

# MO INFO

NEWSLETTER OF THE MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

July 2015

Volume 46, Number 4

## Summer at MLA: Elections, Bylaw Changes, and Membership Dues

It is the middle of a summer filled with vacations (hopefully), summer reading programs, summer classes, and MLA elections! Make sure you read the bios of the candidates running for the Members-at-Large and President-Elect positions. We are incredibly lucky to have a strong slate of candidates running for all of the open positions this year and we need you to vote for your preferred candidates. Online voting will be open from August 1 – 31. Look for an invitation to vote by email around August 1, unless you have requested a mail ballot.

You will also notice three bylaw changes on the ballot. The Board is asking the Membership's approval of three things:

1. **Make the Immediate Past-President a voting member of the Board.** That person has an institutional knowledge that is invaluable to the current president and president-elect and that person needs to remain on the Board to make effective use of that knowledge. Other organizations use this three-year commitment model effectively and MLA seeks to do the same.
2. **Make a Member-at-Large chairperson of the Membership Committee.** Membership drives us. Without our members, we cease to exist. With a Member-at-Large as the Chairperson, that person views positions and votes with the perspective of growing membership and enhancing benefits.
3. **Simply the procedure for replacing an officer who leaves mid-term.** The current wording is ambiguous. The presented language simplifies and clarifies the procedure while still building in safeguards and a balance of power.



This vote will be on the same ballot coming to you in August. Keep an eye on your inbox for this important invitation.

Last, many people are not aware that MLA's membership year runs from January to December. Even if you join in August, you must renew the following January. Consequently, many people *think* they are MLA members, when in reality they are not. If you are unsure about your current status, inquire at [mla@amigos.org](mailto:mla@amigos.org) or email any of your Board members who can check for you. MLA truly is a member-driven organization and your dues help support programming efforts such as the fantastic MLA/KLA conference to be held later this fall and your volunteer efforts keep this organization alive and active. Without membership, MLA does not exist.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer. Don't forget to vote and please renew your MLA membership if you haven't done so already this year.



Yours in Service,

Christina Prucha  
MLA President

## 2015 MLA Executive Board Elections Candidate Statements and Election Information

### MLA President-Elect Candidates

The position of President-Elect requires the elected person to serve one year as President-Elect (2016) and one year as President (2017). Per the MLA bylaws and handbook, the elected person shall attend all Executive Board meetings, serve in lieu of the President when s/he is unavailable, serve on the Conference Site Selection Committee, and attend at least one meeting of each Standing Committee to better understand the association's infrastructure and business. Additional roles and responsibilities are specified in the MLA bylaws and handbook.

**Vicky Baker, Associate Director for Public Service, Mid-Continent Public Library**  
[vbaker@mymcpl.org](mailto:vbaker@mymcpl.org)



#### Biography

Vicky Baker is an Associate Director for Public Services for Mid-Continent Public Library. She received her MLS from the University of Oklahoma many more than a couple of years ago and is also an Adjunct Professor for the University of Missouri, teaching a variety of classes including reference and management. Vicky worked as a Main Library reference librarian in Oklahoma City before moving to the Kansas City area and joining Mid-Continent Public Library 30 years ago. After starting out and remaining the Branch Manager of a very busy branch for nearly 20 years, she became Associate Director in 2003. Vicky has been a frequent presenter at the Missouri Library Association and served as CSRT chair. She currently serves on two national committees, LLAMA's Buildings and Equipment Section and on a PLA committee about Continuing Education. Vicky lives in Lee's Summit with her husband and two cats. Reading and gardening (and Pinterest) are the activities that Vicky enjoys.

#### Statement

I am pleased to be asked to run for President-Elect for such a member driven organization. MLA has changed dramatically from the organization it was in the past, and is much more responsive to members as a result. And what do those members want?

- A good conference-- it's the highlight of the year. It provides not only great educational opportunities for the continuing education of its members, but it also provides the absolute best time to network and learn from your co-attendees.
- Members want the association to represent them in Jefferson City, MO and Washington, D.C. The situation with our state government this year proves why it is important for us to be heard, but there is still a lot more to be done. Libraries of all kinds are worried about funding challenges that continue even as libraries are expected to meet commitments and user needs.
- Libraries are also at a point where they are reinventing themselves into what is important for the future. What does this future look like? Building space is part of this new future and that may mean deselecting some materials. The space in a library may also be impacted by the funding for digital collections. Conversations about this throughout the association could be helpful.
- Libraries need to learn how to find staff that reflect their communities and that means an active recruitment system is needed. Baby Boomers are really going to start retiring and when they go some of the institutional knowledge will go as well. Newer staff needs to have a little time to absorb some of that knowledge. Millennials, both the employees and the users, have different needs and the library needs to be responsive to those needs. How are libraries doing this successfully?

Most of the information that we receive from other organizations like Pew Research Center say that the majority of America believes libraries are important. Yet when it comes to getting the funding to do the things that make us valuable, we are often turned down. As an organization, I would like everyone to have an opportunity to learn how to advocate for their organization. It is vital that, whether you can make it to Library Advocacy Day or not, you know how to explain to your local funders what you need. If elected, I will work hard to make sure members have opportunities to learn this.

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## 2015 MLA Executive Board Elections Candidate Statements and Election Information

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**Candice Oliver, System Administrator, Municipal Library Consortium of St. Louis**

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### Biography

Candice Gwin Oliver is the Library Systems Administrator for the Municipal Library Consortium of St. Louis County. She received her MLIS from the University of Alabama and her BA in English and Communications from the University of South Alabama. Candice moved to St. Louis after finishing library school, and has held management roles at both Kirkwood Public Library and St. Louis County Library. She also has experience in sales and consulting with library technology vendors. Candice has been active in the Missouri Library Association since 2005, and has held various leadership roles within the association including chair of the Public Library Division, chair of the Public Relations Committee, and chair of PEER SIG. She served on the 2016 Conference site selection committee and served as co-coordinator of the 2013 MLA Conference. Candice was a member of the first ALA Emerging Leaders class, and also received the *Library Journal* Movers and Shakers award in 2008. Candice and her husband live in the city of St. Louis with their 4 ½ year old twins and their dog Chad. She enjoys organizing adventures around St. Louis for her family, running (slowly) in races around town, cheering for her beloved Crimson Tide (Roll Tide!!), reading when she can get a quiet moment, and taking road trips.

### Statement

I am honored to be running for the position of President-Elect for the Missouri Library Association. I have been involved in all levels of the organization and have grown tremendously in my understanding of how the Association operates and how it serves as a resource for Missouri libraries and librarians. I believe there is strength in a well-rounded member base and will strive to ensure that our organization continues to reach out to, and recruit, potential members across the state and is able to show a clear return on investment. It is also my goal that the MLA continues to be an advocate for libraries at all levels, and that we have a clear message we can communicate when challenged. Today, more than ever, we need to band together and share our message outside of our library walls. The more we talk and the more we share, the stronger we are, and I will work hard to communicate effectively and thoroughly across the organization and with our state government. I believe that no matter how differently we operate on our individual levels, we all have the same goal at the end of the day: to serve our patrons to the best of our ability and then some. I want to serve the membership of the Missouri Library Association to the best of **my** ability and then some; I want you to know that your MLA is a good investment of your time and talents, and that you are an integral part of the Association. I would be honored to serve as your President-Elect and President, and I can commit to you my sincere interest in expanding the value of MLA to libraries, librarians and library staff across the state of Missouri.

**Christy Schink, Youth Services Librarian, Scenic Regional Public Library**

[cschink@scenicregional.org](mailto:cschink@scenicregional.org)

### Biography



Christy Schink has been the Youth Services Librarian for Scenic Regional Library since 2003. She received her MLIS from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1991. Prior to her current position at Scenic Regional Library, she was the Library Director and Associate Professor at the Kuskokwim Campus of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks for 8 years. And before that, Library Director and faculty member at St. Louis Christian College in Florissant, MO for four years. She considers the move from management to youth services the best decision she ever made. Working with children and promoting literacy is exceedingly rewarding and fun.

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## 2015 MLA Executive Board Elections Candidate Statements and Election Information

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Christy has been actively involved with MLA for the entire 12 years that she has been back in Missouri. She has served on the Building Block Picture Book Award committee for 12 years, including a term as Chair. She has been involved in youth services through its many acronyms, CSRT, YSD and now YSCI, including serving as YSCI Chair. She has taught youth services workshops at MLA Annual, MASL Spring Conference, and the Conference on the Young Years. She also served on the Notable Children's Video committee for the American Library Association for 2 years. She is most proud of the preconference she did at MLA in 2014, "Uke Can Do It," where she taught 32 children's librarians how to play ukulele for storytime and they each got to take home a ukulele.

In her free time, Christy enjoys playing ukulele and traveling to ukulele festivals all over the country, reading and gaming.

### Statement

Throughout my library career, I have seen the benefit of being involved in state and national library organizations. Nowhere was this more obvious than in Alaska, where many of us were the only librarian within a 100 mile radius. I learned that to do our best, we need each other. To me the Missouri Library Association is about education, networking and empowering us to do our best for our communities. My goals are to continue to bring new and innovative ideas into our state to keep our libraries current and indispensable, and to encourage people young and old to enter into a profession where you can look forward to going to work every day, as I do.

### MLA Members-at-Large Candidates

The 2014 slate of candidates for Members-at-Large include eight public and academic librarians whose past professional histories all demonstrate their ability to forge connections and understand the needs of the entire membership. In each election, MLA members are asked to select three of these candidates to represent the entire Missouri Library Association membership for two years terms as Members-at-Large (2016-2017). Their responsibilities include discovering members' concerns, representing the entire membership, serving as members of the Conference Site Selection Committee, and possibly serving as Secretary, Treasurer, or Assistant Treasurer. Additional roles and responsibilities are specified in the MLA bylaws and handbook.

### Nancee Dahms-Stinson, Youth Services Coordinator, Springfield-Greene County Library

[nanceed@thelibrary.org](mailto:nanceed@thelibrary.org)

### Biography



Nancee Dahms-Stinson is constantly revitalized, challenged and enchanted by the staff she works with at the Springfield-Greene County Library District (SGCL). When she started her job there in 2006, she expected to learn a lot, but the opportunities to grow and learn have never stopped, and it has kept the job exciting. Prior to her work at SGCL, Nancee served as the youth services consultant at the Missouri State Library, providing assistance and support to librarians across the state in their work to build and maintain quality library services for youth and their families. Nancee received her BS and MLIS at the University of Missouri-Columbia and has worked for libraries in North Carolina and Tennessee prior to returning to Missouri, her home state. She has been a member of ALA and MLA for more than eight years, and serves on the Publication Committee. She was a member of the MLA board in 2011 and helped launch the Youth Services Committee of Interest.

### Statement

I loved the time I spent on the MLA board five years ago; it was especially exciting to be involved in helping MLA transition to its new organizational model. I met so many committed and knowledgeable librarians that I still enjoy working with today! MLA has seen many positive changes in the past few years, and I want to continue to be a part of this vital and dynamic organization that supports and serves libraries and library staffs. Missouri has incredible diversity in its libraries, with strengths that make a world of difference to our state's economic, educational and social well-being. However, our libraries also face a number of challenges, which MLA is committed to helping library staff address. I would like to serve the MLA membership as a member-at-large, to continue strengthening our libraries and support the staff who work in them.

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## 2015 MLA Executive Board Elections Candidate Statements and Election Information

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**Meredith McCarthy, Branch Manager, Jefferson County Library-- Arnold Branch**

[mmcarthy@jeffcolib.org](mailto:mmcarthy@jeffcolib.org)



### Biography

Meredith McCarthy is currently the Branch Manager of the Arnold Branch of the Jefferson County Library District. After a brief time working in a bookstore after college, Meredith followed her lifelong love of libraries into a successful professional career. She started with the district in 1996 as a Reference Library Associate, and after obtaining her MLIS from the University of Missouri in 1999, has steadily risen through the ranks.

Meredith greatly enjoys the high level of responsibility afforded in a smaller library district where managers wear a multitude of hats and have the opportunity to shepherd many district wide projects. Meredith served as the point person for JCL's inclusion into the MOLIB2GO Overdrive consortium and the deployment of ebooks for both staff and patrons. Another exciting project was taking the Arnold Branch Seed Library from a germ of an idea to a vibrant collection with over 700 seed packets checked out in a little over a year.

Meredith has been a long time member of MLA and was appointed to the MLA Publications Committee in 2012 and has served as Chair of the Social Media Subcommittee since 2014. Meredith has a passion for technology and gadgets and sees MLA's social media presence as a great way to connect with the MLA membership. In 2014 she was elected to the St. Louis Regional Library Network Council and currently serves as Secretary. Meredith is also a long time member of the American Library Association with past membership in the Reference and User Services Association – Business Reference in Public Libraries Committee and current membership in the Public Library Association.

### Statement

I am very grateful for the opportunity to run for the Member-at-Large position with the Missouri Library Association. I would love to take my passion for libraries as a continuing vital resource for lifelong learning to the next level as a member of the MLA Board. In a world where the uninformed see libraries as being made obsolete by today's cloud-based technology, we should embrace, as part of our mission, the education of the general public as well as the "decision-makers" of the innovative services we offer in addition to traditional library services. Libraries are a doorway to taxpayer-funded digital content that no one consumer could afford on their own, and we need to make sure that they know it. Libraries also often serve as vibrant community centers offering free (or minimal cost recovery) hands on activities for children and adults to build skills and expand their knowledge base on a huge range of topics from basic literacy through 3D modeling and printing. It has never been more important to campaign for continued support for Missouri libraries as we face severe funding cuts at both the state and federal levels. I believe communication is the key for our organization's success and the overall success of Missouri libraries. If elected I would be a voice for public libraries on the MLA Board and take every opportunity to improve MLA's dialogue with both its membership and the greater community to achieve our objective of championing Missouri library professionals and Missouri libraries.

**Jennifer Peters, Content Management-Discovery Services Librarian, Rockhurst University**

[jpeters2511@gmail.com](mailto:jpeters2511@gmail.com)

### Biography



Jennifer Peters is the Content Management and Discovery Services Librarian for Rockhurst University Greenlease Library. Jennifer has a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Missouri Columbia and a Bachelors of Arts degree in Political Science from Quincy University. Jennifer lives in the metro Kansas City area with her husband, two children, two cats and two dogs. In her free time she enjoys embarrassing her children, playing volleyball, and continuing the quest to be the kind of person her dogs think she is.

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Jennifer has been a member of MLA since 2010. She is currently the chair of the Communities of Interest Council, and serves on the Marketing Subcommittee, Recorder of PEER, and Vendor Relations co-chair for the 2015 Joint Conference. Jennifer has also served as chair of the Technical Services Community of Interest. She is a member of American Library Association, Library Leadership & Management Association (LLAMA), Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS). Jennifer is an MLA sponsored, American Library Association 2015 Emerging Leader. She just completed an ALCTS sponsored project for Emerging Leaders entitled, Developing a Mentoring Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarians. Jennifer is active at the national level serving as an intern for the ALA Website Advisory Committee, member and upcoming co-chair of the Cataloging and Metadata Management Continuing Education Committee, and ARCL representative to the Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Advisory Group.

### Statement

I am honored to run for the Member-at-Large position of the Missouri Library Association. MLA has been an essential part of my professional development, from attending my first conference in 2010, to broadening my knowledge of librarianship, networking with a community of dedicated and passionate librarians and being able to serve on a variety of committees and groups over the years. MLA helps build community and cooperation across all types of libraries. I'm proud of what MLA has been able to do to advocate and promote libraries within Missouri, but I recognize that it requires a sustained ongoing effort to continue to promote the value of libraries to those within our state and at the national level. Commitment to our local association is key to continue the work that has been done and will continue to be done both at the national and state level.

**Katie Schneider, Assistant Branch Manager, Mid-Continent Public Library**  
[schneiderk100@gmail.com](mailto:schneiderk100@gmail.com)

### Biography:



Katie Schneider has worked for the Mid-Continent Public Library system in Kansas City since 2012 and has been working in the public library system since 2010. She is currently the Assistant Branch Manager of the Woodneath Library Center, where she has been employed since 2013.

Katie earned her Master's degree in Library and Information Science (LIS) from the University of Missouri in 2010. While enrolled in the LIS program, Katie was a Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of Missouri – Kansas City (UMKC) Miller Nichols Library from 2009 to 2010. Upon graduation in 2010, Katie worked as a Substitute Library Associate at the Kansas City Public Library system from 2010-2012.

Katie has been a member of the Missouri Library Association since 2009. She has presented poster presentations on professional development and readers' advisory topics at the annual MLA Conference in 2010 and 2013. Katie is currently serving as the 2015 MLA/KLA Conference Poster Session Committee Chairwoman as well as serving on the Table Talks Committee for the 2011 MLA Conference. Katie was a member of the American Library Association from 2009-2014 as well as a member of the Special Library Association in 2011.

### Statement:

I am honored and excited to be asked to run for the office of MLA Member-at-Large. Having been a member of MLA since 2009, I can attest to the value of forging connections with fellow librarians across the state in order to support our ever evolving field of work. Operating in times of change requires leadership that is inspired to work with people across many disciplines to address common problems and solutions. If given this opportunity, I am excited to present my peers' concerns to the leadership board of the Missouri Library Association in order to address their opinions and desires. I look forward to working with members of MLA to continue developing an organization that facilitates a growing network of professional support and friendship. Thank You!

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## 2015 MLA Executive Board Elections Candidate Statements and Election Information

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**Beth Hemke Shapiro, JD, MA**

[bhemkeshapiro@gmail.com](mailto:bhemkeshapiro@gmail.com)

### Biography:



Beth Hemke Shapiro received her MA in Information Science and Learning Technologies with an emphasis in Library Science from University of Missouri – Columbia in May 2015. During the program she was a graduate teaching assistant, teaching Information Use semester-long classes and providing reference and instruction at Ellis Library. Beth also holds BA (philosophy) and JD (law) degrees from Northwestern University.

Prior to attending library school, Beth worked for a decade in accounting and finance at The Art Institute of Chicago, sang professionally in a Chicago baroque ensemble, was employed by a Big Six accounting firm as a tax consultant, was a freelance writer, and was a stay-at-home mom.

Beth has long been committed to community service and has served on many boards and committees, including the following:

- reading panelist for Columbia's One Read program;
- member of Columbia's Cultural Affairs commission;
- chair of Columbia's Cultural Affairs commission's small request committee;
- congregational president, as well as chair of communications committee and member of various other committees at St. Andrew's ELCA Lutheran Church;
- grant review panelist for the Missouri Arts Council; and
- co-secretary of Rock Bridge High School Band Boosters.

### Statement:

I am excited to jump right in and get involved in MLA! I am a current member of its Intellectual Freedom committee and co-presented “Reference Librarians on the Prowl: Implementing Roving Reference in an Academic Library” at the Fall 2014 conference. While I am a relative newcomer to the library field, I bring a strong history of working hard to collaborate well with others and to be responsive to community needs and wishes. I would be honored to serve on the MLA board.

**Mary Beth Revels, Director, St. Joseph Public Library**

[mrevels@sjpl.lib.mo.us](mailto:mrevels@sjpl.lib.mo.us)

### Biography



Mary Beth Revels is director of the St. Joseph Public Library. She began her library career in 1997 as a reference librarian at the River Bluffs Regional Library in St. Joseph. She is a past chair of MLA's Public Library Division, now a Community of Interest. She is a member of ALA and PLA. She serves on the board of the Mid America Library Alliance and is past president of the Missouri Public Library Directors group. She currently serves as a member representing public libraries on the Secretary of State's Council on Library Development. Mary Beth has an MA in Library Science from the University of Missouri, Columbia. She earned a BS in Business Administration from Truman State University.

### Statement

I have been a member of the Missouri Library Association since I was an MLS student at MU. I was involved on the board level several years ago and want to get more involved once again. MLA is there for all libraries in Missouri through coordinating advocacy efforts and providing opportunities for all kinds of librarians to meet and learn from each other and also to network and have fun. I want to do my part to keep our organization strong and vital for librarians across the state.

## 2016 Proposed Bylaws

Side-by-side tabular comparison of the current (2015) bylaws language with the proposed 2016 revised language.

Current MLA Bylaws	Proposed Changes	Rationale for Changes
<p><b>Article IV. Officers</b>  <b>Section 1. Elected Officers:</b> The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, President-Elect, ALA Councilor and six Members-At-Large. The officers shall be elected by ballot in advance of and announced at the Annual Business Meeting. The terms of all elected begin at the start of the new calendar year, except the ALA Councilor whose term begins at the conclusion of the summer ALA Conference following his/her election. The newly elected Board shall vote among themselves to select the Secretary, and Assistant Treasurer from the Members-At-Large. The Assistant Treasurer will succeed to the Treasurer at the beginning of the calendar year. President-Elect succeeds to the President at the beginning of the calendar year.</p>	<p><b>Article IV. Officers</b>  <b>Section 1. Elected Officers:</b> The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, President-Elect, <b>Immediate Past-President</b>, ALA Councilor and six Members-At-Large. The officers shall be elected by ballot in advance of and announced at the Annual Business Meeting. The terms of all elected begin at the start of the new calendar year, except the ALA Councilor whose term begins at the conclusion of the summer ALA Conference following his/her election. The newly elected Board shall vote among themselves to select the Secretary, <del>and</del> <b>Assistant Treasurer, and Membership Chair</b> from the Members-At-Large. The Assistant Treasurer will succeed to the Treasurer at the beginning of the calendar year. <b>President-Elect succeeds to the President at the beginning of the calendar year.</b></p>	<p><b>Immediate Past-President:</b>  An individual who has served as President-Elect and President has valuable experience and knowledge which would benefit MLA in the position of Immediate Past-President.</p> <p><b>Membership Chair:</b>  MLA is a membership driven organization. By assigning Membership Chair duties to a Member-at-Large, MLA recognizes the value of recruiting and maintaining strong membership. It is desired to have a Member-at-Large whose job will be to think and vote in terms of maintaining and growing our membership base.</p>
<p><b>Article IV. Officers</b>  <b>Section 3. Terms:</b> The President-Elect and six Members-At-Large will serve two year terms or until their successors are elected. The President, having been the President-Elect the previous year, will serve as President for one year. The ALA Councilor will serve a three year term as set by ALA guidelines. Officers can serve no more than two consecutive terms.</p>	<p><b>Article IV. Officers</b>  <b>Section 3. Terms:</b> The President-Elect <b>will serve three year terms or until their successors are elected.</b><del>and</del>The six Members-At-Large will serve two year terms or until their successors are elected. The President, having been the President-Elect the previous year, will serve as President for one year. <b>The following year, the President will serve as Immediate Past-President.</b> The ALA Councilor will serve a three year term as set by ALA guidelines. Officers can serve no more than two consecutive terms.</p>	
	<p><b>Article IV. Officers</b>  <b>Section 6. Duties of Officers:</b>  <b>C. Immediate Past-President.</b> The Immediate Past-President shall serve in an advisory role to the President and President-Elect.</p>	

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## 2016 Proposed Bylaws

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Current MLA Bylaws	Proposed Changes	Rationale for Changes
	<b>Article IV. Officers</b> <b>Section 6. Duties of Officers:</b> <b>G. Membership Chair.</b> The Membership Chair shall be responsible for chairing the Membership Committee and fulfilling the duties of the Membership Committee as stated in the MLA Handbook. This Member-at-Large shall be tasked with approaching his/her role on the Board through the lens of Membership Chair.	
<b>Article IV. Officers.</b> <b>Section 4. Vacancies:</b> A vacancy occurring in an office, with the exception of the President, shall be filled through election by the Executive Board to complete the term of the office vacated. The election shall be by ballot. A majority vote shall elect.	<b>Article IV. Officers.</b> <b>Section 4. Vacancies:</b> A vacancy on the Executive Board shall be filled by an interim appointment by the president, with the approval of the Executive Board and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term.	The current wording is ambiguous causing debate between the need to elect only from the Board or allowing for the ability to elect from outside the Board. The presented language simplifies and clarifies the procedure while still building in safeguards and a balance of power.
Alice Ruleman Chair, Bylaws & Handbook Committee <a href="mailto:ruleman@ucmo.edu">ruleman@ucmo.edu</a>		

## Call for Nominations!

The MLA Awards Committee is seeking award nominations to recognize all the incredible folks that help libraries shine. Do you have an outstanding librarian in your life? Know somebody who's not a professional, but works really hard? Read a book about Missouri that knocked your socks off? Please tell us about it! Stop by <http://molib.org/awards/more-mla-awards/> and fill out a nomination form today. There's an award or scholarship for everyone: from library students to trustees, and from authors to institutions. Most award nominations are due by August 1, 2015.

Maureen Willmann  
[mwillmann@slcl.org](mailto:mwillmann@slcl.org)  
 314-994-3300 ext. 3402  
 MLA Awards Committee Chair

## Jefferson County Library Director Receives National Award

Pam Klipsch, director of the Jefferson County Library, is the 2015 recipient of the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award, presented annually by the Intellectual Freedom Round Table of the American Library Association.

Established in 1976, the Immroth award honors the courage, dedication and contribution of a living individual or group that has set the finest kind of example for the defense and furtherance of the principles of intellectual freedom. The Award Committee praised Klipsch for her “endless labors on behalf of intellectual freedom” over a career of 30-plus years. It cited her work with State Rep. John McCaherty, District 97, on the successful passage of HB1085 by the Missouri General Assembly in 2014, calling the bill “a model approach to protecting library patron privacy in the digital age.”

Klipsch received the award on June 26 at the IFRT membership reception during the American Library Association Annual Conference in San Francisco, Calif. At that same conference, she took up her appointment by ALA President Elect Sari Feldman as the 2015-2016 chair of the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee.

Klipsch has been director of the Jefferson County Library since 2005. She received her Master of Library Science from Indiana University in 1983, and worked in reference, youth services and administration in libraries in Indiana, Illinois and Missouri before coming to Jefferson County. She has served on several ALA committees including three appointments as a member of the ALA IFC, and has chaired both the Illinois and Missouri Library Associations’ Intellectual Freedom Committees. She has been elected five times to the governing Council of ALA, most recently serving as the Missouri Library Association’s representative on Council from 2008 to 2013. She currently serves as a member of the Missouri Library Association’s Legislative Committee.

The late John Phillip Immroth (1939-1976) was a teacher, author, scholar, advocate and defender of First Amendment rights. He was the founder and first chair of the ALA Intellectual Freedom Round Table in 1973.

Pam Klipsch  
Director  
Jefferson County Library Director  
[pklipsch@jeffcolib.org](mailto:pklipsch@jeffcolib.org)

## Mid-America Library Alliance Updates

### Save the Dates for Fall MALA Workshops

MALA’s lineup of in-person workshops is not yet open for registration, but you can begin planning to attend now! Watch your email for announcements or check our [webpage](#) for links to the event registration pages.

#### Reader's Advisory

- September 15, 2015: Adrenaline, Thrillers & Suspense Workshop
- November 17, 2015: Back to the Basics of Reader's Advisory

#### Basic Library Service Skills

- September 22, 2015: Library Paraprofessional Workshop
- October 20, 2015: Young Adult Workshop

#### Supervisory/Management/Leadership

- August 28, 2015: How to Have Successful Outcomes from Library Meetings

For more information, please contact Mary Puhr at [marypuhr@mid-americanlibraryalliance.org](mailto:marypuhr@mid-americanlibraryalliance.org) or (816) 521-7257.

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## A Conference to Remember!

It won't be long until we all gather in downtown Kansas City for our annual conference. Have you registered yet? Joining with the Kansas Library Association will make this a memorable conference! We want to offer our membership the best value for their registration, with content for public, academic, special, and school libraries.

### Special Events!

This year introduces new and combined Kansas-Missouri events. MACRL has been coordinating with the College and University Libraries Section of KLA to present a combined academic luncheon. And, the Youth Services Community of Interest has been working with the Youth Services Section of KLA to provide a combined Children's Literature Luncheon. An Author Breakfast will feature local author, Greg Kincaid. Thank you to all the groups collaborating on these events!



- **Opening Reception at the Central Library, Kansas City Public Library:** Kick off the conference with style in downtown Kansas City. Explore the central branch of KCPL while enjoying local entertainment and Kansas City cuisine. The evening concludes with a rooftop view of the city!
- **Transforming Communities Through Crisis:** Librarians from Ferguson and Joplin, along with FEMA and CERT representatives and others, discuss how libraries can assist in times of crisis.
- **Awards Reception:** We are hosting this year's reception honoring those receiving awards from both Kansas and Missouri, open to all conference-goers.
- **Trivia:** Find some teammates and join us in the picturesque Salon room at the Crowne Plaza for a trivia contest. All proceeds benefit the Bohley Scholarship and the Kansas Library Association Educational Foundation.
- **MO State Librarian's Luncheon:** Join Barbara Reading, Missouri State Librarian, for a special lunch engagement as she gives a roundup of recent events in Missouri libraries and the State Library.

### Pre-Conferences!

We believe this year's eight Pre-Conferences offer a wide range of topics with something for everyone:

- **Genealogy Resources in the Heartland:** Presentations from multiple Kansas and Missouri institutions will discuss genealogy resources available to librarians and their customers. Come and question the experts!
- **Reaching Reluctant Teen Readers:** Learn what librarians can do through aspects of books designed to hook hesitant teenage readers. Presenter Patrick Jones is a lifetime achievement award recipient for his writing and speaking to promote teen services in school and public libraries and has spoken at library conferences worldwide.
- **E-Resources Bootcamp: Becoming an Expert at E-Resources in Your Library:** If the special skills to manage e-resources might seem out of reach, you can learn about training and the right tools to offer relevant digital resources. Find out how to effectively manage these helps to provide a better experience for your patrons and students.
- **Building Community Through the Art of the Story:** See a demonstration of the Espresso Book Machine as you tour the Mid-Continent Public Library's Woodneath Branch! Afterwards, we will discuss the Story Center and its strategic efforts at building both a regional and national community of storytellers.
- **Transforming Communities through Crisis:** Scott Bonner (Ferguson Municipal Library), Jacque Gage (Joplin Public Library), and Stephanie Bailey (Red Bridge Branch, Mid-Continent Public Library) join representatives from FEMA and CERT about the response of libraries to a crisis in their communities.

[\*\(Continued on page 15\)\*](#)

## Mid-America Library Alliance Updates

[\(Continued from page 10\)](#)

### New Webcasts and Library Espresso Shots

We are continually adding new content to our growing collection of more than 80 library-specific webcasts and Library Espresso Shots tutorials. Be sure to visit our [webcast](#) for current topics.

#### Newest titles since May 1, 2015

MALA Webcasts:

- Dealing With Hostile and Potentially Dangerous Library Customers
- How to Conduct a Workplace Probationary Period
- Importance of Library Staff Trial Periods
- Incentivize Your Library Staff
- Job Burnout in the Library
- mHealth: Benefits, risks and a guide for evaluating health apps
- Seasonal Writing Programs for Your Library
- When It Is Time to Discipline or Terminate

MALA Library Espresso Shot Training Tutorials:

- Clever Strides to Improve Library Team Effectiveness
- Ice Breakers for Public Library Staff Days
- Library Peer To Peer Recognition
- Library Staff Individual Growth Plans
- Motivating the Underachiever
- Providing Constructive Feedback for Library Staff
- Pungent Personal Hygiene

### Need Quick Technology Tips? Let lynda.com Help

Sometimes you only need a short tutorial to answer a question about setting up a spreadsheet macro or an Outlook rule. You can get those quick solutions, as well as in-depth courses, through lynda.com.

Offering training your way and on your schedule, lynda.com is an award-winning provider of rich, relevant and educational materials with an ever-expanding library of thousands of media-rich online tutorials in a variety of topics.

Through the Mid-America Library Alliance (MALA), you can purchase lynda.com licenses at a group rate, and save more than \$200 off the cost of a direct purchase! Since our first batch of licenses has sold out, we are taking reservations now for second batch of licenses. The second batch of licenses is projected to roll out in July. We need to reach 50 reservations before we can order the next batch of licenses, so make your reservation now!

Licenses in the second batch cost just \$75 each, and are effective through February 29, 2016. For library staff training, these single licenses allow each individual user unlimited access to all the lynda.com content (3,600+ courses!) and features.

#### What can you explore with lynda.com?

- Planning a Makerspace?
  - 3D Modeling & Printing Household Parts
  - Getting Started with Makerbot 3D Printers
  - Shooting and Editing Video & Visual FX
  - Creating Animated Characters
  - DIY Online Wedding Guestbook
  - Build and Export EPUBS and eBooks
  - Creativity Bootcamp
  - Design Your Own Logo

[\(Continued on page 13\)](#)



## Mid-America Library Alliance Updates

### Need Quick Technology Tips? Let lynda.com Help

[\(Continued from page 12\)](#)

- Help patrons learn how to use their new smart phones
- Prepare your organization to communicate with key audiences in the event of a crisis
- Learn how to use Google Drive and Google Docs
- Design and implement customer surveys to improve service
- Leverage mobile apps to reach patrons in new ways
- Keep your IT staff current on the latest products and versions
- Organize your office or workspace for maximum efficiency
- And much, much more!

### For MALA Members Only - and Membership Is Easy!

You or your organization must be a MALA member to be able to purchase licenses at the group rate. If you are in the MALA Get Connected Courier Delivery Service - you ARE a MALA member! Otherwise, it is easy and affordable to become a [MALA Educational Affiliate Member](#) and take advantage of this great training opportunity.

### Make It Happen

To reserve your licenses and for more information, please [sign up online](#) or contact Kirsten Myers, Special Projects Coordinator, by e-mail at [kirstenmyers@mid-americalibraryalliance.org](mailto:kirstenmyers@mid-americalibraryalliance.org) or by phone at (816) 521-7266 or toll-free 877-600-9699.

### Unlimited Access to MALA Webcasts and Library Espresso Shots

Don't know which library webcast to select with your limited professional development budget? How about ALL of them!

We know that library budgets are tight. And even with MALA's affordable rates on individual webcasts, you have had to make choices and prioritize. To fill this need, we have created the MALA All-Access Pass for Webcasts! Now you can watch all of our webcasts -- for a year! -- for one affordable price.

And for those seeking short bursts of training, we developed Library Espresso Shot Training! These short 3-12 minute tutorials cover library-related current topics in a shorter timeframe.

The annual subscription to the MALA All-Access Pass for Webcasts gives you access to all the past, present and future offerings during your subscription year for one rate (\$89.00 for MALA Members and \$189.00 for Non-Members). The MALA All-Access Pass package also includes all of the Library Espresso Shots!

You can also subscribe to just the Library Espresso Shots training for one annual rate (\$25.00 for MALA members and \$50.00 for Non-members).

All the new topics we add to our ever-expanding body of library-specific webcasts or Library Espresso Shots during your subscription period will be available to you, too!

If you would like to see which topics are available now, please visit our [webcast](#) page in our Professional Development section. Please note, the MALA All-Access Pass does not include Harassment Prevention Training for Library Staff and Supervisors.

[Register now](#), or for more information, contact Kirsten Myers by email at [kirstenmyers@mid-americalibraryalliance.org](mailto:kirstenmyers@mid-americalibraryalliance.org) or by phone at 816-521-7266 or toll-free 877-600-9699.

Kirsten Myers  
Special Projects Coordinator and Courier Services  
Mid-America Library Alliance  
[kirstenmyers@mid-americalibraryalliance.org](mailto:kirstenmyers@mid-americalibraryalliance.org)

## Kirkwood Public Library Kicks Off the Summer with an Awesome Box!

There is a new addition to the front lobby of the Kirkwood Public Library – an Awesome Box!! Patrons are encouraged to return those items that were truly great, life-changing, fantastic or just plain awesome to the box, along with a slip that explains why the item was so enjoyable.

The items that are returned in the Awesome Box are then scanned into the Library's Awesome Box website at <http://kirkwoodpl.awesomebox.io>. This site pulls items from the library catalog using those scanned UPCs or ISBNs and uses the information to display the item with a link to the catalog and cover art as well. Materials are sorted into "Recently" and "Most Awesome" and can be sorted by the user by material type, such as book, video or music.

The items are then put at the front of the circulation desk, in a display marked "Awesome!"

The Awesome Box was designed by our own Teen Department staff member and artist-in-residence, Ben Stanfield, generously built by Riggs Construction and then painted by Stanfield. The Awesome Box has livened up our lobby and has given patrons another place to go for a quick recommendation

Lisa Henry  
Kirkwood Public Library  
[lhenry@kirkwoodpubliclibrary.org](mailto:lhenry@kirkwoodpubliclibrary.org)



A view of Kirkwood Public Library's Awesome Box.



Patrons may return items that they would like to recommend to Kirkwood Public Library's Awesome Box.

## A Conference to Remember!

*(Continued from page 11)*

- **Taking the Library to the People: Bookmobiles & Outreach Services:** The Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services invites you to a marketplace of outreach ideas, programming, and services which are happening at libraries across Kansas and Missouri. Learn about traditional and new outreach services while exploring programming partnerships in your community.
- **50 Shades of Quit Judging: Readers' Advisory, Intellectual Freedom, & Personal Taste:** Readers' Advisory provides a vital public service, despite books you may not like! Discover how and why to present these titles as we practice talking about books while learning Advisory tips and tricks.
- **Weave A Tale Workshop:** Storytime librarians unite! Kendra Jones (*Storytime Underground* and *Read, Sing, Play: Adventures in Early Literacy*) is coming to KLA/MLA to present a free, hands-on preconference workshop for children's librarians.

This sampling gives you a taste of conference offerings this fall. Find the full schedule and register on our website, [mlakla2015.weebly.com](http://mlakla2015.weebly.com).

You can still volunteer, too. Fill out our volunteer form at [goo.gl/forms/6l6onHnJ83](http://goo.gl/forms/6l6onHnJ83), and we'll find a place for you! See you September 30 – October 2 for a conference to remember!

Your 2015 Conference Coordinators,  
Dan Brower & Kelly Fann

## Missouri Evergreen News

Cameron Public Library went live on the Evergreen system in late April, and Willow Springs Public Library went live in late June. Schuyler County Library continues to catalog in the Missouri Evergreen database as part of their automation process. Missouri Evergreen conducted its annual business meeting in early June, at the Missouri Public Library Directors' meeting. New Executive Committee members were elected, and the Executive Committee chose officers for the next year. Updates to the consortium By-laws were passed and there was discussion about several topics of interest to the consortium, including creation of reciprocal borrowing agreements between some libraries within the consortium. The MOBIUS Missouri Evergreen staff members attended the International Evergreen Conference in May to learn, network, and present with members of the larger Evergreen community.

The consortium now contains 1,419,180 items, 988,628 bibs, and 236,287 patrons. Member libraries borrow and lend materials within the consortium using the already-existing courier delivery service and patrons can place holds on materials from member libraries in the same way they can from their local systems. The Missouri Evergreen website, <http://libraries.missourievergreen.org>, contains more information about the consortium, including member libraries and borrowing/lending statistics.

The mission of Missouri Evergreen is to provide a shared integrated library system to increase resource sharing among Missouri public libraries. Administered by MOBIUS, it is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as Administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Deborah Luchenbill  
Evergreen Coordinator  
[deborah@mobiusteam.org](mailto:deborah@mobiusteam.org)

## Amigos Updates

### Potter elected chair of Amigos Board of Directors

Amigos Library Services is pleased to announce that Steve Potter, Independence, MO, has been elected chair of the Amigos Board of Directors for 2015-16. Mr. Potter serves as Library Director and CEO of the Mid-Continent Public Library, the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, serving over 770,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte counties, providing access through 36 service outlets, including four co-located branches and a virtual library.

Other officers for 2015-16 are Vice Chair Craig Stephenson, City Manager, City of Ponca City, OK; Secretary Lisa Wells, Assistant Director, Pioneer Library System, Norman, OK; and Treasurer Robin Fradenburgh, Associate Director, University of Texas at Austin Libraries.

The following individuals have been elected to new three-year terms on the Amigos Board:

- Ruben Aragon, Director of Library & Information Services, New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, NM
- Sheila Johnson, Dean of Libraries, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK
- Ben Shipley, Attorney, Fort Smith, AR
- Jennifer Strayhorn, Library Director, Texarkana Public Library, Texarkana, AR-TX

Elected for one year to complete an unexpired term:

- Linda Morgan Davis, Assistant Director, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library, Albuquerque, NM

They join returning Board members:

- Elizabeth MacDonald, Dean of University Library Services, Lindenwood University, St. Charles, MO
- Gretchen McCord, Attorney and Consultant, Austin, TX
- Polly McCord, Graduate Research Librarian, University of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, TX
- Bonnie Juergens, President & Chief Executive Officer, Amigos Library Services, Dallas, TX, (Ex Officio)

### 2015 Fellowship and Opportunity Award winners announced

The Amigos Library Services Board of Directors is pleased to announce the winners of its 2015 Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Award.

Katie Peery and Peace Williamson  
University of Texas at Arlington Libraries  
Arlington, TX

Project Title: *Innovation Beyond the Stacks: UT Arlington Libraries Delivers the Digital Audio Experience Studio*

J.B. Hill  
University of Arkansas at Little Rock  
Little Rock, AR

Project Title: *Developing a GIS Resource Service at a Community-Engaged Metropolitan University*

Each year, the Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Award Program awards up to \$10,000 to library and information professionals in Amigos member libraries to fund development projects. Later this year, Amigos will announce the application process for 2016 funds. Staff members from any Amigos member institution are eligible to apply for funds to support innovative development projects.

The program evolved out of the Amigos Fellowship Program, founded in 1990. In 25 years, the program has awarded over \$120,000 to foster resource-sharing and development. Beginning in 2011, the program's purposes were expanded to include funding that will encourage Amigos member libraries to innovate, cooperate, lead, and educate within their libraries, their communities, and the library profession. A key aspect of the program is sharing the experiences of members with other members: visit the Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Award Program website for previous winners and their project reports.

[\*\(Continued on page 19\)\*](#)



## Springfield-Green County Library Updates

### Friends of the Library sale hits record \$129,940.14

The Friends of the Springfield-Greene County Library District hit a new sales record during its April 20-26 Spring Book Sale with a whopping \$129,940.14 in sales. The event offered books, CDs, DVDs, audiobooks, vinyl records, games and puzzles ranging from 25 cents to \$1; better books were priced separately. Some 352 volunteers worked the sale, giving 3,596 hours. Proceeds from the sale benefit projects and programs of the library district.



SGCL's Friends of the Library sale

### Library Station begins offering passport service

Applying for a U.S. passport in Springfield is more convenient after the Library Station, the north-side branch of the Springfield-Greene County Library District, became the second branch to accept passport applications beginning Monday, June 8. The south-side Library Center began offering the service and providing passport photos on June 9, 2014. The libraries, with more and later hours, seven-day service and no appointments necessary, offer more convenience for busy students and families than the city's main post office. The staffs underwent training required by the U.S. Department of State, which sets the fee schedule for passport applications.

### Library Foundation gets boost during Give Ozarks event

The Springfield-Greene County Library Foundation grew a \$30,676 permanent endowment for early literacy during the region's first-ever Give Ozarks Day. On Tuesday, May 5, from midnight to midnight, a 24-hour online giving marathon, sponsored by the Community Foundation of the Ozarks, or CFO, brought together over 125 participating CFO agency partners and affiliates who collectively raised nearly \$1 million with cash prizes offered by event sponsors to the participating agencies. The Library Foundation received a \$5,000 matching challenge grant from the CFO. The library district drew media attention with a 6-8 a.m. event at the Library Center, "Yoga, Doughnuts and Donations." The public could take one or both 50-minute yoga classes with a local yoga instructor who volunteered her time. Those not up for yoga could munch on doughnuts and coffee, and everyone could make an online donation to The Foundation on portable laptops.

### PBS' Daniel Tiger visit draws 500 fans

Courtesy of Ozarks Public Broadcasting, some 500 children and adults swarmed the Library Station on Saturday, May 2, for a glimpse of and a photo with Daniel Tiger, star of the PBS TV series *Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood* geared for preschoolers. Kids also watched an episode of the program in the Story Hour Room.



Some young fans enjoy a visit by PBS star Daniel Tiger to the Library Station branch.

### Food Bank and library district team up all summer

The Library District and Ozarks Food Harvest are partnering on a food drive called "Be a Hunger Hero" May 16-Aug. 7 during the Summer Reading Program. Patrons and staff members who donate two nonperishable food or hygiene items can complete forms at the libraries for monthly prize drawings, in June, July and August. There is no limit on entries. The monthly prizes are gift certificates provided by area ice cream and pizza companies, skate parks, bowling lanes, and other area attractions.

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## St. Louis County Library Updates

### County Library wins Top Innovator Award from Urban Libraries Council

The Urban Libraries Council has chosen St. Louis County Library as its 2015 Top Innovator in the Health, Wellness and Public Safety category for the library's Summer Free Lunch Program. The program, which started in 2014, distributes free summer lunches for children ages 2-18 in collaboration with Operation Food Search. In its first year, the program served 8,500 lunches to area children who might otherwise have gone hungry.

The Urban Libraries Council (ULC) commended the St. Louis County Library (SLCL) for partnering with Operation Food Search (OFS.) The meals are funded through the State of Missouri and coordinated by OFS as part of their "No Kid Hungry" initiative. The library provides complementary activities such as board games, crafts, live performers and story times during and after the lunch hour. Kids and families are also encouraged to use their library cards or sign up for one.

The program is in its second year providing free lunch to area children. In 2015, the program expanded from three library branches to four, offering lunches Monday through Friday from June to mid-August. Details about the program can be found [here](#).

"St. Louis County Library's free summer lunch program is vital to kids and families who rely on free lunch service during the school year but are often left empty-handed once school is out," said SLCL Library Director Kristen Sorth. "Every summer hundreds of kids come through our doors, so this partnership with Operation Food Search allows us to reach those who are hungry, while also introducing them to library resources. Together we're fighting hunger and promoting literacy."

Last summer, Missouri and Illinois were among six states the USDA targeted to expand the summer lunch programs because of the states' poverty levels and historically low summer meal participation.

The ULC is a membership association of leading public library systems in the United States and Canada. Each year the ULC honors the best practices and innovations in a variety of categories such as education, lifelong learning, workforce and economic development, public safety, health and wellness and environmental sustainability.

The awards are given at the ULC Annual Forum which is in San Jose, California, June 24-June 26.

For more information, contact Jennifer McBride at [jmcbride@slcl.org](mailto:jmcbride@slcl.org) or 314-994-3300, ext. 2250.

### St. Louis County Library Director Honored as One of St. Louis' Most Influential Business Women

St. Louis County Library District is proud to announce that Library Director Kristen Sorth has been selected as one of the St. Louis Business Journal's Most Influential Business Women for 2015. In her role as Library Director, Kristen Sorth oversees the workings of the 20 branch, 600+ employee library system which, in 2014, saw its second consecutive year circulating more than 14 million items. The District's annual budget exceeds \$50 million dollars, and it is currently conducting an ambitious multi million-dollar renovation program to transform 19 branches into state of the art library facilities. Ms. Sorth has been director since 2013.

Before her appointment as director, Kristen Sorth served 15 years as head of St. Louis County Library's (SLCL's) human resources functions. In 2012, she was appointed Assistant Director of Administration where she added building systems and facilities, finance, procurement, transportation and security to her human resources responsibilities. In late 2013, the library's Board of Trustees appointed her Interim Director, and shortly thereafter, Director of the St. Louis County Library. She is the first woman director in the library's 69-year history.

Under Ms. Sorth's leadership, the Library District has received numerous accolades—including an invitation to participate in President Obama's Library ConnectED Challenge; consecutive years as a Top Place to Work by the St. Louis Post Dispatch; and being named the 2014 Missouri Library of the Year by the Missouri Library Association.

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## Amigos Updates

[\(Continued from page 16\)](#)

### Amigos issues call for proposals for September online conference

Title: "Open Source Software and Tools for the Library and Archive"

When: September 17, 2015

Where: Online

Admission: free to Amigos members

Have you made the move to integrate open source software? If so, we want to hear about it and share it with others!

Amigos Library Services is looking for presenters for our upcoming September conference, "Open Source Software and Tools for the Library and Archive." We are looking for success stories concerning open source software or tools used in a recent or current project.

We encourage a wide variety of projects (content or institutional repositories, integrated library systems, public-facing websites, etc.) that have utilized open source tools. Examples could include Omeka, WordPress, Koha, Audacity, Drupal, Archivists' Toolkit, Ushahidi, or self-created or modified software.

If you can speak on one of these topics or have another idea in mind, please submit your proposal by July 13. Don't worry if you've never presented online. It's easy, and we are happy to train you and provide technical support during your presentation.

For more information about this conference, contact Carmen Cowick, [cowick@amigos.org](mailto:cowick@amigos.org) or 800-843-8482, ext. 2844.

### Classes coming in July

Here's a quick look at classes scheduled for July

- [Doing Digital Preservation: Small Steps to Ensuring Access](#) July 22-23, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. CDT
- [Metadata Principles and Practices 01: Metadata Basics](#) July 28, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. CDT
- [Metadata Principles and Practices 02: Metadata Standards and Types](#) July 30, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. CDT

Don't forget to email us at [learning@amigos.org](mailto:learning@amigos.org) if you have a suggestion for a class topic.

### July Know & Go update to focus on preservation site surveys

The *Know and Go* update scheduled for July 20, 1:30-2:30 p.m. CDT, will tell you everything you need to know about this important tool in your preservation arsenal.

What is a preservation site survey? What is a collection survey? In this one-hour webinar, learn what these different surveys cover and how they can assist you in various planning processes in your organization. Also, learn what funding is available to cover these surveys.

Learning Objectives:

- Explain the difference between site and collection surveys
- List ways that surveys can be used in planning activities in your organization
- List various funding options for these types of surveys
- Target audience: anyone responsible for collections care or maintenance

*Know & Go* updates are part of a series of informative web sessions covering topics of current interest. Designed for group participation, *Know & Go* updates are presented online on Monday afternoons.

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## Amigos Updates

### July Know & Go update to focus on preservation site surveys

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Fees:

Know & Go updates are a no-charge benefit for Amigos members. The registration fee for non-members is \$25 per session.

Register:

<https://www.amigos.org/civicrm/event/register?id=633&reset=1>

### Amigos eShelf<sup>SM</sup> Service update

A few weeks ago, we put out a call for libraries interested in being part of our Amigos eShelf<sup>SM</sup> Service Early Release Program. This program will allow libraries to use the service with their patrons and pay only for the e-books they purchase during the program. In return, they will continue to help us test and provide us with valuable feedback. We are finalizing details with the Early Release Program libraries, and anticipate they will begin using the service within a couple of weeks.

In the meantime, we have had a number of wonderful pilot libraries testing the system over the past months. The last set of tests involved our pilot libraries ordering e-books titles and searching those titles within an Amigos-supported interface. If desired, these pilot libraries could also download the MARC records and cover art for the titles they ordered.

How can you help us? Tell us which publishers you would like to see in the Amigos eShelf<sup>SM</sup> Service. If you have suggestions, email them to E-book Project Manager Christine Peterson, [peterston@amigos.org](mailto:peterston@amigos.org). Once this service is underway, we will be focusing on increasing the size and diversity of the collection. Your suggestions are appreciated.

Larry Godwin  
Communications Specialist  
Amigos Library Services  
[godwin@amigos.org](mailto:godwin@amigos.org)

## Springfield-Green County Library Updates

[\(Continued from page 17\)](#)

### Libraries are stops in Passport to Healthy Living

Springfield-area residents are embarking on a tour of free attractions with the summer Passport to Healthy Living project led by AARP of Springfield. May 26-Aug. 8. Anyone of any age can pick up a passport at four of the city library branches, parks, and other public sites to begin answering questions in the "information scavenger hunt." The citywide project highlights community resources and attractions that focus on mental and physical health — including the library. Participants answer at least 13 of 26 questions in the passport (some require a signature from a library program speaker or librarian) and turn in the passport for a small gift from AARP. Completed passports will be entered into drawings for prizes awarded at an Aug. 22 party at Mediacom Ice Park. Passport to Healthy Living is sponsored by AARP in Springfield, the Springfield-Greene County Park Board, the Springfield-Greene County Library District, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, and the City of Springfield.



Kathleen O'Dell  
Community Relations Director  
Springfield-Greene County Library District  
[kathleeno@thelibrary.org](mailto:kathleeno@thelibrary.org)



## St. Louis County Library Updates

### St. Louis County Library Director Honored as One of St. Louis' Most Influential Business Women

[\(Continued from page 18\)](#)

In her role as director, Sorth has stressed the importance of community outreach and has initiated several partnerships with community organizations including Operation Food Search, Mid-East Area Agency on Aging and Byte Works. Such partnerships have allowed the library to improve the lives of thousands and to reinforce the value of having a strong public library. One such example is the library's partnership with Operation Food Search. In 2014, the two organizations offered programming and lunches to over 8,500 area children at three library branches. The program was so successful it's been expanded to four SLCL branches in 2015.

Kristen Sorth is a collaborative, hard-working community leader. Because of her dedication to excellence, Kristen was also selected to participate in FOCUS St. Louis' 38th Leadership class as well as the Coro Women in Leadership Program. She earned a Masters of Public Administration degree from University of Missouri--Columbia. A resident of the City of St. Louis, Sorth volunteers for several organizations including Gateway Greening, the Tilles Park Neighborhood Association and Kennard Classical Jr. Academy. She serves on two boards: Big Brothers/ Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri and the Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs' Alumni Advisory Board.

Ms. Sorth was nominated by PNC Bank for the honor she shares with 24 other influential women in St. Louis. Another nomination came from within the library.

### St. Louis County Library Joins ConnectEd Library Challenge

St. Louis County Library has been selected to participate in the ConnectEd Library Challenge, a project whose goal is to get every child a library card, and expand eBook access to low income students. SLCL is one of only 30 library districts in the U.S. chosen for the program and the only one in Missouri.

SLCL will begin the ConnectEd Library Challenge with two County school districts. Starting this fall, all students in grades K-12 in both the Jennings and Parkway School Districts will automatically be issued a library card. Parents can opt out of the program for their children and those who already have a library card will not need another. The exact procedures and implementation process will be discussed before the school year resumes.

The ConnectEd Library Challenge is sponsored by President Barack Obama, and endorsed by the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences, the American Library Association, and the Urban Libraries Council. County Executive Steve Stenger has also endorsed the initiative.

In conjunction with ConnectED Library Challenge, the Open eBooks initiative will make over \$250 million in free eBooks available to low-income students. An app is being developed that will deliver popular eBooks from major publishers to students in low-income families.

Communities adopting the ConnectED Library Challenge include: Baltimore, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Clinton Ma-comb, Columbus, Cuyahoga County, D.C., Denver, Hartford, Hennepin County, Howard County, Indianapolis, Madison, Milwaukee, New Haven, Oakland, Pierce County, Pima, Pocatello, Pueblo City, Ramsey County, Columbia, Rochester Hills, Rochester, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle, Skokie, and St. Louis.

### St. Louis County Library Named Top Work Place

St. Louis County Library has been named a Top Place to Work by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The [announcement](#) was made in a special section of the paper on June 28, 2015. SLCL was #5 in the "Large Employer" category.

The Top Workplace designation was made after library staff were surveyed by Workplace Dynamics, an independent research company. Staff responded online to 25 questions designed by Workplace Dynamics regarding the library

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## St. Louis County Library Updates

### St. Louis County Library Named Top Work Place

[\(Continued from page 21\)](#)

Library Director Kristen Sorth said, “We want our employees to be happy and to love their job. The mission of the St. Louis County Library has an impact on this. As library employees, we are incredibly lucky to be able to come to work every day and have an impact on the lives of our customers. SLCL employees are passionate about customer service and giving back to the community.”

Staff responded to questions about job satisfaction, benefits, management, training opportunities and leadership. Answers were on a 7-point scale ranging from “strongly agree” to “strongly disagree.” Two questions allowed respondents to write their own comments. All answers went to Workplace Dynamics, which created a summary. A question-by-question analysis will be sent to the library in a few weeks.

SLCL employs over 650 individuals. The library offers its employees health, life and dental insurance, as well as a pension and 457 plan. More information about employment opportunities at SLCL can be found at [www.slcl.org](http://www.slcl.org).

### St. Louis County Library's Sweet Reads program recognized by NACIO

St. Louis County Library's Sweet Reads program has been recognized by the National Association of County Information Officers in the association's 2015 Awards of Excellence Competition. Sweet Reads was given a Meritorious level award in the Public Education Campaign Category.

Now in its second year, Sweet Reads serves those who do not have the means to visit one of St. Louis County Library's 20 branches. Using a custom-designed bookmobile, library staff take reading material to 11 locations in North County. Participants, most of whom are children, do not need a library card, as Sweet Reads is based on the honor system. The library fills the vehicle with donated and discarded material, including 15,000 items given to the library specifically for this program by Half Price Books. Over 5,700 books have been borrowed since the new bookmobile hit the streets in March 2015.

The National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) hosts its annual Awards of Excellence in Communications contest to recognize the best works of public information officers and communications staff. The competition honors a variety of communications projects that include public relations campaigns, brochures and publications, articles and press releases, videos and Internet/electronic innovations.

For more information, contact Jennifer McBride at [jmcbride@slcl.org](mailto:jmcbride@slcl.org) or 314-994-3300, ext. 2250.

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## Corrections: July 20, 2015

The following corrections were made to the original issue of *MO Info* on July 20, 2015:

- In “Summer at MLA: Elections, Bylaw Changes, and Membership Dues,” three items are to be approved by the Membership, instead of two
- In “2015 MLA Executive Board Elections Candidate Statements and Election Information “, bios, statements, and photos added for Katie Schneider and Beth Hemke Shapiro to the list of Members-at-Large candidates

Thank you,

Jennifer Parsons  
Chair, *MO Info* Subcommittee  
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The Missouri Library Association, Columbia, MO, est. 1900, is the Missouri State Chapter of the American Library Association, Chicago, IL.

### MO INFO Submission Guidelines

**MO INFO** (ISSN 0884-2205) is published six times/year (January, March, May, July, September, and November).

The most recent issue as well as back issues of MO INFO can be viewed on the MLA membership webpage at <http://molib.org/about/mo-info-newsletter>.

MO INFO is produced by the Publications Committee. To facilitate the Committee's production process, please follow the submission suggestions below.

Article format:

- Microsoft Word document
- Include desired headline and your contact email and role in MLA
- Include digital photos (with captions) and graphics with your articles as desired

Article and Advertising Submission Deadline: 15th of the month preceding publication.

Article copy submitted by email to Jennifer Parsons at [parsons.jm@gmail.com](mailto:parsons.jm@gmail.com).

### 2015 MLA Executive Board

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