By Trish Hull

How many times this week have you been asked, “Why do we still need libraries? Isn’t everything online?” How do you answer? I hope you have some great answers for those who don’t quite get us. Libraries and those who work in them are crucial and vital to their communities. We need to do a better job of telling the world about us. That is why I chose “Explore! Enrich! Engage! The Future is Here” as the theme for ULA this year.

We need to explore the world around us and be sure we are on top of whatever is out there—the latest apps, eBooks, databases, web services or cool iThings. Someone will be coming to ask about them. Explore the digital world, your physical community, and the needs of your customers. Then enrich that exploration. How can you use the new technology to provide information service to your customers? How can you help the community with your own content creation? Can you use an app for story time? Take story time on the road? Create a business directory for your Chamber of Commerce? Research information for your economic development committee? Using your mad information skills ask yourself how you can enrich what is already out there and make it the library’s.

And, after that, engage. Talk to businesses, community groups, schools, churches, medical centers, and see where you can help them in their information needs. Show them what you have explored and enriched. Find common ground and ways you can help each others. We need to show them what an integral part of the community we are.

I have a dream for the future that every person in our communities will look at libraries and those who work there and see us for the resource we are. They will think of the library when they want help with an information need. They will think of us when they want to gather the community together. They

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will think of us when they have a community problem to solve and know that we can help them.

We have a great opportunity right now to determine our role in the future. We decide what we will look like and how we will serve our communities. We need to make sure we don’t let those who don’t know us define us. Whenever you are asked if libraries are still needed, answer with a resounding, “Yes!” Libraries are more important than ever, as are librarians. The world has a constant need for accurate information and professionals who can answer those needs and spread information literacy. The world has a need for neutral spaces where dialogue and community building can take place. The world has a need for people who love books and literacy and are proud to share that with everyone they meet.

Explore! Enrich! Engage! The future is here and we are the future.

Announcements

CSRT/YART Fall Workshop

CSRT/YART are hosting a fall workshop on October 4. The workshop, “Engage the Future,” will focus on science, technology, and community outreach. Illustrator Nathan Hale will be the keynote speaker. Registration opens September 1 on www.ula.org. There is a fee of $35 and lunch is provided.

Contact Jamie Ward, YART Chair, at jward@slcolibrary.org or Stephanie Jewett, CSRT Chair, at sjewett@slcolibrary.org for more information.

2014 ULA Annual Conference Call for Proposals

The theme of the conference is “Explore! Enrich! Engage! The Future is Here!” and the ULA Program Board invites proposals for speakers, workshops, panels, new ideas forums, pre-conferences, and poster sessions that will be of interest to all types of libraries. Proposals will be accepted from October 1, 2013 until midnight on October 31, 2013.

The ULA Program Board encourages proposals on any aspect of libraries and library services, especially those that reflect the conference theme. Check out the ULA website at www.ula.org for more information.
Call for Nominations: Outstanding Public Library/K-12 Entity Partnership Awards

Awards will be offered by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, MidContinental Region (NN/LM MCR) to recognize successful partnerships between public libraries and K-12 entities (e.g., school libraries, school nurses, health/science teachers) involving health information that can serve as a model for other similar partnerships.

Nomination requirements and eligibility:

- One of the partners must be an Affiliate or Full Network Member of the NN/LM MCR. (Not a member? Join today for free at http://nnlm.gov/mcr/services/network/index.html).
- Partnership must be between a public library and a K-12 entity.
- Nominations must demonstrate the success of the partnership.
- Self-nominations are encouraged.

Examples of outstanding partnerships can include, but are not limited to:

- Partnerships to provide access to health information to support health and science curriculum.
- Partnerships to conduct innovative health information outreach programs.
- Partnerships to benefit the community’s overall access to health information.
- Partnerships to improve access to health information for underserved/vulnerable populations.

Nomination process:

Submit a summary of the public library/K-12 partnership supporting success with anecdotes or evidence to https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FPJBKTN. Do not exceed 1,000 words.

Questions? Contact Dana Abbey at dana.abbey@ucdenver.edu, or toll free at 1-800-338-7657, select option 1, then option 2, then option 3.

Nominations must be received by March 16, 2014. Award recipients will be notified by April 16, 2014.

This information is also available on the NN/LM MCR funding page (http://nnlm.gov/mcr/funding/).

Jeffrey R. Holland Commons Recognized

The Jeffrey R. Holland Centennial Commons at Dixie State University received national recognition. It was one of the libraries presented in the American Libraries issue Building the Future: 2013 Library Design Showcase.

Photo credit: Jacobsen Construction.
University of Utah Celebrates Centennial Year

By Valeri Craigle, S.J. Quinney College of Law Library

In honor of a century of excellence in legal education, the University of Utah S.J. Quinney Law Library’s Centennial Photographs Collection (www.law.utah.edu/library/centennial-collection/) has been created to showcase the tremendous educational opportunities, community engagement, and spirit of service embodied in the College of Law community.

The collection contains thousands of photographs, faculty and student publications, newspaper articles, and ephemera collected over the decades. For the first time, this fascinating portrait of the history of the College of Law will be made available on the College's website. The humble beginnings of famous lawyers, judges, and politicians seen in old class photos, accounts of moot court competitions, a visit in 1996 from Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to give former Dean Sam Thurman’s Memorial lecture, and candid shots captured during the long ago “First Year Follies” are just some of the treasures contained in this collection.

It is these and countless other memories that make the College of Law the excellent institution it is today. Please join us in celebrating this fascinating history by visiting the S.J. Quinney College of Law Centennial Photographs Collection. We also encourage you to share your own stories with us at http://history.law.utah.edu.

Photo credit: University of Utah S.J. Quinney Law Library’s Centennial Photographs Collection
Questions of Higher Education

By Jason Cornelius, Features Editor

Not long ago, a patron approached the information desk and asked, “Do you have any books on the psychological effects of being a medical examiner?” Questions like this are unusual at the Logan Public Library, and I was taken aback at first. A sampling of the previous fifty questions included how to get on the computers to print out divorce papers, whether we had recent audiobooks by John Grisham and other authors, and the location of the restrooms. When I paused in my answer, she explained why she needed an answer to the question. This patron had recently watched an episode of CSI, leading her to want information on careers in the forensic sciences. She admitted that she might be considering a career in that field. Answering a reference question like this is always challenging, but I did my best and she left the library happy with the results.

Because I’ve never worked at a university library, I can only assume that diverse questions like this one are commonplace there. In my public library, questions like these are becoming more common as additional patrons need help considering or working on advanced degrees. Often, these patrons are non-traditional students. An increasing number of them are utilizing distance education programs. Utah’s post-secondary schools and institutions outside the state are actively recruiting and promoting diverse online degree and certificate programs. In addition, non-traditional students may become more common as Utah pushes its 66 by 2020 program, a plan for 66% of working age Utahns to hold a post-secondary degree or certificate by 2020 (http://curriculum.utah.edu/degrees/66by2020.pdf).

Since university library collections and services primarily reflect the curriculum and research agendas of the individual schools and public libraries try to collect and offer popular materials and services to the general public, I worry that some of these students may fall through the cracks. Although we librarians strive to serve every patron who comes through our doors, time constraints and budgetary realities limit the extent of what we can do.

It appears to me that service to distance and continuing education students first falls within the scope of public libraries and a mission to serve the general public. We in public libraries need to allow the time for lengthy reference interviews and gain the knowledge necessary to quickly direct these patrons to the information they need. Although my quest for information sources was daunting when I was a distance student working toward my MLS degree, I was consistently helped by cheerful and knowledgeable librarians.

THE BELLY BUTTON THAT ESCAPED, BY CHARLES ZIGMAN

This November, Allenwood Press is proud to publish award winning “Book of the Year” author Charles Zigman’s first children’s book, The Belly Button That Escaped, a mischievous story on life, love, tolerance, and Tejano dance steps.
UALC Annual Professional Development Retreat

By Paul Daybell, Reporter

On August 9, librarians from across the state gathered at Utah Valley University’s library for the Utah Academic Library Consortium’s Annual Professional Development Retreat. The retreat was organized by UALC’s Professional Development Committee, led by Dale Larson of the University of Utah.

The theme of the retreat was “Becoming an Intentional Library: Aligning Library Outcomes, Activities, and Assessment to Promote Student Success.” The program was presented by Donna Ziegenfuss, of the University of Utah, and Kacy Lundstrom, from Utah State University.

The retreat focused on the new ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education, approved in 2011, which call on academic libraries to intentionally align their goals and missions with those of their institution, assess the library’s role in student learning, and to better align library services to meet the needs of their campuses.

Other presentations that day included sessions on understanding the shifting trends in higher education and identifying potential barriers and opportunities, analyzing your campus environment and curricula to better align library instruction and activities, and identifying strategies to assess the library’s impact on student learning.

Presenter Donna Ziegenfuss expressed that one of the main goals of the retreat was “to provide some strategies and tools to institutions to help them reflect on and identify opportunities for promoting their libraries at the institutional level.”

The retreat also provided library professionals with an opportunity to network with other librarians, learn what other libraries are doing to improve, and provide a platform for possible future collaborations. Presenter Kacy Lundstrom summed it up best when she said, “Now I know of multiple people who are trying new things I’m interested in—and like so many people in our field, they’re eager to share.”
IFLA Congress Report

By Russell S. Lynch, FamilySearch

Marie Paiva from the Marriott Library (UU), Sharon Dennis and Rebecca Brown from the Eccles Health Sciences Library (UU), Michael Hall and myself from FamilySearch, and Robert Murdoch from the Harold B. Lee Library (BYU) travelled to the 79th World Library and Information Congress in Singapore between August 17-23. Over 3,000 people registered for the Congress. IFLA, the organizer, is the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (www.ifla.org).

The Congress included open sessions on digital resource management, reference and information service, digitization, freedom of access, copyright and other legal matters, and preservation. In addition, the Congress offered speakers, poster sessions, an exhibit hall, caucuses, and section and division meetings.


IFLA released a trend report at the Congress that covers the “future information ecosystem” (http://trends.ifla.org/). It identified five trends:

1. New technologies will both expand and limit who has access to information.

2. Online education will democratize and disrupt global learning.

3. The boundaries of privacy and data protection will be refined.

4. Hyper-connected societies will listen to and empower new voices and groups.

5. The global information environment will be transformed by new technologies.

IFLA installed new leadership this year. Michael Hall was elected Chair of the Genealogy and Local History Section. I was elected Chair of Division II (Library Collections) and will serve on IFLA’s Governing Board.

The Singaporeans were wonderful hosts. Their volunteers helped answer questions and provide questions in this diverse city, which is home to a blend of Malay, Chinese, and Indian culture. The Congress was a great success for updating skills, networking across nations, and enjoying the rich culture of Singapore.
Utah State Courts’ Self Help Center

By Joanne Vandestreek, Utah State Law Library

Do you shudder at the thought of a legal reference question? Feel scared that you might accidentally give legal advice or provide bad reference assistance? Whether your library is in a rural or urban part of Utah, there is a statewide resource that you can refer patrons with legal questions to: the Utah State Courts’ Self Help Center.

The Self Help Center is a free resource staffed by court attorneys. Staff can answer questions about the law, provide court forms and assistance in completing those forms, provide information about a patron’s case, and give referrals to organizations and resources that offer legal assistance and advice. Information about the different ways to contact the Self Help Center can be found at www.utcourts.gov/selfhelp/contact.

The Self Help Center can provide legal information about both civil and criminal legal topics. There is no income screening or other restrictions when patrons call. When patrons contact the Self Help Center, they will find a friendly voice to listen to their legal concerns.

If you have questions about the Self Help Center, please contact me at joannev@utcourts.gov or (801) 238-7979.

Declaration for the Right to Libraries

By Kent Slade, Highland City Library

The American Library Association has recently developed a Declaration for the Right to Libraries (http://www.ala.org/advocacy/declaration-right-libraries). Through this initiative, libraries of all types will have the opportunity in the next year to hold signing ceremonies where community members, organizations, and officials can visibly stand up for their right to have vibrant school, public, academic, and special libraries in their community. ALA plans to have the signed scrolls presented at a national summit held in the spring of 2014.

We hope that you will consider inviting people in your local community and in your state to join us in proclaiming the value of libraries. A “toolkit” will be coming in the next few months for those interested in holding local signing ceremonies, garner public support, and attract media attention.

If your library offers a signing ceremony or other efforts to get signatures, please let us know so we can share your successes with other ULA members. I will collect your statistics and scrolls and see to it that they are sent to the national summit. Send them to:

Kent Slade,  
Highland City Library,  
5400 W. Civic Center Dr., Suite 2  
Highland, UT 84003

You may contact me at (801) 772-4528 or at kslade@highlandcity.org.
Websites for New Health Sciences and Technology

By John Bramble and Rachel Vukas, Eccles Health Sciences Library

Below are links and descriptions to sites favored by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine technology coordinators to keep up with what is new in health sciences and Information technology.

ACRL TechConnect (http://acrl.ala.org/techconnect/): This is a moderated blog produced by a group of academic librarians covering all aspects of library technology.

ALA TechSource (www.alatechsource.org/blog): Topics covered in posts from this ALA resource pretty much cover the gamut, but are very library centric. You’ll find lots of posts about media tools and resources plus tips on technology instruction.

Dotto Tech Radio (http://dottotech.com/): This is a great site that is an entertaining way to stay on top of consumer related tech news, such as gadgets, social media tools, apps, productivity technology, and much more.

FierceHealthIT (www.fiercehealthit.com/): This is a health IT news site that provides the latest news and information on computerized physician order entry, EMR adoption, and HIPPA compliance.

Health Data Management (www.healthdatamanagement.com/): If you can get over the “in-your-face” ads and having to register any time you want to attend a seminar or read a whitepaper, this a super site for keeping up with topics such as HIPPA, EHRs, clinic and hospital information systems, e-health and e-Rx, IT outsourcing, patient safety, and mobile tech.

Health IT (www.amednews.com/section/topic&Taxonomywords=815): This site covers health information technology and EHRs from the physician perspective. It contains current news on the HIT/EHR industry, physician adoption, legislation, Medicare & Medicaid, and vendors.

Healthcare IT News (www.healthcareitnews.com): They bill themselves as resource healthcare IT executives, but there is good stuff for anyone wanting to follow news on IT strategies and tactics, regulatory issues, and health IT products.

HealthIT Buzz (www.healthit.gov/buzz-blog/): This authoritative blog is produced by the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. Topics include meaningful use certification, interoperability, nursing use of EHRs, and patient involvement.

iMedicalApps (www.imedicalapps.com/): Described as the “leading physician review of medical and healthcare apps,” this site helps you keep up with the apps your physician and medical students use.

Krafty Librarian (http://kraftylibrarian.com/): Michelle Kraft’s personal blog about medical librarianship is interesting and quite popular.

Library Hat (www.bohyunkim.net/blog): This intriguing blog is written by Bohyun Kim, and ranges from posts on coding to thought-provoking articles on e-resource licenses and the open Internet.

PR Daily (www.prdaily.com): This is a daily news site devoted to delivering news, advice, and opinion on public relations, marketing, and social media.

TechSoup for Libraries (http://techsoupforlibraries.org/blog): This ALA blog is designed to “make technology and technology education available and affordable to libraries all over the world.”
LSTA Grants Announced

By Stephen Matthews, Utah State Library

Utah State Library recently announced the awards of summer 2013 LSTA grants. Seven grants for collection projects totaling $129,240, four grants for digitization projects totaling $43,133, and 13 grants for technology totaling $152,744 were awarded for a grand total of 24 awards totaling $326,117. 16 of the grant recipients are public libraries, five are school libraries, and three are academic libraries.


Academic Library Outreach

By Brian Peters, Academic Section Editor

My name is Brian Peters and I am an academic librarian. (Okay, in the spirit of full disclosure, I just started my first academic librarian job at the Stewart Library at Weber State University.) And, to put it bluntly, it’s the best job ever! I work in an amazing library with equally amazing people.

Before I returned to school to get my MLIS degree at Rutgers University, I ran a small business. One of the big takeaways from that experience is that outreach is not just a key to success; it is the key to survival. There were months when I tried to get away with little or no advertising. But I always paid a steep price when I did this in the form of lower sales and revenue. People need to be continually reminded that a business or service exists.

I know I am not saying anything new when I report that college students don’t use librarians enough. When I started working on my MLIS two years ago, a group of Illinois universities had recently released a study that looked at how students and faculty view and use librarian services. It wasn’t pretty. According to the Ethnographic Research in Illinois Academic Libraries (ERIAL) Project eight of 10 student subjects reported they rarely, if ever, turned to a librarian for help with research assignments. This shocked me. Librarians are awesome. Librarians can make a student’s life less stressful and more successful. My goal is to turn that number inside out, so that eight out of 10 students report going to a librarian. But I need help.

I want to know the various ways libraries around the state get the word out to students, faculty, staff, and patrons about the awesome resources available at their libraries. So, I have a couple of questions:

- What creative outreach is your library doing that has been successful in gaining the attention of students, faculty, and staff?
- On the flipside, what have you tried that didn’t work so well? What were the lessons learned?

I am open to emails that give a brief description of the outreach that I can compile for another column in a subsequent issue of ULA Libraries News. Take a couple of minutes and email me about what is going on at your school at brianpeters1@weber.edu.
Pioneers in Your Attic

By Catherine McIntyre, Utah Valley University Library

“Pioneers in Your Attic: Preserving the Legacy of the Overland Migration” is a regional digital project sponsored by the Utah Academic Library Consortium and the Mountain West Digital Library (MWDL) in partnership with local libraries and various cultural heritage entities, including Utah Valley University Library. Project coordinators are attempting to locate, digitize, and provide free worldwide access to privately owned letters, diaries, photographs and other materials from 1842-1869. They hope to discover these items from local citizens at several free scanning events throughout the state.

Any photos, diaries or journals, legal or business papers, or anything else from this time period that document trail and camp life, transportation, encounters with native peoples, animals and plants, diseases, medicine, the gold rush, religion or politics are highly desirable items to bring to the scanning events. We are also looking for materials that document the lives and viewpoints of traditionally under-represented populations in American history such as women, children, Native Americans, and other ethnic minorities.

All original materials will be scanned on-site and given back to the owner. A digital copy will be sent to the owner, and selected materials will be uploaded to the MWDL website. These materials will be freely available to anyone conducting research on the time period, as well as pursuing family history and genealogy.

If your library would like to schedule a scanning event in Utah, Wasatch, or Millard Counties through October 31, 2013, please contact me. If you are in a different county, visit the website below to find your area project coordinator.

The following libraries have scheduled free scanning events in Utah, Wasatch, and Millard Counties:

- Sept. 19, 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM at the Wasatch County Library (Heber City, UT)
- Sept. 25, 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Delta City Library (Delta, Utah)
- Oct. 8, 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Orem Public Library (Orem, UT)
- Oct. 12, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Fillmore Library and Millard Family History Fair, Millard High School (Fillmore, UT)
- Oct. 17, 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM Spanish Fork Public Library (Spanish Fork, Utah)
- Oct. 19, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Springville Public Library (Springville, UT)

To schedule an appointment or obtain more information about these events, contact me at (801) 863-8821 or mcintyca@uvu.edu. Appointments are encouraged, but a limited number of walk-ins will be accommodated. Appointments and walk-ins are also welcome at the UVU Library’s Sutherland Archives, between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. For more project information, visit http://mwdl.org/portals/pioneers.php.
2013 Special Libraries Virtual Conference

By Pat Huff, Special Libraries Section Editor

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) held its annual conference June 9-11, 2013 in San Diego, CA. For those information professionals who were unable to attend the conference in person or missed a few sessions while there, the 2013 Special Libraries Virtual Conference will be broadcast September 25-26, 2013. You can “take the lead without taking leave.”

The 2013 Virtual Conference features the most successful sessions from SLA’s annual conference. Topics include best practices in competitive intelligence, strategies for enabling decision-making in your organization, and ninja skills for librarians. Registration options include two day, one day, or individual sessions. More information is available online at www.sla.org/attend/2013-virtual-conference/virtual-conferenceschedule/.

Utah is in the Special Libraries Association Rocky Mountain Chapter. Special librarians or information professionals (IPs) are unique in applying their specialized skills to support the information needs of their parent organizations, which are often for-profit entities. They often link people to other people, instead of collections. Special librarians work in business, law, museum, family history, or other specialized libraries and information centers.

Got an idea for a future newsletter article pertaining to special libraries?

Please send your suggestions or your article for submission to Pat Huff at pathuff@digis.net. I’ve worked as a librarian in academic, public, law, government document, archives, school, and church libraries and welcome your collaborative ideas.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES FALL LIBRARY TOUR

The ULA Special Libraries Section is sponsoring a fall library tour. You are invited to join them on a tour of the Church History and Family History Libraries in Salt Lake City on October 11.

The tour begins in the VIP room of the Family History Library at 2:00 PM. There is an optional dinner after the tours at the Lion House Pantry (63 E. South Temple, Salt Lake City).

RSVP for the tour or the tour and the dinner by October 10. Send your RSVP to Jenny St. Clair at stclairj@ldschurch.org.
ToshoCON at the Salt Lake County Library

By Carrie Rogers-Whitehead, Salt Lake County Libraries

On August 17, the Salt Lake County Library was excited to host ToshoCON, its first annual anime convention for teens. This eight-hour event was held at the Viridian Conference Center, part of the West Jordan Library.

Teens participated in panels, card gaming, crafts, a manga swap, cosplay (costume play) contest, viewing room, and a dance to end the night. In addition, teens could buy all sorts of anime-related goodies and games from the vendor marketplace or food trucks at the event.

Teens were greatly involved in planning and putting on the event. Over 200 teens were involved in a Facebook group and gave input to staff about what they wanted at the event. In addition, a number of teens put on panels, volunteered, and sold their creations in the vendor marketplace.

Carrie Rogers-Whitehead, who led this event, says "It took a lot of work to engage the teens through social media, but the pay off was worth it." Over 1,100 teens attended the event and kept staff very busy throughout the day. The library staff was essential in putting on such a big event. Staff members covered separate areas so that teens could choose from a number of activities going on all day. Teens and staff are excited about the success of this event and are looking forward to making ToshoCON 2014 even bigger.
Consumer Health Information Specialization
Continuing Education

By Dana Abbey, National Network of Libraries of Medicine

Interested in getting Consumer Health Information Specialization or Medical Library Association CE in the comfort of your own home or favorite coffee house? We’ve got you covered with a 12 credit hour CE online class on providing consumer health services.

Health and Wellness @ the Library: The Essentials of Providing Consumer Health Services

This 12 credit hour CE course defines the basics of consumer health information and then dives directly into the essential skills and information that library staff need to help users find trustworthy, appropriate health information.

Instructors Dana Abbey, MLS; Monica Rogers, MLIS

Course Structure: This course is self-paced; there are no set class hours for you to attend. The course is divided into weekly units, beginning the week of October 7. The units build upon one another, with Week 1 providing the foundation for the rest of the course. Week 1 assignments are essential and will likely take a little more time than assignments for the remaining weeks. Plan on an average of three hours per week.

- Week of September 30: set up Moodle account, review class materials, create/update profile, introduce yourself
- Week of October 7 (Week 1): Consumer Health Basics
- Week of October 14 (Week 2): Health Reference
- Week of October 21 (Week 3): Health Resources: There’s a (Book, Web, App) for That
- Week of October 28 (Week 4): The Library As a Healthy Place
- Week of November 4: Catch-up week

Certificate of completion or MLA CE Credit: This course has been certified for 12 contact hours of Medical Library Association (MLA) CE credit. If you are taking this course for MLA CE, there are specific requirements to satisfy the 12-hour instruction requirement. The coursework provides everything you need to qualify for Level 1 CHIS—Consumer Health Information Specialization from MLA. Read the document MLA CE and CHIS (http://nnlm.gov/moodle/enrol/index.php?id=355) for details.

Registration: Registration is open to those residing in the NN/LM MidContinental Region - Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Utah, and Wyoming. Space is limited, so register soon at http://www.tinyurl.com/mcrclasses. There is no cost for this class.

Please contact Dana Abbey (dana.abbey@ucdenver.edu) or Monica Rogers (monicarogers@creighton.edu) for more information.
Because I Said So

By Stacy Vincent, Public Libraries Section Editor

I cringed before the words were even out of my mouth. Too late. Not even 30 or a parent and I’ve begun saying it. I’d told the teen to stop riding his scooter in the library twice and his response was always “why?” “Because I said so” popped out of my mouth because it was quicker than explaining the safety hazards of boys on scooters in a crowded library. At three o’clock in the afternoon in the library, every computer is full, there’s a line at the reference desk, and the phone is ringing. There was no time for verbal judo with a smarty-pants. I told him “because I said so” and kicked him out.

Wrangling teenagers is not something I had in mind when I took a position as a children’s librarian. But the fact is, we’re all teen librarians at the Kearns public library, and at nearly every public library, I presume. Yes, they annoy me at times. But I see in these kids my own troubled nephews and remind myself to treat them the way I hope someone is treating my nephews. These kids will grow up and they will remember us.

I hear from the other librarians here that the trouble makers from when they started are coming back to share joyful news of degrees, military service, marriages, and children. Even though staff kicked them out again and again over the years, these kids have warm memories of the staff and the library.

Can I do better than “because I said so”? Some days, maybe not. But I’m working on it.

New Staff at the Mountain West Digital Library

By Rebekah Cummings, Mountain West Digital Library

Anna Neatrour has been hired as the Digital Metadata Librarian. Anna brings extensive digital experience to the MWDL after managing projects such as the Western Waters Digital Library and the Western Soundscape Archive. As Metadata Librarian, Anna will support the improvement of metadata standards with the goal of making the unique, historic items of the collection more discoverable.

I am joining the Mountain West Digital Library as the new Assistant Director/Outreach Librarian. The goal of this position is to provide additional support and training for current MWDL partners, as well as facilitate the on-boarding process for new partners.

The Mountain West Digital Library has experienced rapid growth in recent years and now provides access to almost 800,000 resources from universities, public libraries, archives, museums, and government agencies in Utah, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, and Hawaii. To find out more about MWDL or to view our local treasures, visit us at http://mwdl.org. (Photo credit: Rebekah Cummings.)
What is RASRT?

By Jason Cornelius, Features Editor

The Reference and Adult Services Round Table (RASRT) support the provision of excellent reference and information services, readers’ advisory, and adult programing in public, academic, and private libraries. We provide support for a broad range of library services through training, conferences, and webinars. We also host networking opportunities for information professionals. In the coming year, RASRT plans to expand its activities to play a more active and positive role in the Utah library community. This is an exciting time to be a member of RASRT, as members are able to play a role in shaping its future.

Part of RASRT’s plan for increasing its support of reference and information services in Utah is creating webinars addressing areas of current interest. These webinars will address general topics such as customer service and best practices for effective reference interviews, as well as more specific concerns such as providing information services for underrepresented communities. If you have a suggestions for webinar subjects or are an expert who would like to contribute to a webinar, we welcome your feedback and involvement.

An important mission of RASRT is to recruit dynamic speakers for ULA conferences. Presenters have included members of the Utah library community, in addition to those who are known nationally. As reference and library services are changing rapidly in the age of digital technology, we seek professionals who are able to guide Utah libraries in providing state-of-the-art services to their communities. Additionally, we aim to provide training to serve Utah’s increasingly diverse population.

These are just a few of the activities that members of RASRT may become involved in. Your suggestions and contributions are important to us. You can make a difference in Utah libraries’ services by becoming a member of RASRT. Contact Jennifer Fay, Kearns Public Library, at jfay@slcolibrary.org for more information about RASRT.

CREATIVE LIBRARIES UTAH SITE LAUNCHES

Earlier this year, three talented librarians launched a new site for creative library projects around Utah. Creative Libraries Utah is a 2013 ILEAD USA project that is being managed by Tegan Davis, Park City Library Youth and Spanish Services Manager; Kristen Stehel, Utah State Library Resource Sharing Coordinator; and Dustin Fife, San Juan County Library Director.

Visit the site for program and instruction ideas, a great podcast series, discussions of library issues, and much more at http://creativelibrariesutah.org.
ABOUT THE UTAH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Utah Library Association is to serve the professional development and educational needs of its members and to provide leadership and direction in developing and improving library and information services in the state. In order to accomplish these goals, ULA supports and provides continuing education programs for Utah librarians and library employees, especially at its annual spring conference. ULA also offers members a number of opportunities for library leadership, professional growth, networking, and community service. We hope you find the Utah Library Association to be an organization that makes a difference for you, for Utah librarians, for Utah Libraries, and for the citizens of Utah.