



Utah Libraries News

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ULA President's Message

By Dustin Fife, ULA President 2015-2016

Layton is for Lovers (of Libraries)!

The theme for the upcoming ULA conference is "Open the Doors." I was so excited when I picked this theme. I thought it was the perfect theme. I was like an eight year-old who thought he had unlocked the secrets of the universe. Turns out though, that themes are not particularly important. People continue to do the work that they were going to do regardless and organizations move forward with their already established goals.

Conference themes are not important, but conference attendees are! So let's forget the theme of this upcoming conference and think about the people. If I have learned anything from being a librarian, it is that the people are all that really matters. So, use this conference to meet people. Find individuals that you can mentor or that can mentor you. Create connections that are going to impact your life professionally and personally (though I'm pretty sure those are the same thing). There are going to be many amazing ideas discussed; collect those ideas and collect the people that lead you to epiphanies.

The people I have met through the Utah Library Association have done more to further my career and teach me about librarianship than I can say.

I want to thank two people for making ULA 2016 happen. If you are ever going to be ULA President the most important thing you will do is pick a Program Board Chair and Conference Planning Chair. Erin Wimmer and Emily Bullough are both amazing librarians and people. They are a credit to the Utah Library Association. Thank Emily and Erin for your service. Emily and Erin had a lot of help, but there is no way this conference would be happening without them.

See you at the 2016 Utah Library Association Conference. Leave your assumptions at the door and make some new friends!



ULA 2016
OPEN THE DOORS

Logan Library Celebrates Centennial

By Joseph N. Anderson, Logan Library



On April 18, 2016, the Logan Library celebrated 100 years since its founding with a program of speeches by local and state officials including Governor Herbert, a performance of our centennial song by a local children's choir, and birthday cake. The library had also celebrated the entire previous year leading up to its centennial with events and activities which were designed to help our patrons remember each decade the library has been open. Our centennial motto is, "Celebrate the Past, Create the Future."

During its one hundred years, the library has been led by seven directors:

- Mae Hansen (1917-1920)
- Dora Wright (1920-1944), ULA President 1924-1925
- Virginia Hanson (1944-1973), ULA President 1946-1947
- George Boeck (1973-1974)
- Judy MacMahon (1974-1981)
- Ronald K. Jenkins (1981-2011)
- Robert Shupe (2011-present)

The Logan Library was founded on April 18, 1916 after a petition from local citizens was approved by town commissioners. Its first home was the LDS tithing office and its first collection was created with the donation of the libraries of St. John's Episcopal Church and the LDS Cache Stake. In 1920, the library became the Cache County Library and rented space in

a building one block west of the tithing office. The library was housed in this location (referred to by some as "The Dungeon") until the construction of Logan's first freestanding public library building in 1932. This beautiful structure, which still stands behind the prominent Logan LDS Tabernacle, was the home of the library for more than fifty years and remains full of memories to those who used it. Cache County cut ties with the library in 1977, making the organization once again the Logan Library. In 1985, the library and Logan City offices moved into a renovated building on Main Street where the library remains, although with more space since the city moved out in 2009. And in breaking news, a location for a newly constructed library building on property across from the tabernacle was announced by Logan's mayor on April 5!

We are proud of the library's long history of serving the citizens of Logan (and Cache County) and we're already looking forward to our next hundred years! Find out more about our centennial celebrations: <http://library.loganutah.org/Centennial/> Find out more about our history: <http://library.loganutah.org/information/libraryhistory/>



*Old Library Building,
1932-1985*



*Current Library Building
1985-Present*



*Mae Hansen,
First Library Director
1917-1920*



*Virginia Hanson ,
Third Library Director
1944-1973*



*Ronald Jenkins,
Sixth Library Director
1981-2011*

Lean On Me...But More Importantly, Let Me Lean On You

By Paul Daybell, North Logan Library

Recently I was burning the midnight oil in my office trying to catch up on a litany of delayed library projects when I came across a public radio podcast which really struck me. (could this situation be any more librariany?)

The podcast in question was WNYC's excellent [*Death, Sex & Money*](#) hosted by Anna Sale. This particular episode was titled "How to Be a Man With Bill Withers". During one part of the episode Mr. Withers is addressing the USC football team and tells them:

"You don't have to give up any of your machismo if you just lean on each other."

After which, the room of giant football players bursts into a boisterous rendition of Withers's 1972 classic "Lean on Me". There is a pretty great video of this moment on YouTube, if you want to check it out, [here](#).

As we like to say at our library "We make SHHH!! Happen!!", and librarians everywhere, every day "make SHHH happen!" with limited staffing, resources, facilities, monies, etc. This isn't something new, this is just the reality of library work. We are the scrappy little team who is always punching above our weight to get results.

What struck me about this story is that while it is important to say "lean on me", it is also important to say "let me lean on you". Any successful team has to have people willing to step up when their number is called.

I have experienced a lot of leaning lately, both as the leaner and leany. Certain projects and programs have fallen on my plate where I had to take the brunt of the workload. However, there

have also been numerous times lately when I have had to ask for help from our staff to tackle projects that I couldn't handle.

We have a pretty amazing staff culture at our library that we have tried to cultivate over the years where staff are empowered to have the freedom to take charge of major projects that may be above their pay-grade but definitely not above their capabilities.

The peace of mind that I feel, when I send out a panicked text when I've dropped the ball and to know that my team will not only get it done, but get it done better than I would is immeasurable. I hope the feeling is mutual when the roles are reversed.

Both professionally and personally, I hope we can always remember the wise lyrics of the indelible Bill Withers:

*Lean on me when you're not strong
And I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
'Til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on*

WHAT'S ON AT YOUR LIBRARY?

The staff of *Utah Libraries News* are happy to publish announcements of library-related exhibits, lectures, open houses, tours, and other events.

Send announcements to
paul@northloganlibrary.org

We publish issues in September, November, February, and April (Annual Conference Issue).

Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government: A User Friendly Introduction to a Highly Complex Organization

By Flora Shrode, Utah State University Libraries



The Government Publishing (formerly Printing) Office (GPO) developed “Ben’s Guide to the U.S. Government for Kids” in 1999 and substantially redesigned and updated it in 2015. The website focuses on civics and explains how the U.S. Government is structured and the roles and responsibilities of the major branches and numerous agencies. [Ben’s Guide](#) draws on U.S. history and, in its modernized version, is usable with many devices beyond a desktop computer.

Librarians in Utah may find this helpful for different audiences, as even though it’s designed for young people, the informal presentation could be a friendly path to learning crucial details for adults who are learning to read and for people who are working toward U.S. citizenship.

Immediately apparent from the homepage, Ben’s Guide is based on three levels of learning: apprentice (ages 4-8), Journeyperson (ages 9-13), and Master (ages 14 and up). This organizational scheme relates not only to the age ranges to which the site contents are geared but also to an apprentice program that GPO has used for decades. The Ben character, who guides users through the learning activities, is obviously based on Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), who was an apprentice printer in the early days of our country. While most of us recognize Ben Franklin as one of the United States’ founding fathers, and we know that drafted and distributed historical documents during the early years of the nation, he is also an important figure at GPO. Thus, his legacy of publishing and collecting information lives on in GPO’s current mission and operations.

In planning the revision of *Ben’s Guide*, GPO officially joined forces with the American Association of School Librarians (AASL). Volunteer members of the AASL agreed to review the content of the guide to assess age-appropriateness. These volunteers applied their knowledge of curriculum requirements to developing lesson plans based on *Ben’s Guide*’s contents. “Lesson plans follow a structured rubric that sets forth the elements, standards, scenario, overview, assessment, and instructional plan. Lesson plans submitted by volunteers were reviewed and vetted by AASL before being officially accepted and published.” The lesson plans are freely available for use in classrooms, and interactive games and crossword puzzles are also available from *Ben’s Guide*.

While the graphics are clearly aimed at youngsters, perhaps many of us can learn from and find uses in our libraries for the information in this quality assured, creative website.

Reference: *Ben’s Guide to the U.S. Government: Free, Educational Content from GPO for Children and Adults of all Ages*

<https://govbooktalk.gpo.gov/2015/11/23/bens-guide-to-the-u-s-government-free-educational-content-from-gpo-for-children-and-adults-of-all-ages/>

From Utah to the U.K.: Emporia MLS students study abroad in London

By Francie LeBaron and Beth Deeken

This past February, sixteen MLS students from Emporia State University's School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) were chosen to participate in a brief study abroad course in London, England. Among those selected were Beth Deeken, Francie LeBaron, and Lindsey Watts, all of the Utah SLIM cohort. The students were accompanied on the trip by Associate Dean of SLIM, Dr. Andrew Smith, as well as SLIM professor, Dr. Sandy Valenti. Participants spent nine days attending tours and presentations in an array of information institutions, including academic and public libraries, archives, and special collections. Site visits were made to the headquarters for the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP), the Swiss Cottage Library, the Wellcome Library, the Egypt Exploration Society, the British Library, Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide, the British Film Institute, the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, and the Royal Academy of Music.

The first organized visit of the trip was to CILIP, which is a professional organization similar in some ways to the ALA. Presenters there gave students a sense of the issues libraries and other information institutions are facing in the UK, including waning budgets and government support, the battle for continued privacy protections, and the need for copyright reforms. Ongoing funding concerns came up during several of the visits, and in efforts to counter their effects, libraries in the UK are finding creative ways to raise awareness, garner public support, and use available resources in new ways. And, just as in the United States, UK librarians and archivists expressed strong support for the idea that information should be readily accessible to everyone and their willingness to do whatever is needed to make it so.

In addition to enlightening presentations, students were given freedom in several cases to not only view rare and historic materials, but to touch and handle some of these materials. These and other interactive experiences created excitement and provided new ideas on ways to encourage patron engagement in information institutions at home.

Participating in this course gave these SLIM students the opportunity to learn about how libraries function in a foreign country, as well as receive invaluable professional perspective and instruction from librarians working in a wide variety of library settings. It was readily apparent that libraries in both the US and the UK experience similar challenges and have common values. Additionally, this trip allowed the students from Utah to meet with fellow SLIM students from several other cohorts across the country and learn from their professional experiences.



Public Library News

By Trish Hull, Salt Lake County Library—Magna

Congratulations to Magna – 100 years of Library Service

The Magna Branch of Salt Lake County Library Services is also celebrating 100 years of library service. The Women's Club of Magna started a library in 1916 in the same location where the new Magna Branch stands. The new building is celebrating its 5th anniversary and both are being honored in a celebration on May 21st from 12-6 in conjunction with Magna History Day. A street festival held annually to celebrate the rich tradition and history of Magna. If your library is also celebrating 100 years please let me know.

* * *

North Logan Public Library found out they had received a Laura Bush 21st Century IMLS grant of \$481,997.00. this is a 3 year grant partnering with North Cache Center Junior High and Utah State University in a project focused on developing and testing a replicable model of professional learning in support of maker programming across library settings. Think of all the fun north Logan is going to have with Makerspaces and programming!! Congratulations Director Adam Winger and North Logan Public.

Partnerships and community engagement are the way to creating and funding our dream libraries.

* * *

PLA in Denver was great with very inspiring speakers and workshops. If you weren't able to attend you might get a feel for the spirit by listening to the TED talks of Verna Myers, Sherry Turkle, and Anand Giridharadas. Or read the new books by Anderson Cooper and Tig Notaro.



WANTED: SCHOOL LIBRARY SECTION EDITOR

Do you have your pulse on all the happenings in Utah's school libraries? Then we have just the job for you!

The Utah Library News is looking for a School Library Section Editor to join our writing staff. Responsibilities include:

- Submitting bi-monthly stories to be published in the *ULN Newsletter*.
- Help collect stories from around the state regarding School Libraries.

Send an email to paul@northloganlibrary.org if you are interested in applying. We publish issues in September, November, February, and April (Annual Conference Issue).

Assessment Rodeo Recap

By Erin Wimmer, Eccles Health Sciences Library

Academic library staff interested in assessment came together in March for the inaugural Lee Library Assessment Rodeo. Inspired by an OCLC seminar on ethnographic and user study methods in library assessment, Holt Zaugg, Assessment Librarian at BYU's Lee Library, organized a workshop to discuss current applications of assessment in academic libraries.

Participants from Dixie State University to Utah State University discussed the methods they currently use for assessment, including surveys, space usage data, reference question analysis, instruction evaluations and collection usage, and the benefits and difficulties they experienced. It quickly became apparent that, regardless of the size of the library, the patron community, or the goal of the assessment, we all face challenges when trying to collect *meaningful* data to change or improve services, space, and collections.

Perhaps the richest discussion came as the group brainstormed opportunities for learning about and sharing assessments, and how our state library organizations might facilitate this moving forward. There are opportunities to learn more about assessment through national organizations like ACRL, which holds biennial [assessment conferences](#) and provides webinars and other eLearning opportunities on this subject. There are data offices on many academic campuses, listservs and social media groups and publications dedicated to library assessment.

At a local level, what can we do to encourage assessment in our libraries? The group came up with several possibilities to consider. One idea suggested that we could create a shared

methodology for assessment and process improvement that could be used by any academic library across the state. This would allow libraries to work together to create a methodology that would allow all libraries to measure the same issues in the same way. With that kind of data, we could determine trends that cross institutions and identify new opportunities for collaboration!

Attendees of the assessment rodeo agree that it would be helpful to have an assessment workshop, where library folks from across the state could come together and work on projects or questions in instruction, collection development, space usage, or other topics. We hope to see this opportunity in the near future!

If you are interested in participating in future assessment events, please contact Holt Zaugg (holt_zaugg@byu.edu).

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.



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