



VERMONT  
LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION

## VLA News - August 2012

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### Conference Committee

The VLA Conference Committee is in the process of gathering ideas for keynoters and workshops. If you have an idea, want to get involved, or anything else, [contact Conference Chair Jane Napier](#) today!

### Trustee Workshop

The statewide fall trustee workshop will be held Saturday, November 3, at [Vermont Technical College](#). A full day's workshops are

## President's Letter

Hard to believe we are almost half way through this summer. I hope everyone is enjoying their summer with great library programs and some good old relaxing in the sun.

In the last newsletter I spoke about [Turning the Page 2.0](#), the free library advocacy training course developed and presented by the [Public Library Association](#) (PLA) and generously supported by [The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#). In my speech at the VLA conference in May I stated, "During the six-weeks of the course every participant pinpointed an advocacy goal and its target audience. We developed a parking lot speech to this audience. Then it was our job to put together an advocacy team and work with community partners on meeting our advocacy goal. We learned how to identify specific activities to meet our goal and in the end how to measure our success. Although ultimately all of the participant's goals were to raise support for their libraries in one form or another, each and every one of us had a different plan developed especially to appeal to our individual communities."

Since then I have had some time to work on my advocacy goal by implementing the plan developed. Like most plans, evaluation is needed constantly. Don't wait until it is over. In my situation, the feedback was not overwhelming and I had to sit down with my team and make some adjustments.

What is most important is that you don't stop. It should be an ongoing effort in letting your community know how your library can benefit them. A new round of Turning the Page 2.0 will be starting the week of September 24th and I encourage you to attend. It will benefit you, your library and your community.

being planned with a keynote speaker and break out sessions as well as the famous "Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me" session right after lunch. The committee recently visited the location to plan the event, changing how we use the space to eliminate some problems from the previous meeting held there in 2010. We will share this meeting with our friends groups and look forward to a full day working and learning with other trustees and friends. If you have any questions, please contact [VLA Trustees Section President Laurel Stanley](#).

### Share the Experience

We know that Vermont libraries are presenting interesting programs, utilizing new technologies, and improving procedures. We can learn from each other. If you have an article that you would like to contribute to *VLA News* about a process or idea that you think would benefit other Vermont libraries, please [contact the VLA Editorial Committee](#).

### Better Know A Library

What makes your library special? Share a photo and a story about your library.

Been to a great library? Tell us about it!

[Email the VLA Editorial Committee](#) with your stories and pictures.

### Auditor Needed

VLA needs an experienced professional to audit our finances pro bono. If you or someone you know would be interested in donating this work, please [contact VLA Treasurer Wynne Brown](#).

### Back Issues

Sincerely,



Deborah Gadwah-Lambert  
VLA President  
Director, [Alice M. Ward Memorial Library](#)

## Vice President's Letter

Greetings VLA!

After UVM's triumphant win at the [First Annual VLA Book Cart Drill Team Competition](#), it's now my pleasure to serve the Vermont library community as your new Vice President. I look forward to working hard as an advocate for all libraries throughout the Green Mountain State.

I am new to Vermont. Coming by way of Brooklyn, New York to work at UVM as the Catalog/Metadata Librarian for [Bailey/Howe Library](#). Before moving to Vermont, I received my MLIS from [Pratt Institute](#) in 2009 with certificates in Archives and Museum Librarianship. At Pratt, I focused on metadata standards, cataloging, and digital libraries for cultural heritage institutions. After graduate school I worked as the metadata specialist for Whirl-i-gig, the software firm behind the design of [CollectiveAccess](#) an open-source collection management system for museums, archives and historical societies. I am no stranger to boards. In New York, I served as the [New York Technical Services Librarians](#) Event Coordinator, [ASIS&T Metro](#) Vice-President, and President for the Friends of my local branch library.

I believe in freedom and access to information. What attracted me to become a librarian can be found in our core principles - [The Library Bill of Rights](#):

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues.

Did you miss previous issues of the new VLA News? Don't despair! You can read them on the VLA Website!

[VLA News Back Issues](#)

## Substitute Pool

The [Vermont Library Substitute Pool](#) is booming, check out the numbers!

Subs/Temps/Volunteers  
Signed Up: **68**

Potential Employers  
Accessing It: **39**

Availability of Pool by County:

Addison - 18  
Bennington - 10  
Caledonia - 11  
Chittenden - 38  
Essex - 4  
Franklin - 9  
Grand Isle - 10  
Lamoille - 15  
Orange - 11  
Orleans - 3  
Rutland - 14  
Washington - 19  
Windham - 14  
Windsor - 12

Check out all the [VLA Employment Resources](#)

## Meet Your Leaders

VLA is here to help you. The people who make up the Executive Board, Section & Committee leaders and Representatives volunteer their time for VLA because they feel that it is important to be involved in an organization that benefits their fellow Vermont librarians and their profession as a whole. Below is a list of your VLA Leaders (for more contact information, see the [VLA Leadership Directory](#)). Let them know if you would like to be involved in VLA, too!

### Executive Board

**President:**  
[Deborah Gadwah-Lambert](#)

Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

It's going to be an exciting year. I may be new to Vermont, but I hope to bring a passion for libraries that will energize our organization and lead our profession into the 21st century.

Amber Billey  
VLA Vice President / President Elect  
Cataloging/Metadata Librarian, [University of Vermont](#)

## Editorial

Vermont librarians have been talking off and on about the need to address diversity and inclusive practices as a profession in this state. The issue for Vermont is this: given our traditional commitment to issues of fairness and diversity practices, it is frequently assumed that this kind of work isn't needed here anymore. Committee work usually involves creating a safe space for librarians and generating services to patrons who identify with, or as part of, marginalized groups. In recent years these types of committees are in decline; not just in New England but everywhere. Why?

One answer could be that groups formed around ideas naturally struggle more than those formed around the commonality of work. Generally speaking, sections about Youth Librarians or Technical Services thrive by binding members to each other by work practices. Those groups that focus on the Big Ideas, like Intellectual Freedom and

**Vice President/President Elect:**

[Amber Billey](#)

**Past President:**

[Joseph Farara](#)

**Secretary:**

[Heidi Steiner](#)

**Treasurer:**

[Wynne Browne](#)

**Section Representatives**

**Youth Librarians President:**

Organizes workshops and assists youth librarians.

[Amy McMullen](#)

**College & Special Libraries**

**President:**

Organizes workshops and assists college and special librarians.

[Andy Burkhardt](#)

**Public Libraries President:**

Organizes workshops and assists public librarians.

[Lucinda Walker](#)

**Trustees President:**

Organizes workshops and assists library trustees.

[Laurel Stanley](#)

**Vermont Library Trustees Association Convenor from DOL:**

Organizes workshops and assists library trustees.

[Michael Roche](#)

**Awards Committee Chair:**

[Grace Greene](#)

**Archivist:**

[Paul Carnahan](#)

**Department of Libraries Representative to the VLA Board:**

[Christine Friese](#)

**Committees**

**Editorial Committee:**

VLA News editor and VLA website co-webmaster.

[Helen Linda](#)

**Government Relations Committee Chair:**

Diversity, are bound by a commitment to the idea but can lose focus in the action phase when we all work in different environments and communities that have different needs.

This is where we look outward. VLA has a blindingly successful [Intellectual Freedom Committee](#) because they balance beautifully the need to be a safe space for librarians experiencing challenges, providing resources to patrons so that they know their rights and who can help, and projecting librarianship outward to represent the profession to other professions and communities. They go out there--to our government representatives, to other organizations--and do the work outside the library, not just in it. It's a vibrant cyclical process that keeps the VLA's commitment to Intellectual Freedom nationally recognized!

Diversity and inclusion groups need to take a page out of VLA IFC's playbook. We can serve as a safe space and a resource, but to be strongest we must get out of the library. We need to represent librarianship to communities from within, instead of waiting for them to come to us. At the VLA Board Retreat on Wednesday, August 1st, the board voted to begin a committee, name to be determined, that will focus on issues of diversity and inclusionary practices. If you are interested in going on this journey with us, please contact Kat Redniss at [kat@brownellibrary.org](mailto:kat@brownellibrary.org).

I have decided to get started by marching in the [Pride VT 2012 Pride Parade](#) in Burlington on September 22nd. It's important that we are out there sending the message librarians are proud members and supporters of the queer community. My vision is to build a float with a "Librarian Ship" that fights a "Censor Ship." It shoots banned/challenged books from cannons. There would ideally be a book cart drill team giving out banned/challenged books to the crowd. It's a deliciously goofball idea. If you want to be a part of some fun community building, let me know at [celestihel@gmail.com](mailto:celestihel@gmail.com) and we'll make something happen. Many hands make light work and my vision isn't the only one: what's the float of your dreams?

Helen Linda  
VLA News Editor/Editorial Committee Chair  
[NETSL](#) President  
Systems & Tech Services Librarian, [Goddard College](#)

Assists libraries with connections to legislators.  
[Oceana Wilson](#)

**Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair:**

Assists librarians with challenges to library materials and issues related to patron privacy.  
[Ray Brior](#)

**Membership Committee Chair:**

Maintains membership roster.  
[Cindy Weber](#)

**Personnel Committee Chair:**

Assists librarians with questions related to personnel issues.  
[Shara McCaffery](#)

**Vermont Library Conference Chair:**

[Jane Napier](#)

Representatives

**American Library Association Councilor:**

Represents Vermont for the national organization.  
[Charlotte Gerstein](#)

**New England Library Association Representative:**

Represents Vermont for the regional organization.  
[Kip Roberson](#)

**ATTN: Gmail Users**

If you are viewing this using Google Mail, please note your VLA News has been clipped by the mail service.

To finish reading the issue, scroll to the bottom of the message and click the link:

[Message Clipped] [View Entire Message](#)

Other mail clients should receive VLA News in its entirety, but if not, please [let us know](#).

## Public Libraries

Judy Russell, the current Public Library Section VP, is stepping down to become the Library Director at the [Converse Free Library](#) in Lyme, NH. Our loss is NH's gain. Good luck Judy! The search for a Public Library Section VP continues! The VP assists with programming, attends meetings and ideally, becomes section head. VLA is a terrific organization and provides a great way for librarians to get involved. Please [contact me](#) if you would like to throw your hat in the ring!

The **Everything E-Book** class will be held on **Tuesday, October 16th** at the Midstate Regional Library in Berlin. There will be both a morning and afternoon session with a limit of 15 in each. [Email me](#) if you would like to attend.

Librarians wishing to become more effective advocates for their libraries have a terrific opportunity through [Turning the Page 2.0](#), a six-week online advocacy course. The next class begins September 24th. Former participants rave about it and the online course clips are inspiring. A kickoff event sponsored by the DOL is scheduled for September 12th in Berlin (10am-12pm). For more information, please contact [Christine Frieze](#).

Lucinda Walker  
VLA Public Libraries Section President  
Director, [Norwich Public Library](#)

## College & Special Libraries

### Outreach and Orientation: VTSCS Symposium

Members of the VLA College and Special Libraries Section and others gathered on June 15th at [St. Michael's College](#) for a symposium to discuss outreach, marketing and orientation efforts going on throughout the state and beyond. In the morning, Diane Klare and Kendall Hobbes joined the symposium remotely via [Google Hangouts](#) to present on their creative outreach efforts at [Wesleyan University](#). This included things like helping first-year students move into their dorms and librarians playing music at campus events. Coco Zephir, for [UVM's Access Services](#) followed their presentation and discussed student driven outreach and the formation of a team made up of students and staff to work on promotion of the library. Finally Deb Ahlers and Nikki Kryszak from [Norwich University](#) presented on a new design for the library's reference desk as well as

instructional initiatives.

The afternoon featured a roundtable discussion facilitated by Michele McCaffery from [St. Michael's College](#). The discussion ranged from topics about the shortcomings of technology designed for libraries to the future of libraries as an institution to the successful outreach projects at different institutions. Librarians from inside the state and from Connecticut, as well as students and paraprofessionals, expressed enjoyment in being able to come together, discuss shared challenges, and learn from one another.

Andy Burkhardt  
VLA College & Special Libraries Section President  
Emerging Technologies Librarian, [Champlain College](#)

## ALA Councilor

I am replacing Nancy Wilson as the ALA Councilor, representing Vermont to ALA. I am a Reference & Instruction Librarian at [Castleton State College](#) and was president of VLA's College and Special Libraries Section for 2009-2011. I have worked in public libraries and school libraries and served on the steering committee of the Friends of the [Castleton Free Library](#) for the last three years. I am an enthusiastic supporter of all kinds of libraries and the important role we can play in the evolving information environment, so I am excited to get involved in the cause of libraries on a national level and to connect our special state to the work of our national association. I live in Rutland Town.

Charlotte Gerstein  
ALA Councilor  
Reference & Instruction Librarian, [Castleton State](#)

## Resources On...

### **Trusteeship**

Sometimes we forget that we do not need to re-invent the wheel. Or, we are overwhelmed with the amount of information that is out there but is not relevant to our specific needs. Maybe we don't even know where to start. In this column we will list some publications available at the state library as well as websites about library-related topics. What subjects concern your library? [Let us know](#).

This month: Trustees. Most public libraries have trustees but do your trustees know what information is available to help them benefit the library?

Moore, Mary Y. *The successful library trustee handbook*. American Library Association, 2010.

Reed, Sally Gardner and Jillian Kalonick. *The Complete Library Trustee Handbook*. Neal-Schuman, 2010

[Manual for Vermont Library Trustees](#)

[Law of Public Libraries \(Vermont\)](#)

[VLA Trustees Section](#)

[Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations](#)

Janet Clapp  
VLA Editorial Committee  
Virtual Reference Librarian, [tutor.com](http://tutor.com)

## VLA Website Report

Greetings. This is just a short note to let you know how the [VLA website](#) is doing. We did a short introduction to the website during its first year as a Wordpress site in 2008 and now it's time to add some updated numbers. The original report can be found at this URL:

<http://www.librarian.net/talks/vla/>

In 2008 we had fifteen VLA members who had contributed content and four site administrators. That has expanded to twenty-two active contributors and nine administrators. In the site's first year we saw ninety-one posts which were distributed among seventeen categories. As of July 25, 2012 we have 856 published entries in thirty-nine categories and subcategories. The VLA web space has also been a temporary home to the [Green Mountain Library Consortium](#) and is current home to the [Vermont Library Substitute Pool](#), [Vermont Consortium of Academic Libraries](#), and active Vermont library [jobs](#) and events listings.

Our website page views, which were 165,000 in 2008, have been steadily climbing from 396,581 in 2009 to 947,176 in 2010 and breaking a million in 2011 with 1,210,184 page views.

If anyone is interested in getting more statistics or getting more involved with the VLA website we'd love the chance to show you around.

You can get in touch with us at this email address:

[vermontlibrarieswebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:vermontlibrarieswebmaster@gmail.com)

Thanks for helping make your website an integral and useful part of the Vermont library community.

Jessamyn West  
VLA Co-Webmaster  
Library Technologist, [Randolph Technical Career Ctr](#)

**Don't Forget to Visit Us on the Web!**

<http://www.vermontlibraries.org>

Vermont Library Association, PO Box 803, Burlington, VT 05402

