

## **OLA Information, 2008-09**

### **List of Officers**

President:	Mary Ginnane, Eugene PL
Vice President:	Connie Anderson-Cohoon, Southern Oregon U. Library
Pas President:	Sarah Beasley, Portland State U. Library
Treasurer:	Shirley Roberts, Eastern Oregon U. Library
Secretary:	Bill Baars, Lake Oswego PL
Parliamentarian:	Steve Skidmore, Siuslaw PL District
ALA Representative:	Suzanne Sager, Portland State U. Library
OEMA Representative:	Carol Dinges, Lebanon HS Library
PNLA Representative:	Dana Campbell, Corvallis-Benton Cty. PL
Member at large:	Anne-Marie Deitering, Oregon State U. Library
State Librarian:	Jim Schepke, OSL

### **Location and theme of annual conference**

Hotel: Salem Conference Center

April 1-3, 2009

Theme: Oregon Reads: One State, Many Stories

Notable speakers:

Keynote--Honorable Justice Betty Roberts

Banquet--Joe Raiola, humorist, satirist, editor

Conference guests:

Maya Tarasova, special librarian from the Ukraine

Jim Rettig, ALA President

Kathy Watson, PNLA President

### **Legislative activity**

Legislative Day, March 5, 2009

Advocacy for the Ready to Read program in the State Library's budget bill, HB5026, and for strong school library programs bill, HB 2586.

### **Notable awards/honorary memberships**

OLA Legislator of the Year: not awarded

OLA Librarian of the Year: Gary Sharp, North Bend PL

Library Employee of the Year: Susan Gilmont, Oregon State University L., Hatfield Marine Science Center

Library Supporter of the Year: George Hoyt, Clackamas County libraries supporter

Honorary Life Membership: Anne Billeter, retired Jackson County Library System

Intellectual Freedom Committee Award: not awarded

Evelyn Sibley Lampman Award: Renae Arnold, Multnomah County Library

Ole Award: Marian Thomas, Deschutes Public Library System  
Distinguished Service Award: Robin Beerbower, Salem PL  
Rebecca Cohen, Newport PL  
OYEA Award: Brian Tompkins, teen volunteer, Newberg PL

### **Outstanding events that you remember**

After planning that began in 2006, the Oregon Reads statewide community reads program was implemented featuring *Stubborn Twig* by Lauren Kessler, *Bat 6* by Virginia Euwer Wolff, and *Apples to Oregon* by Deborah Hopkinson. I introduced Lauren Kessler at the Oregon Reads kick-off in January, 2009. George Bell (honorary life member) wrote an op-ed piece highlighting the success of the Oregon Reads project within the Oregon 150 sesquicentennial array of events. It was published in a handful of newspapers.

Association Management Services, administered by John and Julie McCulley, informed OLA that they could no longer provide their service to OLA due to reprioritizing of their workload. This led to research into association management options and the decision to contract with Roberts Business Services to provide support services to OLA beginning in the 2009-10 business year.

I attended the PNLA conference in August, 2009 to become more informed about PNLA's exploration into the future of PNLA. There was no observable progress after more than a year—one of the factors leading to the decision of OLA to sever the organizational relationship (in fall/winter 2009).

Conversations with OASL President, Carol Dinges, that continued during development of a jointly-written article for the joint issue of the OLA-OASL quarterlies (in Winter, 2009), laid groundwork for the 2010 draft proposal to merge OLA and OASL.

The Vision 2020 committee was appointed and an LSTA grant for a Delphi survey secured from the Oregon State Library. The committee worked throughout 2009 on the assignment to develop OLA's next vision statement carrying on the tradition of Vision 2000 and Vision 2010.

OLA organizational structure issues were noticed. Some Round Tables did not appear active. No chair was appointed for the Advocacy Task Force after initial leaders exited, and the Archives Task Force lacked a chair as well. There was a chair but no committee was appointed for the Resource Sharing Committee while the purpose for the committee was reviewed.

The Board passed Chapter 35 of the Procedures Manual on Grants and Contracts procedures.

The Oregon Authors website was unveiled after LSTA-funded development.

The president's issue of the OLA Quarterly was an experiment with an online-only issue. The Publications Committee then surveyed the membership about their reading habits with the Quarterly. Results seemed to show support for online-only publication, a decision made in the near future.

The OLA position paper on private management of public libraries was distributed to library professional journals.

Oregonian columnist Steve Duin wrote a column about Jackson County's cost-saving measures including contracting public library operations to LSSI. With assistance I drafted a letter to Mr. Duin pointing out the weaknesses of that choice for Jackson County citizens.

A special issue of the OLA Hotline was published and dedicated to Judith Krug, director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom who died on 4-11-09.