

WYOMING

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

January 2009 • www.wyla.org

LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

Event set for upcoming session

- ▼ WLA reception set for 5:30 p.m., Feb. 5 at Plains Hotel.

The 23rd Annual Wyoming Library Association's legislative reception is scheduled this year for Feb. 5, 2009 at the Plains Hotel in Cheyenne. The reception is from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., and is preceded at 5 p.m. by an update from the WLA Legislative Committee on pending legislation.

Started in 1986, the WLA reception has become a fixture on the calendars of most legislators. It is chance for them to get a decent, home-cooked meal while they are in Cheyenne, and to say hello to old friends and their hometown constituents. Additionally, in the past few years Governor Dave Freudenthal and his wife Nancy have attended the reception, so hopefully the reception will be a chance for you to meet or get



Deputy State Librarian Jerry Krois and Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal chat with Johnson County Children's Librarian and Assistant Director Mary Rhoads at the 2008 legislative reception. *WSL File Photo*

reacquainted with the governor.

In addition to showing up, we would like for you to bring your most prized potluck dish. We need all types of dishes, including appetizers, veggie dishes, meat dishes, desserts, and whatever else you think can woo the heart and satisfy the stomach

of a legislator. And, if you don't want to cook, we also need cash donations to help pay for the other costs associated with putting on this event. Checks can be sent ahead of time to the Wyoming Library Association at P.O. Box 1387, Cheyenne, WY 82003. Please email Paul Heimer at [pheim-](mailto:pheim-er@will.state.wy.us)

er@will.state.wy.us to let us know what dish you are bringing, and if you need an outlet or if you can help on the day of the reception with set-up, food carry-in, clean up, or staffing the registration desk.

The Plains Hotel has a block of rooms reserved for WLA members at a special rate of

\$70 a night, so if you are planning to attend and spend the night you should make your reservations ASAP. To make reservations contact the hotel at (307) 638-3311 or (866) 275-2467. Reservations are available from Feb. 3-6. Please use code number 126665 when making a reservation.

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3-Visit Tour de WYLD at WSL

WLA Executive Board Members

- ▼ Cynthia Twing, President
- ▼ Jamie Markus, Vice President
- ▼ Brian Greene, Past President
- ▼ Sandra Barstow, ALA Representative
- ▼ Deborah "Debbie" McCarthy, MPLA Representative
- ▼ Meg Martin, Recording Secretary
- ▼ Katie Jones, Academic and Special Library Section Chair
- ▼ Ian Lindeman, Children/Young Adult Section Chair
- ▼ Gloria Brodle, Paraprofessional Section Chair
- ▼ Karen Hopkins, Public Libraries/Trustee Section Chair
- ▼ Peggy Jording, School Library Media Personnel Section Chair
- ▼ Laura Grott, Executive Secretary, Ex-Officio
- ▼ Kathy Carlson, Parliamentarian, Ex-Officio
- ▼ Lesley Lipska, Communications Committee Chair, Ex-Officio
- ▼ Cathy Butler, Chair, Legislative Committee Chair, Ex-Officio
- ▼ Lesley Boughton, State Librarian, Ex-Officio



President plans Crossroads Taskforce

What a difference a year makes!

Last year at this time the Wyoming Library Association membership was waiting anxiously to see if the Wyoming Library Endowment Challenge Fund Legislation would become a reality. Sometimes dreams really do come true! A vision for sustainability of Wyoming's libraries which began in 2005 came to fruition through the dogged determination and hard work of Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger and Senators Hank Coe, Kit Jennings, Mike Massie and John Schiffer, WLA Legislative Committee members and all WLA



Wyoming Library Association President
Cynthia Twing

members. The law went into effect July 1, 2008 and already a significant amount of endowment funds have been matched by the state. I am so proud of the manner in which Wyoming libraries and their foundations have embraced this op-

portunity. We have committed to a fundraising potential that will make a measurable difference for Wyoming libraries far into the future.

So, what challenge lies ahead for WLA? I believe it may be the thoughtful planning for our future. How can WLA serve its membership in relevant, meaningful ways with a more streamlined and efficient model of operation? To that end I have created a "Crossroads Taskforce" to assess, discuss and put together a detailed plan for WLA leadership to consider. The taskforce is made of a cross section of WLA members—some

Executive Board people, section representatives, committee representatives, and some at-large members. An ambitious schedule of face-to-face meetings and calls are planned starting with the Legislative Reception and continuing until fall conference in Laramie. The project's scope may seem daunting, but I believe the time is at hand to address concerns I am hearing from many WLA members. Past President Brian Greene, Vice-president Jamie Markus and I pledge ourselves to making the Wyoming Library Association MORE; more responsive, relevant and serving to all its members.

Legislative committee broadens focus

By Cathy Butler

WLA Legislative Committee Chair

Over the past three years the Legislative Committee has focused on passage of public library endowment legislation. We were delighted last year when the bill successfully passed through the legislature and was signed into law by Governor Dave Freudenthal. The original legislation earmarked \$25.3 million for state matching endowment funds, but the final version reduced that number to \$9.1 million.

Governor Freudenthal's supplemental budget proposal includes an additional \$2 million for public

library endowment match. Because the \$1 billion budget surplus projected in early October has shrunk to an estimated \$300 million, the Joint Appropriations Committee (JAC) has deferred 'mark-up' of the budget until after the January Consensus Revenue Estimating Group (CREG) report is received. We will monitor the process and hope to see full support for the additional funds.

This year the Legislative Committee will also broaden its focus. The committee is working with representatives from academic, school and public libraries to develop position statements for these three primary library groups

represented by WLA. The statements will be distributed to WLA members so that we may better understand and communicate the diverse, as well as the common, needs of our member libraries.

The 2009 WLA Legislative Reception is Thursday, Feb. 5, at the Historic Plains

Hotel in Cheyenne. The reception is a wonderful opportunity to thank our legislators for their support of Wyoming's libraries, to become better acquainted with our legislators, and to share with the legislators the needs of the library community. We hope to see many WLA members in attendance.

See the 2009 conference form now online at www.wyla.org

LIBRARY TRENDS**Speakers bring humor to library topics****By Susan Simpson***Albany County
Library Librarian*

Plan on learning and laughing with George Needham and Joan Frye Williams, the key note speakers at the 2009 WLA Annual Conference in Laramie Sept. 30-Oct. 3, at the UW Conference Center

George, Vice President for Member Services, OCLC, and Joan, a library and information technology consultant, have been co-presenting—often humorously—about library trends and topic since 2005.

Their primary focus is on what non-library “civilians” really want, what libraries can do to meet their communities’ changing needs and expectations, and how we can all hang onto our perspective and our principles so that mov-



ing forward doesn't get us down. They will offer practical suggestions that can change both our outlook and our ability to meet any challenges the future might throw at us.

The last WLA conference in Laramie was 1989. It's a new home town. There's an outstanding new conference facility, attached to the Hilton Garden Inn. The

UW Plaza development is within walking distance. Laramie has museums, libraries, bookstores, specialty shops, restaurants, recreation center, golf courses, and theatres.

The University of Wyoming football schedule is not yet complete, so we don't yet know if there will be a home game. UW Theater and Dance Department has tentatively scheduled

a production of Arthur Miller's “The Crucible” at the same time as the conference.

Program proposal forms are available at <http://wyla.org/conf-committee/form/form.php>. Proposals are due March 1, 2009.

The conference Web site, <http://conference.wyla.org>, has new information as it arrives.

Academic, special libraries spring meeting

Our Spring Meeting will be held Friday, April 17, 2009 in Cheyenne. First, there is a morning program with Kathy Stroh, a theorist and practitioner in the area of conflict theory and management with more than 20 years of experience. She will present Juggling Master, an interactive, exciting, highly researched and powerfully enlightening program.

“Juggling balls, knives or torches does not make anyone successful. The ability to juggle life does. Life is full of obstacles and opportunities. The question is: ‘What does one do with them?’” says Stroh on her Web site.

Self-limiting and self-defeating beliefs and behaviors prevent individuals from embracing opportunity - and this is what Juggling Master addresses.

After lunch and a quick business meeting, we'll break into roundtables to discuss projects, post-ACRL ideas, and anything else that comes to mind.

All WLA members are invited to attend this free program! More details soon! Please contact the Academic & Special Libraries Section Chair Katie Jones, kjones@courts.state.wy.us, (307)777-6487, for more information.

WLA**Committees**

- ▼ Awards/Grants Committee
- ▼ Communications Committee
- ▼ Constitution and Bylaws Committee
- ▼ Financial Auditing Committee
- ▼ Intellectual Freedom Committee
- ▼ Legislative Committee
- ▼ Membership Committee
- ▼ Mentoring Committee
- ▼ Nominations & Elections Committee
- ▼ Revenue Committee
- ▼ Wyoming Buckaroo Book Award Committee
- ▼ Wyoming Indian Paintbrush Book Award Committee
- ▼ Wyoming Soaring Eagle Book Award Committee

WLA Sections

- ▼ Academic and Special Library Section
- ▼ Children/Young Adult Section
- ▼ Paraprofessional/Support Staff Section
- ▼ Public Libraries/Trustee Section
- ▼ School Library/Media Section

Check out the new Wyoming Library Association Web site at

www.wyla.org

For more information, contact Erin Kinney at ekinne@state.wy.us



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mentoring grants now available to public libraries/trustee section members

The Public Libraries/ Trustee Section voted at the October 2008 meeting to continue the mentoring grants, with a limit of \$500 each and no more than three per year. The leadership of the section was appointed to serve as the Mentoring Committee to review and approve the requests.

You must be a member of the Public Libraries/Trustee Section to apply. Watch for an application and details to be posted on the Web site in January after the committee meets. The committee consists of Karen Hopkins, Becky Packer, Jill Mackey and Betsy Moore.



Check out Tour de Wyld

If you are in town for the Legislative Reception, plan to join me for a Tour de WYLD. If

folks you drove in with are in meetings and you need an activity, come on down! If you have

discovered that the mall is not open yet, come on down!

We will tour the fabulous resources that we have for information and research. Everything from history to health, business to baking, kids to karma.

It will be at the Wyoming State Library, 516 S. Greeley Highway, at 8:30 a.m. on Friday.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Van Burgh, cvanbu@state.wy.us, (307) 777-3642.



Wyoming Library Association
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