Dear Reader

Welcome to the first installment of The Front Porch, the official ALA Legacy Society e-newsletter. Thanks to new technology, we are able to bring this to you as an interactive e-mail. Below, for the launch issue, Marc Huber, Michael Gallego and I pulled together some photographs from ALA's past. Some have links to further information and other websites.

For future issues, please share with us your Association stories or what interests you within the wider ALA Legacy Society community. Your postings could range from what you are currently working on to where your next vacation is, where you have just come back from or what book(s) you are reading. Please send me your updates for the next e-newsletter (submission deadline: June 14, 2013) at kolsen-clark@ala.org. We welcome photos and links to websites!

Of course, we'll be adding some relevant ALA information that you might find useful to The Front Porch - note the special ALA13 conference call-out on the left side. We'll also keep you updated about the 15x15 Campaign, new Legacy Society members, any Washington updates that may affect you as a donor, and so on!

We hope you will enjoy our first issue. It's a blast from the past and a look towards the future.

With warm regards,

Kim Olsen-Clark
Director, ALA Development Office
New Legacy Society Members
(since June 2012)

Robert E. Banks
Penny Johnson
Geri Hansen Mann
Virginia B. Moore
Jim and Fran Neal
Joyce Ogburn and Steven Eichner
Kimberly Patton
Mary Jane Petrowski
Patricia Wand

From the Archives

ALA Member: James Lyman Whitney
Bequest to ALA: 1910

James Lyman Whitney (1835-1910), a native of Massachusetts and graduate of Yale College, began service as a librarian at Boston Public Library in 1899. He later took charge of that library's department of documents, statistics, and manuscripts and also worked as chief cataloger.

Whitney attended the American Library Association Conference of Librarians in 1882 at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he presented a paper on the selection and preparation of library assistants, which appeared a month later in Library Journal. The qualifications he enumerated were such that many library assistants of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries would never have matched his standards. His brother, Henry Mitchell Whitney, was a Civil War veteran, theologian, pastor, professor, author, and librarian of the James Blackstone Memorial Library at Beloit College in Wisconsin.

source: Librarianship in Gilded Age America: An Anthology of Writings, 1868-1901 by Leonard Schlup and Stephen H. Paschen (Editor)
1926 Annual Conference, Washington DC

75 Years later, 2001 ALA Conference, San Francisco

Were you there?

National Library Week 2013

There were great videos produced for National Library Week. Did you find a favorite?

ALA
Allen County Public Library
Amy Oelkers, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN
Dunedin, Florida
Shaping the Future with Planned Giving

Those who work in libraries, support libraries, or serve libraries have diverse expectations and expertise. But all have found their professional homes in the American Library Association.

Not surprisingly, when it comes to thinking about leaving a legacy, the answers are just as multi-faceted among ALA supporters. To date, 35 planned gifts from ALA Legacy Society members, totaling approximately $3.18 million, have been pledged with targeted guidelines for their use. Out of those 35 planned gift designations, more than 50% are directed toward divisions and round tables. Nearly 25% of all planned gifts are directed toward Spectrum and general scholarship support.

Designating a planned gift is a way for our donors to make an impact in a way that is most meaningful to them, and that is uniquely their own. Whether it is their favorite division or round table, or a program of ALA, all of those aspects of the Association benefit from the generosity and vision of our planned giving supporters.

Visit our website to find out what motivated some of our ALA Legacy Society members to make a planned gift.