



VLA News - February 2014

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Back Issues

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

[VLA News Back Issues](#)

Substitute Pool

Employers: 40
Substitutes: 57

Employer Institutions:

Public: 29
Academic: 6

President's Letter

On my cubicle wall hangs a framed essay that I wrote in the fourth grade titled, "Libraries - An Open Door to Learning." In this short essay I describe all the amazing things you can do in libraries. I write, "In a library there's not just books, there's many different things. There are computers and disks, movies, records, magazines, cassettes, posters, atlases, dictionaries, and much, much, more!" As a kid I loved libraries. My aunt would take me to my public library every Saturday and I would wander around for hours. I was fascinated by the card catalog, and I distinctly remember when the library got its first computer. The librarian sat us all around and showed us the big floppy disks and how to run programs. Who thought that 20 years later I would be a catalog and metadata librarian in an academic library!

The formats may change, but the mission of libraries remains the same. Libraries have the transformative power to enrich the lives of every person who steps through their doors or opens their websites. The wealth of resources libraries offer at no cost to patrons is unparalleled in our communities. Yet we are always fighting for support, funding, privacy, or intellectual freedom. Librarians and library staff must be constant advocates for our institutions and patrons. That is why the Vermont Library Association is here for our members.

We are a professional supportive network that provides resources and programming that our members can count on to stay informed about issues directly affecting our work. Here are some examples of the work that the VLA has been doing to support its members:

- On January 27th the VLA Intellectual Freedom Committee with the Department of Libraries hosted the Bi-Annual John Swan Intellectual Freedom Lecture with Dr. Dawn Sova. Dr. Sova spoke about the current state of privacy and censorship in America and compared it to mid-20th century attempts to limit and undermine intellectual freedom.
- On January 27th the VLA Intellectual Freedom Committee with the Department of Libraries hosted the Bi-Annual John Swan Intellectual Freedom Lecture with Dr. Dawn Sova. Dr. Sova spoke about the current state of privacy and censorship in America and compared it to mid-20th century attempts to limit and undermine intellectual freedom.
- Our Government Relations Committee has been advocating hard this winter. They issued talking points about Vermont House Bill H.385 and Senate Bill S.226

Special: 2
School: 2
Community: 2

Availability in Pool by County:

Addison: 14
Bennington: 5
Caladonia: 8
Chittenden: 38
Essex: 3
Franklin: 14
Grand Isle: 10
Lamoille: 13
Orange: 11
Orleans: 5
Rutland: 11
Washington: 20
Windham: 6
Windsor: 13

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:
[Amber Billey](#)

Vice President/President Elect:
[Scott Murphy](#)

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

Secretary:
[Sarah Costa](#)

Treasurer:
[Wynne Browne](#)

Section Representatives

that would permit libraries to serve beer and wine at events and fundraisers. I encourage you to look over those talking points and contact the committee chair, Selene Colburn, if you have any questions.

- The Government Relations Committee also sent out Legislative Breakfast packets to libraries across the state. We're hoping to have as many libraries as possible participate this spring.

Beyond Vermont, there are national efforts for library advocacy. Initiatives such as Geek the Library <[geekthelibrary.org](#)> and American Library Association President Barbara Stripling's Declaration for the Right to Libraries campaign provide tools and resources for librarians to create local advocacy programs. You can learn more about the Declaration for the Right to Library and how to organize your own signing event through the VLA's website <[www.vermontlibraries.org/righttolibraries](#)>.

I am thrilled to announce the keynote speaker for the 2014 Vermont Library Conference is Marci Merola, the Director of the ALA Office for Library Advocacy <[www.ala.org/offices/ola](#)>. The conference theme is *StoryTime: Advocate, Celebrate, and BE HEARD!* We hope to have a great lineup of programs that help us tell the stories of libraries to our patrons, trustees, and legislators. Please submit any program proposals by February 14th. You can find a link to the online form through the VLA website. It's going to be a fabulous conference this year!

I encourage you to become active and advocate for our libraries. There are plenty of opportunities through the VLA to get involved with national and statewide initiatives, and the VLA is here to help if you want to get started with advocacy at your local library. Together, we can *advocate, celebrate, and BE HEARD!*

Cheers and Libraries,

Amber Billey
VLA President
Catalog/Metadata Librarian
[Bailey/Howe Library](#), UVM, Burlington
abilley@uvm.edu
@justbilley

Vice President's Letter

I am honored to have been appointed to serve on the VLA Board as Vice President. I share our President's belief in the value of our professional organization. Bringing together library professionals with different sets of knowledge and resources from different walks of life strengthens and empowers those of us who have chosen the library profession in the state of Vermont. This is our opportunity to work together to shape our profession and face the opportunities and challenges of 21st century librarianship head on.

I look forward to helping the Board and membership achieve the goals that have been set out for us in the upcoming year. Library professionals from academic, school, public, and special libraries, all maintain the same core mission of service and information access. VLA provides occasions for all library professionals to get involved and to have their voices be heard. The sky is the limit for librarianship, but we have to work together to realize the goals and

College & Special Libraries President:

Organizes workshops and assists college and special librarians.

[Daisy Benson](#)

Public Libraries President:

Organizes workshops and assists public librarians.

[Lara Keenan](#)

Technical Services Section President:

Organizes workshops & assists technical services librarians.

[Christine Webb](#)

Trustees President:

Organizes workshops and assists library trustees.

[Laurel Stanley](#)

Trustees Convenor from VT Dept. of Libraries:

[Christine Friese](#)

Youth Librarians President:

Organizes workshops and assists youth librarians.

[Heather Grev](#)

Committees

Archivist:

[Paul Carnahan](#)

Awards Chair:

[Amy Grasmick](#)

VT Dept. of Libraries Representative to the Board:

[Christine Friese](#)

Government Relations Chair:

Assists libraries with connections to legislators.

[Selene Colburn](#)

Intellectual Freedom Chair:

Assists librarians with challenges to library

objectives that we hope to achieve.

My background in both academic and public libraries reinforces my commitment to a professional organization that fosters communication between the different groups that make up the library profession. It is up to all of us to create library services that have a profound impact in Vermont. It is our responsibility to speak out and tell our legislators, neighbors and friends what libraries are doing. VLA will continue to support these advocacy efforts and offer members information that they need to inspire them professionally.

My hope is that through the VLA we will be able to share our experiences and stories about what libraries can be and what they can do to improve people's lives. Our profession will benefit from the collective wisdom we can find within the VLA. Libraries are brimming with information, activity and innovation. They are vibrant community centers, serving varied types of communities. They are places where people go to get essential, life-changing, and life-saving information. As an organization we need to focus on reaching out to libraries within Vermont and fostering relationships between organizations throughout the state.

I look forward to hearing your feedback, your comments and your concerns. Our profession is built on values that matter and remain relevant to our society: preserving culture and information for future generations, defending people's right to explore and express unpopular opinions, and protecting privacy in the service of intellectual freedom. A strong VLA is representative of Vermont's commitment to these values.

Scott Murphy
VLA Vice President/President-Elect
Director, [Milton Public Library](#)
smurphy@town.milton.vt.us

Co-editors' Letter

At town meeting many public libraries have to prove their worth as they ask for budget support. How do we put the value of what we do into the dollar and cents figures that voters must decide upon? The marvelous thing about Vermont Library Association members is that we all recognize the importance of libraries. Together we can spread the word that libraries are worth every penny.

Janet Clapp
VLA News Co-editor

ALA Councilor

2013-2014 ALA President Barbara Stripling has launched an advocacy and awareness campaign, "The Declaration for the Right to Libraries," centered around a document stating the importance of libraries to individuals and communities and encouraging people to sign the declaration in support. You can read more and access supporting materials at www.ilovelibraries.org/declaration.

Charlotte Gerstein

materials and issues related to patron privacy.

[Ray Brior](#)

Membership & Outreach

Chair:

Maintains membership roster.

[Helen Linda](#)

Personnel Chair:

Assists librarians with questions related to personnel issues.

[Shara McCaffery](#)

Scholarship Chair:

[Barbara Ball](#)

Vermont Library Conference Chair:

[Jessica Summer](#)

VLA News Editors:

[Debbie Landauer](#)

[Janet Clapp](#)

Webmasters:

[Helen Linda](#)

[Jessamyn West](#)

Representatives

ALA Councilor:

Represents Vermont in the national organization.

[Charlotte Gerstein](#)

NELA Representative:

Represents Vermont in the regional organization.

[Nancy Tusinski](#)

ALA Councilor

Reference & Instruction Librarian

[Castleton State College Library](#)

charlotte.gerstein@castleton.edu

Public Libraries Section

Save the Date - The 2nd (annual?) Tech Unconference will take place on 4/9/14 from 10:00 am - 4:30 pm at the Midstate Library Service Center in Berlin, VT. Join us for a full day of techy goodness.

What is an unconference? A different format from a workshop or lecture, an unconference is a participant-driven approach celebrating our everyday problem solving. We'll collect your discussion ideas and create sessions that center on a tech topic. Each of the three periods will have 3-4 simultaneous sessions, giving you a variety of choices for sharing your challenges and innovations. Last year's unconference was a huge success. You won't want to miss this unique opportunity to learn from, and share with, your peers! Registration opens February 1st. You can find more information and register at this link goo.gl/7Jxp80. Contact Josh Muse at jmuse@colchestervt.gov if you have any questions.

Lions Club Literacy Grant - This past fall, the Lions Club donated over \$300 to the VLA and asked that it be used to increase literacy in Vermont. The VLA Board asked the Public Libraries section to develop a proposal for how to spend the money in conjunction with our Lions Club contact, and we are excited to announce that we will use the money to create multilingual storytime kits/backpacks for librarians throughout Vermont to borrow and use with their patrons. We need help, however, in developing this resource, and we would like input from librarians around Vermont who already run multilingual storytimes. What books and materials have worked for you? What languages do you offer? What would you like to see in such a kit? Please contact Lara Keenan at the Pierson Library in Shelburne with your ideas, suggestions, and experiences.

Lara Keenan

VLA Public Libraries Section President

Director, [Pierson Library](#), Shelburne

[802-985-5124](tel:802-985-5124)

lkeen@shelburnevt.org

Membership & Outreach Committee

It's Renewal Time!

Don't let this be your last issue of the *VLA News* -- Renew your membership for 2014 today! Click here for [VLA Membership Forms & Information](#).

Check out all the things you get as a member:

- The *VLA News*, our member-only e-newsletter, delivered

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](#).

to your inbox quarterly.

- Discounts on Vermont Library Conference registration and VLA Section & Committee events.
- Reduced membership registration for the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award Conference.
- The opportunity to attend the New England Library Leadership Symposium with financial support.
- Access to the Vermont Library Substitute Pool, either as a potential employer or temp/sub employee.
- 20% off tuition at Drexel for an MS in Library & Information Science and/or Information Systems.
- Mentor or be mentored by other VLA member librarians.
- Voting rights on VLA ballots and an invitation to serve on the VLA Board (individual members only).

Plus, your membership supports state-wide initiatives and advocacy for libraries & librarians in a number of ways:

- The John Swan Intellectual Freedom Fund is administered through VLA, coordinating a lecture series that brings nationally known speakers to Vermont.
- We research salary compensation and provide that information to librarians, trustees, and employers.
- VLA Officers represent our interests on the New England Library Association (NELA) and American Library Association (ALA) boards.
- Continued efforts to provide even more benefits for your membership.

If you have any questions about your VLA membership benefits, you can visit our website at www.vermontlibraries.org/membership or contact me directly at vermontlibrariesmembers@gmail.com.

Reminder postcards are a little late going out this year, but that hasn't stopped a lot of you from renewing anyway! Thanks for your continued support in 2014.

Helen Linda
[VLA Membership & Outreach](#) Chair
Systems & Tech Services Librarian
[Goddard College](#), Plainfield
vermontlibrariesmembers@gmail.com

Vermont Library

Conference Committee

The VLA Conference is May 20, 2014 at Saint Michael's College. The keynote speaker will be Marci Merola, the Director of the ALA Office for Library Advocacy www.ala.org/offices/ola. The conference theme is *StoryTime: Advocate, Celebrate, and BE HEARD!*

Registration opens February 1st. You can find more information and register at this link goo.gl/7Jxp80. Contact Josh Muse at jmuse@colchestervt.gov if you have any questions.

Proposals for presenting sessions at this year's conference will be accepted until February 14. Poster session proposals will be accepted until late winter (Deadline TBA).

Jessica Summer
VLA Conference Chair
Youth Services Librarian, [Winooski Memorial Library](#) and
[Jeudevine Memorial Library](#)
jessica.l.summer@gmail.com

Be a presenter at the Vermont Library Conference's Pecha Kucha on May 20, 2014!

WHAT

Sign up to present at the third annual ***Academic Library Show & Tell Sessions: Pecha Kucha @ the Vermont Library Conference***

WHO

People who want to present a topic in Pecha Kucha format.
Topics? Think fun, useful, entertaining and of interest to people who work in academic libraries.
This is a multiple-speaker event.

WHEN & WHERE

May 20, 2014, Vermont Library Conference, Saint Michael's College, Colchester, Vermont

HOW

The format: your presentation will consist of 20 PowerPoint slides, with each slide allotted 20 seconds for a total of 6 minutes and 40 seconds. After all the presentations are completed, there will be time left at the end for discussion and questions.

Please email Stacey Knight at sknight3@smcvt.edu with your presentation idea by February 12, 2014.

MORE:

There are many excellent tips for creating a Pecha Kucha. To find them just search the web!

Need more help figuring out the format? Email or call us (contact info below).

Sincerely,
Your Pecha Kucha co-hosts:
Stacey Knight (sknight3@smcvt.edu), [802-654-2402](tel:802-654-2402),
Associate Director for Systems and Metadata
and Laura Crain (lcrane@smcvt.edu), [802-654-2388](tel:802-654-2388), Associate
Director for Collection Services

Technical Services

Section

The Technical Services Section met on January 15th at Midstate Library Service Center in Berlin. We had a nice turnout of 16 attendees, and a great meeting! It was a wide ranging discussion, including the impact RDA is having on cataloging around the state, an update for the NACO funnel project, presentation topics for the Vermont Library Conference, and the need for a state-wide survey of digitization efforts. Best of all, we now have a Vice President for the Section. Tom McMurdo of VTLIB was nominated and elected unanimously. It was agreed to continue the evolution from VTCAT (VT Catalogers Roundtable) to VLATSS (VLA Technical Services Section), reflecting our transition to a more inclusive group.

Do you work in Acquisitions? Inter-Library Loan? Systems Administration? Collection Development? Cataloging? Or some combination of all of these? If so, VLA's Technical Services Section is for you! We are looking to expand our membership to include all of our colleagues who do the behind-the-scenes work for all types of libraries. Please join us in discussions about advocacy, continuing education, collaboration opportunities, and, best of all, meet your colleagues from around the state. The mailing list can be joined at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/vlatss>.

Christine Webb
VLA Technical Services Section President
Cataloging/Reference/Collection Development Librarian
[Fletcher Free Library](http://FletcherFreeLibrary.com), Burlington
cwebb@burlingtonvt.gov
www.twitter.com/FletcherFree

Awards Committee

Call for nominations

Every year, VLA has the privilege of presenting awards to recognize the special achievements of Vermont librarians, library trustees, and library supporters - but VLA can only do this with your help! I am quite sure that you can name at least one colleague you "want to be when you grow up," a library trustee who has gone above and beyond the call, or a library advocate who has made a huge difference to her or his community. Now is your chance to make sure that person gets the recognition she or he deserves. Please make nominations for the following awards:

The Sarah C. Hagar Award is awarded each year for outstanding service in or significant contribution to the field of librarianship in Vermont. Nominees for the Sarah C. Hagar award must be working in a Vermont library (public, academic, school, or special) and be a member of VLA.

The Trustee of the Year Award recognizes outstanding achievement by a trustee on behalf of his or her library, either during the previous year or during his or her years of service. Nominations may be submitted by any library trustee, library board, librarian, member of a Friends group, or VLA member.

The Library Advocate of the Year Award is given occasionally by the VLA Government Relations Committee to an outstanding public advocate for libraries in local, state, or national government.

The Green Mountain Award is given as the opportunity arises to individuals or organizations for distinguished service, support, or unusual contributions to a Vermont library or libraries.

Nominations must be received by March 1st. Please visit www.vermontlibraries.org/awards for nomination procedures, and to find the truly inspirational list of previous years' awards recipients.

Amy C. Grasmick
VLA Awards Committee Chair
Director
[Kimball Public Library](http://KimballPublicLibrary.org), Randolph
Amy@KimballLibrary.org

Government Relations Committee

Government Relations Committee & Outreach to Policy Makers

The newly reconstituted VLA Government Relations committee has been hard at work on legislative outreach, following an inaugural meeting in early January.

We're working with state legislators, state librarian Martha Reid, and other policy makers to advocate for the basic premise in two bills in the Vermont House (H.385) and Senate (S.226) that would make it easier for public libraries to serve wine and beer at special events. The VLA board voted in favor of supporting the legislation at our November 2013 meeting. At that point, H.385 had already been introduced in the House in February 2013 and referred to the House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs. A second bill was introduced in the Senate in January 2014 and referred to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

If passed as written, both bills would permit libraries to serve beer and wine without the need to obtain a license. We believe the ability to serve wine, champagne, or beer can help libraries facilitate key fundraising and special events. The Government Relations committee has released a legislative briefing that is available on the VLA website, or by request.

The committee will also be distributing packets to help localities host legislative breakfasts in March. This will provide an opportunity for libraries to connect with key policy makers in their region. Legislative breakfasts were an annual event for many years, and we're eager to revive the practice with your help and input.

Please contact Selene Colburn with any feedback, or if you are interested in joining us as we move this work forward.

Selene Colburn
VLA Government Relations Committee Chair
Assistant to Dean of Libraries for External Relations & Dance Liaison, [University of Vermont Libraries](http://UniversityofVermontLibraries)
selene.colburn@uvm.edu
[802-656-9980](tel:802-656-9980)

Scholarship Committee

Greetings from your new Scholarship Committee Chair! I am the Director of the Windsor Public Library and live in Windsor with 2 dogs and 4 chickens who tolerate my accordion and trombone playing.

I look forward to helping Vermont librarians with their professional development goals, and hope to meet many of you during the coming year.

The Scholarship Committee is seeking a volunteer to assist with the development of the application process for scholarships and with reviewing scholarship requests. It requires a fairly minor time commitment and the work and meetings can be done via email and Skype. If you are interested in helping the VLA Scholarship Committee please contact me. Thank you.

Barbara Ball
VLA Scholarship Committee Chair
Director, [Windsor Public Library](#)
barbaball@gmail.com

Resources On...Net Neutrality

The loss of net neutrality could have a huge impact on us all by affecting the openness of the Internet that we have known since its creation. Instead of equal access to information online it could become a tiered system in which money controls connection and we as consumers won't even know what we are no longer able to access. Many Vermont libraries use free online resources like WordPress or have created digital collections, but without net neutrality, Internet service providers (ISPs) can limit traffic to free sites. Imagine if all road maintenance was funded by private companies. Imagine if those companies decided to make wider smoother highways to the corporations who paid the most. Imagine if they let roads to libraries, colleges, schools, small businesses, and non-profits fall into disrepair. Imagine if they even blocked the roads to organizations that couldn't pay the premium. That could be the Internet without net neutrality. As librarians we need to understand and consider the ramifications of the loss of an open Internet.

ALA has a helpful web page defining the issue with links to more information at www.ala.org/advocacy/telecom/netneutrality. Here's an excerpt: "A world in which librarians and other noncommercial enterprises are of necessity limited to the Internet's "slow lanes" while high-definition movies can obtain preferential treatment seems to us to be overlooking a central priority for a democratic society – the necessity of enabling educators, librarians, and, in fact, all citizens to inform themselves and each other just as much as the major commercial and media interests can inform them."

Editorial in *Wired* magazine from Barbara Stipling, American Library Association President at www.wired.com/opinion/2014/01/killing-net-neutrality-means-killing-economic-equality-access

CNET has a FAQ about the recent overturning of the net neutrality regulations at news.cnet.com/8301-1035_3-57617242-94/why-you-should-care-about-net-neutrality-faq/

On the Media radio show discusses net neutrality in "Net Neutrality and You" at www.onthemedialibrary.org/story/end-net-neutrality/

Janet Clapp
VLA News Co-editor
Adult Services Librarian, [Rutland Free Library](#)
vermontlibrariesnews@gmail.com

Tip of the Month

How do you keep in touch with the larger world of libraries? One fun way is to follow a blog or two. Here are some suggestions of informative, entertaining blogs all about libraries, librarians, or the world of librarianship.

The Daring Librarian www.thedaringlibrarian.com
Lots of photos, very colorful, fun...daring!

Swiss Army Librarian www.swissarmylibrarian.net
Reference Question of the day, plus some tips, resources and news.

Annoyed Librarian lj.libraryjournal.com/blogs/annoyedlibrarian
Musings on being a librarian in the modern world.

Mr. Library Dude mrlibrarydude.wordpress.com
Academic librarian, lots of patron-centered ideas.

Librarian.net www.librarian.net
Our very own Vermont librarian blogger, Jessamyn West!

Teen Librarian Toolbox www.teenlibrariantoolbox.com
Tons of book reviews and programming ideas for youth librarians.

Abby the Librarian www.abbythelibrarian.com
Book reviews, literacy, lots more for children's librarians.

If you have a favorite library blog that you'd like to share, send it to us at vermontlibrariesnews@gmail.com.

Debbie Landauer
VLA News Co-editor
Public Library Director, [Fairfax Community Library](#)
vermontlibrariesnews@gmail.com

Don't Forget to Visit Us on the Web!
<http://www.vermontlibraries.org>

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

