If you could give just one book...

Recommended by Members of the CLA Board

From Kate Byroade
How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia
by Mohsin Hamid

Much has been made of author Mohsin Hamid’s use of the second person in How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia. That perspective quickly immerses the reader in this chronicle of riches made in the emerging economy of an unnamed south Asian country. If you loved Slumdog Millionaire, you’ll love this.

From Ed Morrisey
Complex 90 by Mickey Spillane

Ruthless private eye Mike Hammer returns in a fun cold-war thriller set around 1964-65 in Complex 90 the latest posthumous Mickey Spillane novel completed by Max Allan Collins. While acting as a bodyguard to a United States senator in Russia, Hammer gets kidnapped by the KGB. This is one exciting fast paced thriller that keeps you glued to the page from start to finish.

From Douglas Lord
Crapalachia: A Biography of Place by Scott McClanahan

“Crapalachia” is McLanahan’s nickname for the hardscrabble, unhappy rural backwater where he grew up: Denese, W.V. in the company of his older - and very rough - extended family that include his impossibly crazy matriarch grandma Ruby, assorted miners and rednecks, and the beer-drinking Uncle Nathan who has cerebral palsy. This book will actually make you count your blessings.

From Richard Conroy
Camelot’s Court by Robert Dallek

For those of us who are old enough to remember it’s hard to believe that 50 years have now passed since JFK was assassinated. Robert Dallek’s Camelot’s Court offers a fresh perspective of Kennedy’s presidency, quite an accomplishment considering that thousands of books on the subject have been published. Dallek manages to acknowledge JFK’s faults (both personal and political), while staying focused on an unbiased account of his successes and failures. I would highly recommend Camelot’s Court to anyone who’s interested in this period of American history.

From Beth Crowley
The Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap: A Memoir of Friendship, Community, and the Uncommon Pleasure of a Good Book by Wendy Welch

What do you get when a husband and wife leave their high-power, Washington D.C. jobs to move to sleepy Big Stone Gap, Virginia and open the town’s first bookstore? A funny, heart-warming, story that describes not only the ups and downs of starting a

CONTINUED ON P. 9
2013 Children’s Section Annual Meeting: Common Ground

The CLA Children’s Section held its annual meeting on September 27, 2013. The focus of the program was Common Ground: How public libraries can support their schools and community.

The presenters included Susan Cormier, Willimantic Library Service Center Director and Children’s Services Consultant and Linda Williams, Children’s Services Consultant, who addressed the news at the State Library and opened a discussion about Evanced, the Online Summer Reading Program Manager. It is always a pleasure to have two of our State Library’s greatest resources present and remind us of all the Service Center has to offer.

Next, members of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Project Manager, Mary Dussault and Education Specialist, Erin Braswell walked us through the tools and use of the MicroObservatory Robotic Telescope Network. These two wonderful women brought along 24 laptop loaded with the Network’s free software and taught us how to get amazing images of objects in space like the great Orion Nebula and then how to process these images using their Network’s software. We operated our own ground-based “MicroObservatories” – real robotic telescopes through the NASA website. If you would like more information about using this resource visit this link http://mo-www.cfa.harvard.edu/MicroObservatory/ for a nice overview and then visit: http://mo-www.cfa.harvard.edu/OWN/index.html to get started!

Children’s Librarians Caitlin Augusta, Stratford Library Association and Heather Baker, Canton Public Library presented an updated “All Things Non-Fiction”. They highlighted the best children’s and juvenile non-fiction books for ages pre-k through 8th grade.

Irene Kwidzinski, CASL representative spoke about ways in which public librari-
Message from the President

Last month I was invited to a special signing ceremony for the Declaration of the Right to Libraries that was held at the Hartford Public Library. I was joined by our colleagues Ken Wiggin and Carl Antonucci, and representatives from ALA including current President Barbara Stripling, Executive Director Keith Fiels, and Marci Merola, Director of the ALA Office for Library Advocacy. The event was also attended by dozens of students from one of Hartford’s magnet schools, as well as members of the press.

After some brief remarks by Barbara Stripling, we all (including the children) signed oversized posters of the Declaration. If you are not yet familiar with that document, you can view it here: http://www.ala.org/advocacy/declaration-right-libraries. My compliments go to HPL Director Matt Poland and his staff for orchestrating such an outstanding program and helping to raise awareness of the value of libraries in such a prominent way. CLA encourages all Connecticut libraries to hold similar events.

CLA, itself, however, is also organizing a promotion of the Declaration, which will take place at the State Capitol on Wednesday, April 16, 2014. We will need the help of many libraries, hopefully from throughout the state, to make it a success. Our plan is to set up tables in the concourse between the Capitol and Legislative Office Building with “poster session” type projects that demonstrate how the services libraries provide dovetail with the Declaration’s ten points. We would very much like to have academic, school and special, in addition to public, libraries take part. So if you’re contacted by your CLA Region Representative about this endeavor please give serious consideration to helping us take advantage of an invaluable opportunity to advocate for libraries!

Richard Conroy
is Director of the Essex Library Association.

2014 CLA Scholarships

The Career Development Committee offers scholarships annually to CLA members enrolled in MLS or LTA degree programs. This year the committee, in partnership with the Association of CT Library Boards (ACLB), is awarding two MLS scholarships in the amount of $2,000.00. The Career Development Committee will also award one LTA scholarship in the amount of $750.00. Application and all materials must be submitted/postmarked by February 7, 2014 in order to receive consideration. In addition to the monetary award, scholarship winners receive complimentary 1-day registration and lunch at the 2014 CLA Annual Conference.

Apply Online! - [MLS form](#) or [LTA form](#)

For more information or questions, please contact: Sarah Marek (mareks@ccsu.edu) or 860-832-3408

NELA Conference

Mary Etter chairs the NELA games with the infamous snail trophy. Alas, New Hampshire took it home again.

The Connecticut contingent at NELA.

Cla Today
The Importance of Libraries in 2013 —The Declaration for the Right to Libraries

By Carl Antonucci

This year the American Library Association has started a national campaign called the Declaration for the Right to Libraries. American Library Association President, Barbara Stripling, has asked each state library association to help with this national campaign. I am very proud to be serving as the Declaration for the Right to Libraries Coordinator for the state of Connecticut. I have been working with Ken Wiggin, Richard Conroy, Jennifer Keohane and Vivian Bordeaux to plan for upcoming events on this initiative in Connecticut. The Declaration will provide an opportunity to show our community how valuable libraries are and to ask them to show their support for libraries by signing their names to this document. Libraries really do change lives and empower our users by supporting literacy and lifelong learning. The Declaration is designed to increase public awareness about the critical role of libraries in each community throughout the United States. Please join me in showing your support for libraries by participating in one of the signing ceremonies that we will be organizing in the next few months.

Please hold the date of April 16th open for a special signing event that will take place at the state capitol. What we have in mind is to set up displays that illustrate the importance of each of the ten points contained in the Declaration, and include examples of how CT’s libraries are already meeting the goals set out by those points. The displays are to be curated and staffed by libraries from throughout the state, and we feel this could be an excellent advocacy opportunity. More details on this event will be sent out as the date gets closer.

You can click on the link below to read about the November 15 signing event in Hartford that took place during the AASL National Convention:


A full copy of the Declaration is printed on the next page.
LIBRARIES CHANGE LIVES

Declaration for the Right to Libraries

In the spirit of the United States Declaration of Independence and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we believe that libraries are essential to a democratic society. Every day, in countless communities across our nation and the world, millions of children, students and adults use libraries to learn, grow and achieve their dreams. In addition to a vast array of books, computers and other resources, library users benefit from the expert teaching and guidance of librarians and library staff to help expand their minds and open new worlds. We declare and affirm our right to quality libraries—public, school, academic, and special—and urge you to show your support by signing your name to this Declaration for the Right to Libraries.

LIBRARIES EMPOWER THE INDIVIDUAL.
Whether developing skills to succeed in school, looking for a job, exploring possible careers, having a baby, or planning retirement, people of all ages turn to libraries for instruction, support, and access to computers and other resources to help them lead better lives.

LIBRARIES SUPPORT LITERACY AND LIFELONG LEARNING.
Many children and adults learn to read at their school and public libraries via story times, research projects, summer reading, tutoring and other opportunities. Others come to the library to learn the technology and information skills that help them answer their questions, discover new interests, and share their ideas with others.

LIBRARIES STRENGTHEN FAMILIES.
Families find a comfortable, welcoming space and a wealth of resources to help them learn, grow and play together.

LIBRARIES ARE THE GREAT EQUALIZER.
Libraries serve people of every age, education level, income level, ethnicity and physical ability. For many people, libraries provide resources that they could not otherwise afford—resources they need to live, learn, work and govern.

LIBRARIES BUILD COMMUNITIES.
Libraries bring people together, both in person and online, to have conversations and to learn from and help each other. Libraries provide support for seniors, immigrants and others with special needs.

LIBRARIES PROTECT OUR RIGHT TO KNOW.
Our right to read, seek information, and speak freely must not be taken for granted. Libraries and librarians actively defend this most basic freedom as guaranteed by the First Amendment.

LIBRARIES STRENGTHEN OUR NATION.
The economic health and successful governance of our nation depend on people who are literate and informed. School, public, academic, and special libraries support this basic right.

LIBRARIES ADVANCE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP.
Knowledge grows from knowledge. Whether doing a school assignment, seeking a cure for cancer, pursuing an academic degree, or developing a more fuel efficient engine, scholars and researchers of all ages depend on the knowledge and expertise that libraries and librarians offer.

LIBRARIES HELP US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.
People from all walks of life come together at libraries to discuss issues of common concern. Libraries provide programs, collections, and meeting spaces to help us share and learn from our differences.

LIBRARIES PRESERVE OUR NATION’S CULTURAL HERITAGE.
The past is key to our future. Libraries collect, digitize, and preserve original and unique historical documents that help us to better understand our past, present and future.
Interview with a Librarian by Douglas Lord

Bruce Johnston is Systems Librarian at the J. Eugene Smith Library at Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic. In addition to writing some particularly useful technology columns for CLA Today (like October 2013’s “Face” books: how do they work?” Bruce is a massively interesting guy.

Can you tell me a little about what you do at Eastern?
I am not infrequently asked what a “systems librarian” does. The specifics have changed for different places where I have worked. Here at Eastern, I am the library’s webmaster and the site administrator for our CONSULS integrated library system, which is shared between a consortium of four State Universities plus the State Library. Since we are now part of a new CONSCU Board of Regents system that includes Charter Oak and the State Community Colleges, I anticipate longer-term integration with those schools to eventually occur. There are proposals for a new ILS, which would be an immense project to get off the ground.

I also keep library-specific software running, including desktop applications and online database access for users both on and off-campus. I can also occasionally be found at the circulation or reference desks, where I help people find things and get them checked out.

What’s your biggest challenge at work?
One challenge in particular this semester has been to keep up with rapid changes to our information delivery infrastructure. In particular, I see the university website as being an important point of access to our library’s resources for our students and faculty. This fall, I have been preparing the library’s portion of the university website for a migration into WordPress templates, which the university wants to see completed by next Spring.

Is there a lot of committee work in academic librarianship?
Plenty. I once estimated that, on average, one working day of every work week was spent in regularly scheduled meetings, and this may be a conservative estimate now. I am currently serving my second two-year term as a University Senator, representing the library at the University Senate, and there are several library committees that are part of our normal weekly routine.

What do you think we need to do as a profession?
As a profession, we need to focus on organizing and providing the best informational resources that our respective institutions can obtain, and add value where we can by helping our patrons get what they need or want from those resources. In my opinion, focusing on delivering meaningful value to our patrons transcends the nuances such as materials formats, classification schemes, and subscription terms. We are concerned with those nuances in our daily work, but we shouldn’t let them get in the way of remembering that our goal is to have our patrons come away feeling that they have gotten something valuable from us and our libraries.

Where did you work before Eastern?
My career started out in special libraries and included positions at BP Amoco and Fidelity Investments. I was drawn into systems work, as this was the late 90’s, when information started to become easier to get online. I actually started in my first library photocopying magazine articles for the consultants at a business consulting firm, and experienced the shift from paper-based information to the e-mail box to online in real time over the first few years of my library career. I implemented two different integrated library systems within my first four years as a librarian. The first was at Fidelity, where I made the catalog available to our remote patrons on the company Intranet, and later, at BP, where they took it a step further and hosted the entire applica-
On October 29, 2013, the Board closed the Library early and hosted a Centennial Reception for past board members, staff, local dignitaries and the entire community. Entertained by the tones of Dulcimers ‘n More many gathered to celebrate the past, present and future of the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library. An Official Citation from the General Assembly was presented by Senator Guglielmo and framed by Representative Tim Ackert. A resolution was also passed by the Town Council and presented by Town Manager, John Elsesser. Students from the Coventry Public Schools submitted heartfelt artwork on “what the library means to them.”

Revivals of past program favorites inspired An Old Fashioned 1913 Tea, where patrons were encouraged to bring their favorite cup and spend time with family and friends at the Library and a Teddy Bear Picnic for the younger set on the Library lawn. Other events include a presentation from the State Historian, Professor Walter Woodward: The Burning Question About Nathan Hale, a joint program with the Coventry Garden Club: The Importance of Heirloom Plants, A History Through the Eyes of Veterans presented by Coventry Veterans and an Ice Cream Social. The finale to the Library’s Centennial Celebration will also be the summer reading finale with a Librarian’s Carnival. The details of this even are not finalized but there will be delicious fair food, carnival games and more.

On October 24, 1913, the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library opened its doors for the first time. Growing from the roots of the South Coventry Library Association (founded in 1880) and following the tradition of the original circulating library of Coventry founded in 1792. The Booth & Dimock Memorial Library was built with a bequest made by Henry Farnum Dimock in memory of his grandfather, the Reverend Chauncey Booth and his father, Dr. Timothy Dimock.

The original building, dating from 1913 features a classic façade, built in bookshelves and welcoming parlor-like rooms. With the completion of an addition on November 19, 1989 a rededication was held, creating space for the modern Library. Through the years the role and services of the library have changed greatly, but their dedication to and importance in their community have remained remarkably similar.

100 years later, the library is still standing, thriving and a landmark in the community. 100 years is only the beginning though. Using the motto Yesterday and Today the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library is preparing to start talking about Tomorrow. Currently fundraising for a 3-D printer, the board is very excited about fostering a “maker” community in Coventry and continuing its tradition of being a "big small library." But the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library is not an institution that stands alone. We never would have lasted 100 years without the support of the community and that appreciation will be reflected in two collaborative projects. These will create memorable library keepsakes that will be a part of library history for years to come. Past Library Director, Sharon Pacholski, is coordinating two community quilt workshops where residents can make a square and another local resident will compile their work into a show piece. This reflects a past tradition of community quilts--projects that haven’t existed in years. The second project will be a reimagined image of the Library--a mosaic of photos submitted by the community showcasing their favorite Library moments.

100 years is a long time, but it is also just a moment when you think how fast communities and their needs are changing. The Booth & Dimock Memorial Library is celebrating their past but they are also celebrating their future--blending old with new and tradition with the evolving role of the library.
Fairfield Public Library’s Skype-a-Docent is a Programs for Older Adults LSTA project that entails virtual presentations by museums and art galleries to congregate housing facilities and also at the library for the community’s mobile seniors.

Each month a different museum presents four tours of its artwork and collections along with a Q&A session with a museum docent; these tours last about an hour and explain the significance of various pieces on display.

Using an iPad and the internet, docents Skype a broadcast of the tour back to Fairfield.

Project Coordinator Lauren DeNisco's approach builds on the best practices found in Madlyn Schneider’s (Queens Library) Book Club for the Homebound that meets via the free online platform Skype. Schneider’s effort was awarded The New York Times ‘I Love My Librarian’ prize in December, 2012.

Presentations completed so far by the Bruce Museum and the New Britain Museum of American Art have met with resounding success in both numbers of attendees and in outcome-based evaluation measurements of knowledge gain. In all, Skype-A-Docent will see nine different museums presenting a total of 36 programs for older adults. Future programs will see the library partnering with the Bellarmine Museum (December, 2013), the Fairfield Museum and History Center (January, 2014), the Mattatuck Museum (February, 2014), the Housatonic Museum of Art (March, 2014), the Beardsley Zoo (April, 2014), and the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum (May, 2014).

Housing facility partners include the Fairview Healthcare Center of Fairfield (120 residents), the Ludlowe Center for Health and Rehabilitation (144 residents), and Parish Court (100 residents). Also partnering is the Fairfield Senior Center in the heart of town where over 500 different residents participate in programs each month.

Spurring the project was DeNisco’s recognition of the differentiated needs of Fairfield’s mobile older adults from those living in "...congregate housing who have very limited access to the community outside their housing. Many don’t drive, some have disabilities, and others are in rehabilitation. For all of them, public transportation is quite limited, even nonexistent.”

After meeting with the Recreation Directors at each of the four partnering housing sites, DeNisco spoke to residents to determine their needs. She also polled users of the Senior Center; answers from both groups proved revealing.

Mobile seniors generally responded that while getting out was not a problem, driving long distances to unfamiliar destinations was intimidating. While intrigued by the idea of going to a museum, most said that they would only do so in a group as a social adventure. Even the most active among this population admitted that an hours-long tour of walking and standing would be tiring. One comment agreed upon by all was that "...touring a museum with a leader who could lecture on the art would be better than looking at a piece for 10 seconds before moving on." Since many of these seniors are already banded together in friendships and participate in other lifelong learning programs at the senior center, it was natural to put the two together.

While the library offers a robust museum pass program to 41 different institutions, DeNisco realized that senior populations cannot easily participate. "Many of these
From Sally Tornow
The Little Book by Selden Edwards

Almost impossible to describe, and definitely impossible to forget. The characters that Edwards creates - and the insights about different cultures and eras - are nothing short of remarkable. Just like Pat Conroy says on the cover, it forever changes you. I have been thinking and rethinking about this book ever since I finished it. It is a perfect book club choice, vacation read, or book to recommend to a friend. It is also a wonderful audio!

From Jason Neely
From Jason Neely
The Ocean at the End of the Lane by Neil Gaiman

In fewer than 200 pages, Gaiman distills the wonder and terror of being a small child in a big childhood resurfacing as they read this magical tale.

LSTA Success Story
CONTINUED FROM P. 8

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As Groucho Marx once said, “Outside of a dog, a book is a man’s best friend. Inside of a dog it’s too dark to read.” At the Russell Library in Middletown on Saturday, November 23rd, children ages 6 to 10 were invited to pick up a book and read to man’s best friend. “Paws to Read” was a welcoming environment for reluctant readers. Seven therapy dogs were available to be read to for the many children who came to the program. The Head of the AV Dept at Russell, Gail Thompson Allen was quoted in the Middletown Press explaining the dogs’ background: “They do two classes, which are in basic training and working with people who do visits to nursing homes and hospitals.”

Gail was there with her dog, Spencer, who is a Golden Retriever. Other breeds were several Labrador Retrievers, an English Cocker, and a Goldendoodle. There were sign-up sheets with pictures of the dogs, and the books the dogs “preferred” to read.” The children picked out multiple books, some stuck with one dog, and others read a little something to each of the dogs.

The “Paws to Read” program was sponsored by a Young Adult Group at the Russell Library called Otakus, headed by Ken Kruse, a Young Adult librarian. The members meet to discuss anime, manga, and all things Japanese. The club members assisted in handing out photos to each of the participants. One of the mothers said of her daughter, “She gets a little nervous around dogs, but she got over it, and enjoyed reading to them.” This was the third time Russell has presented the Paws to Read Program to appreciative parents and children alike.♦

By Christy Billings

November was a very busy month at Otis Library in Norwich. We began the month by hosting an opening reception and panel discussion for the photography exhibit Arrested Development: Norwich Brownfields; on November 15 we presented An Evening with Wally Lamb to a capacity audience; and on November 18 we held A Celebration of Creole Culture with the Haitian Community of Norwich. But the pièce de résistance was O'tis a Festival, which took place on Saturday, November 23. This festival transforms Otis Library into a marketplace of all things creative!

This, our fifth annual O'tis a Festival, was our best yet, attracting 1,974 people over a five-hour period. We had over 40 vendors selling handmade crafts, along with live musical performances for children and adults, a visit from Santa, and a craft station to make holiday cards to be sent to U.S. troops. Maria Bruscino Sanchez, cookbook author and owner of Sweet Maria’s Bakery in Waterbury, was on hand to talk about her new book Sweet, Small and Italian: Tiny, Tasty Treats from Sweet Maria’s Bakery. We also had local celebrities holding signs on the street to show people where to park!

A committee comprised of staff and community volunteers began planning O'tis a Festival months in advance. Without a core group of dedicated people working together, this event would not be possible. Although it will be tough to top this year’s festival, we look forward to an even bigger and better event next year!♦

By Julie Menders
Friends: The 2013 Legislative Session of the Connecticut General Assembly was very exciting and very challenging for the Library Community. Together, we all fought very hard to ensure that our public and academic libraries are recognized as important and vibrant institutions in every town and school across Connecticut. We worked hand-in-hand with our Chief State Librarian Ken Wiggin to ensure that state funding for our crucial programs -- including Connecticard – was restored to a level that allows us to continue to provide high-quality services throughout our libraries. Ken Wiggin and Jay Johnston also worked very hard on legislation that allows flexibility for state bonding in library construction projects. The CLA also devoted a tremendous amount of resources to legislation (House Bill 5614) that creates a pathway for all libraries to have fair access to E-books. House Bill 5614 passed and was signed into law by Governor Malloy, but not without a battle with the legions of lobbyists representing the Big Publishers. Finally, we worked collaboratively with the Law Librarians to secure the passage of Electronic Legal Materials legislation. We should all be very proud of our collective efforts.

The following are the CLA members who we believe should be specially recognized and thanked for their volunteer work and persistence during the 2013 Legislative Session:

*** Carl DeMilia – the CLA’s 2013 President. A great leader who led the charge on all of our 2013 legislative issues! Carl was instrumental early on during the session to help us obtain information and support on E-books issues from our friends at the American Library Association (ALA)

*** Ken Wiggin – our Chief State Librarian. Ken is the driving force for library programs at the State Capitol in Hartford.

*** Jay Johnston of Farmington and Carl Antonucci of CCSU – For several years, Jay and Carl have served as the volunteer leaders of CLA’s legislative Team. They devote tons of hours to our efforts throughout the calendar year – not just during the state Legislative sessions.

*** Mary Etter of South Windsor – Mary is a tireless volunteer who heads-up our Legislative Links program, where CLA members can connect and develop relationships with their local and state public officials. Mary was also very instrumental in helping us garner support for the E-Books legislation.

*** Christine Bradley of Norwalk -- Christine’s long-standing relationships with key lawmakers, including State Senator Paul Doyle and State Representative Sandy Nafis, was extremely helpful to us in our work on the E-Books Legislation. Senator Doyle is the Senate Chair of the General Law Committee, and Rep. Nafis is a senior member of the General Law Committee – the Committee where the E-Books legislation originated.

*** Roberta LaMonaca of Bloomfield – Roberta worked very hard with State Representative David Baram of Bloomfield, the House Chair of the General Law Committee. Thanks to Roberta’s hard work with Rep. Baram, he became the primary proponent and supporter of the E-Books legislation.

*** Marian Amodeo of Hamden – the CLA called upon Marian to quickly gather support from Hamden library patrons and supporters so that House Speaker Brendan Sharkey of Hamden would throw his support behind the E-Books legislation so that the bill would be called for a vote in the House (notwithstanding the heavy opposition from the Publishers).

*** Richard Conroy of Essex. The CLA’s current president. Richard worked very hard to gain support for our E-Books legislation from the Essex area state lawmakers.

*** Constance Sear of CLC in Middletown. Constance worked very hard to prepare informative materials for the General Law Committee public hearing on the E-Books bill, House Bill 5614; and continued to fight to gain legislative support for the bill throughout the session.

*** Maxine Bleiwies of Westport – Maxine is always a tremendous legislative advocate for the Connecticard program; and always works very hard to convince Fairfield County lawmakers of the importance of the program!

In 2014, we expect to have more legislative battles on state and local budget issues, as well as follow-up legislation relating to E-Books. We hope that even more members of the CLA community will step-up to be legislative champions. Thank you!

CLA Today
2014 CLA Publicity Awards Contest

The CLA Publicity Committee sponsors an Annual Awards Contest. Materials designed by a library to promote a library concept or event may be submitted. A panel of professional designers/artists and a representative from the library field will choose the winning entries. Winners will be honored at a CLA Conference Program and winning entries will be displayed at the CLA Conference.

Entry Guidelines
- Library may submit one entry per category created during calendar year 2013.
- If your library has won an award in a particular category and have not made significant changes, please do not resubmit in that category.
- Send 2 originals of each entry with a copy of this entry form attached to each original. If submitting Electronic Media, you may email the project’s URL and screen shot (if applicable) to jmenders@otis.lioninc.org and mail or fax completed entry form.
- Entries will be judged for content, usability, originality & design.
- Judges’ decisions are final. The judges reserve the right not to give an award in a category or give additional awards if merited.
- Entries will not be returned.

Submit entries by January 31, 2014 to:
Julie Menders, jmenders@otis.lioninc.org, fax (860) 886-4744
Ots Library
261 Main Street, Norwich, CT 06360

PRINT MEDIA
- Bookmark
- Newsletter
- Program Flyer (8 1/2” x 14” or smaller)
- Poster (11” x 17” or larger)
- Library Logo
- Other (e.g. Annual Report)

ELECTRONIC MEDIA (include entry URL in the form below)
- Website / Blog
- Video (DVD, YouTube, etc)
- e-newsletter
- Other (e.g. Library Guides)

THEMATIC PROJECT
- 3 or more coordinating items which can be print media, electronic media or a combination of both

DESIGN
- In-House Design
- Professional Design

Library Director:

Library:

Address:

Phone: Email:

Designer(s):

URL (for Electronic Media):

Please describe the purpose and marketing plan in 250 words or less. (use back of form or attach a sheet)

Join CLA — For the advancement of librarians and the libraries we serve.
www.ctlibraryassociation.org
Interview with a Librarian continued from p. 4

Talk to me about beer brewing. How did you start doing that? I have a group of friends who by day are engineers for local military contractors. Coincidentally, they are also motorcyclists and I met them via local motorcycling events. We eventually started meeting regularly at restaurants and pubs to “plan the next ride”, as we are all beer enthusiasts, too, and particularly enjoy locally-made craft beers. I thought that I could learn to make something fun to share with them, and I also wanted to try my hand at making the more unusual beer styles that I enjoy, which are expensive and difficult to obtain. I practiced with simple recipes for a year before starting a lam-bic barrel in my basement.

Once I started, I was drawn into the process, as it is very process-oriented work. Small adjustments of certain factors make very pronounced differences in the outcome. For example, most observable differences when re-brewing the exact same recipe come down to a 5 degree difference in temperature.

What are you reading? Ever since I bought a Kindle this summer for my son to play computer games, I have been reading a lot more after he goes to bed. I just finished Let’s Explore Diabetes with Owls, Essays, etc. by David Sedaris, and I next plan to read one or two more of his works that I have missed along the way. I am also reading various how-to books at any given time.

You get to have dinner with any two people. Who, why, and what’s on the menu? My children are currently eight and four, respectively. I cannot wait to have dinner with them as adults. I would want to hear about what they plan to do in the world, and we would go ahead and eat something messy.

Where are you from originally? I was born near Philadelphia in Upper Darby and moved around a bit since my father was a chemical engineer who worked onsite where facilities were being built. I lived in Pittsburgh and Jamesburg, NJ before relocating to the Mobile, AL area, where my parents and siblings still live. I have since lived in Newark, Boston, Providence, Chicago, and even briefly in West Hartford before my wife and I bought our house in Manchester.

Mobile? What was it like to go to school in Alabama? At the time I went, the public schools in Alabama competed with Mississippi for last place in national rankings. The school system in the county where I lived was in the thrill of litigation over what was commonly referred to as the “Birdie Mae Davis Case”, a spin-off of Brown v. Board of Ed. Funding was irregular. On the one hand, for my sophomore year of high school, we moved into a brand new building, but at one point in my junior year, we were instructed to bring our own toilet paper to school.

It was much better once I started at the local university, the University of South Alabama. I went there on a full scholarship, which gave me a leg up to go on to graduate studies. I will always be grateful for that. Also for the friends I made while in college, one of whom was later instrumental in my eventual path to library school. Thanks, Dolores. She’s a big-shot library director in Tennessee now.

Hobbies? Pets? I was issued my pet cat when I went to library school. 16 years old now, Daniel is the best cat anyone could ever have. I successfully tricked him into believing he was a person at a young age, and he has gone with it ever since. He has tolerated my kids (and their friends) when they came along, almost too well for his own good.

You're a lawyer too? What's up with that? For better or for worse, my legal education largely made me into the person I am today. Critical thinking, logical reasoning, and an unlimited interest in human nature became a part of my identity as a result of those years. Truly, I learned a lot from that education and experience. However, my last job at a law firm was strictly as a librarian. I don’t see myself going back to full time legal practice.

Connecticut’s professional organization of over 1,000 librarians, library staff, friends, and trustees working together: to improve library service to Connecticut, to advance the interests of librarians, library staff, and librarianship, and to increase public awareness of libraries and library services.

CLA Today is the newsletter of the Connecticut Library Association. Published every other month, it is posted to the CLA website. Please send submissions for future issues to editor Jennifer Datum at editor@ctlibrarians.org.

www.ctlibraryassociation.org
Nominations

The Nominations Committee invites nominations for the board positions listed below. If you would like to nominate someone (keep in mind that it’s absolutely ok to self-nominate!) and meet the qualifications outlined below, please forward the name(s) of the nominee(s) as well as a brief statement of qualifications and interest to me (cdemilia@biblio.org) by Monday, January 13, 2014. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the duties of the positions or eligibility to serve. You must be a CLA member in good standing to serve in any of these capacities. The election will take place after the Annual Meeting. Please help us identify talented, motivated candidates to continue our work on behalf of Connecticut’s libraries.

Positions:

- **Vice-President/President-Elect**
  
  Duties: The Vice-President is also President-Elect and automatically assumes the Presidency at the beginning of the second Association year following election or in case of a vacancy in the Office of the President. The Vice President / President Elect acts for the President in the latter’s absence or disability, serves as a member, but not the chair, of the Nominations and Elections Committee, appoints the Assistant Conference Program Co-Chairs who become the Conference Program Co-Chairs in the following year, serves as a liaison with state-wide planning groups and any such organizations as the Board may indicate reporting regularly to the Board on the actions and recommendations of these groups, and performs other duties as assigned by the President.

Three (3) Regional Representatives for Regions 2, 3 and 6

(Map of Library Regions)

Duties: The Regional Representatives serve as liaisons with the Association’s general membership and represent its views on the Executive Board. Regional Representatives are required to identify issues important to their Region and to report these issues to the Executive Board on a semi-annual basis. The Regional Representatives serve “ex officio” on the Membership Committee, the Awards Committee, the Legislative Committee, the Proficiency Enhancement Grants Program (PEG) Committee, and other groups as determined by the Executive Board.

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