

State of Vermont | Department of Libraries **NEWS**

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James H. Douglas, Governor | Sybil Brigham McShane, State Librarian
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LIBRARIES RECEIVE RESOURCE SHARING GRANTS

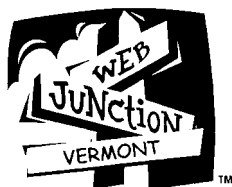
Nearly 100 Vermont public libraries received Resource Sharing Supplemental Grants from the Department of Libraries in May this year. The grant was designed to provide Vermont citizens with equal access to library resources by encouraging and supporting interlibrary loan among all types of libraries. The Resource Sharing Supplemental Grant program was funded with federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds to subsidize participating libraries for each interlibrary loan request made to it by another Vermont library. State Librarian Sybil Brigham McShane expects the program to continue next year.

Public libraries wishing to participate were asked to return Letters of Agreement to the State Librarian by May 23, 2005, making sure that the letters were signed by the chair of their boards of trustees. Only public libraries meeting Minimum Standards this year were eligible to receive the grants. Each library's grant amount was based on the number for requests to loan material sent to the library via the Vermont Automated Libraries system (VALS) Web2 online catalog during FY2004 (July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004) at the rate of \$1.00 per interlibrary loan request received, or a minimum of \$25.

Funds must be expended within one (1) calendar year of receipt, and libraries must agree to post a sign in an appropriate location bearing the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) logo and the phrase: *This program is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, through the Library Services and Technology Act, as administered by the Vermont Department of Libraries.*

Funds may be used to improve collections of print, non-print or electronic library materials; for interlibrary loan related costs, such as postage, supplies, and staff; or for other costs that improve the library's ability to participate in resource sharing activities. Funds may not be used to purchase computers used to access the Internet or to pay for direct costs associated with accessing the Internet unless a library is in compliance with the provisions of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and submits the necessary additional assurances of that compliance.

Come Join the Library Community at WebJunction Vermont (WJ-VT)



Where minds meet.SM

On June 19, 2005, the Dept. of Libraries made its public debut as a Community Partner with WebJunction. WebJunction is online space where library staff meet to share ideas, solve problems and take online courses. DOL's status as a Community Partner, allows us to customize the resources of WebJunction with our own community site: <http://vt.webjunction.org> .

At the WJ-VT site you will find:

- A Vermont-specific banner, logo, and colors to identify the WJ-VT Community
- Local content areas specifically created for Vermont library staff.
- No-cost access to online courses selected especially with Vermont needs in mind.
- Private discussion spaces where we can collect with our colleagues around Vermont; great for in between workshops, conferences, and meetings.

Though many of the WJ-VT resources will be available simply by visiting <http://vt.webjunction.org> the private discussion space and free online courses are available only if you register with WJ-VT. This registration process requires that you supply some basic information and you will need to select Vermont as your “Community Partner Affiliation.” If you have concerns about the privacy of this information, you can learn more about the WJ privacy policy by using the FAQ link at the very top of every WJ and WJ-VT page, or you may explore the “WebJunction Terms of Use” document that is linked from the bottom of the registration page.

Among the member benefits about which we are especially excited are the online courses and the private discussion spaces. Our community partnership allots free access to the WJ-VT community a specific number of online courses that are offered to non-community partner members at a fee. We believe we have planned our access to these courses so that all members of the WJ-VT community will have equal access to the online learning opportunities that meet their needs and we will be setting up mechanisms by which completion of WJ-VT online courses can count as credit toward DOL’s certification program for public librarians. We simply ask that before you enroll in a course you recognize that once you are enrolled, your “place” in the course will be counted against our allotment and when that allotment is used up, all courses, except those listed below, will revert to a “for-fee” basis.

Here are the WJ-VT online courses that are always free to WJ members and enrollment in these will not be counted against the WJ-VT allotment. These courses are:

- WebJunction's Searching the Web
- WebJunction's Evaluating Web Sites
- WebJunction's Browsing the World Wide Web
- WebJunction's Internet Fundamentals
- WebJunction's Updating and Upgrading Software
- WebJunction's Troubleshooting Computer Problems
- WebJunction's Designing a Library Web Site
- WebJunction's Media Relations

The WJ-VT private discussion spaces, known as forums, are another aspect of WJ-VT that we hope to use to build communication in the Vermont library community. At this time we have already set up forums where WJ-VT members can discuss Library Programming in VT Libraries, Youth Services in VT Libraries, and activities and ideas related to the Green Mountain Book Award. In addition to these discussions that are “private” or visible only to WJ-VT members, Michael Roche, Northeast Regional Librarian, will be moderating a forum where “solo” librarians (librarians at “one-person” libraries) across the entire WJ community can communicate with one another and share ideas. There is also a forum where you can share your ideas for developing WJ-VT so that it can better serve you.

We encourage you to explore the WJ-VT site (<http://vt.webjunction.org>) and to register there. If you have questions about membership, you may direct them to the email address:

community@webjunction.org or you may discuss them with Sheila Kearns, Mara Siegel, or your regional library consultant.

--Sheila Kearns
Director, Technology & Information Services

HERITAGE QUEST NOW AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC LIBRARY VOL SUBSCRIBERS

State Librarian Sybil Brigham McShane announced in early June that the Department of Libraries has an one-year subscription for HeritageQuest Online for public libraries that are members of the Vermont Online Library (VOL), available at no extra cost. A temporary/trial site was activated until permanent accounts are ready, and documentation and training on HeritageQuest will be available to library staff members this summer.

A ProQuest product, HeritageQuest Online is a collection of unique material for both genealogical hobbyists and professionals, with coverage dating back to the 1700's. It combines digital, searchable images of U.S. federal census records with the digitized version of the popular UMI® Genealogy & Local History collection and other valuable content. Researchers can use HeritageQuest Online to find their ancestors, trace their paths across America, and learn what life was like in the areas where they settled.

Along with U.S. federal census images and indexes from 1790 to 1930, it offers more than 20,000 book titles, including nearly 8,000 family histories and over 12,000 local histories, in addition to the more than 250 primary source documents such as tax lists, city directories, probate records, and more. Other sources of information within HeritageQuest Online include

- *PERSI* (Periodical Source Index), a comprehensive subject index covering more than 6,000 genealogy and local history periodicals written in English and French (Canada) since 1800. It is by far the largest and most respected such index in its field.
- The *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files*, which identifies more than 80,000 American military, naval, and marine officers and enlisted men.
- and (coming soon) the *Freedman Bank Records*, a database that documents more than 70,000 bank depositors and their dependants and heirs. It is considered one of the most important resources for African-American genealogical research.

Any VOL subscribers that already have subscriptions to this database will receive prorated credit which can be used towards the purchase of subscriptions for other electronic products available from ProQuest.

LIBRARIANS RECEIVE CERTIFICATION

On May 24, 2005, eleven librarians were awarded Certificates of Public Librarianship at the Vermont Library Conference. These individuals completed the Vermont Department of Libraries' certification program for public librarians. The Department congratulates them for all of their hard work and dedication. They are:

Susan Blair, Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston
Elaine Caffrey, Hartland Public Library
Jo Coleman, Springfield Town Library

Nancy Griffin, Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock
Tamara Hamm, Dover Free Library
Katrina Hill, Windsor Public Library
Lynn Hughes, Maclure Library, Pittsford
Dee Dee Ladd, Platt Memorial Library, Shoreham
Barbara Mooney, North Hero Public Library
Dee Palmer, Pope Memorial Library, Danville
Nancy Rumery, Haskell Free Library, Derby Line

*--Mara Siegel
Continuing Education Coordinator*

MORE CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES ON TAP

Department of Libraries Continuing Education Coordinator Mara Siegel recently announced that the Department is currently in negotiations to bring outside trainers for more technology-related workshops. Included will be these offerings from NELINET:

- Technologies on the Web to Make Your Life Easier
- Your Library's Cyber Security
- Getting the 411 on New Technologies: Wikis, Blogs, Mobile Devices, and Wireless Access in the Library

In addition, KnowledgeWave will be presenting "Basic Computer and Network Troubleshooting.

Librarians should watch their VALS email for dates, times, and registration details. For more information, contact Siegel at mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us.

BOARD OF LIBRARIES CHANGES

On July 7, Governor Jim Douglas reappointed Joan Rahe of Bennington to the Board of Libraries. The Governor also appointed Linda Williamson of Hartland to fill a vacancy left by the retirement of Laura Lewis of Guilford. Joan Rahe has served on the Board since 1998 and is the immediate past chair. Joan is involved in a variety of volunteer activities in the Bennington area. She retired as the Director of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Bennington County and has served on the Board of Trustees of the Bennington Free Library. Linda Williamson recently received her Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from Vermont Law School in South Royalton. She is the former Director of the Hartland Public Library. While at Hartland, she oversaw the planning for, construction, and move to the new library building as well as began the process of planning and fundraising for its automation project. In the past, Linda has served on various VLA and DOL committees, including the VLA Government Relations Committee and DOL Standards Revision Committee. Laura Lewis had served on the Board of Libraries since 1998 and was currently Board Vice Chair. We thank Laura for her dedicated service. Laura plans to remain active in Guilford and Windham County library activities.

For additional information about the Board of Libraries, see:
http://dol.state.vt.us/gopher_root5/libraries/bol/bol.html.

WHERE DO VERMONT LIBRARIES WANT TO GO?

Recent discussions among librarians, Department of Libraries staff, and the Board of Libraries have begun to focus on the future of Vermont libraries and the role of the Department in fostering that future. What do all libraries in the state need from the state agency, and what will need to shift in order to make those things happen? Are there different needs for larger and smaller public libraries? What are some needs that the Department can fill for all types of libraries?

Participants at last fall's *Schmooze* workshop sponsored by the Vermont Library Association's Government Relations Committee generated a list of public library concerns and issues to explore. Subsequent meetings over the winter and spring also uncovered a need for statewide conversations about the future of all libraries. Responding to the *Schmooze* workshop discussion, the Department of Libraries sponsored an information meeting on forming public library districts in April. Also following up on *Schmooze*, the VLA Government Relations Committee is investigating how other state library agencies support local libraries. State Librarian Sybil Brigham McShane stated that "a broad conversation needs to take place over the coming months" in order to hone in on the Department's role(s) and to assess models for change.

General and specific steps will be taken in the coming year or so to insure that the needs of the public and the views of all Vermont libraries – public, school, academic, and special – are represented in the conversation. The Board of Libraries will hold a retreat this fall to discuss its role in guiding libraries' future. In preparation for a Department of Libraries staff discussion of the future, McShane recently distributed copies of John H. Falk's Lessons Without Limit: How Free-choice Learning is Transforming Education. A featured speaker at this fall's annual conference of the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Falk stated that libraries can and do supply many of the public's "free-choice learning" needs.

McShane also hopes to contract for a market study of the general public to ascertain its expectations for libraries and/or a study of librarians to determine their expectations of the Department. An economic study of Vermont public library service, much like those undertaken in Florida and South Carolina, may also be in the offing.

OPINIONS DISCUSSES BOARD E-MAILS

The May issue of the Vermont Secretary of State's newsletter "Opinions on *Opinions*," offered the following hints about town selectboards' use of electronic mail which may well apply to library boards:

- **E-mail may be used for routine communication.** Boards must take care not to violate the open meeting law through use of e-mail. Decisions about town business must be made at the public meeting – as should information gathering and discussion of the town business by a majority of the board. This means that e-mail should play a limited role in the conduct of town affairs. In one town the manager sends daily or weekly reports to board members – this is appropriate. In another, board members e-mail the chair with items for the meeting agenda and the chair e-mails the board members to discuss when the best time is to schedule a special meeting of the board.
- **Beware: e-mails sent between board members about public business may be public record!** Even if two board members e-mail to and from their home computers, those messages will be subject to the requirements of the public record laws. This means that if the subject matter of the

e-mail is not exempt from the public records law, by, for example, being about a personnel matter, then it must be disclosed upon request.

Other *Opinions* of interest to library trustees are:

- **Minutes must be available before they are approved by the board.** State law requires meeting minutes to be made available to the public five days after the date of a public meeting. Because boards generally do not approve the minutes until their next meeting, the minutes made available for public review before they are formally approved should be marked "draft" or "unapproved." 1 V.S.A. § 312(b) (1).
- **Former official must pass town property – including papers and records - to new official.** When a town or town school district office becomes vacant by expiration of the term of office or otherwise, and a successor is elected or appointed, the new official is entitled to receive from the last incumbent, on demand, the records, files, books and papers of such office, or property of the town or the town school district. A person having such records, files, books, papers or other property in his possession who refuses for ten days after such demand to surrender the same may be fined (only \$10/week) for his or her refusal. 24 V.S.A. § 991.

The Secretary of State's monthly newsletter is available at the following website:

<http://www.sec.state.vt.us/secdesk/opinions/>

DO YOU HAVE YOUR PAPERWORK IN ORDER?

Is your public library *municipal* or *incorporated*? Are you sure? How do you know? Does it matter? Vermont's library laws provide for two types of public libraries, but sometimes a library's status is a bit fuzzy. A municipal library can still obtain tax-exempt status from the IRS. Many incorporated public libraries receive a large portion of their operating funds from public funds. As public librarians and trustees engage in more fundraising from a variety of sources, they are finding that funders need to know the library's status. Some corporations and grantors cannot give to units of municipal government and can only give to nonprofit organizations. A library's Friends organization may or may not be in a position to receive grants. Some libraries have created foundations to receive large sums, such as those used in a building campaign.

If you are unsure of your library's status, obtain a copy of *The Law of Public Libraries*, created by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and the Department of Libraries in 2000 (http://dol.state.vt.us/gopher_root5/libraries/laws/library.html). Read it through carefully, and consult with an attorney if you need help. *The Law of Public Libraries* states:

The first step in governance is knowing the source of your authority. Prudent trustees gather the basic documents of their library in a file. If a private trust, deed, or act of incorporation created the library, find the source of the authority and obtain a copy for review. Search through town records, with the aid of the town clerk, to find whatever votes were taken by the town affecting the library. If the library was created by an act of the voters of the town, the act is recorded in the town meeting minutes book. If the library was established by the grant of a building and land from a private donor, find a copy of the deed to ensure that there are no conditions or reversionary clauses that might force the library to close if violated.

Contact the Secretary of State's Corporation Division (802-828-2386 or bpoulin@sec.state.vt.us) for copies of possible articles of association and amendments. Check with the County Clerk to see if any trustee appointments have been filed over time. If the library is a private nonprofit corporation, then it should have

bylaws that govern its operation. These are proprietary records, which will not be on file with the Secretary of State. Instead, look for them among the corporation's own records, and update them if necessary. Municipal and incorporated libraries also have policies, covering the proper running of the library in all aspects.

Once you have searched each of these sources, you may be able to tell the status of your library. Most likely, the library is a curious mixture of private and public characteristics and resources. The key question is how it was originally established.

- If a vote of the town created the library, then it is a municipal public library.
- If the library was originally created by a private act of charity, it is an incorporated public library.
- An incorporated public library may have subsequently become a municipal public library, but it takes formal action of both the corporation and the town.
- A library can be a combined library - joining a municipal and incorporated library (i.e. an endowment or building remains separately managed by the corporation, while the town runs the library, or some version of this.)

Sorting out precisely what it is may be difficult. But even if you don't reach a final answer the process of assembling documents puts you in a position to know the basic sources of authority of the library. It also allows the governing bodies to determine whether it is necessary to seek a legal change of status to legitimize practices that might have developed informally over the years.

If you need a copy of *The Law of Public Libraries* or have questions, give your regional consultant a call.

WORKSHOP FOCUSES ON SERVING SENIORS

Vermont demographics show that seniors are a substantial and growing part of every Vermont community. More than 40 librarians attended the two sessions of the "Serving Seniors" workshop offered by the Department of Libraries late in April, at the Midstate Regional Library, Berlin, and at the Fletcher Memorial Library in Ludlow. The goals of the workshop were to introduce concepts related to aging, to present the library as a center for services, programs and lifelong learning, and to consider and discuss programming possibilities and pitfalls when working with older adults.

Three suggestions for programs to attract seniors are:

1. Learn about the Council on Aging and their willingness to come to your library to discuss services for seniors. For more information on how to have a program in your library call the Senior Helpline at 1-800-642-5119.
2. Ask Joann Erenhouse, jerenhouse@aol.com, to set up a free Vermont Bar Association-sponsored program, with live attorney, on legal issues particular to your audience.
3. Ask Frank Woods (1-800-479-1711) to provide materials to make a presentation on services for the blind and visually impaired.

--S. Francis Woods
Special Services Consultant

VERMONT BOOKMOBILES EVERYWHERE

The Department of Libraries Mobile Library Literacy Project is ending after more than four years. The project, in the words of U.S. Senator James Jeffords, sought “to promote access to books, reading programs and information through technology...to extend the walls of the library... and welcome all Vermonters to be part of the learning community.” The project was funded under the National Leadership Grants for Libraries Program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Partnerships in Brattleboro, Colchester, Lyndonville, Montpelier and Newport expanded library outreach to large geographic areas of the state and many different target audiences. Four Moroney vehicles and one from OBS, Inc., dazzle their readers with the intimacy of these tiny libraries on wheels.

Lessons learned from the Project? Strong partnerships are essential to sustain these high-profile, high-cost ventures. Routine staff turnover threatens the close relationships forged to support nonprofit activity. When a transit company filed for bankruptcy in Washington County, the Kellogg-Hubbard Library and U-32 High School had to move quickly to find a similar partner. Annual staff replacement common to the AmeriCorps*VISTA program meant constant retraining and regular substitutes for libraries choosing that route.

Owning and operating a bookmobile means taking on a variety of mechanical challenges, including keeping the generator operating, backing up via video camera, learning to keep diesel fuel “warm” in the winter, and maneuvering a heavy van over dirt roads and up Vermont’s steep hills.

Many of the initial applications envisioned mobile computer labs, offering ESL or basic computer courses on the road. Most of the bookmobiles use library automation to catalog and circulate materials, but access to the Internet is either not available or prohibitively expensive at this time.

The rewards? Clear evidence that family child cares need and benefit from regular storytime and bookmobile use. Seniors in housing developments long for the community of library visits, and wait eagerly for the van to arrive. And children who read through the summer maintain the reading levels of pre-summer schooling.

Perhaps we should also credit the efforts of the five MLLP projects with the seeming renaissance of Vermont bookmobiles operating through the state now. In addition to the bookmobiles mentioned, other vehicles offer outreach services in Burlington, Milton, Franklin and Grand Isle counties, Williston, Starksboro, and Waterbury. Many more libraries have adapted the concepts of outreach to family child cares, to businesses, to summer meal or recreation sites, and to senior centers. The walls of the Vermont public library have been extended, just as Senator Jeffords hoped in his June 1999, press conference in Waterbury.

*--Amy Howlett
Southeast Regional Consultant*

2-1-1 STREAMLINES ACCESS TO COMMUNITY SERVICES

Do your library customers need help finding help in the community? Dialing 2-1-1 is the first step. Vermont 2-1-1, a program of United Ways of Vermont, began serving Vermonters statewide in February with 2-1-1, the new abbreviated dialing code for community information and referral. Vermont 2-1-1 Information & Referral Specialists assess callers' needs, help solve problems and make referrals to available government agencies and community-based programs. Where to find child care? Food shelves? Help for those with disabilities? GED instruction? Substance abuse treatment? Car registration for newcomers? Just dial 2-1-1 to be linked with more than 3,500 health and human services throughout Vermont.

Calls are confidential. The phone lines are staffed during regular hours, Monday - Friday, 8:30-4:30. After hours callers can leave a message which will be returned the next business day. Vermont 2-1-1 provides its resource database in web-based format for professionals and the general public at www.vermont211.org. For personal assistance, dial 2-1-1, a local call from anywhere in Vermont, or (866) 652-4636. For more information, contact Sharon Tierra, 2-1-1 Program Manager, (802) 257-4011, helpline@sover.net.

*--Amy Howlett
Southeast Regional Consultant*

AVAILABLE...

...Shop for the Library - <http://www.shopforthelibrary.net/> - states "Now you can shop from some of the Internet's best online merchants while helping support your local library! Anytime you buy from one of our participating merchants, a portion of the purchase price goes to benefit your chosen library." Participating merchants are listed by category along with the percentage they will send to your chosen library.

...The Long Island Coalition Against Censorship, an association of 22 member organizations, announces the 2005 edition of its exhibit, "**Censorship in Schools and Libraries.**" The exhibit presents 30 illustrations of censorship each one approximately 11" x 14" with accompanying text that is 11" x 14." The history of censorship in public schools and libraries highlights incidents of censorship that have occurred in the United States during the last 150 years. The new edition includes continuing efforts to censor the popular Harry Potter books and renewed efforts in a number of states to challenge the significance of evolution in science classes. Added to the exhibit is the decision by the United States Supreme Court requiring public libraries receiving federal funding to install filters on all computers connected to the Internet. In addition to the new cases, there is an update of cases that have occurred since 1990. Quality copies of the exhibit have been reproduced which may be readily presented on poster boards in libraries or classrooms and retained by you for future exhibits. If space is limited, we suggest rotating the panels during the time the exhibit is on display. Excerpts from the exhibit are on the web site www.the-licac.org. The cost of the exhibit including mailing charges is \$38.00 postpaid by check. For additional information contact Donald Parker at coalcen@juno.com or call (516) 944-9799.

...The 2003 International Adult Literacy and Lifeskills Survey (ALL) showed that America's adults performed worse than their counterparts in Bermuda, Norway, and Switzerland, but better than those in Italy. There was no measurable difference between the performance of Canadian and U.S. adults. ALL reports on the literacy and numeracy skills of adults ages 16-65 in six countries, and results are available at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2005117>.

COMING EVENTS

Mon., July 4, 2005 – State holiday – Department of Libraries central office and regional libraries closed.

Fri., July 8, 9:30 am – “Booktalking” workshop, Maclure Library, Pittsford. Continues workshop begun July 1.

Mon., July 11, 9:30 am – “Basic Public Library Administration” workshop, Stowe Free Library. *Continues* Mondays through August 8. *Repeats* Thursdays, July 14-August 11. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us.

Wed., July 13, 9:30 am – “VOL Basics” workshop, Midstate Regional Library, Berlin. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us. *Repeats* Wed., Aug., 23; Wed., Sept. 21; and Tues., Oct. 18 - 9:30 am.

Wed., July 13, 1:00 pm – “Internet Searching” workshop, Midstate Regional Library, Berlin. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us. *Repeats* Wed., Sept. 21 and Tues., Oct. 18 - 1:00 pm.

Tues., July 26, 9:30 am – “VALS Basics” workshop, Midstate Regional Library, Berlin. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us. *Repeats* Tues., Sept. 20, 9:30 am.

Wed., Aug. 10, 9:30 am – “Technical Resources for Public Access Computing” workshop, Lyndon State College. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us. *Repeats* Wed., Aug. 31, 9:30 am, Persons School, Brattleboro, and Wed., Sept. 14, 9:30 am, Midstate Regional Library, Berlin.

Fri., Aug. 12, 9:30 am – *New Planning for Results* seminar, Maclure Library, Pittsford. Contact: Marianne Kotch, 828-2320, marianne.kotch@dol.state.vt.us.

Tues., Aug. 16 - State holiday – Department of Libraries central office and regional libraries closed.

Tues., Aug. 23, 9:30 am – “A Place at the Table” workshop, Fletcher Memorial Library, Ludlow. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us. *Repeats* Thurs., Aug. 25, 9:30 am, Milton Public Library.

Mon., Sept. 5 - State holiday – Department of Libraries central office and regional libraries closed.

Thurs., Sept. 8, 9:30 am – “Picture Book Storyhours” workshop, Midstate Regional Library, Berlin. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us. *Continues* Mon., Sept. 12 and Thurs., Sept. 15.

Fri., Sept. 9, 9:30 am – “A Matter of Time” workshop, Aldrich Public Library, Barre. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us.

Tues., Sept. 13, 10:30 am – Vermont Board of Libraries meeting, place TBA. Contact: Sybil Brigham McShane, 828-3265, sybil.mcshane@dol.state.vt.us.

Mon, Sept. 19, 9:30 am – Grand Isle Co. Libns. meeting, North Hero Public Library. Contact: Barbara Mooney, nohero@vals.state.vt.us.

Fri., Sept. 23, 9:30 am – “Designing Your Library Space” workshop, Aldrich Public Library, Barre. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us.

Wed., Sept. 28, 9:30 am – “Is Automation Right for You?” workshop, Sherburne Memorial Library, Killington. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us. *Repeats* Thurs., Oct. 6, Midstate Regional Library, Berlin, and Wed., Oct. 12, Northeast Regional Library, St. Johnsbury.

Wed., Oct. 5, 9:30 am – “School-age Program Swap,” Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us.

Fri., Oct. 14, 9:30 am – “Customer Service – More Than Just a Smile” workshop, Northeast Regional Library, St. Johnsbury. Contact: Mara Siegel, 828-3261, mara.siegel@dol.state.vt.us. *Continues* Wed., October 19, 9:30 am.

Sun.-Tues., Oct. 16-18 – New England Library Assn. annual conference. For details see <http://www.nelibs.org>.

Tues., Oct. 18, 10:30 am – Vermont Board of Libraries meeting, Midstate Regional Library, Berlin. Contact: Sybil Brigham McShane, 828-3265.

Wed., Oct. 26 – Vermont Assn. of Nonprofits (VANPO) annual conference, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Montpelier. Contact: Mike Gaito, 862-0292, mikeg@vanpo.org.

YOUTH SERVICES NEWS

by Grace W. Greene, Children’s Services Consultant
828-6954; grace.greene@dol.state.vt.us

Teen Summer Program and the Green Mountain Book Award...

Be sure to program for teens as well as for children this summer. Entice them with the possibility of winning the snowboard (donated by Burton) or the mini iPod (donated by Small Dog Electronics), and then wow them with all the great resources and programs you have. Highlight some young adult books, your teen magazines and any relevant audio books and videos. Don’t forget to have them do the Internet scavenger hunts, and to send the forms to me by the end of the summer. All of the information and rules can be found in your YA summer manual.

This is also a great time to introduce the Green Mountain Book Award (GMBA), the new Vermont award for grades 9-12. Purchase as many titles as you can, and borrow others from your Regional Library. For the list, visit: http://dol.state.vt.us/gopher_root5/libraries/gmba/gmba.htm. If you haven’t yet gotten bookmarks, posters and handbooks, please request them from me.

Youth Services Librarians Need WebJunction!

WebJunction-Vermont (<http://vt.webjunction.org>) has some good resources for Vermont’s youth services librarians including two discussion - one on the Green Mountain Book Award and the other on Youth Services in general. Use these forums to talk to colleagues about issues, questions and concerns; ask about performers; solicit advice on policies; talk about promoting the GMBA; share info on a great program you have just done. This is different from a listserv, but it is easy to do. Check out some of the other discussion groups on WebJunction as well as content that librarians around the country have posted. For instance, I found a great collection of job descriptions for children’s librarians from Connecticut and a provocative article on what libraries can learn from bookstores written by a librarian from Kansas.

Children’s Librarians’ Fall Meeting

Don’t miss the annual gathering to plan summer reading programs and network with other children’s librarians on **Thursday, September 22** at 9:30 a.m. at the Midstate Regional Library in Berlin. We will plan our 2006 program, “Realms of Reading,” and talk about the program for 2007. Anyone who works with children in a public library is welcome. The meeting will last until noon, but we invite you to bring a lunch and continue the sharing while you munch.

Mock Caldecott Returns!

After a two-year hiatus, our annual Mock Caldecott program - a day to look at picture books critically, and to participate in great discussions about them - returns on Friday, November 18, at Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center. In the morning, artist/librarian Gratia Banta, this year's Caldecott Committee Chair, will speak on how to evaluate picture books; in the afternoon people will choose their favorite picture book of the year. Registration forms will be available at the end of the summer. Please request one if you would like to attend.

Materials Review Sessions: Two Live Sessions again!

If you select children's and/or young adult books for your library, plan to attend one of five Materials Review sessions to learn about the best of the new titles for children, birth through young adult. You can hear reviews and examine the books to decide what is best for your library. This fall, we will begin with a live session at the Brown Public Library in Northfield on Tuesday, October 25 and then do another live presentation at the Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington on Thursday, October 27. Subsequent, videotaped sessions are planned for Tues., Nov. 1 (Northeast Regional Library, St. Johnsbury); Thurs., Nov. 3 (Milton Public Library); and Tues., Nov. 8 (Kurn Hattin, Westminster West). All sessions being at 9:00 am and will feature the books with the reviews inserted as well as a host of nonfiction books recommended by the review media and our volunteer reviewers. Can't attend any of these sessions? Ask to borrow a videotape and watch in the comfort of your own home!

Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award News...

Kate Di Camillo has won the DCF award for the second time (the first in 2002 for *Because of Winn Dixie*) for the Newbery Award-winning *The Tale of Despereaux* (Candlewick, 2003). Unfortunately, Kate is so much in demand, she will not be able to come to Vermont any time this year to accept her award. A total of 4,588 children in grades 4-8 voted for this year's award. Runners up were *City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau, *Gregor the Overlander* by Suzanne Collins, *How Angel Peterson Got His Name* by Gary Paulsen, and *Brainboy and the Deathmaster* by Tor Seidler (tied with Paulsen).

There will be two three-year openings on the DCF committee beginning in March, 2006. Please let interested parents, teachers and community members know about this opportunity. Applicants should send a letter of interest, a brief resume and two reviews, one positive and one negative, of any children's books of their choosing, to me by **September 23, 2005**.

There are two helpful handouts this year for those doing the DCF program, both of which were available at the Vermont Library Conference. One is a compilation of activity pages that committee members did for nine of the books, and the other is "Reviews and Discussion Questions" for all books, done by Linda Morrow, Sally Margolis, Steve Madden, Janet Kleinberg and Elizabeth Bluemle. If you did not pick up copies you can find them at the DCF website: www.dcfaward.org.

We still have bookmarks with the 2005-2006 nominees listed. If you would like some, please request them from me. There are three different versions, each one of which features one of the runner up logos. We are out of the bookmark with the winning logo, but will reprint that next year after the 2006 voting.

DCF Conference

The third annual DCF conference was held at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee on May 6, 2005. More than 160 public and school librarians, classroom teachers, reading teachers, professors of children's literature and reading consultants attended, and we had to turn away almost 25! Katherine Paterson inspired everyone in her keynote speech with her intelligence, insights and extraordinary ability to make connections between life and books. The 14 workshops ranged from making a DCF quilt to literature circles to using picture books with middle schoolers. The endnote was delivered by Vermont author Doug Wilhelm who told us how his novel, *The Revealers*, has been used in many Vermont schools to combat bullying.

The conference committee consisted of Denise Dalmasse, U32, East Montpelier; Joanna Rudge Long, formerly of the DCF Committee; Thom McAllister, Moretown Elementary School; Merlyn Miller, Burr and Burton Academy; Leda Schubert, DCF Committee; Suzy Shedd, Porters Point School Colchester; Patty Thomas, Derby Elementary School; Sandy Zelazo, St. Albans Town Educational Center and Grace Greene, DOL. Thanks go to the Vermont Educational Media Association, Vermont Library Association, VT-NEA, and the Department of

Education for their financial contributions, and to the Vermont Center for the Book and Vermont Public Radio for door prizes. The fourth annual conference is planned for Thursday, May 4, **2006** at the StoweFlake Resort in Stowe. Popular author Jack Gantos will be the keynote speaker.

Red Clover Award

Vermont's picture book award, the Red Clover Award, was won this year by Mo Willems for *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* (Hyperion, 2003), a very funny book about a pigeon with just one thing on his mind. Of the 22,988 children in grades K-4 who voted this year, 7,143 voted for *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* Runners up were *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* (2,917 votes), *How I Became a Pirate* (2,736), and *Rhyolite: The True Story of a Ghost Town* (2,343). This year's Red Clover conference will be held at the Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee on Tuesday, October 4. Mo Willems will not be able to join us, but Molly Bang will deliver a keynote speech based on her amazing art appreciation book, *Picture This: How Pictures Work* (Seastar, 2000).

GET REAL @ your library® during Teen Read Week 2005

What is Teen Read Week? It's programming and reading and ways to increase adolescent literacy all rolled up into a weeklong celebration, sponsored by the American Library Association and school and public libraries nationwide during October 16-22, 2005. Teens will be reading for the fun of it, and your library can join hundreds of other libraries, schools and bookstores using this year's theme, "GET REAL @ your library®" to encourage teens to explore the world of nonfiction - biographies, self-help books, strange but true stories, and more.

Teen Read Week is also a perfect time to highlight the Green Mountain Book Award (see above). There are several nonfiction titles on the list, but it's a good time to promote the whole list. There are many ways for teens and their librarians to GET REAL @ your library®:

- Join a book discussion group at the school or public library.
- Attend a program on real careers.
- Have a private investigator show how a lie detector works, and booktalk mysteries and true crime books.
- Get REEL and show a series of movies that were made from books.
- Read what you want to read, just for the fun of it.

For more ideas on programs, displays and PR, see ALA's YALSA site: www.ala.org/teenread.



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