

WYOMING

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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The Wyoming Library Association is seeking a volunteer to Chair the 2014 WLA Conference Committee.

The Conference Chair and the Conference Committee work with the incoming vice president, who chairs the Program Committee, to organize the annual conference.

The 2014 Chair also serves as a member of the 2013 Conference Committee, both as a training period and to make sure that there is some continuity between years.

The location of the 2014 conference will be finalized at the next Executive Board meeting on January 24, 2013. For more information about the duties of the Conference Committee Chair visit <http://wyla.org/about/> under the link 2012 WLA Handbook.



WLA Legislative Reception

By Tina Lyles
Wyoming State Library Publications & Marketing Manager

The Annual Wyoming Library Association's legislative reception is scheduled for Jan. 24, 2013 at the Wyoming State Library in Cheyenne (2800 Central Avenue). The reception is from 5:30 to 9 p.m. and is preceded at 5 p.m. by an update from the WLA lobbyist, Marian Schulz on pending legislation and other relevant information on this session.

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, Wyoming's governors and other elected officials have also attended the reception.

In addition to your attendance, 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. If you would prefer to contribute with a cash donation to assist in defraying the cost of the event, those checks can be sent in advance to the Wyoming Library Association at P.O. Box 1387, Cheyenne, WY 82003.

Please email Tina Lyles at tina.lyles@wyo.gov to let her know what dish you are bringing, and if you need an outlet. If you are able to help with set-up, food carry-in, clean up, or staffing the registration desk on the day of the reception, please let Tina know that also.

There is not a block of rooms reserved for the legislative reception, but many hotels in Cheyenne offer a government rate. Go to www.cheyenne.org/places-to-stay/all-hotels-and-motels for a list with links to those hotels.

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Governor Matt Mead visits with Wyoming State Librarian Lesley Boughton during the 2012 WLA Legislative Reception.

Legislative Committee Update

**By Scott Barber
Legislative Committee Chair**

The Legislative Committee looks forward to seeing everyone in Cheyenne for the Legislative Reception on January 24, 2013. Since this is a short session with some very critical issues for legislators, in particular the biennium budget and re-districting, our legislators will have very little free time. It would be great if you can contact your local delegation before they head to Cheyenne and personally invite them to the event. Knowing you or others from your community will be in attendance will help them prioritize their valuable time.

If you are interested, the WLA website has agendas and minutes of our most recent meetings as well as the Legislative Committees strategic

plan. Also, Marian Schulz, WLA Lobbyist will be providing weekly reports during the session. Although these are not posted on the website to ensure her inside information is not made general knowledge, I will be emailing them to all@wyla.org. So look for them to keep you apprised of issues that arise during the session.

Governor Mead has included another \$3 million toward the public library endowment. Some libraries have been right on track each time dollars have been added to this important project and others are struggling. The legislation has an end date of June 30, 2014. It will most likely be the intent of the WLA Executive Board to seek an extension on that date during the 2013 legislative session. The recommendation of the Legislative Committee is that in 2012 WLA make a concerted effort to assist those libraries that are finding it harder to raise the funds in some manner. If nothing else, we all may need some cheerleading and support to renew our efforts in raising these funds locally. Prior to asking for an extension we would like some visible activity to show that our efforts have not lagged. So expect more information on this as the year progresses.

The University of Wyoming's budget requests, Community College budget requests and State Library budget requests all seem right on track at this point. School libraries will be most directly affected by what happens within the State Department of Education relating to the adoption of the "common core". During the reception, please continue to thank our legislators and any elected officials that show up for their on-going support of all types of libraries.

The Legislative Committee is in the process of making a study of successful library districting laws in other states, in particular those western states that are seeing success. We also want to look at

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**Submit your program proposals for the 2013 WLA Conference at
http://conference.wyla.org/program_form.html**

WLA Executive Board Members

- Debbie McCarthy, President
- Scott Kinney, Vice President
- Sukey Hohl, Past President
- Carey Hartmann, ALA Representative
- Steve Boss, MPLA Representative & Recording Secretary
- Jamie Markus, Constitutions & Bylaws Advisor
- Mary Rhodes and Ara Anderson Leadership Coordinators
- Laura Grott, Executive Secretary, Ex-Officio
- Brittany Wells, Communications Advisor, Ex-Officio
- Jason Grubb, Conference Committee Chair, Ex-Officio
- Scott Barber, Legislative Committee Chair, Ex-Officio
- Lesley Boughton, State Librarian, Ex-Officio
- Marian Schulz, Lobbyist



successful taxing districts within the state, what was the last district to pass successfully and continue to monitor the legislator's reaction to new taxing districts. Although we are very aware that the majority of legislators are not in favor any new taxes, we want to be ready if there is ever a shift in that climate.

The last issue that the Legislative Committee is following is the developments relating to possible bills that may ban guns in either all city and county buildings or a specific legislation that may try to ban guns in libraries. At some point the public library directors may need to weigh in on these issues by letting the WLA Executive Committee know if they would support a resolution from the WLA Executive Committee for or against any of these specific legislations. Thank you in advance for the excellent home cooked food you will be providing for the reception. We look forward to seeing you in Cheyenne!

WLA 2013 President's Report



By Deborah McCarthy WLA President

In 2009, under the leadership of Cynthia Twing, the Crossroads Taskforce started work towards the goal of creating a more streamlined and efficient Wyoming Library Association. The membership approved these changes to the by-laws and over the last few years we have all been learning to work with the new organizational structure. The planning and work done by the Crossroads Taskforce have placed WLA in a strong position and the association owes a debt to the taskforce for

envisioning and implementing the changes needed to ensure a positive future for our association.

Many Interest groups are available for us to join and if you have an interest that is not represented you can start a new group to fill that need. Forms and instructions are on the WLA website at <http://wyla.org/InterestGroupProposal.pdf>

With the elimination of standing committees and the move towards a more ad hoc committee structure there will be periodic calls for participation from the Executive Board. When you see these requests please consider volunteering for a committee that may interest you and will help with the work of the association. It is also a great way to meet new people.

In Wyoming we are fortunate to have a state legislature that is engaged with the citizens of the state and works with us to help create a better Wyoming. On January 24, 2013 we will host the annual Legislative Reception, our chance to say thank you to our legislatures for all that they do for us. We can all hope that the weather will cooperate this year and I hope to see you at the reception.

Pay membership dues online. Deadline July 1st
http://wyla.org/secure/membership_form.html