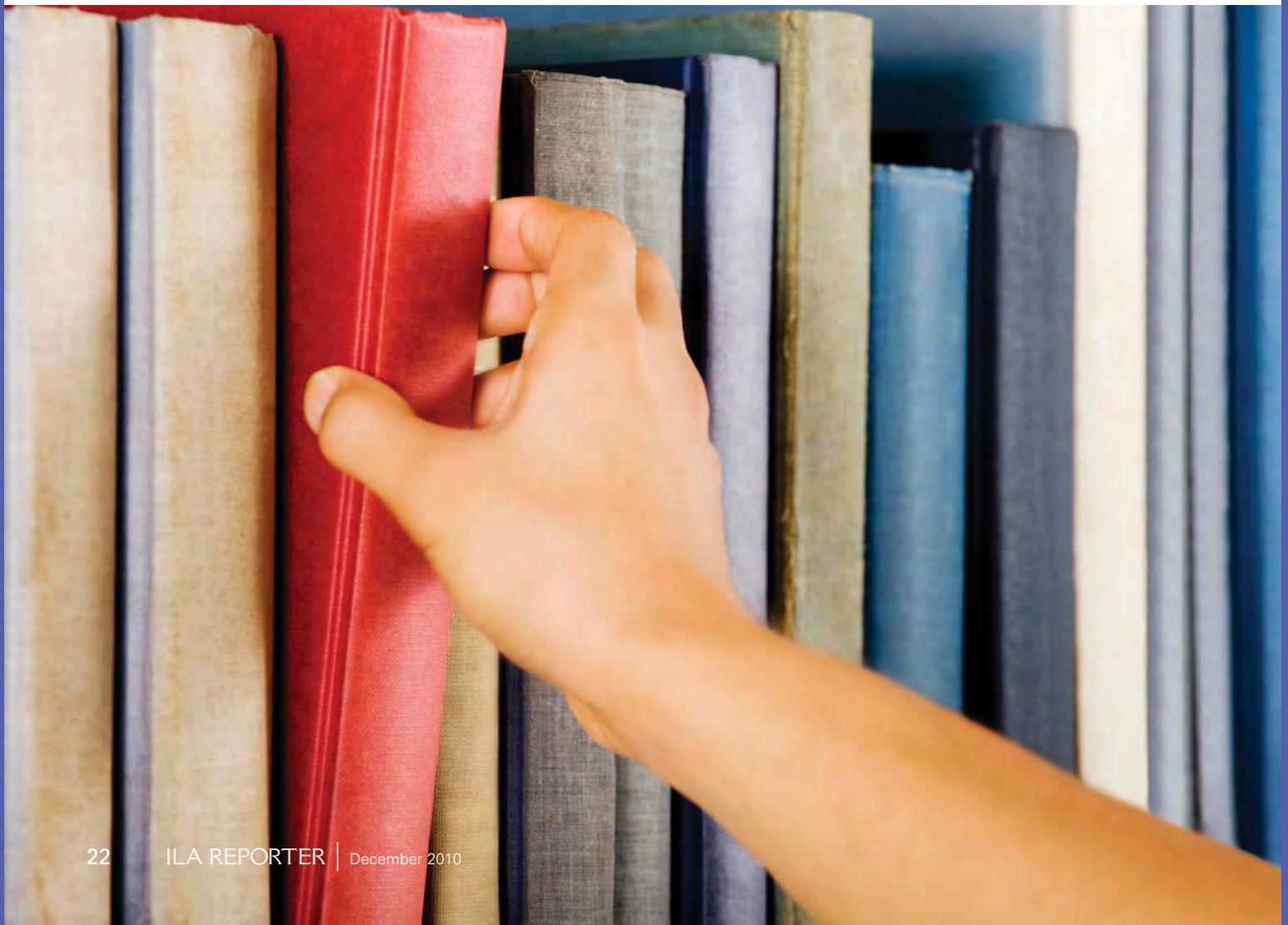
The Illinois Library Association believes access to library services should be a right and responsibility of every Illinois resident. The association will:

- Oppose legislation that would erode public library service areas.
- Work to extend tax-supported public library services to the 9 percent of Illinois residents currently unserved.
- Work to ensure libraries are established in good faith with intentions to operate as a library.
- Work to ensure that school library legislation is expanded to equip all school libraries with certified media personnel.
- Support libraries to upgrade to higher speed connections at the same time to maximize the government's investment in moving the nation toward ubiquitous broadband access.

Increase Effectiveness of Illinois Libraries

The Illinois Library Association is committed to promoting legislation that will increase the effectiveness of Illinois libraries. The association will:

- Work to develop library legislation that is comparable to legislation benefiting other entities of government.
- Work to develop initiatives that improve the ability of Illinois libraries to provide library services to the citizens of Illinois.



2010 General Election Library Referenda Results

In this latest election, there were 10 library referenda — 4 passed, 6 failed; for a 40 percent success rate.

Government Unit Name	Jurisdiction	Result	Referenda Type	Description
Deerfield Public Library	Cook, Lake	PASSED	Tax	Shall bonds in the amount of \$11,775,000 be issued for Library purposes by the Village of Deerfield, for remodeling and expanding the library building by 10,000 sq. ft. including site preparation, and the remodeling, improving, and rehabilitating of the existing building, including technology, related fixtures, materials, furnishings and improvements?
Ford Heights Library District	Cook	PASSED	Tax	Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law for the Ford Heights Public District, Cook County, Illinois, be increased by an additional amount equal to 0.478% above the limiting rate for any and all library purposes for levy year 2008 and be equal to 0.478% of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for levy year(s) 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013? (1) The approximate amount of taxes extendable at the most recently extended limiting rate is \$39,928, and the approximate amount of taxes extendable if the proposition is approved is \$68,653. (2) For the 2010 levy year the approximate amount of the additional tax extendable against property containing a single-family residence having a fair market value at the time of the referendum of \$100,000 is estimated to be \$20. (3) Based on an average annual percentage increase in the market value of such property of 1.39%, the approximate amount of this additional tax extendable against such property for the 2011 levy year is estimated to be \$21 and for the 2012 levy year is estimated to be \$21 and for the 2013 levy year is estimated to be \$22. (4) If the proposition is approved, the aggregate extension for 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 will be determined by the limiting rate set forth in the proposition, rather than the otherwise applicable limiting rate calculated under the provisions of the Tax Extension Limitation Law (commonly known as the Property Tax Cap Law).
Manhattan-Elwood Public Library District	Will	FAILED	Bond	Shall the bonds of the Manhattan-Elwood Public Library District, Will County, Illinois, in the amount of \$5,500,000 be issued for the purpose of purchasing a portion of a building to be used as a library, repairing, remodeling and improving said building, furnishing necessary equipment therefor and acquiring library materials (such as books, periodicals, films and recordings) and electronic data storage and retrieval facilities in connection therewith?

[continued on page 24]


Government Unit Name	Jurisdiction	Result	Referenda Type	Description
Maywood Public Library District	Cook	PASSED	Tax	Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law for the Maywood Public Library District, Cook County, Illinois, be increased by an additional amount equal to 0.225% above the limiting rate for levy year 2008 for library purposes and for the purpose of maintaining a relatively level overall tax rate for two years and be equal to 0.775% of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for levy year 2010? (1) The approximate amount of taxes extendable at the most recently extended limiting rate is \$1,364,890, and the approximate amount of taxes extendable if the proposition is approved is \$1,923,254. (2) For the 2010 levy year the approximate amount of the additional tax extendable against property containing a single-family residence and having a fair market value at the time of the referendum of \$100,000 is estimated to be \$22.50. (3) If the proposition is approved, the aggregate extension for 2010 will be determined by the limiting rate set forth in the proposition, rather than the otherwise applicable limiting rate calculated under the provisions of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (commonly known as the Property Tax Cap Law).
Oregon Public Library District	Ogle	FAILED	Tax	Shall the annual public library tax rate for The Oregon Public Library District, Oregon, Illinois be established at .27% of the equalized assessed value instead of at .15%, the maximum rate otherwise applicable to the next taxes to be extended?
Oregon Public Library District	Ogle	FAILED	Bond	Shall the bonds of the Oregon Public Library District, Ogle County, Illinois in the amount of \$6,900,000 be issued for the purpose of building a new library building, furnishing necessary equipment and acquiring library materials and electronic data storage and retrieval facilities in connection therewith?
Prairie Heritage District Library	Menard	PASSED*	Miscellaneous	Shall a Prairie Heritage District Library be established in part of Menard County and under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, may an aggregate extension, not to exceed \$125,000, be made for The Prairie Heritage District Library 2010 levy year?

*Pending final verification by County officials.

Government Unit Name	Jurisdiction	Result	Referenda Type	Description
St. Charles Public Library District	DuPage, Kane	FAILED	Tax	Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law for the St. Charles Public Library District, Kane and DuPage Counties, Illinois, be increased by an additional amount equal to 0.023% above the limiting rate for library purposes for levy year 2009 and be equal to 0.26445% of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for levy year 2010?
St. Charles Public Library District	DuPage, Kane	FAILED	Bond	Shall the bonds of the St. Charles Public Library District, Kane and DuPage Counties, Illinois, in the amount of \$35,000,000 be issued for the purpose of building an addition to, improving the site of and repairing, remodeling and improving the existing library building and furnishing necessary equipment and acquiring library materials and electronic data storage and retrieval facilities in connection therewith?
Tiskilwa Public Library	Ogle	FAILED	Bond	Shall the bonds of the Tiskilwa Public Library, Bureau County, Illinois, in the amount of \$1,810,000 be issued for the purpose of renovating or erecting a building to be used as a library and furnishing necessary equipment for such building [and acquiring library materials and electronic data storage and retrieval facilities in connection with the construction of such building]?

Librarians...

Oh, How Merry!



It's finally here! The holiday season with its excitement and surprises is upon us. Although it seems a bit less sparkly amidst the economic depression that has strangled us for more than a short time (Bah!), 'tis the season nonetheless, and we should be joyful for all the right reasons. We are alive, and we in libraries have undoubtedly provided good things for people from every walk of life.

So what is it that you wish to find in your stocking this month? Warm feet, a new friend or two, happiness in the form of healthy family members we cherish, and a good stiff nog come to mind, but, hey, everyone's list is special.

I have already taken the liberty of asking a few colleagues what they wanted for the holidays. Of course, I have spoken only to members of the Illinois Library Association recently, so my report is limited to regional wishes. I was happy to find that so many of us are truly into the spirits of the season, and are having quite a bit of fun talking about issues of the day, over and over, if you know what I mean.


For example, it is hard to ignore the buzz surrounding the newly forming library system organizations in both the north and south. Folks seem pleased at the prospect of fewer boundaries and acronyms to worry about, more member libraries per each system, and a sense of relief that there may be some peace of mind on the horizon for all our colleagues who have been worried to a frazzle about this situation during the past year.

Let's toast to the Spirit of New Beginnings as regional planning committees busily carve the way.

Someone from near I-55 has suggested that the next delivery system for Illinois libraries should come from a company called North Pole Overnight. They say they are reliable, quick, and have a lot of experience; plus they already know the territory. Although our State Ethics Test and Procurement Act prohibit this, I called their number and asked a few questions. Their rep spoke in a tiny voice, but assured me that Illinois libraries would save money on gas and tires if we went with their service, and there would be no problem selling our old delivery vans because they could fit them into one of their vehicles snip-snap and slip them into someone else's stocking next year. It's a win-win all around.

I was imagining the smell of cinnamon coming from the phone as I chatted with the rep. He was oh so nice, tittered a lot, and then asked me a few questions. How many different colored bags would we need this year? Could they all be red? Did we want to wrap each book or DVD separately? And, oddly, would we want to deliver to all libraries, or just the good ones?

Well, that last question made me stop and lay a finger aside of my nose. What did he mean? Were there libraries that had not been good? Then something stirred in my head, and I remembered what another librarian had mentioned about her neighbor. Why, they apparently were not playing well together recently and were beside themselves about what to do with each other. It did not seem seasonal, to say the least. Libraries must cooperate with each other or become entities unto themselves, meaning... play the game or get out of the game altogether. We have all heard about being good, no matter what age... or you know what will happen.



Let's toast to the Spirit of Library Cooperation, keep it twinkling throughout the year.

I must report on what the librarians near I-80 had to say when I asked them what they were looking for in the next few weeks (or months, since some could not make up their minds). They thought governance had been problematic this past year, and felt that libraries might wish for an ideal set of policies and agreements. Perhaps the answers could be found in a grand, golden bottle, which could be rubbed just the right way as to produce an all-knowing executive director. I thought that was a bit far-fetched, but it might happen if the administrator was jolly, was wearing eco-friendly fur, and could keep shoes free of soot. Certainly no used book peddler would be cheery enough for the job, but librarians have been known to fall for dancers and a few vixens have crossed the desk with a red date stamp or two, but I digress... (It was all in the past, and if we could just get them to quit telling stories at the conferences...)

Anyway, they wanted this bottle to also produce valuable coins upon touch as well as all the latest materials for each library, not just for those who live near large chimneys. The resident of the bottle would be expected to offer sage advice and tell librarians about upcoming potholes near the Capitol. They agreed that some regulation might be necessary to keep all member hands off the bottle, as everyone could remember when squeaky mice always got the cheese and contented introverts never found out how to move their fish.

Let's toast to the Spirit of Shared Governance, rights and responsibilities included.

Finally, I should mention, for this is a season of nostalgia, that the historians among our librarians, even though they think they outnumber the English majors among us, (which they never will, by Cratchie), feel it essential to recall the glorious work achieved this year and for many years past by the libraries and library professionals of Illinois. With some retiring, others expiring, others barely firing, for the most part our people are going off like fireworks on the Fourth of July and are worthy of praise and compliments, curds and whey, turkey and dressing and all the trimmings.

Let's toast to the Future of Illinois Libraries! Like stars circling overhead, beacons to all who want merriment, sugar-plums, and contentment in their heads. **ILA**

Some things seasonal for librarians

- ★ holiday goodies
- ★ collegial staff relations
- ★ gift books and hearty donations
- ★ banned books with no explanations
- ★ sound facilities without ruination
- ★ a check list for acquisitions
- ★ all patrons happy, no inquisitions
- ★ but most of all, holiday goodies
- ★ love and peace



Dear Elsie,

Is it true that the GMD will disappear with RDA? If so, how will we alert our patrons (and ourselves) to the fact that a title is a CD, a DVD, and so on?

Designated (and would like to stay that way) in Decatur

Dear Designated,

It is true that RDA does not retain the General Material Designation (GMD) that we are all familiar with from AACR2.

Instead, there are three new elements: Content Type, Media Type, and Carrier Type (MARC fields 336, 337, and 338). This is in keeping with the separation of the concepts of content, media, and carrier in FRBR and RDA. (For a more detailed discussion of the reasoning behind this treatment, see Chris Oliver's "FRBR and RDA: Advances in Resource Description for Multiple Format Resources" at <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/ila/005002-2200-e.html>.)

RDA's definitions for these elements, like many FRBR and RDA concepts, are rather abstract and can be difficult to grasp on first reading: "content type" is "a categorization reflecting the fundamental form of communication in which the content is expressed and the human sense through which it is intended to be perceived"; "media type," "a categorization reflecting the general type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource"; "carrier type," "a categorization reflecting the format of the storage medium and housing of a carrier in combination with the type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource." Each element has a list of authorized terms, and a look at these can clarify the kind of information called for in each.

The 25 content-type terms include "cartographic image," "cartographic moving image," "computer dataset," "computer program," "notated movement," "notated music," "performed music," "sounds," "spoken word," "tactile text," "text," "three-dimensional form," and "two-dimensional moving image." Ten terms are authorized for media type, including

"audio," "computer," "microform," "unmediated," and "video." The 48 carrier-type terms are subdivided by media type and include "audio disc," "audiocassette," "computer disc," "online resource," "object," "volume," "videocassette," and "videodisc."

Content type and carrier type are core elements of RDA; media type is not, but recording it is encouraged. (Since carrier type is a more specific designation of media type, the Library of Congress hopes a way can be found to generate the latter element automatically from the former.)

A look at the sample records provided by the Library of Congress and other institutions testing RDA shows these three elements present in records for all kinds of materials, not just nonprint formats. For example, for a printed book:

```
336 ## $a text $2 rdacontent
337 ## $a unmediated $2 rdamedia
338 ## $a volume $2 rdacarrier
```

For an audiobook on CDs :


```
336 ## $a spoken word $2 rdacontent
337 ## $a audio $2 rdamedia
338 ## $a audio disc $2 rdacarrier
```

For a music score (bound as a volume, not a single sheet):

```
336 ## $a notated music $2 rdacontent
337 ## $a unmediated $2 rdamedia
338 ## $a volume $2 rdacarrier
```

OCLC's Technical Bulletin 258 (<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/support/documentation/worldcat/tb/258/default.htm>) has information on how these elements and their corresponding MARC designators will be used, as well as how OCLC will index the information. Less clear at this writing is how vendors will use the data in these three fields to enhance display and searching for catalog users.

Bibliographically yours,
Elsie

Questions for Elsie? Just ask! E-mail them to ila@ila.org (mention "Elsie" in the subject line) or send to Elsie, c/o Illinois Library Association, 33 W. Grand Ave., Ste. 301, Chicago, IL 60654. 



Illinois Library Trustees: Charting a New Course in Times of Change

ILA Library Trustee Forum 2011 Workshops

North: Saturday, February 26, 2011
Marriott Hickory Ridge Conference Center
1195 Summerhill Drive
Lisle, IL 60532

South: Saturday, March 26, 2011
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center
701 E. Adams St.
Springfield, IL 62701-1616

Join the ILA Library Trustee Forum for our annual workshop, designed specifically for library trustees. This year we will be offering the program twice, in Lisle and Springfield.

For more information on the program, and to register online, please visit www.ila.org/Trustee2011.

For those requiring an overnight stay, a block of hotel rooms has been reserved for each location.

Marriott Hickory Ridge Conference Center:

The single/double room rate is \$89, plus tax, per night. Please call (800) 334-0344 to make your reservation. Reservations must be made by February 11, 2011.

President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center:

The single/double room rate is \$89.99. Please call (217) 544-8800 to make your reservation. Reservations must be made by March 4, 2011.

Registration Form

Remember to contact the hotel directly for room reservations!

ILA Member Registration: \$125*
Non-Member Registration: \$150*

Registration includes breakfast and lunch, two snack breaks, and the workshop.

** Register multiple trustees and save! Register one trustee at the full price and each additional trustee from your institution will receive a \$10 registration discount. Please send a separate form to register each trustee.*

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Please select your session:

- North/Lisle, February 26
- South/Springfield, March 26

Payment Information:

Registration Amount: _____

Method of Payment:

- Check MasterCard VISA Discover AmEx

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Deadline for registration is February 11, 2011 for Lisle and March 11, 2011 for Springfield. Cancellations must be received in writing before February 11 or March 11, respectively.

Cancellations received after February 11/March 11 and before February 26/March 26, will receive a 50% refund. No refunds will be given for cancellations received after February 26/March 26. All cancellations are subject to a \$15 processing fee. Confirmations and additional information will be sent after the registration deadline. Send conference registration and payment to Illinois Library Association, 33 W. Grand Ave, Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60654; phone: (312) 644-1896, fax: (312) 644-1899.



Advocacy!

You can do it ... Yes, you can!

Are you an advocate for libraries? If you believe that libraries are an important part of your community and you can speak to that topic, then you are a library advocate. Whether you are an employee, library trustee, library student, or just a friend of the library, learning to speak about the library is the first step to becoming an advocate.

Simple library advocacy begins at home! Think about what you do every day in your job at the library. Hopefully everyone strives to make the library a pleasant place for all users. You make a connection with a patron, linking them to whatever it was that brought them to the library. Whether the visit was for a simple photocopy, book, program, reference question, or access to the Internet, somehow through that visit a connection was made. The connection was most likely a positive experience, with your patron leaving the library feeling fulfilled. That positive connection is actually a simple form of advocacy.

“The library needs to be vital part of the community so that all library users are familiar with what makes that library so great!”

While patrons come in and out of our library building every day, how they are greeted and welcomed has an impact on the visit. A warm greeting or smile opens the door to frontline advocacy. All staff at the library should have training in frontline advocacy — at our library it is a must! Staff should be willing and able to help patrons upon entrance into the library. All patrons should be treated with the same respectful service. When patrons feel welcome and have a positive experience they come back; they tell a friend about the library who tells another friend, and so on. The process of passing on favorable comments that support the library is a form of advocacy that starts when the patron walks in the door.

Collect the success stories from your library. We all have them — the patron who searched for a job using the library as a resource, and then found a job; or children who maintained successful reading habits from participating in the annual summer reading program. Tell these stories and share the successes!

Taking the library into the community is another form of advocacy. Showing how the library relates to other agencies within the community is very important. Public libraries work closely with schools, including the teachers, principals, students, and parents. Other community agencies such as the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary clubs, scout troops, and senior groups are also potential partners within the community. Don't forget local businesses such as banks, pizza places, insurance agencies, and other specialty stores such as bakeries, ice cream, and fast food businesses. Many will offer coupons or trinkets for library programs.

The library needs to be a vital part of the community so that all library users are familiar with what makes that library so great! Participate in community events that present an opportunity for the library to be recognized as a participant, such as school open houses, parades, festivals, and business expos.



When talking about your library becomes part of your comfort zone, learn to be a spokesperson. Be proud to tell people about the great things going on in your library. Prepare a two-minute message, whether it be about an upcoming program or event, a new service, or just a quick informative statement that will catch someone's interest. The same thing works in reverse, so if there is something that the library needs in order to be successful or a library issue that needs to be addressed, be prepared with that message, too!

Once you become a seasoned advocate for your library, get ready to meet with your local government officials, state representatives, state senators, and your local Congress person. Invite them to events at the library. Send them a regular copy of your library newsletter. Notify them of any grant monies that you receive and be sure to thank them for supporting libraries through grant funding that may become available.

It is important to keep them informed about what is happening at your library. Take time to stop in their local office and introduce yourself and tell a story about the library. Become a member of the newly created Illinois Library Association Legislative Network; send your contact information including your e-mail address to Mike Grady, mgrady@michaelalexanderassociates.com

The Illinois Library Association along with the American Library Association has a wealth of information about advocacy on their Web sites. Take advantage of these tools that are available to help you become an advocate for libraries. When the opportunity presents itself to participate in Illinois Library Day activities and ALA National Library Legislative Day, be sure to join the group and support libraries.

Advocacy is really simple, you can do it — yes, you can. **ILA**



Illinois Library Association

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