



# LIBRARY COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

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## PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE

### NETWORK ORGANIZED

In launching this new lay effort, Barbara Johnson has invited twenty-four trustees to represent their area on an Ad Hoc Committee: "We have been seeking those trustees who have demonstrated a sympathetic and progressive approach to the unique problems of libraries in West Virginia, those who have some degree of political savoir-faire, a willingness to assume responsibilities for the library's fiscal needs, and a readiness to give time and effort to 'the cause'."

An indomitable Yankee spirit is a valuable trait which Mrs. Johnson brings to her position. Though she has lived in Wood County for fifteen years where her husband is employed by E. I. duPont de Nemours, she grew up in the environs of Boston. Graduated with a B. S. Degree in Education from the Massachusetts College of Arts and Sciences, the new trustee chairman is the mother of four children. She serves as an active member of the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Library of Parkersburg. Her community activities include membership in League of Women Voters, the Junior League, and the Area Council of the Junior Leagues of America, helped to establish the local Fine Arts Council, and serves as Vice President of the Community Service Council of Parkersburg. In the summer, she teaches swimming and water safety for the American Red Cross.



Mrs. Edwin D. Johnson  
Chairman, Trustees Section  
W. Va. Library Association

Invitations have been extended to the following trustees who are grouped under the new Administrative Districts of West Virginia: Region I,

Mr. R. W. Wilkinson, Mr. Anthony Sparacino, Mr. W. F. Staats, Mrs. Betty Dransfield; Region II, Mrs. E. Henry Broh, Mr. Sam R. Harshbarger; Region III, Mr. Donald F. Springer, Mrs. Virgie Pierson; Region IV, Mr. Thomas Henderson, Mr. Alan Marples; Region V, Mrs. R. G. Ogilvie, Mr. Perry E. O'Brien; Region VI, Mr. Robert Stemple, Mr. Joseph Hoffman; Region VII, Mr. William T. O'Brien, Mrs. Christine White; Region VIII, Miss Barbara Sirbaugh, Rev. William Middlesworth; Region IX, Mrs. Stuart Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Thomas Bohrer; Region X, Mrs. Frank A. O'Brien, Jr., Mr. David Dalzell; Region XI, Mr. George Campbell, Mr. William Young.

These trustees will be receiving the Washington Newsletter, which is the organ of the American Library Association's capital city office. "I am convinced our united effort will do something special for libraries in West Virginia," Mrs. Johnson concludes. She anticipates orientation programs and development of detailed Trustee Manual.



Man Public Library

\* \* \*

New Libraries Organize

in

Book Express Area

\* \* \*



Boone-Madison Public Library

## NEW TRUSTEES

Pictured in photos to the left are members of two new library boards. Four members of the Man Public Library, which will manage the Buffalo Creek Memorial, are, left to right: Mrs. Thomas Cuni, Secretary; Mrs. James Hensley, Vice President; Mrs. James Cook, President; and Mrs. C. D. William, the Treasurer. Mrs. George L. Lohn was not in attendance.

Conferring with the Boone-Madison Trustees, Robert Rogers, President of Boone County Court, Mayor Donald Price of Madison, with Chairman, Mrs. J. M. Scott, and Secretary, Dorothy Hatfield. The meeting was held in Boone County Bank, January 24th, with Bank President, Gus Shaffer. Other members of the Board include Mrs. Jean Davis of Van, Harry Miller of Danville, and Robert Stine of Whitesville.

One of the loftiest of libraries is an apt term for the new Terra Alta Public Library. Like Bluefield and Kingwood, it is located at an elevation of 2,500 feet. New trustees of this municipal library are: Mrs. Joann Teets, Chairman, Russ McConnell, Mrs. Juanita Gardner, and Mrs. Regina Stork. Every member of this board and Mayor Howard Metheny have rolled up their sleeves to create a very up-to-date reading room, located in Town Hall.

## AWARD WINNERS

Mrs. Mary Louise Graham of Beckley was selected Woman of the Year by the Junior Woman's Club with the following accolade at the presentation, "an outgoing personality, untiring energy, and has given a tremendous amount of service to our community by maintaining a library, a very much needed facility in a city with its own college, a vast number of grade schools, and hundreds of adults who just enjoy reading".

Winning the coveted Gold Award for Excellence at the Fifteenth International Television and Film Festival in New York is Frederic J. Glazer, Director of the West Virginia Library Commission. This award was shared with Phil Fraga and officially accepted at a special ceremony in Richmond in December. Those who attended the Film Institute in June in Charleston will recall the prize winning slide show on the history of Virginia Libraries, "Sight, Sounds, and Reads".

## REVENUE SHARING BOON FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Congratulations are in order for two libraries who have requested and been granted Revenue Sharing Funds. The new Hamlin Public Library has received \$10,000 from the Lincoln County Court to purchase a site for an Instant Library, and Cabell County Public Library, \$75,000 from the Court toward planning for a new capital improvement program.

Revenue Sharing Funds are available from both municipal and county sources. The disposition of such funds from the state level will remain for the legislature to determine in the coming session. The sharing funds are almost unrestricted in their use but caution should be used in (1) refraining from matching with other federal funds, (2) in maintaining local effort from present local funds.

Governor Moore, in speeches both at Clarksburg and Charleston,

repeatedly mentioned the use of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds for public libraries.

Other libraries which have made requests include Mary H. Weir at Weirton, Morgantown Public, Kingwood Public, Clarksburg, Monroe County, Parkersburg, and Martinsburg. Keep us posted on progress.

LIBRARY  
STAFF  
NOTES

Replacing Mrs. Dora Lee Goodin at Kingwood is Miss Denise Stewart, formerly on the staff of the West Virginia University Library. New librarian at Terra Alta is Miss Rosemary DeLauder.

A new Assistant Director has been hired at Beckley in Raleigh County, Mrs. Shirley C. Mills, a recent graduate of Louisiana State University.

Public library extension programs have reported new staff with Mrs. Ruth Givens filling a bookmobile post in Raleigh County, formerly held by Gail Watson who has joined the local TV station. Michael Bower has been hired as Extension Librarian at Clarksburg. In Romney, Thomas G. Hardesty offers workshop classes in a variety of the arts at the Hampshire County Library.

Retiring at Clarksburg is Miss Martha Ridenour where she is being replaced by former Library Trainee, Susan Reilly, who has just returned from completion of her graduate degree work at University of Pittsburgh.

James R. Glenn, graduate of Peabody Library School and most recently on the staff at V.P.I., joins Bluefield State College as Readers Services Librarian. A recent graduate from University of North Carolina Library School is a second new arrival at Bluefield State, Thomas Cheng, Technical Services Librarian.

IN  
MEMORIAM

On December 1, 1972, Mrs. C. F. Lyne, resident of Shepherdstown, died after a brief illness.

Mrs. Lyne served continuously on the West Virginia Library Commission from 1945 to 1960. In late December, Mrs. Nellie Rider, long-time friend of the Morgantown Public Library, passed away. She is credited with spearheading the movement for the new building which became a reality in 1964.

NATIONAL LIBRARY  
WEEK  
APRIL 8-14

"Read-A-Book!" is the direct and simple theme adopted nationally by the West Virginia NLW Committee. The President of West Virginia Library Association, Josephine Fideler, has appointed

co-chairpersons to sponsor this event: Judy Rule, Deputy Director at Cabell County Library, has agreed to serve with Janet Callahan, Supervisor of School Libraries for Monongalia County. Soupy Sales is being invited to serve as lay chairman.

The Committee highly recommends the use of the UNESCO Film titled "Open Book". This film runs twenty minutes. The film is a world-wide view of the status of the book in both developed and developing countries. A program built around "Open Book" would provide a real opportunity to use creatively

authors, booksellers, librarians, and prominent citizens concerned with literacy in a ten minute slot to accommodate a half hour program.

"Open Book" is scheduled for the State of West Virginia for two weeks before the opening of National Library Week. WMUL will screen the film on April 8th and it will be shown over public broadcasting stations at Morgantown and Beckley prior to that date.

Those libraries planning to use this film in spots other than TV should rent it directly from Contemporary Films, McGraw Hill, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N. Y. 10019. Rental, \$12.50.

CONSTRUCTION  
-UP-DATE

Clarksburg Public Library moves ahead with its plans for a new \$1,200,000 building with two important events: the West Virginia Library

Commission earmarked \$400,000 toward the new building at its December meeting, and a renowned world architect, Marcel Breuer, was commissioned to design the structure. Mr. Breuer's designs include the Whitney Museum in New York, the UNESCO Building in Paris, and the Housing and Urban Development Building in Washington.

Contractors moved onto the site for the new Bluefield Public Library on January 2. The building is to cost \$678,000 and the contractor is Corte Construction Company. Jackson County Libraries at Ravenswood and Ripley are still under construction. Ohio County's occupancy of its new building is delayed until March due to late delivery of equipment.

Harrison County has additional activity sprouting in the winter soil. On December 28, a Community Library opened in the 100F Building at Lost Creek. Mrs. Leta Wolfe is serving as a committee chairman for a group of 27 citizens in Lost Creek who are working with Clarksburg to qualify as a branch.

North of Clarksburg at Shinnston, the movement to remodel the old Benjamin Franklin Lowe family residence, a near replica of Abraham Lincoln's home in Springfield, Illinois, located across from the City Hall, has moved ahead. The provision in the Pearl Lowe Johnson will which gave the Shinnston Woman's Club this 100-year old house to be used as a public library also included a generous and perpetual monetary gift (\$100,000) for its upkeep. However, no funds were provided for the costly, necessary remodeling. Donations were solicited and over \$16,000, including the grant of \$2,500 by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, has been contributed by more than 1,200 persons, businesses, and organizations. The West Virginia Library Commission awarded a grant of \$4,580 for equipment to assist this project which will also be a branch of the Clarksburg Library.

"BOOKS BY  
MAIL"

Elliott Horton reports unusually good response to Morgantown's project to serve Tucker County by mail. This is a county of 7,000 residents with no public library. After six weeks of service, 581 requests had been received and 1,112 books mailed. The project is unique in that it mails no title lists, but uses a mass mailing list secured from the Post Office and a subject check list for the potential borrower to indicate his area of reading interest. Response has been so overwhelming that Friends of the Library have been pressed into service as shipping clerks.

'RENT-A-BIRD' LIBRARY  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

"While we're downtown," says the man to his kids, "let's stop at the library and check out some birds."

The birds, of the stuffed variety, are available on a regular library card at the Public Library. One can have them for a month, like a book. There are some small stuffed animals, too. Lois Markey, the library director, says she has 300 to 400 of the creatures to check out. But she doesn't know where they came from. "The first users were artists in several media," said Mrs. Markey, "oils, watercolor, woodcarvers, craftsmen of all kinds. They use them rather extensively. Schoolteachers are another user group. Then, upon occasion, somebody just likes to have one as a piece of decoration."

MACHINE BEING DEVELOPED  
TO 'READ',  
RECITE BOOKS

In a half-decade or so, a device may be available that can scan printed material and translate it into spoken words, according to a Yale University researcher. The device, called a computer-speech synthesizer, could be used among other things to "read" books to blind people, according to Ruth S. Day, associate professor of psychology and linguistics at Yale. She emphasized, however, that the research still was in the experimental stages and that reading centers for the blind built around such a computer device are "a good four or five years off".

The reading system, in effect, "looks" electronically at each group of letters forming a sound and identifies it in its computer memory. It then translates the words into units of speech, assigns the proper stress and intonation with help, again from the computer, and emits the sounds as whole sentences.

SOME CURRENT TITLES IN THE WVLC  
PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION

- Brawne, Michael. "Libraries; Architecture and Equipment." New York, Praeger, 1970.
- Dunlap, Leslie W. "Readings in Library History." New York, Bowker, 1972.
- Evans, Charles. "Middle Class Attitudes and Public Library Use." Littleton, Colo., Libraries Unlimited, 1970.
- Gregory, Ruth W. "Public Libraries in Cooperative Systems." Chicago, American Library Association, 1971.
- Jordan, Robert T. "Tomorrow's Library: Direct Access and Delivery." New York, Bowker, 1970.
- Kemper, Robert E. "Library Management; Behavior Based Personnel Systems." Littleton, Colo., Libraries Unlimited, 1971.
- Orr, J. M. "Designing Library Buildings for Activity." New York, Deutsch, 1972.

Redfern, Brian. "Studies in Library Management." London, Bingley, 1972.

Shaffer, Kenneth R. "Decision Making: A Seminar in Public Library Management."  
Hamden, Conn., Linnet Books, 1971.

Trezza, Alphonse F. "Library Buildings: Innovation for Changing Needs."  
Chicago, American Library Association, 1972.

These are available at the West Virginia Library Commission Reference  
Library, 3624 MacCorkle Avenue, S. E., Charleston, West Virginia, 25304.  
Leave a message for Mrs. Karen Goff, the librarian, on our free WATS Line,  
No. 1-800-642-9021.

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