

**Parsons Keynotes
Trustee Institute**

2:00 p.m., Friday, October 21

"Library Trustees—Fiduciaries for Change" will be the focus of A. Chapman Parsons' talk as he addresses the First Trustee Institute at the meeting of the West Virginia Library Association. A native of Ripley, the speaker will be returning to home territory.

The educational credits of the keynoter include a degree in education from West Virginia University where he worked in the Audiovisual Department of the University Library. A Masters Degree in Library Science was obtained at Western Reserve University. During two summers, 1954-55, he returned to teach Library Science at WVU.

The keynoter garnered grass roots experience in working with trustees at Martins Ferry, Ohio, as county librarian for Belmont County, in Gallipolis, as county librarian for Gallia County, and as the director of the Rodman Library in Alliance, Ohio.

Currently president of the Council of Library Association Executives, Mr. Parsons has held several important posts in the American Library Association, including that of chairman of the Committee for Public

Library Standards (1963-66) when the most recent standards were adopted. He has served on the Architecture Committee of ALA, and was a member at large of ALA Council from 1968-72.

The Ohio County Library Building in Wheeling was designed from a program drafted by Mr. Parsons. Other consulting work with buildings includes the Rodman Library, the Stark County Historical Society Building in Canton, Ohio, and the Schenectady Public Library in Schenectady, New York. In this connection, the speaker has also directed public conscription campaigns for buildings in Elyria for the public library, and in Cambridge, for the Guernsey County District Library.

Honorary memberships include the Wranglers of Alliance and the Rotary Club of Alliance and the University Club and the Press Club in Columbus.

**Schedule of WVLA
Trustee Institute
Lakeview Country Club**

First Session
Friday, October 31
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

1. Keynote Address.
2. "The Library Dollar—Where to Get It and How to Spend It", A Panel of Trustees and Barry Goldberg, Bureau of Government Research, WVU.
3. "Mini-Conference on Construction", Library Commission Staff.

Director's Breakfast
Saturday, November 1
8:30 a.m.

Second Session
Saturday, November 1
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

1. "Looking at the Legislature", Tom Potter.
2. Report of National Conference on Library Finance, Albany, New York, Sam Harshbarger and L. K. Lovenstein.
3. "A Journalist Looks at the Library", Buck Martin, Martinsburg Journal.

**Major Events at
Annual Conference,
WVLA**

First Session
Thursday, October 30
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Continued from front page-

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Area Tours

8:00 p.m. General Association Meeting

9:30 p.m. Wine and Cheese Party

Friday, October 31

8:00 a.m. McGraw Hill hosted breakfast and presentation.

10:00 - 11:30 a.m. "So What's Special About West Virginia?" Panel: Jim Comstock, Don West, Norman Simpkins, Tom D. Miller.

12:00 noon - 2:00p.m. Luncheon, courtesy Encyclopedia Britannica. Elliot Wigginton, Editor of Foxfire, speaker.

3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Appalachian Heritage Workshops.

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Exhibitor's Cocktail Party.

6:30 p.m. Annual Awards Banquet.

9:00 p.m. Evening Demonstration Concert.

Second Session

Saturday, November 1

10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Association Section Meetings.

11:30 a.m. Closing General Association Meeting.

Afternoon: WVU football team plays Kent State at Mountaineer Field.

Boone County Renovation Resumes

The remodeling of a former bank building has met several roadblocks since it started. The original contractors, Southern Builders of Danville, headed by Braxton Bircheat, went bankrupt in February of this year. This company, which had had the contract for four phases of construction, had completed only one phase. Fortunately, Bircheat had been able to secure bonding through two companies which finally settled after six months of arbitration: U. S. Fidelity and Guarantee of Charleston for \$65,132.42 and Royal Globe Insurance of New York for \$14,825. The new contract runs \$9,000 higher than the original estimates according to a report by Gordon Ikner, the Boone-Madison attorney.

New Library Organizations

Activity near the Ski Resort of Snowshoe at Valley Head has resulted in the opening of library service from a stationary bookmobile. Colonel Samuel Whit, President of the new Valley Head Library Board, presided at dedication ceremonies. In September, Senator Jennings Randolph presented the new library with a Rand McNally World Atlas and reported that "it is the eighth library in seven years" which he had dedicated

Attending from Stonewall Jackson Regional Library, which will sponsor the project, was Kathleen Weber, Extension Librarian, and Frank Ontko, Director. Mrs. Edna Mae Wood has been hired as the Valley Head librarian.

Buildings Up-date

Putnam County Library, in the Winfield Shopping Center, is 100 percent complete, but awaiting shelving.

A trio of new public library buildings are nearing completion. *Vienna Public Library*, located in a scenic park-like area near the gateway to the town, is 98 percent complete, and occupancy is planned (they expect to start moving) in October. This is a \$320,000 project designed by Charles Ross of Parkersburg and built by Grimm Brothers Contractors of Vienna. *Clarksburg Public Library*, judging from the latest reports from Board Chairman, Mrs. Mary Curtin, will be occupied by Thanksgiving. The furniture selected for this unusual design is the new butcher block style. This million dollar plan by Marcel Breuer and Associates of New York City will pose an interesting contrast to the adjoining colonial structure, now the library, and soon to become a museum.

Parkersburg and Wood County Public Library is seventy-five percent complete. The two million dollar library has been designed by J. Russell Bailey of Orange, Virginia (architect for Martinsburg and Kanawha County Libraries).

New Branch of Morgantown

Jerry Spieger, Extension Librarian for Morgantown, has done the leg work in securing a branch in the eastern area of Monongalia County. The new facility will be located on second floor of a community building at Browns-Halleck. Five thousand dollars in revenue sharing funds has been secured from the County Court toward operation.

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Donations and Grants

The Humanities and Public Policy Committee in West Virginia has awarded a \$12,000 grant to the Clarksburg Public Library to sponsor a forum which will heighten interest in "Current Issues". Acting as Project Director is Mrs. Susan Harnish Maxwell, former professor of English at Salem College. CHAPP is a non-profit corporation funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Executive Director is Paul Nuchims.

The City-County Library of Moundsville has received a \$2,000 gift from the Sammons Estate which will be used to buy audiovisual equipment.

A unique program of gifts is in progress at Parkersburg's Carnegie Library. Each year children's books are presented to the library in honor of new babies born to Junior Department Woman's Club members.

Nation-wide, the Fraternal Order of Eagles is encouraging gifts to public libraries. Libraries in Elkins, Buckhannon, and Follansbee have been the recipients of gifts of \$100 each.

Key Professional Posts Filled

New Martinsville Library Board has appointed Albert Tweedy to serve as building consultant during the construction of their new library. On completion of the building, he is to become the first professional director. The new *Wetzel County* staff member

is a graduate of Western Michigan School of Librarianship at Kalamazoo. David Rohmiller is another new librarian in *Wetzel County*. A recent graduate of the University of Indiana Graduate Library School, he will serve as Reference Librarian at the New *Martinsville* Campus of West Virginia Northern Community College.

Cabell County Library reports employment of a new director of their Junior Services Division. Miss Carol Greene has recently earned her Masters in Library Science from the University of Kentucky.

On the *Library Commission* staff, three professional librarians have been added to the rolls. Steve Christo, mentioned elsewhere in this letter, and Edward Maguire, who has just received his graduate degree from the University of Kentucky, will head government documents post when the Commission moves into the new building. In the State Institutions Department, Elizabeth Estill is a new professional to specialize in service to residents of hospitals, jails, and prisons. A native of Charleston, Miss Estill received her library training at University of Texas at Austin. John Corrigan replaces Ben Robertson as coordinator of Services for the Blind. Mr. Corrigan, a resident of Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, received his training in Library Science at West Virginia Wesleyan.

Recent arrivals at *Kanawha County Library* are Brian Faust, Community Relations Librarian, who trained at Kansas State College in Emporia, Kansas, and Christopher Hartman, Extension Librarian, who trained at the State University of New York in Albany.

Appreciation of Instant Buildings High

Burnsville, a town in Braxton County which is booming since the advent of I-79 within its borders, is accepting bids on the proposed instant structure. Problems arose since bids came in high. The new library board, composed of Miss Autumn Amos, President, Miss Laura Belle Crutchfield, Mrs. Michael E. Posey, Mrs. J. G. West, and Mrs. I. Cobb Shreve, deserves special credit for securing \$11,000 in tax funds toward operating costs the first year. *Cross Lanes Branch* will finally get underway. The deed on the *Ansted Branch* of Fayette County is now signed and architectural design can move along. *Green Bank* has raised the operating funds to qualify and awaits the deed on site. *Mason City* will open in its new carousel in October.

Lockup Library

Kanawha County Jail now has an active library. Though it was started in 1971, it was not developed until January of this year when *Kanawha County Library* assigned a member of their staff, Jay Pauley, to the job of liaison with the library. Requests which an inmate accumulates are referred to Mr. Pauley who visits once a week. Preparation of writs which might lead to their release is the most popular activity in the library. Inmates can spend two hours a week in the library. A visit to the library is an escape from the bullpen and a chance to get out of the cramped quarters of the jail. One inmate reads books on machinery, but baseball and football are the most popular items, followed by books on history, science, black history, and law.

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Monty Baker Suggests a Fund Raiser for Friends

The title of this idea is "Have a Flea Market" around the library. Purpose? Get people to recognize that the library is in business to serve the public. Rules of the game look like this:

- (1) Organize a small committee to advertise that the public library will sponsor a Flea Market. Everyone must bring their tables; usually this consists of folding card tables. Someone should be in charge of advertising it in the newspaper; another person calls prospective folks who could bring antiques, collectibles, and other things to display.
- (2) The charge might be \$5.00 per table of six to eight feet. This is to be collected by "Friends" for purchase of program materials or new books.
- (3) Get at least 25 (or more) people to bring their tables. Set up these tables in the parking lot or inside the library.
- (4) Print up a badge. I am a Flea for the Library! Give this out when someone purchases something AND GET THEM REGISTERED AS A BORROWER OF THE LIBRARY IF THEY WILL CONSENT.

The real purpose of this gimmick is to get new people to see their public library and visit it regularly for reading purposes. As the badges are handed out by the "special committee", new people should be registered. Talk to them—find out their reading interests, hobbies, and all the rest of it.

State-wide Film Library Becoming a Reality

The West Virginia Library Commission is laying the groundwork for the latest step in their effort toward total state-wide library services—a film library. Presently, many librarians across the State are previewing new releases in an effort to compile information about the best films available. Librarians working on this project include: Zetta Walker, Kanawha County; Ann Lorentz, Parkerburg; Elizabeth Fair, Ohio County; Luella Bohrer, Paw Paw; Joel Beane, Kingwood; Jerry Flanagan, Princeton; Shirley Mills, Moundsville; Anita Doss, Buffalo Creek; Mrs. Richard Feaster, Elkins; S. Fred Natale, Weirton; and Luella Dye, Bluefield.

Coordinating the project is Steve Christo who recently completed work for a M.S.L.S. Degree at the University of Kentucky. Mr. Christo related that funds are available for approximately 1,000 films this year. Also, films to be included in the collection will cover the full range from Children's films and documentaries to feature films and classics. Selection of films will be based on the results of a film survey distributed to all libraries earlier this year. In this way, the film library will be representative of the desires of libraries throughout the State.

Should additional Federal funds become available, the Commission will aid in the purchase of projectors for each region. This will correspond to the needs of many libraries in the State.

The film library is expected to begin operation when the Commission assumes its new headquarters in the

Science and Cultural Center in the spring.

Libraries interested in previewing films should contact the Commission.

Go "Van Gogh"

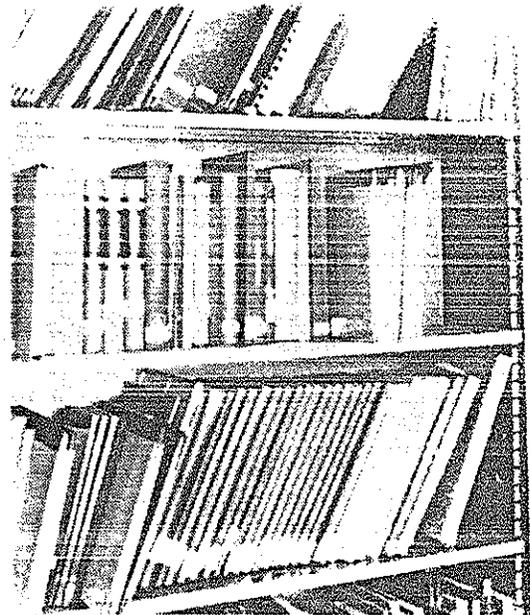
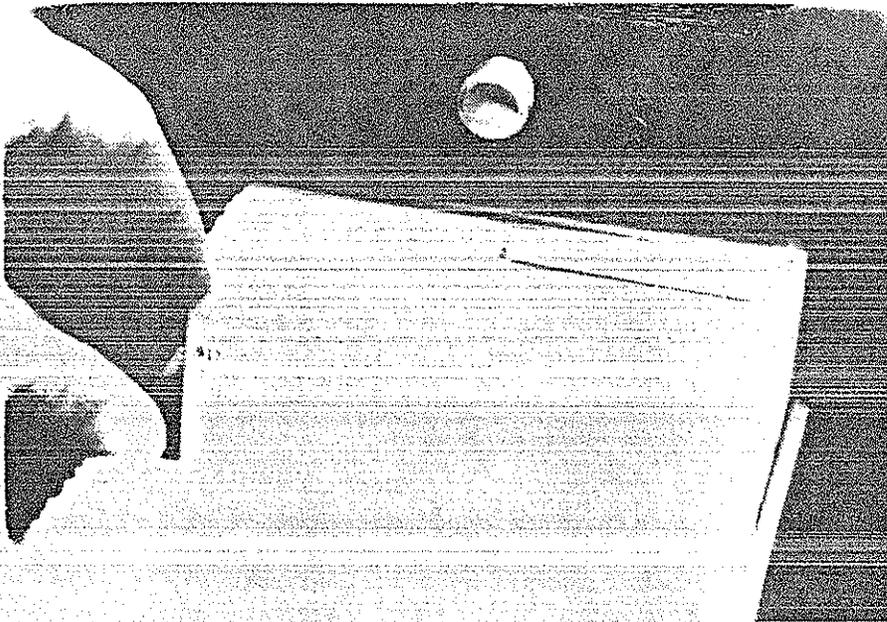
Someone innocently suggested that it might be nice if the words "West Virginia Library Commission" were lettered on each side of the Agency's new delivery truck, and at that moment, the destiny of the spartan, dependable van became star-crossed.

It wasn't that the sturdy bright orange truck lacked the pizzazz to do the job. It was just fine, as bright orange trucks go—and it went—which was all that was really necessary.

However, the new vehicle became the topic of a brainstorming session when it was realized that it had the unique capacity of being an advertisement on wheels. Not only would it roll around the streets delivering mail, books, and supplies, it would also be painted into a series of permanent promotional messages about libraries, which it would deliver to anyone adept at reading trucks.

A simple little paint job was given the brush in favor of a big and ferocious idea—ferocious, because the graphics included a gigantic dog on the rear side, extending an invitation to "Bark If You Love Libraries".

Drivers of the recently decorated truck report that it receives much attention and has become quite an attraction around town. However, like all moving vehicles, it tolerates a typical problem, but with a new twist—it gets chased and barked at by the neighborhood humans!



WVLC NEWSLETTER

Subject Requests Reflect the Times

from Ray Brack

West Virginia preferences in reading material may be telling us a lot about the times.

During recent months, subject requests processed by the Commission's Interlibrary Loan staff have fallen into three dominant categories, all relative to current American concerns. Most-requested are materials dealing with do-it-yourself projects. (Folks are falling back on their own skills in a time of inflationary stress.) Second-most-demanded are books about local West Virginia history. (Bicentennial consciousness, apparently.) Running

third in demand are materials that might be characterized as escapist. (This phenomenon is often linked to economic uncertainty.)

Library patrons are looking for do-it-yourself information on quilting, automobile sandblasting and painting, house design and blueprinting, methane generation for home heating, color TV servicing, beef cattle production, organ instruction, repair of potbellied stoves and gas refrigerators, utilization of sewage plant sludge and—as the patron put it—“setting up a cocktail lounge in a small town.”

The Commission staff even handled a request for facts on do-it-yourself divorce.

Amid their problems, West Virginians remain heritage conscious, however.

Interlibrary loan is handling scores of requests for county histories (Monongalia, Pendleton, Randolph, Fayette, and Preston are among the more popular), information on the surnames of West Virginia pioneers and all known facts about John Brown, among miscellaneous topics.

Most intriguing are some of the escapist topics currently of interest to researchers on the State. Patrons want to know about the Eckankar sect, swamp boats, astral projection, travel in Thailand, “Trike” (3-wheeled motorcycle) building, transcendental meditation, and making pets of insects—to cite the more exotic.

Just how hard are times?

Well, it must be reported that one library patron requested all available information about straight razors.

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Fellowship at Marshall May 19-30

One hundred and two students enrolled in the Library Skills Institute, co-sponsored by the Library Commission and the Media Center of Marshall University. Several students opined that, grueling as it was, they had a "sense of solidarity" with their fellow librarians as a result of their two week experience.

Marshall's President, Robert Hayes, astonished the students with his knowledge of small towns in West Virginia. He proved that he was really concerned with their library training by offering course credit at \$15.00 for three hours. The bargain rate motivated forty-eight of the attendees to take the course for credit (twenty-four in Reference Services and twenty-four in Cataloging). One of these wisecracked, "It's been the longest, shortest, easiest, hardest way to earn three credits!"

A pithy remark of President Hayes, "Things don't just happen. People make them happen."

The course differed from the previous year's format in offering forty hours in one of two electives—Reference Services or Cataloging. Mrs. Eleanor Terry and Mrs. Virginia Theis were the respective instructors who bore the brunt of the lecturing. Our hats are off to them—for we had no reports of boredom in four hours morning sessions.

Dean Donald Foos, of Louisiana State's Library School, was the keynote speaker and observer during the first two days of the Institute. He hammered away at the importance of Service to the patron as the only reason for the existence of libraries and the value of active programs with

Outreach effort to warrant the existence of public libraries. Recalling his experience with regional libraries in Kentucky, one center purchased and circulated 350 Study Kits for the General Equivalency Tests for High School Diplomas.

According to Foos, public libraries should be concerned with the following areas: research, recreation, aesthetics, adult basic education, assisting minorities, occasional bibliographic service, and guiding aging adults to second careers.

Other special faculty participating in the Skills Workshop included working librarians: Sue Alexander, Barboursville; Laeuna Erwin, Hurricane; Charlotte Murphy, Mannington; Robert Willits, St. Albans; Anne Stottlemeyer, Commission on The Aging; and Shirley Mills, Moundsville.

Role Playing was used to relieve some of the afternoon doldrums, but the consensus in evaluation sheets was this time could have been used to greater advantage in the college library. Next year, we'll try to remedy this situation.

The management of the Institute is indebted to Dr. Walter Felty for his attractive, timely bulletins. We are flattered by the attention and participation of visitors from other states. Mrs. Catherine Armitage attended the full two weeks as an observer from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. The Virginia State Library sponsored twelve students in the Institute, and the Ohio State Library, five. Many of these were returnees from the first year's course.

Dr. Kenneth Slack, Librarian at Marshall, and his staff, gave to the program their usual reliable boost. Thanks, Ken, we'll probably be back—panting for more.

Distinguished Citizens

Recent deaths which left gaps in the ranks of the laymen who served public libraries are *Mrs. Mary Murtha* and *Ray Thomas*. Mrs. Murtha served for twenty years as treasurer of the Paden City Library Board. Ray Thomas served on the Advisory Board for the West Virginia Library Commission's federal programs. But Ray didn't stop with advising. He was an activist who, experiencing the handicap of blindness, gained such proficiency in braille that the Library Commission relied on him for transcription of most of its braille correspondence.

S-O-S from the Huntington Galleries

Mr. William E. Sargent, of the Huntington Galleries, is asking all libraries—public or college—to survey their respective communities to find the location of valuable paintings. For example, Martinsburg Public has "Christmas at Mt. Vernon" by N. C. Wyeth, but there may be private art collectors who have valuable collections.

This Bicentennial Inventory is being conducted for the Smithsonian Institute. The following information is needed: who owns the painting, where is it normally located, name of the artist and title of the painting, the media (whether oil, watercolor, fresco), the dimensions.

We can supply an official copy of the Painting Report Form if your staff or a Friends of the Library would like to pursue the Inventory as a local project.

West Virginia Library Commission
2004 Quarrier Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25311

Transition

New Martinsville suffered a dual loss with the retirement of *Mrs. Theo Kiger* who has managed the library for 27 years. The Assistant Librarian, *Mrs. Daisy Sliter*, preceded her in retirement by a few months. Mrs. Sliter was a twenty-five year veteran who had pioneered with the Wetzel County bookmobile. The board rallied around with a fine party honoring both ladies.

Martinsburg has been superbly directed in the last eleven years by *Mrs. Anna Shewbridge*. Anna rounds off thirty-one years in library service since she had spent twenty years at Harpers Ferry High School prior to entering the public field.

Mrs. Peggy Young Batten will succeed Mrs. Shewbridge. Mrs. Batten has had several year's experience in college libraries at Marietta and Pittsburgh, where she earned her Master's Degree.

Clarence Collindatter moves to the college field to substitute for *David Gillespie* while he is on leave of absence from Glenville State College Library.

New librarians in the children's field, *Marilyn Long* at St. Albans Branch enters the program from the University of Pittsburgh and *Sue Williams* is Children's Assistant at the main Kanawha County Library, entering the program from Peabody College. At Shepherdstown, they are welcoming *Mrs. Sandra Moreland* as a new first-time Children's Assistant.

Frank Ontko, who recently completed training at University of Pittsburgh in Library Science, will move from his Kanawha County Library post to head the Stonewall Jackson Regional Library. *Kenneth Lawrence*, who hails from Michigan with a degree in Library Science, takes over the reins at Boone-Madison Public Library

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