Experience Harrisburg, Our State Capital, During the 2018 Conference!

BY KIM SNYDER-WISE

This October, librarians from across the state will gather in our state capital for the annual Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) Conference to learn, network, and share ideas. With the conference location in the state capital, the conference will include a special, legislative focus too.

Harrisburg isn’t just about state government and politics, though — there are a wealth of museums, breweries, wineries, and restaurants to explore. Oh, and don’t forget about the State Library! Here is some information about some planned activities to enable you to explore Harrisburg, but feel free to stop at the Local Information Desk for sites like the Civil War Museum, Susquehanna Arts Center, or the Whitaker Center that you may wish to visit on your own.

As conference tradition holds, our Chapter Dine Outs will take place on Sunday evening. Harrisburg is a foodie haven with an abundance of tasty stops at the Hilton itself, on “Restaurant Row,” and across the river on the “West Shore.” Our Local Information Committee is working with our chapter leaders to arrange dining options for you and your chapter colleagues. After dinner, test your trivia knowledge at our Trivia Competition back at the hotel. Dining and transportation expenses are on your own. Many venues can be easily reached on foot or by carpooling.

On Monday evening, stay in for our Performers’ Showcase to experience 10-minute snippets of entertainment from a variety of library performers who could assist with your library programming needs. Or join in on the conversation at the Rural & Small Libraries Round Table Dinner Discussion as we gather over dinner at a local restaurant to discuss hot topics for rural or small libraries.

Another Monday evening option is to hop on the bus bound to nearby Hershey and a visit to Tröegs Independent Brewery for tastings and self-guided tours. Founded in 1996 by brothers John and Chris Trogner, Tröegs is driven by a sense of adventure and curiosity, both of which are explored through their Scratch Beer Series which allows them to delve into the creative process by focusing on small batch brews which serve as a launching point for new beers. Their year-round flagship brews include hoppy ales and intriguing lagers as well as wheat beers and Belgian-style ales. Do a tasting and find your favorite! A snack bar offers food as original and flavorful as the beer. The tour fee includes transportation; tastings and food purchases are on your own.

The State Library resides in the neoclassic Forum Building just a few blocks from the Hilton. Plan to join your colleagues Tuesday evening for networking and tours of the rare collections, maker space, and the new law library. Light hors d’oeuvres and beverages will be served. This is a ticketed event that is expected to sell out, so avoid disappointment by registering early.

Following the reception at the State Library, the Teaching, Learning & Technology Round Table will host a Dinner Discussion on Wattpad and other online storytelling platforms at a local restaurant. After dinner, there will be a brief presentation and a discussion on these storytelling platforms which are changing the way young people read, write, and share literature. Learn how they can be integrated into your library programming.

Tuesday evening also offers the opportunity for you to explore nearby Midtown, one of Harrisburg’s trending

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One of the best perks of being president of the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) is being able to attend many of the chapter and division workshops which provide me with opportunities to get to know many more of our members as well as hear the many inspiring stories of the great work being done in Pennsylvania libraries.

The Pennsylvania Library Association provides you with many opportunities for professional development and networking. This is a great combination and creates a great dynamic as we continue to grow and develop. It also allows us to learn from others and realize that we are not alone in the many challenges we face in our libraries and in our own professional careers. Being a core hub of our communities, libraries continuously meet new challenges — the opioid crisis, suicide prevention, affordable textbooks, and privacy issues — while still carrying on the work we love — reading programs, developing our collections ... literacy, and engagement with our communities.

One of my favorite professional development opportunities through our association is the PaLA Academy of Leadership Studies (PALS). Thanks in large part to the fine leadership of Mary Garm, we started this program with our first session in 2009. The program began as a leadership workshop for new librarians. With this being our 10th year, it has grown into three programs:

- Choosing Leadership (a one-day workshop for anyone working in libraries)
- Leadership Academy (a three-day program to develop leadership potential in librarians)
- Directors’ Institute (a three-day program for directors/managers to enhance their leadership skills)

Over 300 participants have been involved in the PALS program since its inception, from committee members planning the programs, to the librarians and staff who participate in the workshops, and to the mentors who provide guidance to the speakers who share their wisdom. Not only do we develop the leadership talent within our organization, but we have also benefited from the work these participants do. In particular, PALS has group projects that the members work on for about a year following their workshop. While this column isn’t long enough to highlight all the good projects that have been developed or enhanced because of PALS, here is a short list of ones that you can take advantage of directly:

- PaLA Speakers Bureau
- Mentorship Program
- PaLaunchPod

If you haven’t had an opportunity to take part in any of the PALS programs, fear not; the workshops will be offered again in 2019. Keep an eye out for announcements early in the year.

While the PALS program is over for this year, there are still professional development opportunities ahead. Our annual conference will be here before you know it. This year, the 2018 Conference and Expo will be in Harrisburg at the Harrisburg Hilton, October 14–17. Registration opened in July. I hope to see many of you there!

“Being a core hub of our communities, libraries continuously meet new challenges — the opioid crisis, suicide prevention, affordable textbooks, and privacy issues — while still carrying on the work we love — reading programs, developing our collections ... literacy, and engagement with our communities.”

Tina Hertel is the president of PaLA and director of Trexler Library at Muhlenberg College. She is currently reading The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas and Servant Leadership for Higher Education by Daniel Wheeler, and she is listening to Swing Time written by Zadie Smith and narrated by Pippa Bennett-Warner.
Updates From Your Executive Director

BY CHRISTI BUKER

While Bulletin articles are often focused on a specific activity or theme, there are many things happening right now. I’m going to take this opportunity to update you on various activities, especially as they relate to our strategic priorities which can be found on the website.

Communications: With assistance from the PR & Marketing Committee and approval by the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) Board of Directors, a slight modification was made to the PaLA logo. By turning our acronym vertical, you are less inclined to read “PaLA” and hopefully people will be more drawn to our full name including the word “library” to help with awareness. From a budgeting standpoint, we will be phasing in the new logo over the coming months. The new logo will also become a part of the annual conference logo and will contribute to more consistent branding and recognition from year to year.

Awareness: Brandi Hunter-Davenport and I had an article published in the April 2018 Borough News Magazine titled “The Changing Roles of Libraries.” This magazine is distributed to elected borough officials throughout Pennsylvania, and this allowed us to showcase some of the ways that libraries uplift their communities to these important partners. If you have boroughs in your service area, perhaps you want to ask if they saw the article. It was very gratifying to have this outside platform for the voice of libraries.

In May and June, I participated in stakeholder meetings regarding the Governor’s “PAsmart” initiative focused on workforce development. While it is unclear if the initiative will be included in the 2018-2019 state budget, the meetings created an opportunity for me to highlight the things you already do to support workforce development, and the possibilities that exist if additional funding is available. Stay tuned to see where this goes.

Membership: There have been exciting updates to some benefits available to members. The Awards Committee revamped the institutional support staff award into the “PA Library of the Year” award. Applications for this and the array of individual awards are due August 1. Go to www.palibraries.org for full details. Updates to the MLS scholarship eligibility now include those who work in a PA library but are not residents. Pennsylvania Libraries: Research and Practice (PaLRAP) is an award-winning, online, peer-reviewed journal developed by the College & Research Division. PaLRAP has great articles, interviews, and also a “Noteworthy” section that includes updates about libraries across the state. So, if you want to get the word out, be sure to submit to www.palrap.org for its fall edition.

The Membership Committee is launching the “Membership Matters” drive on July 15 that runs until September 15. Individuals who become a member for the first time are eligible for a one-time 10% discount using the promo code “MEMBERSHIP10”. There will be live, new member orientations through our BlueJeans video conferencing platform. Keep an eye out for emails with further information and how to connect through a web browser, webcam, and computer microphone/speakers (or just a phone too).

Volunteers are vital to keeping our committees, chapters, divisions, and leadership strong. Please consider stepping up to serve in 2019 at either the local or state levels. The annual volunteer sign-up through SurveyMonkey will be out in mid-August and will run until mid-September. Volunteering is great for your own career development as well as giving back to the profession, and it is a lot of fun!

Do you need a mentor? Do you want to be a mentor? In 2016 and 2017, two different groups in the Leadership Academy by Pennsylvania Library Association Academy of Leadership Studies (PALS) developed a mentor-matching program for members. You can express your interest in participating through the volunteer sign-up and full details for registering will be available later this fall.

Financial sustainability: Libraries, as well as PaLA, do an amazing job of stretching every dollar received to get its maximum return. For PaLA,
A Vision for Open Educational Resources in Pennsylvania Academic Libraries

BY KERRY WALTON

Pennsylvania librarians gathered at Shippensburg University on May 24 for the College & Research Division (CRD) spring workshop “Open Educational Resources in Pennsylvania Academic Libraries.” The session was planned by incoming CRD Chair and Shippensburg STEM Librarian Maggie Albro as an opportunity to learn about how higher education institutions in Pennsylvania can come together to develop, promote, and adopt open educational resources (OER). Albro noted that OER is “one of the rising areas that college and research libraries are embracing to support student success.”

Keynote Address

Keynote speaker Steven Bell, associate university librarian for research and instructional services at Temple University, noted that the CRD workshop is the first in Pennsylvania dedicated to OER. Bell thinks it is important to pay attention to OER trends and note where they are going. While OER is a growing initiative in higher education, Pennsylvania has some catching up to do in comparison to other states that have developed initiatives to provide affordable course content and educational resources.

Bell spoke about four major trends in OER: progress and challenges in the OER landscape, statewide initiatives, state legislative trends, and 10 ways libraries can advance OER together. In 2018, the United States Congress approved $5 million in funding for the Open Textbook grant program which will help state programs including Affordable Learning Louisiana, Virtual Library of Virginia, OpenOregon, and Affordable Learning Ohio. Bell also noted that Texas, Colorado, Virginia, and New York have passed bills supporting OER development as well as the appropriation of funds for OER in higher education. The work of library leaders and legislators in these states can serve as a model for the sustainable funding of OER in Pennsylvania. In his conclusion, Bell highlighted the most important ways libraries can work together to advance OER, including building awareness and support, developing training, through legislative efforts, and appropriation of funding.

OER Panel Discussion

The panel discussion focused on what Pennsylvania academic libraries are doing to promote and adopt OER at their institutions. Jacqueline Burger, learning liaison librarian at Bucks County Community College; Aaron Dobbs, scholarly communications and eResources librarian at Shippensburg University; and Dan Stafford, librarian at Kutztown...
University, highlighted the common barriers OER liaisons face and how to overcome them to increase the adoption and use of OER. BCCC and Shippensburg use grant-funded programs to encourage OER use among campus faculty. Stafford reported that Kutztown University is working on a university-wide strategic initiative to increase OER implementation.

From Liberal Arts College to R1 University: Supporting OER in Different Institutional Contexts

Christopher Barnes, Gettysburg College scholarly Communications librarian, and Amanda Larson, Penn State University open education librarian, are both graduates of the SPARC Open Education Leadership Program, and they emphasized their efforts in course creation and adoption of current OER materials. Barnes has put his focus into assisting faculty with authoring OER and utilizing the Cupola, a Gettysburg College digital repository for publications and creative works by faculty, students, and other members of the college community. Larson advised librarians to target course revision cycles to find a prime opportunity to introduce OER to faculty and recommended looking beyond course textbooks and embedding OER course content as a whole.

Affordable Learning Pennsylvania: Going Further Together for Textbook Affordability

Steven Bell was joined by Catherine C. Wilt, executive director of Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc. (PALCI), and Charlotte M. Droll, director of library services at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, to outline partnerships and goals for an affordable learning initiative in Pennsylvania. This includes LSTA grant funding, membership in PALCI’s Open Textbook Network, and eventual K-12 and higher education partnerships. As part of the initiative, selected OER specialists will attend a week-long training this summer and will then work closely with stakeholders at Pennsylvania higher education institutions to promote and adopt OER. Additionally, campus partners at participating institutions will assist in leading similar efforts at their institutions.

#MvilleOpensUp: Virtual Mini Conference During OER Week

The afternoon ended with an engaging panel of faculty from Millersville University featuring Education Librarian Dr. Stephanie Pennucci; English and Digital Media Professor Dr. A. Nicole Pfannenstiel; and Biology, Botany, and Population and Community Ecology Professor Dr. Christopher Stieha. In March 2018, they hosted seven live 30-minute webinars that drew international audiences due to advertising on the official OER Week website. The presentations included “Finding and Adopting OER,” “Reading with OER Digital Materials,” and “Creative Commons Licensing and Copyright.” Pfannenstiel highlighted the need for student OER literacy. She found that students need to be taught information literacy skills including digital, media, and civic literacies in order to read, understand, and use OER materials. For similar successful events, the panel suggested libraries plan the recording in advance, have a script and a moderator, and spend time with software and roles prior to the session.

Going Forward

While many states are creating legislation to recognize and promote adoption of affordable learning materials, Pennsylvania must catch up to other states that are leading the way. ‘...One of the most important keys to OER sustainability is academic libraries working collaboratively to find the best path for faculty and students to take advantage of OER.’”

While many states are creating legislation to recognize and promote adoption of affordable learning materials, Pennsylvania must catch up to other states that are leading the way. Bell, in his keynote address, said he believes that one of the most important keys to OER sustainability is academic libraries working collaboratively to find the best path for faculty and students to take advantage of OER.

“I hope that those who attended the workshop took away a sense of excitement about the huge role they can play in advocating for OER at their institutions,” said Albro.

Kerry Walton is the electronic resources librarian at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, and she is a member-at-large on the CRD Board. She is current reading The Women in the Castle by Jessica Shattuck.
Experience Harrisburg, Our State Capital, during the 2018 Conference!

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eighborhoods. The tour fee includes round-trip shuttle service from the hotel or the State Library to Midtown for participants to visit:

• **The Kitchen & Gallery Bar at the Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center**
  where they serve up southern inspired takes on familiar dishes. The Gallery Bar is furnished and decorated with a number of unique reclaimed materials and offers regularly rotating shows of both local and regional artists.

• Another restaurant that highlights local art and reclamation of materials is **The Millworks**, located across the street from the Broad Street Market. Approximately 50% of the materials used in the restaurant were re-purposed from lumber left in the building, including tables, bar tops, and window and door assemblies.
  1920s lighting fixtures from the Broad Street Market as well as brick from an 1830s Perry County farmhouse were also reclaimed and repurposed.
  The restaurant also features a brewery and local artist studios. It’s a destination in and of itself!

• Speaking of breweries, grab a pizza from **Brother’s Pizzeria** and check out **ZeroDay Brewery**, a relaxing place to unwind and enjoy selections from their rotating specialty beers and flagship staples plus Pennsylvania wine and cider.
  Another supporter of the arts and entertainment scene, ZeroDay regularly hosts live music as well as a 16-foot gallery wall that is home to a monthly rotating gallery from local artists.

• Wrap up the evening with a visit to **The Midtown Scholar Bookstore**, where you will be entertained with a coffee house-style musician while you browse over 200,000 used, discount, and rare books in inventory.
  In fact, it has the largest collection of used books between New York and Chicago! This award-winning independent bookstore and cafe is located in a renovated 1920s movie theater. It hosts author talks and signings, art, music, and...librarians, of course!

Circling back to the legislative aspect that Harrisburg provides, a visit to Harrisburg wouldn’t be complete without a **Capitol Tour**. Following a press event on Capitol Hill, PA Forward poster displays, and legislative visits, Capitol tour guides will make this handsome building come alive as they lead 30-minute tours to point out the history, architecture, and artistic highlights of this magnificent structure. Tours are free, but pre-registration is recommended.

The availability to sign up for one or more of these activities will be included in conference registration, which opened July 20. Be sure to look for registration announcements or go to the PaLA website www.palibraries.org to register.

Kim Snyder-Wise is the meetings manager for the Pennsylvania Library Association. She is currently reading Blind Descent: Surviving Alone and Blind on Mount Everest by Brian Dickinson.
Online Resources and Support Available for Star Library Programming:
Life-jackets and life preservers are in place to help your library swim to the Gold!

SUBMITTED BY BRANDI HUNTER-DAVENPORT

PA Forward Star Library Program has been statewide for more than a year now and over 200 libraries have registered and begun working through the process of obtaining star status! Congratulations!

The Training Team realizes that working through the program may not always be completely seamless and we promise you, we didn’t create this program to hinder you, but to help you connect more with your communities. To ensure you have everything you need to work through the program, we developed a series of online webinars and help sheet documents to provide guidance as you navigate the Star Library waters.

If you visit our YouTube channel (yes, the Association has a YouTube account - become a subscriber!), you can view a series of online webinars that cover setting up your Star Library account, creating a cloud storage account, submitting literacy actions for review, and submitting for your bronze, silver, and gold stars. You can find us on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/user/PAForward.

These videos are each less than 10 minutes in length and provide step-by-step tutorials to guide you through the program. There are corresponding help sheets available for your reference as well. These sheets can be accessed at www.paforwardstarlibraries.org.

We’ve also created a checklist to help you track your progress in the program. The checklist can be accessed at http://paforwardstarlibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Action_Checklist.pdf.
I will continue to be a resource for each of your libraries. Feel free to contact me at 717-766-7663 or brandi@palibraries.org. I promise I will do all I can to help you be successful. You can also reach the PA Forward Training Team at PAFStarLibrary@gmail.com.

We also provide trainings at your location. Please send us an invite and we’ll get something scheduled. A list of available trainings can be accessed at https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.palibraries.org/resource/collection/2B8C7A31-4582-4213-AA01-9FF15C207051/Library_training_flier10.24.16.pdf.

We have put the tools in place to help you shine a spotlight on all your libraries do to move PA Forward. Let’s shine that light, brightly, together!

Brandi Hunter-Davenport is the PA Forward project manager. She recently finished listening to You Are a Badass by Jen Sincero. She is now listening to Untwine by Edwidge Danticat.

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### PA Forward Star Program

**Action Checklist**

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<th>Action</th>
<th>Site</th>
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<tr>
<td>PA Forward Bronze Star</td>
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<td>PA Forward Silver Star in Basic Literacy</td>
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<td>PA Forward Silver Star in Information Literacy</td>
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<td>PA Forward Silver Star in Civic &amp; Social Literacy</td>
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<td>PA Forward Silver Star in Financial Literacy</td>
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<td>PA Forward Gold Star</td>
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### Core Actions

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<th>Action</th>
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<tr>
<td>Core Action 0</td>
<td>Create an account on the PA Forward Star Library website, as well as a shared “cloud” folder to use when submitting documentation</td>
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<td>Core Action 1</td>
<td>Watch the PA Forward 5-Literacies Webinar.</td>
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<td>Core Action 2</td>
<td>Have your library “like” or “follow” the PA Forward Facebook page (@pafoward) and/or Twitter account (@pafoward5). If your library doesn’t use social media, get creative and show us in another way that you like PA Forward.</td>
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<td>Core Action 3</td>
<td>Submit a description of a PA Forward “branded” library event to The Commons, the PA Forward Best Practices Database.</td>
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<td>Core Action 4</td>
<td>Discuss PA Forward at a staff meeting.</td>
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<td>Core Action 5</td>
<td>Include the PA Forward logo on at least 5 different library marketing/promotional materials (such as a flyer, poster, banner, or other material).</td>
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“If You’re Not at the Table – You’re on the Menu”
– National Library Legislative Day 2018

BY DENISE STICHA

The American Library Association’s National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) is held each spring in Washington DC, and this year’s event was May 7–8. Despite being an active PaLA member and someone who considers herself to be a library advocate, this was my first time attending. Biggest. Mistake. Ever. HUGE! It’s one I won’t make again. This was by far the most comprehensive training in grassroots advocacy that I have ever experienced; training that I can use on the state and local level as well as we engage with all our elected officials to share the importance of funding for libraries.

Our Pennsylvania delegation included library directors, library staff, library trustees, and library partners. One shy of last year’s number, our 21 registered delegates gave us the honor of being the second largest state delegation. The two-day event included a full day of advocacy training sponsored by ALA’s Washington office and a reception at the Hart Senate Office Building on Monday. Tuesday was the actual “day on the hill” when we had personal visits with Pennsylvania’s senators and representatives. Our delegation picked up even more members who joined us on Tuesday to meet with our officials. Rob Lesher, our Association’s ALA Councilor, and Karla Trout, our NLLD state coordinator, shepherded us through our paces and worked with ALA in advance to line up our legislative appointments.

The training on Monday was impressive. Check out all of the resources at www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/nlld. This year, the focus of our meetings centered on three priorities:

- Appropriations – continue to fund LSTA
- Reauthorization of the Museum and Library Services Act which funds the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
- Telecommunications – ensure the continuation of E-rate and support legislation to improve broadband access in rural areas.

Beginning with a briefing on each of these issues, the training continued with a panel discussion about how to build relationships with lawmakers. A little lighthearted role-playing provided humorous examples of how NOT to engage with your elected officials, as well as how to have a successful meeting. Each delegation was also given time together to plan a strategy for the following day.

Tuesday began with our first meetings; half of our delegation met with Senator Casey’s staff and the other half met with Senator Toomey’s staff. Notice that I said “staff” – not the senators themselves - and this was a take-away from Monday’s training. Building relationships with elected officials often starts with building relationships with staff. Staff who not only serve as gatekeepers of the schedule, but also as liaisons with district constituents. After those meetings, the PA delegation split up and we met with our local representatives. I had the honor and privilege of meeting with Representative Glenn Thompson himself for about 45 minutes. In addition to discussing the importance of library funding and broadband, we talked about the recent redistricting map and how his district representation will change, as well as his personal interest in libraries. A resident of Centre County, Thompson commutes weekly between Washington DC and his home near Bellefonte. He is a huge Overdrive customer!

National Library Legislative Day costs $75.00 to register and receive the full-day training and briefings. Compared to other conference and workshop fees, this is a great bargain. Some people can argue that overnight accommodations in DC are expensive, and that’s certainly true, but this is an opportunity to participate in grassroots democracy in action and an investment in the future of our libraries on the federal, state, and local levels. It’s an opportunity we can’t afford to miss. We all need to be at the table.

Denise Sticha is the first vice president of PaLA, co-chair of the Legislative Committee, and executive director of the Centre County Library & Historical Museum. She is reading Dreamland: The True Tale of America’s Opiate Epidemic by Sam Quinones.
Are you on the fence about joining or renewing your membership in the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA)? Membership comes with so many benefits, and it is worth every penny.

Meet Jessica.* Jessica is 30 years old. She is a math tutor also working 25 hours a week as a clerk in a mid-size suburban library who plans to obtain her MLIS degree part-time. Jessica makes about $15,000 a year from her clerk job. While she doesn’t have much extra income, a friend told her to check out www.palibraries.org and explore membership opportunities.

Membership in PaLA is $3 for each $1,000 of salary earned, so for Jessica, dues are $45 annually. “Not as expensive as I thought it would be,” she muses, “That’s not even $4 a month.”

For that $45, Jessica is eligible to apply for PaLA scholarships. “A $1,500 scholarship would really help with tuition…Oh, wow! Pennsylvania Library Association members can get a 20% discount on tuition from Drexel University if I decide to go there!”

The small investment in membership dues has already proven itself a huge return on investment for Jessica, but there are several more benefits as well. Jessica notices that there are continuing education grants available; she tells a coworker who has been wanting to take a pricey ALA webinar. Jessica learns that members can also apply for a scholarship to attend the Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference for their first time — not to mention the reduced member rate.

Jessica has heard other library staff members talking about funding issues at her library; she’s pleased to know that her membership dues help PaLA advocate for funding and raise the profile of libraries around the state through programs like PA Forward. She is surprised that the association is so large — over 1,300 Pennsylvania library staff and supporters are members, and there are a wide variety of divisions and round tables. Jessica signs up for the Public Libraries Division; the Youth Services Division; and the Teaching, Learning, and Technology (TLT) roundtable. She’s excited to get connected with others who share her interests.

For Jessica, it’s a no-brainer. Membership in the Pennsylvania Library Association will not only help her out financially, but her dues will support a network of people working to make library services across the commonwealth better for all Pennsylvania citizens through strengthening advocacy efforts, continuing education and leadership opportunities for library staff members, and improving communication and ideas sharing among peers.

*Jessica is not a real person and can’t actually join PaLA, but you can! Don’t you feel lucky?

Robyn Vittek is the director for the Mt. Lebanon Public Library in Pittsburgh. She serves on the PaLA Membership Committee and is currently reading Agent Zigzag: A True Story of Nazi Espionage, Love, and Betrayal by Ben McIntyre.
The Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) Academy of Leadership Studies (PALS) held its annual workshop June 3-6 in Harrisburg, PA, where this year’s participants met for a transformative experience in leadership development. The PALS program affords librarians the opportunities to develop and enhance leadership skills, network and cultivate professional relationships with fellow librarians across the state, and work on year-long projects aimed at providing support to the PaLA mission. The 2018 PALS projects are: Social Media, Archives/Digital Asset Management, Speakers Bureau, and Writing and Editing. Here is a brief look at what each of the projects entails and what the groups hope to accomplish over the next year.

Social Media Project
The group’s main goals are to evaluate existing social media policies across the spectrum of libraries and library associations and to generate a generalized policy template that libraries of all sizes and the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) could adapt to meet their own needs.

Each group member has selected a type of library to investigate, including libraries within and outside of PaLA and also other library associations.

The group seeks to build a template and guidelines for how each institution can best select social media for its institution. One goal is to have workflows and structures in place for the PaLA and PA libraries to build a better sense of community through social media and to engage more effectively with their communities to fulfill their own missions and visions.

The group is anticipating the project will be multi-year in scope. They wish to create a resource bank and webinar training which may take more time to implement.

Project participants include: Tegan Conner-Cole, Liz Kleusner, Jennifer Knechtmann, Emily Mross, John Siegel, and Josefine Smith. Project mentor is June Houghtaling.

Archives Project
The PaLA has a large amount of born-digital content that is looking for an archival home. The archives project is tasked with investigating and proposing a platform to permanently maintain current content and future materials.

The group is looking at the project as both an archives project and a Digital Asset Management project. They will be looking into the amount and where to find the information that needs to be managed and are in contact with Bernadette Lear, Christi Buker, and various PaLA chapters. Group member Jonathan Trice has a background in archives management, which will be helpful in the next step: researching open-sourced and paid digital asset management systems.

Lastly, the group will be reviewing current document retention policies and amending them where necessary. The group does not expect to complete the project, but to prepare it for a future PALS group to take over. They hope to develop a viable and solid platform for content and policies that fits the PaLA request to “future-proof” this digital content.

Project participants include: Jonathan Trice, Kari Reda, Nicole Warner, Katherine Adriaanse, Michelle Echols, and Heather Lipinski. Project mentor is Aaron Dobbs.

Speakers Bureau Project
This group has been assigned the task of revitalizing a Speakers Bureau that was started by a PALS group in 2012. The Bureau consists of a list of vetted speakers and is intended to be used as a resource by individual libraries, the PaLA, or regional chapters seeking presenters for workshops or professional development programs.

The group has outlined their first steps: evaluating the existing Speakers Bureau, brainstorming contacts, and beginning to investigate potential speakers. The focus of the project is on keeping the parts of the existing program that are successful with an eye toward enhancement and the sustainability of the program.

Some of the group’s goals include doubling the number of speakers and developing a plan of regular maintenance in order to keep the Speakers Bureau up to date.

Project participants include: DaVonne Armstrong, Lindsay Decker, Corri Hines, Lisa Howald, Chloe Mills, and Amanda Snyder. Project mentor is Amy Geisinger.

Writing and Editing Project
The group has been tasked with identifying topics for articles and then writing and editing articles...
about the work of libraries in the Office of Commonwealth Libraries’ Compendium and the PaLA Bulletin. Additionally, the group will be reviving a newsletter previously created and distributed by a 2016 PALS group for the Association’s partners.

First steps include determining the initial topics of focus and establishing a workable timeline for articles. The ultimate goal for the upcoming year is to reach both library and partner audiences with word of PA library accomplishments. These articles will highlight the innovative initiatives that support patrons and build community and spotlight particular librarians behind these accomplishments.

The long-term goal of the group is to further these existing publications that spread the word of the outstanding initiatives and accomplishments of PA libraries while creating a foundation for interesting content so that the project can be continued by a future PALS group or PaLA group.

Project participants include: Tess Wilson, Frank Conserette, Tammy Garrison, Sam Bardarik, Meghan Lynch, and Stephanie Bragg. Project mentor is Dana Farabaugh.

Tammy Garrison is the executive director at the Annie Halenbake Ross Library. She is reading After the Gold by Erin McRae and Racheline Maltese. Tess Wilson is a LYNCS outreach librarian at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. She is reading The Changeling by Victor LaValle. Sam Bardarik is a reference librarian at Tredyffrin Public Library. She is reading The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath. Meghan Lynch is the business outreach librarian at the Chester County Library. She is reading The Power by Naomi Alderman. Stephanie Bragg is the children’s librarian at Paoli Library. As mother of two young boys, she is reading a variety of picture books along with Wishtree by Katherine Applegate. Frank Conserette is a research & instruction librarian at the University of Scranton’s Weinberg Memorial Library. He is reading Apollo 8 by Jeffrey Kluger.

Mindfulness Matters

BY CLAIRE WILLIAMS

Recognizing the importance of balance, both at home and at work, on June 1 the Juniata-Conemaugh Chapter of the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) hosted a chapter workshop on “Mind Matters: The Power of Mindfulness, Hardiness, and Positive Mindset” with Marisa Vicere of the Jana Marie Foundation. The interactive workshop discussed mental illness, identifying sources of stress, and mindfulness and stress reduction techniques.

“The Juniata-Conemaugh Chapter leadership team chose this topic because they felt that everyone could benefit from learning about mindfulness and a positive mindset,” said Amy Horell, district library consultant for the Altoona District and chapter chair. “Everyone is overworked and busy. The leadership team felt this topic would appeal to everyone and provide them with a way to slow down a bit and do something good for themselves each day.”

In addition to learning about the prevalence of mental illness, attendees learned about the pillars of positive psychology and participated in a variety of mindfulness activities including a breathing exercise and active listening exercises.

“I find attending a chapter workshop beneficial in many ways. Not only does it give me an opportunity to learn something new, but it also allows me to connect with other librarians in my area,” said Jennifer Powell, chapter social chair and director of the Tyrone-Snyder Public Library. “This particular workshop about mindfulness was beneficial both from a customer service standpoint and also for me as an individual in regards to the importance of self-care.”

“In my experience, practicing mindfulness can help you to de-stress and decompress,” said Horell. “The workshop provided some great tips on how to be mindful and meditate for a few minutes to re-energize and refresh yourself. Even if you think you don’t have the time to do it, it only takes a couple of minutes of your day and can really make a difference.”

At the business meeting preceding the workshop, the chapter recognized Paula Collins for her service to the chapter and to librarianship with the annual Exceptional Service Award. The chapter also welcomed special guests Christi Bader, Brandi Hunter-Davenport, and Tina Hertel from the Pennsylvania Library Association to talk about the important work of the association, the PA Forward initiative, and why membership matters.

For more information on the Jana Marie Foundation, visit www.janamariefoundation.org.

Claire Williams is the marketing coordinator at Huntingdon County Library. She is currently reading Endurance by Scott Kelly.
## Calendar

### July

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>PaLA Conference Registration Opens</td>
<td>PaLA Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>New Member Orientation</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
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### August

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<td>9</td>
<td>PA Forward Financial Literacy Team Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>PR &amp; Marketing Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Legislative Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Conference Planning Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>PA Forward Health Literacy Team Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>PA Forward Training Team Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>CRD Presents ACRL Roadshow: Assessment in Action</td>
<td>Arcadia University</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>PA Forward Civic &amp; Social Literacy Team Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>New Member Orientation</td>
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### September

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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Board of Directors Meeting</td>
<td>PaLA Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
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<td>PA Forward Planning Meeting</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>PA Forward Training Meeting</td>
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this includes a focus on securing contributing partners, reducing expenses, streamlining processes, encouraging donors to join the Ex Libris Society, and determining appropriate differentials between member and non-member benefits.

Another aspect of financial sustainability is strong advocacy for library funding because when we have strong libraries and librarians, PaLA will be strengthened, too.

At the 2018 Annual Conference in Harrisburg, we will have special advocacy training sessions; a press conference in the Capitol East Wing Rotunda on Wednesday, October 17; and opportunities for you, trustees, and friends to visit the Harrisburg offices of your elected officials. This advocacy push is critical right before the November elections, so please plan to attend and participate in these legislative activities.

Our website hosts quite a bit of information, but we know that it is sometimes easier to call a real person to get answers. You are members, and we love to talk with you! Feel free to call 717-766-7663 with your questions and ideas, or for updates.

Christi Buker is the executive director of the Pennsylvania Library Association. You can reach her at christi@palibraries.org. She just finished reading Andrea Kane’s, The Line Between Here and Gone, and listened to the PaLAunchPod episode with Marilyn Holt of the Carnegie Library’s Pennsylvania Department.

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PERSONAL MEMBERS

Aidan Aesoph
Simmons College GSLIS

Anne Avondolio
University of Pittsburgh School of Information Sciences

Bree Balsamo
Syracuse University SLIS

Francine Binnert
Clarion University of PA/ Dept of Library Science

Cecilia Caro
University of Pittsburgh

Marie Casper
Salem Public Library

Francis Chardo
Dauphin County Library System

Carrie Donovan
Carlow University

Heather Getsay
Slippery Rock University

Margaret Ignasiak
Erie County Public Library

Robert Irving
Drexel University Online

Linda Jones
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Wendy Kellogg
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Hope Meltser
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Tyese Oliver
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Kattan Ferretti

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Kate Sweeney
Glatfelter Memorial Library

Renee Wilson
Bucks County Free Library

COMMERCIAL MEMBER

Murray Associates Architects, P.C.

 Updates From Your Executive Director  continued from page 4
Moving?

Keep the PaLA BULLETIN arriving promptly in your mailbox by notifying us six to eight weeks before your move. Please return mailing label with address change.