

Connecticut Library Association Executive Board Meeting  
February 6, 2014  
Middletown Library Service Center

- I. Richard Conroy called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.**
- II. Board Introductions.**
- III. Minutes from the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with one correction.**
- IV. Old Business**
  - a. President's report – Richard Conroy
    - i. Richard introduced Martha Kruey as the new College and University Library Section Chair replacing Dan Lewis.
    - ii. Richard thanked everyone who was involved with the newly published eBook Task Force Report.
  - b. Treasurer's report – Richard Conroy for Christina Baum
    - i. Cash reserves are good. Next month the Treasurer's Report will be presented in a new, easier to read format.
    - ii. David Boudinot, Exhibits Chair, said with a month and a half left to go we have sold 32 exhibitor tables for a total of \$15,630.
- V. New Business**
  - a. Jeffrey Dowd, Supervising Law Librarian CT Judicial Branch and Krista Hess, Program Manager for the Court Service Center, discussed the Access to Justice Commission Workgroup (see attached.) One of the recommendations of the workgroup is to recruit the help of public librarians, including adding a librarian to the Commission, in order to better serve the legal needs of Connecticut residents. If anyone knows a librarian who may be interested in serving on the Commission they should contact Jeffrey or Krista.
  - b. Deb Hoadley, President of the New England Library Association
    - i. Deb discussed her vision for the future of NELA (see attached) and asked the Board for ways NELA can better support and meet the needs of CLA and the State Associations. Suggestions from Board members included: collaboration and meetings between similar sections of the State associations, creating one regional professional development calendar including locations and funding sources to help with registration and travel fees, a regional speaker bureau, NELA having a strong presence at the CLA Annual conference, a network of librarians across the region that can be easily mobilized to support legislative issues States may be dealing with, providing more information to CLA members about NELA and what it can do for members, and asking States what types of programs they would like to see at the NELA Conference.
    - ii. Deb said NELA is investigating the possibility of offering a joint membership option to members of the State organizations, how to engage student members including establishing a mentorship program, and using new technologies to make NELA stronger, better and more responsive to the States.

- iii. Any additional questions or suggestions for Deb can be passed to her through CLA's NELA Representative, Beth Crowley.
- c. Edith Nettleton Volunteer of the Year Award
  - i. Richard proposed the creation of a new CLA Award to honor library volunteers. The award would be named after Edith Nettleton who passed away this month at the age of 105 and who worked at the Guilford Library as both the Director and then a volunteer for a total of 80 years.
  - ii. Beth Crowley moved that CLA should establish the Edith Nettleton Volunteer of the Year Award to be given annually at the CLA Conference. Carl Demilia seconded, discussion followed regarding criteria and whether this award overlaps with efforts by FOCL and ACLB. Motion passed unanimously.
  - iii. Peter Ciparelli moved that CLA recommend to the Awards Committee that Edith Nettleton should posthumously be the first recipient of this award. Carl DeMilia seconded, motion passed unanimously.

## VI. Reports

### a. ACLB – Betsy McIlvaine

- i. Betsy attended the New Directors Brunch to discuss how directors can best work with their trustees and Friends groups and also gave a talk on this topic at ALA that is available on the *United for Libraries* website as a resource.
- ii. A joint meeting of ACLB and FOCL is being held to plan a program on what to do when Trustees and Friends aren't working well together.

### b. ADA – Mary Engels

- i. The ADA Committee is happy to be presenting an informational session to the Board at the April meeting.
- ii. The committee is planning a session for the Annual Conference on ADA issues as related to customer service.

### c. ALA – Carl Antonucci

- i. An advocacy workshop for the Annual Conference is being planned that hopefully will include Maureen Sullivan as a presenter.

### d. Career Development – Richard Conroy for Michael Spellmon

- i. The application deadline is February 7<sup>th</sup>. So far the committee has only received a couple of applications for the MLS Scholarship and none for the LTA Scholarship. Please pass the word to any staff who may be interested.

### e. CLC – Jennifer Keohane

- i. Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> was *Take Your Child to the Library Day*. This grassroots effort, featured in a School Library Journal article, was started by Connecticut Librarians Caitlyn Augusta and Nadine Lipman and has grown to include over 440 libraries. Any libraries who held events should post pictures to the Flickr site.
- ii. Two Makerspace Trendspotting sessions have sold out and CLC is trying to schedule a third.

- iii. A Maker Market featuring discounts on products related to the Makerspace Movement is being launched and includes new vendors such as Radio Shack.
  - iv. CLC is working with iConn to add new services including a Business Directory Database.
- f. CSL – Ken Wiggin/Dawn Lavalle**
- i. The new legislative session begins today, February 6<sup>th</sup>. There is nothing of significance to libraries in the proposed budget.
  - ii. The eBook task force has issued its report. CSL will work with CLA to implement the recommendations outlined in the report.
  - iii. Ken is working with Southern Connecticut State University to help them move forward with the reaccreditation process for the library science program. There will be an invitation-only stakeholder meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> to gather feedback from the library community on what the curriculum should include.
  - iv. Dawn Lavalle said the EDGE Initiative is in full force and the glitches have been solved.
  - v. Workshops on selection and succession planning for Library Boards are being planned.
  - vi. In response to requests for help with Strategic Planning, DLD is looking for ways to help libraries do this without having to hire expensive consultants.
  - vii. Workshops for libraries on how to develop and implement their own ESL training programs are being planned.
- g. College and University Libraries – Martha Kruy**
- i. Martha is settling into her new role as chair and will have a report next month.
- h. Conference 2014 –Jason Neely**
- i. The Conference schedule is almost complete.
  - ii. Registration will open in the next week or two. Rates will be the same as last year and the early bird deadline will be March 31.
- i. Editorial –Jen Datum**
- i. The February issue of CLA Today will be out soon and will feature articles on the Meriden Library and *Take Your Child to the Library Day*.
  - ii. Jen changed a setting in StarChapter so when a membership has lapsed the person's name is automatically removed from the list after 60 days. She has also updated the Institutional Membership information, removed the Family Membership and added the Business Institution Membership. The joint CLA/ALA link should be up by February 7<sup>th</sup>.
- j. Friends – Betsy McIlvaine**
- i. The FOCL Bootcamp is scheduled for April 26 at the University of Hartford.
- k. Legislative – Carl Antonucci**
- i. The Committee will begin mapping out a strategy to address the recommendations outlined in the eBook Task Force report.
  - ii. Carl thanked the Region Reps for getting the information out about the "Connecticut Libraries Change Lives" event to be held at the State Capitol on

April 16. Based on discussions with the other ALA Chapters, Carl feels this will be one of the most innovative programs related to the initiative and ALA would like any pictures of the event uploaded their site.

**I. Publicity – Tara Borden**

- i. Tara distributed a flyer for the upcoming workshop called “Media Matters” being held on March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Wallingford Public Library.

**m. Public Libraries – Sally Tornow**

- i. The committee is planning for the first Passport to Libraries program. To date about 50 libraries have signed up to participate.

**n. Reference and Adult Services – Paula Cook**

- i. The committee is working on programming for next fall.

**o. Technology – Arianna Schlegel**

- i. The committee is working on their program for the Annual Conference.

**p. Region Reports**

**i. Region 1 – Patricia Lunn**

**ii. Region 2 – Marjorie Ruschau**

- i. Many libraries in area are asking patrons to vote for them in Hartford Magazine's poll for best library
- ii. Avon -- Their One Book program on *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* will be topped off March 14 with a visit from two members of the Lacks family. Received a \$1,200 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to present a documentary film series on race in America and discussions by two on the civil rights struggle. Received a grant. Has been selected as the only Connecticut stop for the traveling exhibit “Changing America: The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863 and the March on Washington, 1963” for 6 weeks in late 2014. The exhibit is currently on view at the National Museum of American History in Washington DC. Bloomfield. Is hosting a series for Black History Month including a talk about Jim Crow laws by a lawyer. Feb. 25
- iii. Burlington -- will host the dog listener, Pat Wright, on training your dog Canton -- plan a milk and cookies artist’s reception for its 2nd annual preschool art show tonight Enfield – Pearl Street Branch celebrating 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary by assembling time capsule. Asking residents for suggestions. Beginning series of story hours for autistic children Farmington. The main library will be open Sundays afternoons through March.
- iv. Granby -- hosted representatives from CT forum in search of volunteers and ideas Hartford – Following the film *American Promise*, Fox CT's Stan Simpson will moderate a panel of educators and community leaders on race and education in local communities. Feb. 8, 1 p.m. and will host the Naturalization Ceremony for Hartford area residents, followed by an opening reception for "We Belong Here Hartford," an art exhibit celebrating the lives and artwork of professional immigrant artists and students from Hartford Public Schools. Feb. 20.

- v. Newington -- Lucy Robbins Welles Library is lending Nooks preloaded with bestsellers.
- vi. Simsbury -- has added IndieFlixSouth Windsor -- hosted a student spelling bee with the winner advancing to a New Haven contest.
- vii. Southington -- Gene Grass has been promoted to assistant director/head reference librarian. He has been a member of the reference department since 1989.
- viii. Suffield -- Kent Memorial hosting a sing-a-long viewing of *Wizard of Oz* tomorrow night West Hartford -- yearlong film series, Movies from the National Film Registry, films deemed "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" by the [Library of Congress](#), the National Film Registry has earmarked 625 titles for permanent preservation. The library will show 41 of these films over the course of 2014, kicking off the series with "[Groundhog Day](#)," starring [Bill Murray](#), on Feb. 6.
- ix. Wethersfield -- The Friends have donated \$1,500 to create an opera DVD collection.

**iii. Region 3 – Peter Ciparelli**

- i. Hall Memorial Library – Ellington – The library is considering Value Line online and is offering their patrons a free trial.
- ii. Willimantic Public Library – The library is sponsoring “Go on a blind date with a book”. Their display has books with “personal ads” and patrons choose one to take home. They remove the wrapping when they get home to meet the book of their dreams. If the match isn’t right they can bring it back. There are thousands more to choose from.
- iii. Saxton B. Little Library – Columbia - They are also doing “Blind date with a book”.
- iv. Douglas Library – Hebron – Interim Director Barbara Butler reports that the library Director’s position has been posted with a closing date of February 28. She encourages all who are interested to apply. The town and library board are still trying to figure out the salary range of the position.
- v. Killingly Public Library – Danielson – The KPL had a wonderful turn out for “Take Your Child to the Library Day” on February 1. The magic show had over 100 children and parents in attendance. The library is now into year two of our “READY for the Grade” program to help children with reading comprehension over the summer months. The three year grant of \$35,000 per year was made possible by the New Alliance Bank Foundation and was given to 4 libraries in the state.

**iv. Region 4 – Sheri Szymanski**

**v. Region 5 – Christy Billings**

- i. The Essex Library is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year with a series of programs and events that will be kicked off with a talk by Ken Wiggin on the future of libraries and the Edge Initiative. Ken's talk will take place on Monday, Feb. 10 at 7 PM in the Program Room at the Essex Library and it's free and open to the public. The Essex Library is pleased to report that we have received a \$5,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Middlesex

- County in support of a program series we're calling "Live and Learn at the Essex Library". The series will be focused on the arts and humanities and was developed, in part, due to a request from the local school system for the Library to help supplement educational opportunities in those areas now that the Common Core standards are in effect.
- ii. Cromwell: Cromwell's library is sponsoring a TURN OFF THE TV WEEK, Feb 10-14th in conjunction with the schools and with support from the PTO, Downtown Merchants Association, and Friends of the Library.
  - iii. Russell Library- Because of the weather prediction, we are cancelling this weekend's Friends of the Russell Library Book Sale. We will hold the sale next month on March 7, 8 and 9. The Muses Go to the Movies-This series led by film critic and former stage actor Richard Alleva begins with *Amadeus* on Tuesday, February 18 at noon in the Hubbard Room. Moviemakers have often found great drama in the lives of creative people, even if a little fictionalizing has to spice the facts. From February through May, Richard Alleva, film critic for *Commonweal Magazine*, will present four of the best "biopics" ever made, the first film being *Amadeus*. Richard will not only talk about the movies but also try to separate biographical fact from filmmaking fiction.
  - iv. Henry Carter Hull Library (Clinton) has started winter hours and will be open on Sundays from 12PM-4PM January thru March. THIS SUNDAY! Chocolate Wars with Maria Brandriff Sunday, January 12, 1:30pm – 3:30pm Long time chef and chocolate expert Maria Brandriff will demonstrate that it just may be possible to eat more healthily with chocolate! Chocolate Wars is a kind of taste-off, where participants will have the opportunity to compare the type of decadent chocolate desserts that we all know and love with a lighter healthier version. Recipes and ample samples will be available. Please register at [hchlibrary.org](http://hchlibrary.org) 55 people showed up for a ukulele jam by resident Jim Beloff held on our first Sunday of 2014.
  - v. James Blackstone Memorial Library on January 25 they will hold a community-wide conversation about diversity. It will be led by Marji-Lipshez Shapiro of the Anti-Defamation League, and will be modeled after her successful *World of Difference* program. They are taping a virtual tour and talk show about Blackstone to air on their local cable TV station and working with FrediB to design a new library website. The children's department began incorporating ipads into story times, and they just had 10 chairs reupholstered by the Department of Corrections-they do fabulous work! Karen Jenson, Blackstone's Director, took a trip to Oaxaca, Mexico over the holidays, and met Siobhan Grogan, former director of the Colchester Library, who moved down there about five years ago. She is very happy there as a volunteer for Libros Para Pueblos.
  - vi. The Milford Public Library held a number of seasonal events this past December. They had the Coastal Chordsmen, a Trumbull-based barbershop chorus start off the holiday season performing a variety of holiday favorites. Also Milford actor Colin Lane presented a performance of Dylan Thomas' "A Child's Christmas in Wales." Mr. Lane was accompanied with festive music by talented singer and accordionist Rebecca Zaretzky. This performance is in its fourth season at the Milford Library. For the children, we had Sparky's Puppets present "Stories from Snowy lands." Children were enthralled with

the hand puppets, humor and audience participation. For all those who received Rainbow Looms as a holiday gift, we had our first meet-up of Rainbow Loom fans. The room was packed with boys and girls of all ages. We are also happy to report that the City of Milford has finally migrated to its new website; meaning that the Library, as a City department, now has a more updated, user-friendly web presence.

- vii. Portland Library, Cromwell Library and Russell Library in Middletown are joining together in a One Book Event sponsored by Middletown Rotary Club. The book is *The Silence of Bonaventure Arrow*. Publicity begins in February. Activities March 22<sup>nd</sup> - April 8th.
- viii. Bethany - Clark Memorial Library joined the LION Consortium. The addition of their bibliographic, item, and patron records went smoothly over the past few weeks, and they began service to their patrons on January 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ix. **Region 6 – Kate Byroade**

**I. Adjournment**

- a. With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Carl Antonucci and seconded by Carl DeMilia. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Attendance: Mary Engels, Carl DeMilia, Richard Conroy, David Boudinot, Jennifer Keohane, Paula Cook, Karen Jensen, Jennifer Datum, Tara Borden, Kristi Sadowski, Marge Ruschau, Carl Antonucci, Martha Kruy, Dawn Lavallo, Betsy McIlvaine, Steven Bernstein, Sally Tornow, Jason Neely, Arianna Schlegel, Jeff Dowd, Krista Hess, Jonathan Stock, Beth Crowley, Deb Hoadley, Peter Ciparelli, Gerald Seagrave.