

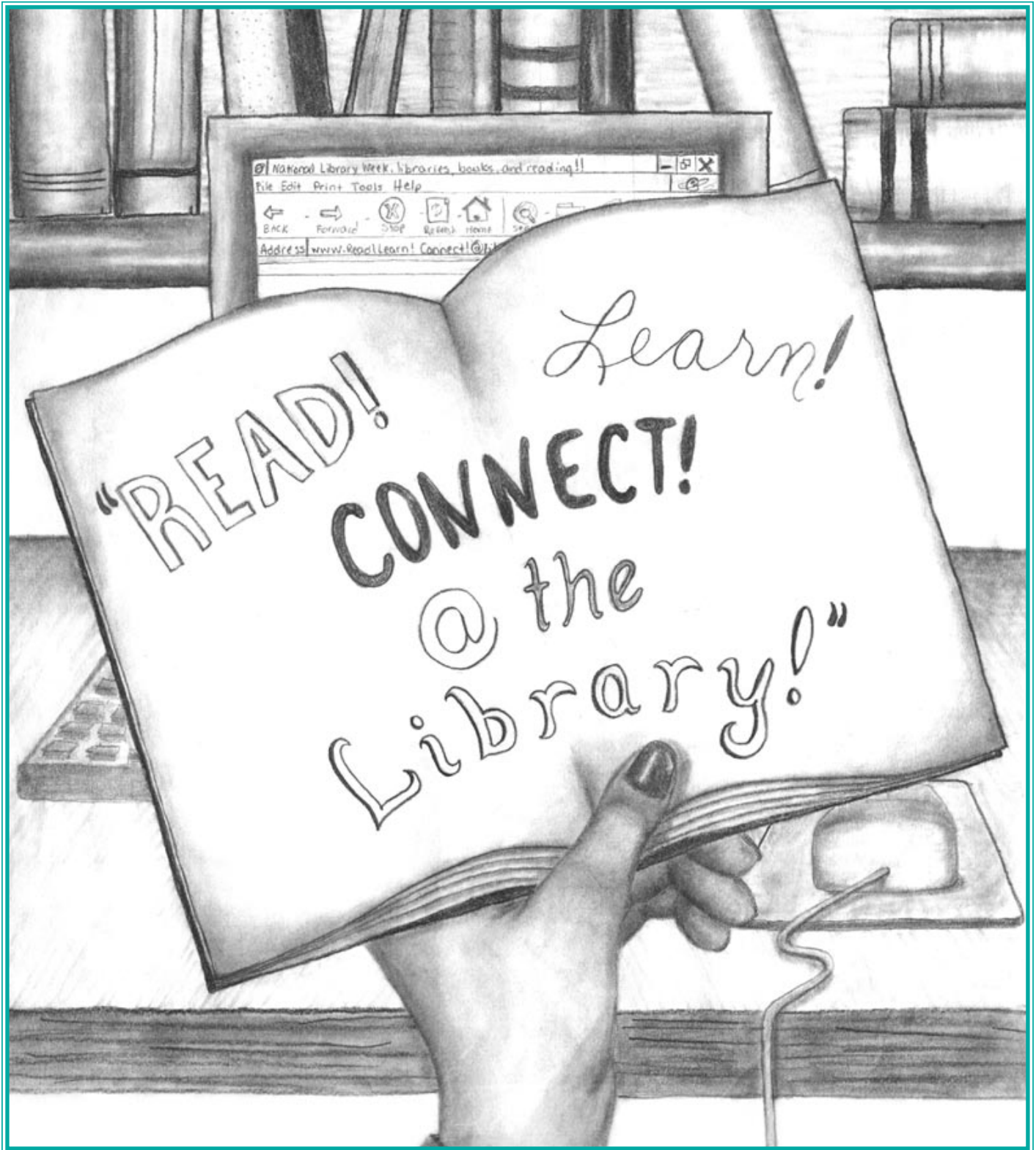


COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
STATE LIBRARY
AND ADULT
EDUCATION OFFICE

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Centennial

S T A T E L I B R A R I E S



"See story on page 6"

It's happening ...

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY AND ADULT EDUCATION OFFICE

Librarians: Intellectual Freedom Champions

by Nancy Bolt, <nbolt@csn.net>



I always have a slight crisis of identity when I'm asked to put my profession down on a form of some sort. I have a master's in library science, but the truth is that I haven't actually faced a library user across a reference desk since... well, let's just say a lot of years. So I wonder if I still have the right. Sometimes I put manager or director or department head. Sometimes, if I'm feeling cynical, I even put bureaucrat.

But most of the time I do put librarian because I'm so proud of the profession I joined so many years ago. Most people who use libraries never realize what principles underlie all the services they get. Ours is an honorable and courageous profession. Most of the time libraries perk along, checking out books, answering reference questions, doing story hours, teaching people how to use computers and then--BAM!-- there's a challenge that forces us to defend the people's right to get with shocking examples of some child looking up foxes for a report and getting foxy ladies. But they rarely expound on the courage of the librarians in defending the right of people to information.

This is the 30th year of the Office of Intellectual Freedom at the American Library Association (ALA). To celebrate, OIF has published a Roll of Honor. From the frontispiece:

We are honoring intellectual freedom champions with our Roll of Honor and celebrating the commitment of thousands of librarians, trusted, and decision makers who have made the First Amendment a living document in our libraries and throughout the nation.

Colorado had the opportunity to nominate people for this Roll of Honor. Five were selected for inclusion.

Julie J. Boucher

During her six-year tenure with the Colorado State Library and the Colorado Department of Education, she was responsible for annual surveys and statistical publications for public and academic libraries. She epitomized the efforts of one person make a difference in the fight to defend intellectual freedom and the freedom to read. A passionate and outspoken opponent of censorship, she also served on the Colorado Library Association (CLA) Board and chaired its Intellectual Freedom Committee in 1995. Her commitment to intellectual freedom is evidenced by this: Colorado is the only state to collect and report data every year on challenges to public libraries as part of its annual public library report. CLA and its Intellectual Freedom Committee renamed their annual Intellectual Freedom Award the Julie J. Boucher Memorial Award for Intellectual Freedom and established the Julie J. Boucher Memorial Fund for Intellectual Freedom to honor her and her work in this field.

Nancy Knepel

Nancy developed and wrote parts of the first Colorado Intellectual Freedom Manual and conducted training workshops around the state on the manual and on how to respond to an intellectual freedom challenge. She continues to present workshops on young adult literature, including controversial topics loved by teens, but troubling to parents and teachers.

William Knott

In 1981, he refused to release the patron records of John Hinkley, attempted assassin of President Ronald Reagan, without a court order. His actions resulted in legislation in Colorado to protect library users from the release of any information about the way they use the library.

It's happening ...

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY AND ADULT EDUCATION OFFICE

(Continued from page 2)

Jamie LaRue

This Colorado author of *Intellectual Freedom and Filters: The Role of the Internet in Public Libraries* also writes a weekly column for his local newspaper and often addresses intellectual freedom issues in a way that helps the reader understand not just what the library's policy is, but why that policy was implemented.

William A. Murray

Bill is a tireless advocate for selection policies and complaint procedures in school library media centers. He is a champion supporting school media specialists when their collections are challenged.

We honor these five and all other Colorado librarians who have developed policies to fairly consider challenged books; who have withstood challenges and defended the right of people to read what they want; who have educated others on principles of freedom of information; and who have suffered and been attacked for the positions they took.

CEH Announces Teacher Institutes

Colorado Endowment for the Humanities (CEH) announced it will offer two teacher institutes in June. *Lewis and Clark: The Journey and Its Legacy* will be offered in Gunnison June 14-18; *Work and Culture in the Southern Colorado Coal Field, 1860-1960*, will be held June 22-26, tentatively in Trinidad.

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark made their 8,000-mile wilderness expedition across the West 196 years ago. Their dramatic discoveries and encounters will be the topic of the summer teacher institute. This year's program is supported by Western State College in Gunnison.

For an entire week, K-12 teachers will have the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of the voyage of discovery coordinated by President Thomas Jefferson in 1803. A new theme will be

addressed each day of the institute, including: Envisioning the West, The Way West, Cultural Encounters, The Hard Homecoming, and The Aftermath and Legacy of Lewis and Clark. Dr. Clay S. Jenkinson will lead the institute, and there will also be major contributions from other nationally known scholars.

One participant from last year's institute, a high school teacher with 27 years of experience, said, "From start to finish, the entire seminar was an eye-opener. I particularly liked the integration of the Lewis and Clark expedition with the greater background of United States history."

Events in the southern coal field (which runs between Trinidad and Walsenburg), from 1860 to 1960, were of national importance in changing the face of American industry. Yet, this history remains "hidden" on national and regional levels, overshadowed by histories emphasizing the history with the following themes: Beyond the Santa Fe Trail: The Cultural History of Southern Colorado; immigration and work in Southern Colorado; the Ecology and archaeology of Industrial Relations in the Southern Coal Field; The Coal Field War in Literature, Theater, and Music; and Work and Remembrance: The Legacy of Southern Coal Field History.

Anthropology scholar Dr. Dean Saitta of the University of Denver will lead the week-long institute. Dr. Saitta is currently researching the Colorado Coal Field Strike of 1913-1914. Over the past two years he and a multi-institutional team of archaeologists have been excavating company coal camps and striker tent colonies associated with this event. The five-day institute will culminate with a memorial service at Ludlow.

Registration to cover the cost of materials is \$150 per institute. For more information, contact Ashley Kasprzak of CEH at 303/573-7733 or e-mail <akasprzak@ceh.org>. Visit the CEH Web site at <<http://www.ceh.org>>.



By Bob Cooper

The Health and Medicine Web Site on ACLIN was named one of the Top 100 Colorado Web sites in an article in the *Denver Rocky Mountain News*, and the Health and Medicine site was featured in the article. In addition, *Westword* named the site as the "Best Tell-A-Medicine Site" in Colorado. Both articles are posted on ACLIN.

The Health and Medicine site's goal is to provide health information for the people of Colorado, and emphasizes local and state resources. The University of Colorado Health Sciences Center's Denson Memorial Library is the supporting organization of the site and it is maintained by volunteers interested in health issues from libraries throughout the state.

To find the Health and Medicine site, go to <<http://www.aclin.org>>, click on Information Resources, then click on Health and Medicine. Or you can access the site directly at <<http://health.aclin.org>>.

There are eleven main links on the Health and Medicine Web site: **Healthy Lifestyles; Diseases and Conditions; Mental Health; Support Groups; Medicines, Drugs, and Lab Tests; Alternative Therapies; Patient's Rights; Hospitals and Clinics; Health Plans and Providers; General Consumer Health Web Resources; and Colorado Consumer Health Libraries and Community Networks.**

The **Healthy Lifestyles** link concentrates on fitness and nutrition sites, including a link to the Mayo Clinic, which has many useful health tips. The **Diseases and Conditions** area has many support organizations organized by type of ailment, and has a General Reference link, which links to *The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy*. **Mental Health** lists local and national agencies and support groups dealing with mental health,

such as the Colorado Department of Human Services Mental Health Services.

Support Groups has a variety of local and national support groups linked to it, and has a link to self help Web sites such as Self-Improvement Online. The **Medicines, Drugs, and Lab Tests** links points to a number of pharmaceutical and lab information sites, including Food and Drug Interactions. A diverse group of holistic Web Sites are listed in the **Alternative Therapies** link. The **Patient's Rights** area has a link to the Hemlock Society and other patient's rights sites, and **Hospitals and Clinics** lists the Web sites of Colorado medical centers and links the American Hospital Directory, which provides online information on hospitals throughout the United States.

The **Health Plan and Providers** site has information links that offer information on choosing a doctor or health plan. From the **General Consumer Health Web Resources** page there are links to Colorado Health Net and Medline--PubMed. Colorado Health Net has many health statistics and facts available on a variety of health issues. It has a searchable database and information support groups in Colorado. Medline--PubMed is a searchable medical publications database with more than 9-million citations. The **Colorado Consumer Health Libraries and Community Networks** features health libraries and community networks, with links to Web sites when available.

Bob Cooper works at The Answer Place at the Boulder Public Library and as a library technician at the Lafayette Public Library. He writes a newsletter for staff at the Boulder Public Library about updates and changes on ACLIN, and agreed to share that information with Centennial State Library readers. Cooper is pursuing his MLS at the University of Denver

CLC Update

As of January 31, 1999

New Members

- Grace Best Elementary School, Monument
Joan Steininger; 719/488-4770
- Irish Elementary School, Fort Collins
Leslie Arnold; 970/484-8300
- Limon Schools-Limon Elementary & Limon
Jr/Sr High School
Dr. Frank Lucero; 719/775-2350
- Moffat County High School, Craig
Thomas R. Beachman; 970/824-7036
- North Park Jr/Sr High School, Walden
James A. Miller; 970/723-4391
- Plateau Valley Schools, Collbran
Judy Schowalter; 970/487-3547
- Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood
Larry Rouch; 303/914-6742
- Shanner Elementary School, Holly
Marn Massar; 719/537-6662

Corrections to directory:

Cherry Creek SD, Rolling Hills Elementary
correct contact person Pauola Betzold

Lamar SD, Lincoln Elementary, correct con-
tact person Vickie Abita

Library News

Mesa County Public Library District, Grand Junction, is one of forty libraries to have been selected nationwide to participate in the National Connections reading and discussion series for adult new readers offered in partnership by the Vermont Council on the Humanities and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. A coalition consisting of representatives from each library, the state humanities council, a local literacy organization and a scholar will attend a training workshop in February in Illinois. Participating libraries receive multiple copies of the texts for two National Connections series, discussion guides for scholars, and \$900 to reimburse scholars. National Connections uses children's literature to offer adult literacy students an opportunity to gather with their peers to discuss timeless themes and to make connections, sometimes for the first time, between books and their own lives.

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Colorado's National Library Week Poster Contest winners Announced

A poster of an open book near a computer monitor is the grand prize winner in the Colorado State Library poster contest. This year the theme was the same as that of National Library Week: **Read! Learn! Connect! @ the Library!**

Student artist Leslie Trujillo, an 11th grader at Lamar High School (Lamar), will be awarded a gift certificate for books. Her sponsor, Dorothy Cowgill, Library Media Specialist at Lamar High School, will be awarded a gift certificate for books for the school library. Trujillo also created last year's grand prize winning poster.

The poster will be used to publicize this year's National Library Week in libraries and schools throughout Colorado and again in the fall for the Rocky Nountain Book Festival.

Additional student artists will be honored with ribbons and certificates as first-, second-, third-, and fourth-prize winners in four age categories. (Their names are listed in the side bar.) The awards will be presented at a ceremony at the Governor's Executive Residence in April during National Library Week. Each of the 1,100 students who submitted posters to the contest will receive a ribbon and a letter of thanks for participating.

The contest is sponsored by the Colorado State Library, in cooperation with the Colorado Library Association (CLA) Youth & Educational Services Division, the Colorado Educational Media Association (CEMA), and Colorado Center for the Book. The contest is an annual event, previously in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Children's Bool Festival. Information on next year's contest will be sent in a State Library monthly mailing this summer.



Poster Contest Winners

Grand

- ◆ Leslie Trujillo
Lamar High School, Lamar, CO
Dorothy Cowgill, Sponsor
Lamar High School Library, Lamar, CO

Grades 9-12

- ◆ 1st, Donovan Beeson,
Doherty High School, Colorado Springs
- ◆ 2nd, Alexa Nielsen
Thompson Valley High School, Loveland
- ◆ 3rd, Joe Lowe
Thompson Valley High School, Loveland
- ◆ 4th, Amy Ash
Thompson Valley High School, Loveland

Grades 6-8

- ◆ 1st, Jessica White
Glenn A. Jones Memorial Library, Johnstown
- ◆ 2nd, Mackenzie Gibson
Gibson Homeschool, Parachute

- ◆ 3rd, Jomas Gibson
Gibson Homeschool, Parachute
- ◆ 4th, Jessica Price
Erwin Middle School, Loveland

Grades 3-5

- ◆ 1st, Malia Cable
Platte Valley Elementary, Kersey
- ◆ 2nd, Sarah Polican
Faith Christian Academy, Arvada
- ◆ 3rd, Kristina Swansom
Namaqua Elementary School, Loveland
- ◆ 4th, Daniel Sanders-Sharon
Namaqua Elementary School, Loveland

Grades K-2

- ◆ Samantha Pues
Bennett Elementary School, Loveland
- ◆ Rachel Thompson
North Elementary, Security
- ◆ 3rd, Hazel Gibson
Gibson Homeschool, Parachute

Master Librarians Needed

by Ray Peterson, <peterson_r@cde.state.co.us>

The CCLD (Colorado Council for Library Development) Minority Mentoring Program is again underway. The Colorado State Library, in cooperation with the CCLD Library Services to Ethnic Minority Populations Committee, is seeking experienced librarians to be mentors to minority persons who would like to be librarians or minority librarians who are new to the field and would like to be paired with an experienced librarian.

Mentoring gives seasoned librarians, non-minority or minority, the opportunity, as mentors, to share their knowledge, in-sight, and experience. Those new to the field of librarianship can benefit, as protégés, from the guidance and wisdom of veteran colleagues. Past mentors and protégés have indicated that this is a very positive experience.

The objective is to have protégés from four ethnic minority populations: African Americans, Asian

Americans, Hispanics, and Native Americans. The concept is that mentors act as sort of a big sister/big brother to their protégés. They will encourage, counsel as they can, support their protégés where appropriate; invite her or him to professional meetings, conferences and workshops, when possible; and, in general, just be there to help smooth over the rough spots in the protégés pursuit of his or her dream of being a librarian.

Seriously consider involvement in this mutually beneficial program. It is a great opportunity for master librarians to add to the diversity of librarianship in our state, and it is a great source of support to those who have found a few bumps in the road to success.

Questions about the program or requests for an application may be directed to Ray Peterson, <peterson_r@cde.state.co.us>, 303/866-6651 (voice), 303/866-6940 (fax). More information, including downloadable application forms, will be ready soon.

Notes to Note

The **30th Annual Colorado Interlibrary Loan Conference** will be held at the Tivoli Conference Center, Auraria Higher Education Center in Denver, May 13-14, 1999. Navigation Interlibrary Loan: a Compass for the Future is the conference theme. A pre-conference workshop, place on May 12. The pre-conference will address the basics of ILL and copyright. Registration is \$55 (\$60 if postmarked after April 15). The pre-conference is an additional \$10. For more information and registration details, contact Susann Powers at 303/236-1015, Chuck Huey at 303/430 2400x2309, or Franca Rosen at 303/275-2223.

Cowboys, ranches, and lawmen fought and killed over water and fishing rights, cattle rustling, county politics, ownership of grasslands, and enforcement of the law during the late 1800s and early 1900s in Western Colorado. You can read 22 true tales in the now back in print *Sunset Slope* by Wilson Rockwell. Order your copies from Western Reflections, PO Box 710, 616 Main St., Ouray, CO 81427; 970/325-4494 or 800/993-4490; e-mail <westref@ouraycolorado.net>. Price is \$16.95 (ISBN 1-890437-25-5)

In 1998, some 478 **challenges to library materials in public libraries, schools and school libraries** were reported to the American Library Association (ALA). A challenge is defined as a formal, written complaint filed with the library or school regarding the presence

and/or appropriateness of specific material. The number of complaints about specific books is down from a high of 762 in 1995. The number reflects only incidents reported to the ALA'S Office for Intellectual Freedom. The "most challenged" fiction book in 1998 was *The chocolate War* by Robert Cormier. The book, written for teens, is a fictionalized account of a boy's trials and triumphs at boarding school. Published in 1974, it has been challenged for being sexually explicit, offensive, and inappropriate for teenagers.

The fifth annual **National TV-Turnoff Week**, coordinated by TV-Free America, will take place April 22-28. The week is the only nationwide effort that focuses attention on the excessive quantity of television that most Americans watch. Since the first National TV-Turnoff Week in 1995, more than 12 million people around the country and abroad have taken part. National TV-Turnoff week is the perfect opportunity for families to visit the library. An Organizer's Kit can be purchased for \$10. The kit includes a guidebook, posters, bumper stickers, pledge cards, substitute activities, articles, essays and much more. To learn how to organize a TV-Turnoff or to purchase a kit, contact: TV-Free America, 1611 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 3A, Washington, DC 20009; phone 202/887-0436; fax 202/887-5560; email <tvfa@essential.org.>. Visit the Web site at <<http://www.tvfa.org>>.

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STATE LIBRARIES

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