

VLA News

May 2016

Table of Contents

Articles

[President's Letter](#)
[Vice President's Letter](#)
[Past President's Letter](#)
[Passport to VT Libraries](#)
[College & Special
Public Libraries](#)
[Friends & Trustees](#)
[Technical Services](#)
[Youth Services](#)
[Membership](#)
[Awards](#)
[ALA](#)
[NELA](#)

Sidebar

[Amazon Smile](#)
[Back Issues](#)
[Sub Pool Update](#)
[Meet Your Leaders](#)
[ATTN: Gmail Users](#)

Planning a purchase on Amazon.com? Consider using the Amazon Smile program and select the Vermont Library Association to receive 0.5% of eligible purchases. Visit smile.amazon.com for more details.

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](#)

President's Letter

by Virgil Fuller

Conference is just around the corner! On Wednesday, May 18th we will host our signature event at the Stowe/Flake Mountain Resort and Spa. If you have already registered - thank you! If you haven't, please do so online today:

<http://www.vermontlibraries.org/conference2016>. I am looking forward to seeing you all there. We have a fantastic keynote, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Coordinator for Library Sustainability at the Mid-Hudson Library System (NY) and the title of her talk is "Sustainable Thinking for the Future of Libraries." We also have some great sessions planned. It will be a fun, busy day for all of us! I would like to thank the hard work of the conference committee in getting everything organized for this year's conference. The conference could not be done without all of their efforts!

For those of you who haven't heard, the Passport to Vermont Libraries program is going to run again this summer. We will have a table at conference so you can pick up your passports. New to the program this year, we will be having various passport pickup sites around the state. For more information about that, to sign up, and a whole lot more, head on over to this page:

<http://www.vermontlibraries.org/passport/passport-to-vermont-libraries-info-for-librarians>. A big thank you to everyone who has helped out with this program; it's going to be another great summer visiting our fabulous Vermont libraries.

We recently launched a form entitled "Report a Challenge to Library Resources" that will enable librarians from across the state to report material challenges at their library. The information gathered from this form will go directly to the Intellectual Freedom committee of VLA and may be shared with the following professional organizations: Vermont Department of Libraries, the Vermont School Library Association, and the Office of Intellectual Freedom of the American Library Association. Yearly, VLA will share non-confidential statistics gathered from this form on its website in a similar fashion to those found here:

<http://www.ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/statistics>. Anyone who has any questions or concerns about this form should contact Vermont Library Association President Virgil Fuller at vermontlibrariespresident@gmail.com or Ray Brior, Chair of the Vermont Library Association Intellectual Freedom committee at Raymond.Brior@jsc.edu. To find this page on the web, go to

Substitute Pool

Check out what's happening with the [Vermont Library Substitute Pool!](#)

Employers: 29
Substitutes: 38

Types of Employers:

Public: 27
Community: 1
Academic: 1

Availability in pool by county:

Addison: 9
Bennington: 5
Caledonia: 6
Chittenden: 21
Essex: 3
Franklin: 9
Grand Isle: 6
Lamoille: 11
Orange: 6
Orleans: 4
Rutland: 6
Washington: 12
Windham: 6
Windsor: 7

Check out the [VLA Job Postings](#)

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:
[Virgil Fuller](#)

Vice President/President Elect:
[Margaret Woodruff](#)

<http://www.vermontlibraries.org/report-a-challenge>.

As mentioned at the beginning of my note here, conference is coming up and with that my tenure as president will be over. It has been a great year for VLA and I appreciate all the support everyone has given me over the past year. At the business meeting at VLC I will pass the baton on to Margaret Woodruff. I can't think of passing it on to somebody more deserving, and I know she will do a fantastic job as your president.

Respectfully submitted,

Virgil Fuller
VLA President
Library Director, [Chelsea Public Library](#)
vermontlibrariespresident@gmail.com
[802-685-2188](tel:802-685-2188)

Connect With Us:

Website: www.vermontlibraries.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/VTLibraryAssociation
Twitter: twitter.com/VLAlib
Instagram: [instagram.com/vlalib](https://www.instagram.com/vlalib)
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/groups/Vermont-Library-Association-5172256

Vice President's Letter

by Margaret Woodruff

Looking Forward: I hope that you will join us for the VLA conference on Wednesday, May 18th. The menu of sessions looks interesting and informative and what could beat the beautiful vistas of Stowe. What has me most excited, though, is the keynote speaker. Rebekkah Smith Aldrich will make the trek from the Hudson Valley to share her work on sustainable libraries. This work highlights “community-driven, environmentally sound, and economically responsible programs and projects in libraries.” While sustainability has certain currency in today’s culture, libraries and librarians have been standard bearers for sustainability way before it was cool. Circulating materials for community use, developing activities in response to community need, and keeping our doors open for community access define what we do and are hallmarks of sustainability, too. Rebekkah Smith Aldrich provides us with the background, the building blocks and the inspiration for a sustainable future in our libraries and in our towns. I look forward to her presentation and to the possibility of an ongoing conversation about our sustainable libraries in the year to come.

Margaret Woodruff
VLA Vice President
Director, [Charlotte Library](#)
vermontlibrariesvicepresident@gmail.com

Past President:

[Toni Josey](#)

Secretary:

[Kelly Tomaseski](#)

Treasurer:

[Angela Bernard](#)

Section Representatives

College & Special Libraries

Section President:

[Laura Crain](#)

Organizes workshops and assists college and special librarians.

Public Libraries Section

President:

[Kevin Unrath](#)

Organizes workshops and assists public librarians.

Technical Services Section

President:

[Kelly McElligott](#)

Organizes workshops & assists technical services librarians.

Trustees President:

You?

Organizes workshops and assists library trustees.

Youth Librarians President:

[Nicole Westbom](#)

Organizes workshops and assists youth librarians.

Committees

Archivist:

[Paul Carnahan](#)

Awards Chair:

[Amy Grasmick](#)

VT Dept. of Libraries

Representative to the Board:

[Tom McMurdo](#)

Government Relations Chair:

[Selene Colburn](#)

Assists libraries with connections to legislators.

Past President's Letter

by Toni Josey

In my first article for the *VLA News*, I referenced an ACRL presentation on the importance of networking as professional development. This is the final month of my term as past president of VLA, and as I transition off the board I plan to remain an active member of the association to continue my professional development as a librarian by networking, learning, and growing in this profession. I encourage each of you to consider volunteering with VLA for the benefit of your own professional development. On your next membership renewal, indicate that you're interested in volunteering and select the sections, committees, and/or board positions you're interested in. It is a rewarding experience to connect with members of this organization.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve in the leadership of VLA. See you at Stowflake for the 122nd Vermont Library Conference.

Toni Fortini Josey

VLA Past President

vermontlibrariespastpresident@gmail.com

Passport to Vermont Libraries

by Jessamyn West

We will be running the Passport to Vermont Libraries program again this summer starting June 1st. We had a great time last year and hope you did as well.

We're doing things mostly the same with a slightly redesigned passport (if you have old ones, feel free to reuse). We're also adding a small ceremony at the end of October for the presentation of prizes and certificates. More information, including a sign-up form can

be found at vermontlibraries.org/passport. Feel free to contact me directly at jessamyn@gmail.com with questions or comments.

Jessamyn West

VLA Passport Committee

jessamyn@gmail.com

Inclusion Chair:

[Amanda Perry](#)

Supports libraries in providing better service to diverse populations

Intellectual Freedom Chair:

[Ray Brior](#)

Assists librarians with challenges to library materials and issues related to patron privacy.

Membership & Outreach Chair:

[Kelly McElligott](#)

Maintains membership roster.

Personnel Chair:

[Shara McCaffery](#)

Assists librarians with questions related to personnel issues.

Scholarship Chair:

[April Shaw](#)

Oversees VLA scholarships.

Vermont Library Conference

Chair:

[Jessica Summer](#)

VLA News Editor:

[Janet Clapp](#)

Webmasters:

[Sarah Costa](#)

[Jessamyn West](#)

Representatives

ALA Councilor:

[Amy Wisehart](#)

Represents Vermont in the national organization.

NELA Representative:

[Karson Kiesinger](#)

Represents Vermont in the New England Library Assoc.

College & Special Libraries Section

by Laura Crain

Vermont Library Conference is right around the corner and we are pleased to offer a variety of useful, fun and interesting programs for academic librarians. We're delighted that Coco Zephir is returning to the conference this year with two different programs. Coco is Instructional Services Librarian at Fitchburg State University and will be presenting a session on a plan of action for curriculum mapping, instruction programs and the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy. She'll also be presenting a session on why popular reading needs a prominent place in academic libraries.

Also, Rachel Gravel from Marlboro College will be presenting a session on MarcEdit and other cataloging tips to improve workflow.

And this year we are keeping the academic library show and tell sessions but abandoning the pecha kucha format to allow a little more time for each presentation. We'll have four sessions from librarians at Saint Michael's College, Vermont Law School, and the University of Vermont Dana Medical Library. These sessions will have appeal to public librarians as well.

Laura Crain
VLA College & Special Libraries Section President
Associate Director for Collection Services
[Saint Michael's College Library](#)
lcraim@smcvt.edu
[802-654-2388](tel:802-654-2388)

Public Libraries Section

by Christine Porter

Earlier this year, I was the proud recipient of a scholarship from VLA. This scholarship was used to take a collection management class through Northern Kentucky University – the final class I needed to complete my requirements for certification in Vermont. Many thanks to the Vermont Library Association for helping to make that happen!

There were only two of us taking the class, making for lots of individual attention and discussion. Topics for each week included procedures and sources for selecting and acquiring print and electronic materials, material selection policies, material reservation techniques, publishing practices that impact library budgets and operations, weeding criteria and disposal of materials, consortial collection building, material repairs, intellectual freedom, and challenges to library materials.

The other student was a paraprofessional in a library in

Massachusetts. She and I shared many ideas on varying library topics. Her feeling was that “working in a public library is a wonderful career, you never know what the day will bring.”

The most interesting conversation came about during the week where weeding was discussed. We all love books but at some point, hard decisions must be made about which items should remain on our shelves and which items should move on. How many times have you thought to yourself, “But I just bought that!” and then realized it was 10 years ago? It was suggested that weeding can actually increase circulation because the items that remain stand out more and are easier to find. So we put that to the test.

Our youth librarian did a thorough weed of our YA section. Each shelf was so full that there was no more room to add new books. Books were laid on top of other books and we used the roof of the bookshelf for additional shelving space. After the weed, all of the books from the top of the shelf were gone. Books that were torn or very old and worn were removed as well as books that hadn’t circulated since the library automated.

The books now fit nicely on the shelves and there is now room to display items at the end of each shelf. We’ve received numerous compliments on how nice the section looks now and we’ve caught more people browsing the section. But the proof is in the numbers. Circulation of our YA section is now up 54% from before the weed.

We are excited to continue this process in other sections of the library. Though sometimes there are books you just can’t bear to part with. We found one book in our adult fiction section that has been in our library since September 15, 1923. It has been in this building for 93 years, and is almost as old as the building itself. It now sits in a place of honor on our shelf in the office as a symbol of sorts of where we came from and where we are heading. “Books are not absolutely dead things,” wrote John Milton in 1644 in *Areopagitica*. It signifies the words and meanings contained within. A book and the library in which it is housed are more than its contents alone but weeding some of those contents will help the library’s other materials spring to life even more!

Christine Porter
VLA Public Libraries Section Vice President
Director, [Windsor Public Library](#)
[802-674-2556](tel:802-674-2556)

Friends & Trustees Section

by Nancy Mark

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Vermont Library Association conference on May 18th at Stoweflake Mountain Resort and Spa.

More information, including the schedule featuring the keynote address and the many valuable workshops, is posted on the [VLA website](#). In addition, there will be a short meeting in the morning for all Friends and Trustees. One of the important goals of the morning meeting is to elect a Vice President for the Trustees and Friends section of VLA so please bring your own interest as well as some nominees.

I look forward to seeing you at Stoweflake on May 18th.

Thank you to each of you for your dedication and service to your local library!

Nancy Mark
VLA Friends and Trustees Section President
Friend, [Castleton Free Library](#)
nmark@brsu.org

Technical Services Section

by Rachel Gravel

It's almost that time of year again: VLC time! The Vermont Library Conference will be held on May 18th at the Stoweflake Resort and Conference Center in Stowe. For the technical services folks, there will be several sessions of interest. Register early to get a spot in the popular book mending session, and consider joining yours truly at the "MarcEdit and Other Cataloging Tips" session! We'll be looking at the magical bulk editing tool, MarcEdit, and sharing other methods for improving your cataloging workflows. There will also be sessions on social media and early Vermont film that will likely appeal to the tech-savvy and preservation-minded folks in our section.

If you're attending the VLC, Kelly McElligott and I would like to invite you to our section meeting at 12:30-12:50pm (location tbd). As I step into the section presidency, we'll be looking for a section vice president to serve over the next year and become president next year. This is a wonderful opportunity for folks who have ideas about how VLA and this section can better meet your tech services needs in the state; you'll also get a chance to plan next year's conference. Please don't hesitate to be in touch with either of us if you're interested: kmcelligott@stowelibrary.org / rgravel@marlboro.edu.

Rachel Gravel
VLA Technical Services Section Vice President
[Rice-Aron Library](#), Marlboro College
rgravel@marlboro.edu
[\(802\) 258-9305](tel:(802)258-9305)

Youth Services Section

by Nicole Westbom

Did you notice how warm it was last week? It is a sure sign that summer is coming. For those of us in youth services, it is often the busiest time of year. Have you joined the Youth Services Roundtable on Facebook? I've found as I'm trying new things and thinking forward it has been a great resource for me for questions and advice.

Speaking of thinking forward, I'm so excited to present at the VLA conference with the dynamic Becky Rupp. A scientist, author, library trustee, homeschooling guru (just for starters), Dr. Rupp will be bringing her experience in creating mini-camps to the conference. She created History Camp, which is now in its fourth year in Swanton and second year in Montpelier. We've also worked together on Shakespeare programs for children and want to share those experiences with others. I have learned so much from Dr. Rupp and hope that others will, too. Please join us for a fun morning session.

Have a lovely spring. See you soon!

Nicole Westbom
VLA Youth Services Section President
Children's Programming & Circulation Librarian
[Kellogg-Hubbard Library](#)
[802-223-4665](tel:802-223-4665)

Membership Committee

by Kelly McElligott

Hi, I am Kelly McElligott and I have taken over the membership committee from Helen Linda as of mid-February. In addition to membership, Helen also organized the Vermont Library substitute pool; Nancy Tusinski is now responsible for this area.

Back by popular demand, our VLA tote bags will be on sale at the Vermont Library Conference on Wednesday, May 18th in the registration area during registration hours 8-9 a.m. The price of the tote bags is \$15 and can be paid by cash or check. All proceeds will go to the VLA scholarship fund.

Kelly McElligott
VLA Membership & Outreach Chair
Program and Systems Librarian, [Stowe Free Library](#)
vermontlibrariesmembers@gmail.com

Awards Committee

by Amy Grasmick

The Vermont Library Conference is just around the corner. What a great opportunity to recognize the wonderful qualities of our association members! All of you choose to participate in the Vermont library community. Your ideas, your energy, and your collegiality contribute to our professional values of equal access to information for everyone, as embodied in the Library Bill of Rights. I am so grateful to you!

Conference also provides the opportunity to applaud notable individuals in our VLA community – recent and imminent retirees, recent and imminent MLS grads, and the winners of the Library Advocate of the Year and the Green Mountain Library awards. Help honor your colleagues on May 18th at the keynote address!

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

American Library Association

by Amy Wisehart

If you'd like to know more about ALA's current initiatives, ways to get involved, or have questions or feedback, join me during lunch at the VLA conference on May 18th for an informal conversation about ALA. Look for the ALA sign on the table! I will also be available to chat and answer questions at the conference during the networking hour at the end of the day. Hope to see you there!

Amy Wisehart
ALA Councilor
Director, [Hartland Public Library](http://HartlandPublicLibrary.org)
director@hartlandlibraryvt.org
[802-436-2473](tel:802-436-2473)

New England Library Association

by Karson Kiesinger

NELA's Information Technology Section Spring Event 2016

Digital Privacy: A Practical Approach for You & Your Patrons

will be Monday, June 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Providence Public Library, Providence, RI. Registration and more info:

<http://nelib.org>

Join staff of the ACLU of Massachusetts and the Library Freedom Project for practical training on issues surrounding digital privacy.

·Morning session: review some of the major government surveillance programs and authorizations, talk about the corporate model of data mining and collection, and discuss how each affects communities. The ACLU will cover a "Know Your Rights" training focused on federal and local privacy law. Morning session ends with a demonstration of technology tools to help maintain privacy.

·Afternoon session: break into smaller groups to review morning session contents in greater detail, with time for questions and feedback.

SAVE THE DATE – NELA Advocacy Summit

Tuesday, July 19, 2016. 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Tower Hill Botanical Gardens Boylston, MA

Need to brush up your advocacy skills or are new to the profession and need some guidance? Join us for this exciting daylong event!

Keynote Speakers:

Jeremy Johannesen, Executive Director of the New York Library Association

Sari Feldman, ALA President and Executive Director of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, Ohio

NELA 2016 Annual Conference: *Imagining Tomorrow* will be October 16-18 at the Doubletree Hilton in Danvers, MA. **Program proposals of all types, including poster and Ignite session ideas, are still being accepted! Deadline is May 31st!** For more info visit <http://conference2016.nelib.org> and select "Program Proposal Form." A link to FAQs regarding poster and Ignite sessions is at the top of the page.

Karson Kiesinger
VLA Representative to NELA
Reference and Adult Services Librarian

[Bennington Free Library](http://bennington.free.library)

kkiesinger@nelib.org

[802-442-9051](tel:802-442-9051)

Visit Us on the Web!

<http://www.vermontlibraries.org>

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