Greetings from the Chair

Jean-Baptiste Colbert’s Secret State Intelligence System (University of Michigan Press, 2009). Dr. Soll is also a recent winner of fellowships from the Guggenheim and MacArthur Foundations. The title of his Holley lecture will be “Library of Power, Library of Enlightenment: Libraries as Foundations to the Modern State 1400-1800.”

Bernadette Lear, vice-chair/elect, recently sent out a CFP for the LHRT Research Forum. This event is a wonderful opportunity for scholars to present their findings in a peer-reviewed forum. Submissions are encouraged from students, practitioners, and LIS faculty. The broad theme this year is “Library History as American History” which we hope will generate submissions from a variety of disciplines and scholars who are interested in the intersections that libraries have with political, social, and cultural movements in the U.S.

We will again host our ALA midwinter executive committee meeting online in January 2013. We will post the agenda and instructions for joining the meeting on the ALA LHRT listserv and the ALA Connect site http://connect.ala.org/lhrt. All LHRT members are encouraged to attend and we value your contributions.

Another valuable activity that LHRT has the opportunity to be involved in is the Library History Seminar. The seminar is held every five years at a university or library and provides a venue for new and important scholarship in the area of library history and print culture. We are still seeking a host for the 2015 Library History Seminar. More information can be found on the ALA Connect site at http://connect.ala.org/node/190560 or contact Mark McCallon at mccallonm@acu.edu. You can also see the RFP in this issue of the newsletter.

In closing, I want to express my appreciation to all of the LHRT committee members who have devoted their time and efforts to make this organization a success.

I look forward to meeting all of you online at our virtual midwinter meeting and seeing you at ALA annual next year in Chicago.

—Mark McCallon, Abilene Christian University

Inside this issue:

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What Is It?:
The Perfect Pencil Sharpener

Thumbing through old Library Bureau catalogs the other day, I found a photograph of what seemed to be an overly complex solution to a simple problem: what to do with a dull pencil. Melvil Dewey’s company was offering a desk-mounted contraption which provided a sliding guide for those who wished to scrape their pencils across a file. Marketed as “the Perfect Pencil Sharpener,” the Library Bureau promised that it would “[save] soiled fingers and much time where lead pencils are used to any extent.” For one dollar, the buyer could obtain this item “selected from all the candidates for favor as the best.” Being a bit ham-handed, I readily pictured myself grinding pencils to nubs, leaving shavings and broken points all over the floor. Surely there was a better sharpener!

“Turns out, there may not have been. As Henry Petroski described in his definitive book, The Pencil: A History of Design and Circumstance (Knopf, 1989), until the turn of the century the most common way of sharpening a pencil was to whittle it by hand with a knife. In fact, early scout manuals instructed boys in sharpening their pencils effectively and safely. Yet whittling was hardly a solution for busy commercial enterprises. Thus the race was on to patent a mechanical sharpener, as well as devices appropriate for institutional use. Searching Google’s patent search engine, one finds no fewer than 1,600 different inventions or improvements dating from the 1850s to 1920s relating to pencil sharpeners. The small “prism” style item that some people carry in their pockets today creates a point when the user rotates his or her pencil against a single blade. Conversely, the hand-cranked model typically screwed into schoolroom or workshop walls involves two sharp cones or cylinders that rotate around the pencil. These two types eventually won the twentieth-century marketplace, but for a long time there were many other devices.

I have been unable to determine who invented or manufactured the model preferred by the Library Bureau, which appeared in the 1891 and 1900 (but not in the 1902 or 1909) catalogs. The Library Bureau description does not refer to a manufacturer or patent number. Visiting the web site of the — continued, page 6
Member Spotlight:
Michael Gorman

Editor’s Note: The “Member Spotlight” section usually provides interviews with talented but perhaps not so well-known members of LHRT. Michael Gorman, the focus of this semester’s interview, is certainly a well-known persona in ALA, but many are unaware that he is also a member of LHRT.

BAL: Tell us a little bit about yourself: your town/state, your occupation, your educational background, and other things to introduce yourself.

MG: I was born in Witney, Oxfordshire, England in 1941. After World War II, my family moved to London and I spent the next 30+ years there, before moving to the US in 1977. I worked in the University of Illinois Library and the library of the California State University, Ealing, before retiring in 2007 and moving to Chicago, in which I now live. I went to library school in what is now the University of the Thames Valley in London from 1964 to 1966.

BAL: Please share a fond, early memory of reading books/magazines or using libraries.

MG: During the War, my father, a regular soldier in the British Army, was in North Africa and Italy. My mother worked in a munitions factory. I went to school at when 3 years old in lieu of day care and cannot remember not being able to read or even learning to read. It has been my constant habit (obsession?) ever since. I started going to public libraries several times a week when we moved to London and was very fortunate to have, as my local library, a progressive children’s library run by Eileen Colwell, one of the pioneers in that field and my first Great Librarian. It was there that I first thought that library work must be an excellent thing.

BAL: How and why did you get involved with libraries? If you are a library employee or retiree, where have you worked and what positions have you held over the course of your career?

MG: I left school at 16 under less than auspicious circumstances and was lucky to get a notably ill-paid job as a junior assistant in Hampstead Public Library in the days (alas, now in their death throes) when London’s public libraries were one of the cultural treasures of Britain. After a hiatus in Paris as a would-be starving writer (I nailed the starving part), I worked in another London PL (in Ealing). After library school (at which I contracted my career long interest in cataloguing) I worked for the British National Bibliography, then in the newly formed British Library before moving to the USA.

BAL: How did you become interested in the history of libraries? What areas of library history interest you most? What topics? Which time periods? Any specific places?

MG: One of the few benefits of age and a long and varied career is that one has lived some library history and even known and worked with significant figures in that history. Because of my interest in (obsession with?) cataloguing and classification, I am especially interested in the development of modern codes of cataloguing and classification schemes—Panizzi; Dewey; Jewett; Cutter; UDC, Bliss; the 1908; Vatican; 1949; and 1968 codes, etc. I am also very interested in post-World War II British public libraries and the laws that govern them. I wrote on the scant history of writings specifically on the fundamental values of librarianship.

BAL: Have you ever published an article, book, web site, or other publication about library history? If so, what was that experience like for you? What words of advice would you give to novice researchers?

MG: I am not a researcher (in the pre-21st century not-yet-debased sense of that word). I am an opinionated polemicist by inclination and have written in that vein on various aspects

— continued, page 6
Byways:
The Uris Library of Cornell University

The Finger Lakes region of central New York State may not be well-known as a mecca for library history. Thousands of Pennsylvanians like me have traveled north on routes 15 or 81 to view the fall foliage, admire the gorgeous waterfalls at Watkins Glen, and sample wineries along the way. Passing through Ithaca last year, I decided to take a tour of Cornell University and stumbled upon a bibliophile’s gem: the Uris Library.

World-class library resources have long been a priority at Cornell. As an exhibit within the library explained, the first president of Cornell, Andrew Dickson White, had “envisioned a great library as the heart of the university he helped to establish.” Early students had access to books stored in Morrill Hall, which were later moved to McGraw Hall. Without knowing anything more about the library’s history, my curiosity was piqued by a plaque just outside the Uris Library’s entrance: “The good she tried to do shall stand as if ‘twere done; God finishes the work by noble souls begun. In loving memory of Jennie McGraw Fiske whose purpose to found a great library for Cornell University has been defeated. This house is built and endowed by her friend, Henry W. Sage, 1891.”

What is this all about, I wondered. Who or what “defeated” earlier attempts at establishing a library? Did Fiske die tragically? Were she and Sage romantically involved?

Later I learned the plaque refers to a controversy over one of the library’s endowments. Jennie McGraw was the daughter of lumber merchant John McGraw, who was an early trustee and benefactor of the college. Unmarried most of her life and suffering from tuberculosis, Jennie inherited much of her father’s fortune when he died in 1877. In a will written shortly thereafter, she bequeathed $200,000 to Cornell’s library fund and much more to other initiatives on campus. Yet in 1880, she married Willard Fiske, the university’s librarian, an action which invalidated her will. Her intended gifts may also have been barred by Cornell’s charter, which placed a three million dollar limit on endowments. For nearly a decade, Fiske contested the will on these grounds, while scandal-mongering newspapers of the day alleged conspiracies on all sides of the dispute. The case reached the Supreme Court and was ultimately decided in Fiske’s favor. Angered by the lawsuit’s outcome, Henry W. Sage, a business partner of John McGraw and himself generous donor, erected a library building in Jennie McGraw Fiske’s memory.

Sage not only provided a structure valued at more than $200,000, but also established a sizeable fund for books. The building was designed to promote use of such resources. In academic libraries of the period, it was not uncommon for books to be restricted to faculty and graduate student use. Further, in many closed-stack libraries, library staff typically pulled books and brought them to patrons waiting in small “delivery rooms.” However, at Cornell, the circulation desk was situated within a large reading room with plenty of seating for undergraduates. Though materials were non-circulating, the library’s opening hours were relatively generous, nine hours per day. The library was lit by electricity, an innovation which extended opening hours into the evening. Today, the reading area has been renovated and the massive banks of card catalogs have been replaced with rows of computers, yet one can still sit at wooden tables with high privacy screens as did students of decades ago.

Jenny McGraw and Henry Sage were not the only benefactors of Cornell’s library. By donating their personal book collections to the college, both Andrew Dickson White and Willard Fiske (yes, Jenny’s husband) formed the core of the library’s collection. As a stipulation of his gift, White insisted that his materials be shelved in a fireproof area. At the time, metal bookshelves filled this need, and the Uris Library has retained three-story tiers of handsome stacks. To see them, one must leave the reading room, climb a flight of stairs, and enter a space with deep red carpeting which seems to be at the heart of the library. Among Cornell students, the ambiance of the Andrew Dickson White Library has earned it the sobriquet “Harry Potter Library.” Indeed, century-old map cases, gilt-framed portraits, and the curlicued bookstacks (accessed by winding staircases) make anyone feel they are stepping back in time. With the library’s high ceilings and windows overlooking Ithaca, one could imagine being in a castle of long ago. Unsurpris-
ingly, I spied few empty seats on the date of my visit.

Renamed Uris Library in the early 1960s after a trustee, Cornell’s old library still primarily serves undergraduates. Just across the sidewalk is Olin Library, built in 1961, which houses the bulk of Cornell’s formidable collection. If you are ever find yourself in the southeast section of the Finger Lakes region, I’d encourage a visit to this beautiful, intriguing, and pathbreaking library.

**Further Reading**

Cornell University Library, “Uris Library Historical Tour: Andrew Dickson White Library,” available online at http://olinuris.library.cornell.edu/print/15882.


Selkreg, John H., Landmarks of Tompkins County, New York, Including a History of Cornell University (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason, 1894).

—Bernadette A. Lear, Penn State Harrisburg

Entrance to Uris Library, Cornell University. Image courtesy of the author.

Andrew Dickson White Library within the Uris Library, Cornell University. Image courtesy of the author.
Pencil Sharpeners, cont.

Early Office Museum (http://www.officemuseum.com/), a large online exhibit of antique office equipment, I found the likeliest candidate to be the Perfect Pencil Pointer. Through consulting auction and collector web sites, I learned that this device was patented on April 29, 1890 (patent 426716) by Edwin S. Drake and manufactured by the Perfect Pencil Pointer Company of Portland, Maine (say that three times fast!). Apparently nineteenth-century users of the “perfect” sharpener were as ham-handed as I am: an instructional label pasted to the bottom of each item, warned the user in bold type “DON’T BEAR ON HARD!”

The Perfect Pencil Pointer was not far removed from the pen knife of old. By 1914 librarians clearly favored the hand-cranked, rotating-cylinder type. An article in the July 1914 issue of Library Journal, describing an exhibition of labor-saving devices, advocated the Climax and the Dexter models made by APCS and the Boston Pencil Pointer manufactured by the Boston Specialty Company of New York. Another point were mechanical pencils, which, as Petroski points out, first appeared no later than the 1820s and were mass-produced by the 1920s. The lowly pencil continues to evolve. The latest iteration are “Smencils” which are manufactured from recycled paper and scented in cinnamon, passion fruit, root bear, and every other imaginable flavor. One of my friends who is a children’s librarian tells me that Smencils have been a popular giveaway item for summer reading programs, thus it seems our profession continues to be at the cutting edge of writing technology!

—Bernadette A. Lear, Penn State Harrisburg

Michael Gorman, cont.

of library history—either directly or as part of an argument I was developing or a position I was advocating. Far be it from me to give advice to anyone, but, if forced, would say that all writing relies on careful reading followed by constant writing. In other words, be what you want to become.

B.A.L.: If you could chat with one famous librarian or literary figure from the past, who would it be and why?

MG: I would be torn between Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan (1892-1972), in my view the greatest librarian of the 20th century, and Antonio (later Sir Anthony) Panizzi (1797-1879), the creator of the idea of the national library and of the modern cataloging code, inter alia, and the only prominent librarian to have been condemned to death (albeit in absentia). I knew a number of people who knew Dr. Ranganathan very well and regret very much not having met him. However, I feel that Sir Anthony, Italian rebel turned pillar of the Victorian establishment, would be the more interesting conversationalist.

B.A.L.: Someday, when a historian sits down to write an article about libraries in the first years of the 21st century, what do you think he or she will emphasize? Why?

MG: Heaven only knows. It’s such a mixed picture. The death of standards, the abandonment of the idea of libraries as a common good, and naïve technophilia (among other ills) on the one hand and the astonishing technological possibilities and the surviving culture of learning on the other. Will the future be like the Dark Ages—dark wastelands of barbarism and Kar-dashianism lit by outposts of learning, with a few libraries and universities taking the role of Ireland—the island of saints and scholars? Or will the picture resemble the centuries after Gutenberg, when the chaos of early printing and publishing, so like our own dear internet, gave way to structures that allowed learning to flourish? Or will civilization end in an eco-whimper, making libraries and everything else irrelevant? It will be interesting.
**Request for Site Proposals:**

**Library History Seminar XIII**

LHRT is issuing another request for proposals for an institutional host for Library History Seminar XIII to take place in the year 2015.

**History and Overview**

The Library History Seminar (LHS) was established in 1961 and has become the most prestigious international conference dedicated to the study of the history of librarianship. LHS takes place every five years. The conference often attracts over 100 scholars from across the United States and abroad. Papers from past conferences have been published as a special issue of the journals Information and Culture and Library Trends, and also in monograph form.

LHRT’s Executive Committee will make the final decision at the ALA midwinter meeting in January 2013. Executive committee members will select a site primarily based on written proposals received by the deadline of December 1st, 2012.

The host institution finances Library History Seminar using grants, gifts, internal budget allocations, and registration fees. Previous conferences featured a limited number of scholarships for graduate students. LHRT may also provide a small grant for scholarships. It is imperative that proposals include information on budgeting the conference, and potential sources of funding to make the seminar possible.

The LHRT executive committee recommends that applicants include a theme in the proposal, but emphasizes that this is an important scholarly forum that should provide ample opportunities for historical research presentations on other aspects of library history in its widest scope, and encourage diversity of speakers in terms of geography, ethnicity, gender and subject specialty while also maintaining LHS’s high standards for historical research.

Please send your proposal by December 1st, 2012 in electronic form (as either MS Word attachment or as plain e-mail text) to Mark McCallon at mccallonm@acu.edu.

The document should be 2 to 5 pages long. Proposals will be distributed to all members of the LHRT Executive Committee. Please e-mail any questions to Mark McCallon at the above e-mail address or call (325) 674-2348.

**Application Outline**

Please submit proposals and direct inquiries to Mark McCallon, LHRT Chairperson, 2012-2013, mccallonm@acu.edu. Below is the suggested outline.

Proposal to Host Library History Seminar XIII (2015)

Committee chair:

Name:

Address:

E-mail:

Telephone:

Fax:

Committee members:

Institutional sponsor:

Potential co-sponsors:

Planned number of days:

Proposed dates:

Conference location:

[Please provide specific details, including whether the conference facility would be a private or public space. How many meeting rooms will be available for the LHS and specify fees. Please also briefly address transportation issues relating to the location (i.e., what is the closest major airport and how does one get to/from there and the conference location).]

Accommodations:

[Please specify what hotel/dormitory facilities are available within walking range of the conference location.]

Financial and institutional support:

[This section will understandably be rough and tentative, but the committee wants to see that the host will be able to arrange clerical support to take care of publicity and handle reservations. Please also propose an estimated registration fee. The committee also encourages the host to look for internal/external grants to support the seminar. The host will be responsible for securing these grants. Grants make it possible to keep registration fees affordable, and bring graduate students and keynote speakers. Please list possible sources of grants or other income you might approach in order to finance the seminar.]

♦ Deadline: December 1st, 2012

♦ Must include information about logistics and sponsors

♦ Contact Mark McCallon, mccallonm@acu.edu
Calls for Nominations
2013 Justin Winsor Essay Prize

The Library History Round Table is seeking nominees for the annual Justin Winsor Library History Essay Award. The award recognizes the best essay written in English on library history. It is named in honor of the distinguished nineteenth-century librarian, historian, and bibliographer who was also ALA’s first president. It consists of a certificate and a $100 cash prize, as well as an invitation to have the winner’s essay considered for publication in Information & Culture: A Journal of History. If the winning essay is accepted for publication, additional revisions may be required. Authors should be prepared for that eventuality.

Manuscripts should not be previously published, previously submitted for publication, or under consideration for publication or another award. They should embody original historical research on a significant topic in library history, be based on primary sources whenever possible, and use good English composition and superior style. The Library History Round Table is particularly interested in works that place the subject within its broader historical, social, cultural, and political context and make interdisciplinary connections with print culture and information studies.

Essays should be organized in a form similar to that of articles published in Information & Culture: A Journal of History, with footnotes, spelling and punctuation conforming to the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style. Papers should not exceed thirty-five typewritten, double-spaced pages (plus footnotes and bibliography).

Please submit five paper copies of the manuscript. Submissions by fax or e-mail are unacceptable. The author’s name and other identifying information should appear only on a separate cover letter. Applications must be received by January 31, 2013. The deadline is firm and any submissions received after the deadline will not be forwarded to the committee.

Submit manuscripts to: LHRT Justin Winsor Award Committee, Office for Research and Statistics, American Library Association, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. For questions about the Winsor award, contact the current Winsor committee chair, Melanie Kimball (melanie.kimball@simmons.edu).

—Members of the Winsor Award Committee

2013 Phyllis Dain Dissertation Award

The Library History Round Table is seeking nominees for the biennial Phyllis Dain Library History Dissertation Award. Granted in odd-numbered years, the award recognizes dissertations completed and accepted during the preceding two academic years. In other words, dissertations from 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 will be eligible for the 2013 award. Please submit nominations before January 14, 2013.

The award, named in honor of a library historian widely known as a supportive advisor and mentor as well as a rigorous scholar and thinker, awards $500 and a certificate to an outstanding dissertation that embodies original research on a significant topic relating to the history of books, libraries, librarianship or information science. Entries are judged on clear definition of the research questions and/or hypotheses; use of appropriate source materials; depth of research; superior quality of writing; ability to place the subject within its broader historical context; and significance of the conclusions.

Four paper copies of the dissertation and a letter of support from the doctoral advisor or from another faculty member at the degree-granting institution are required. E-mail and fax copies of dissertations are not acceptable. Mail copies to Office for Research and Statistics, American Library Association, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. The award winner will be selected by the Phyllis Dain Dissertation Award Committee. If you have questions about the Dain Award, contact the current Dain Committee Chair, Jim Carmichael (Jim_Carmichael@uncg.edu).

—Sterling Coleman, Central State University (Wilberforce, OH) and Tom Glynn, Rutgers University
**2013 Eliza Atkins Gleason Book Award**

What do the following titles have in common: Louise Robbins’ *The Dismissal of Miss Ruth Brown: Civil Rights, Censorship, and the American Library*, Carl Ostrowski’s *Books, Maps, and Politics: A Cultural History of the Library of Congress, 1783-1861*, and David Allan’s *A Nation of Readers: The Lending Library in Georgian England*?

All three are recent winners of the Eliza Atkins Gleason Book Award. The award is presented by LHRT every third year to recognize the best book written in English in the field of library history, including the history of libraries, librarianship, and information science. The award bears the name of Eliza Atkins Gleason, the first African American to receive a Ph.D. from the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. Her book, *The Southern Negro and the Public Library* (Chicago, Ill.: University of Chicago Press, 1941), traced the history of library service to African Americans up to that time and laid the foundation for all other histories of that aspect of library service.

Entries for the 2013 award must have been published during the three previous years (i.e., between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2012). Bibliographies and edited collections will not be considered. Entries are judged on quality of scholarship, clarity of style, depth of research, and ability to place research findings in a broad social, cultural, and political context.

Nominations are welcome from all interested parties and should include one copy of the nominated volume (if possible) and a brief statement explaining why the book is worthy of consideration for the Gleason Book Award. The Committee has already received several nominations including copies. Before submitting a nomination, please contact the chair to see if the book has already been nominated.

Nominations are due on January 14, 2013 and should be sent to:

Patti Clayton Becker  
Gleason Award Committee Chair  
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Library  
900 Reserve St.  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
p2becker@uwsp.edu  
Receipt will be confirmed within 3 business days. The Gleason Award Committee, a subcommittee of the Research Committee of the Library History Round Table, serves as jury for the award. The members of the 2013 Gleason committee are Patti Clayton Becker (chair), Renate Chancellor, and Steve Sowards. The winner will be announced in a press release on or about June 1st, 2013. Certificates honoring the author and publisher of the Gleason Book Award winner will be presented at an LHRT event during the 2013 ALA conference in Chicago.

—Patti Becker, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Library, Tom Glynn, Rutgers University, and members of the Gleason Award Committee

**LHRT Awards Nominations**

- Dain Deadline: January 14th, 2013
- Gleason Deadline: January 14th, 2013
- Winsor Deadline: January 21st, 2013

**Membership News**

At the annual meeting of ALA in June in Anaheim, California, LHRT’s Membership and Outreach Committee, chaired by Dominique Daniel, organized drinks and dinner at the Storyteller’s Café in the Grand Californian Hotel. The guest of honor was Abigail Van Slyck, who earlier gave a fascinating presentation on Carnegie libraries in New Zealand as the invited speaker for the annual Edward G. Holley Lecture. A mix of LHRT members, graduate students, senior faculty, and interested members of the public met in the lounge for drinks and conversation, then onto the Storyteller’s Café for dinner. Thanks to Dominique Daniel for providing the opportunity to extend the conversation with fellow library history scholars and enthusiasts.

—Ellen Pozzi, William Patterson University
California Library Hall of Fame

In the late 1940s, the California Library Association’s (CLA) Committee on California Library History, Bibliography, and Archives made a priority of collecting oral histories from early librarians throughout the state. “It seemed urgent to seek out the living library pioneers in California,” committee chair Andrew H. Horn explained in 1955.

Although the librarians they interviewed are no longer with us, the present-day CLA Library History Interest Group (LHIG) has decided to recognize the contributions made by past and present California librarians, library staff and supporters. And so, inspired by the work done by the Wisconsin Library Association Foundation, the CLA LHIG initiated a California Library Hall of Fame this year. Nominations were solicited in May 2012. The first round of inductees into the Hall of Fame will occur at the CLA annual conference in November.

Induction into the California Library Hall of Fame is granted to individuals who have made an historically significant contribution to the statewide improvement of library service in California over a sustained period of time. Individuals, both living and dead, who have worked in and/or advocated for California libraries were nominated and considered. Selection criteria included:

• An individual’s record of leadership in the California Library Association and/or other statewide library groups or institutions.

• The historical importance and impact of the person’s lifetime achievement in improving California library services.

• The person’s contribution to improving library services at the national level.

This year’s awardees are:
• James L. Gillis, California state librarian (1899-1917) and architect of the state’s renowned county library system

• Michael Gorman, prolific author, ALA president (2005/06), and retired director of the California State University, Fresno library

• Zoia Horn, noted intellectual freedom advocate

• Carma Leigh, California state librarian (1951-72) and federal funding advocate

• Miriam Matthews, the first certified African-American librarian in California and intellectual freedom advocate during the McCarthy era

• Ursula Meyer, CLA president (1977/78) and former director of the Stockton-San Joaquin library

• Regina Minudri, outspoken proponent for public libraries, president of both CLA (1980/81) and ALA (1986/87)

• Lawrence Clark Powell, founder of the UCLA library school, prolific author, and CLA president (1949/50)

• Harry Rowe, retired director of several public libraries in California and CLA’s longest living member

• Gary Strong, California state librarian (1980-94) and current director of UCLA libraries

A hearty “thank you” to the selection committee members: David McFadden (CLA LHIG chair), Deborah Doyle, Mary Hanel, Debra Hansen, and Cindy Mediavilla (chair). For further information about the California Library Hall of Fame and more in-depth biographies of our first inductees, please see the CLA webpage at http://www.cla-net.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlebr=405

—Cindy Mediavilla, University of California Los Angeles
Library History as American History

Deadline for Proposals: November 30, 2012

The Library History Round Table (LHRT) of the American Library Association (ALA) seeks papers for its research forum at the 2013 ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago, June 27-July 2, 2013. The theme of the forum will be library history as American history, a broad concept that embraces the pivotal roles that libraries have played in United States cultural, political, and social movements, as well as the influence of various national developments on library history.

LHRT welcomes submissions from researchers of all backgrounds, including students, faculty, and practitioners. Each proposal must include the paper title, an abstract (up to 500 words), and the scholar’s vita. Also, please indicate whether the research is in-progress or completed. It is desirable that the abstract include a problem statement or thesis; a statement of the topic’s significance; objectives, methods, and primary sources used for the research; and conclusions (or tentative conclusions for works in progress). For this particular forum, we especially welcome papers which utilize primary records created outside of library institutions, include secondary research from other disciplines, and carefully situate library history within national contexts. All proposals are due on November 30, 2012.

From the submissions, the LHRT Research Committee will select several authors to present their completed work at the forum. The speakers will be notified and the program will be publicized in January 2013. So that the forum’s facilitator may introduce and react to each author, completed papers are due June 14, 2013. The Research Forum will likely occur on Sunday, June 30, 2013. All presenters must register to attend the conference. For registration options, see ALA’s events and conferences page at http://www.ala.org/.

Please submit proposals and direct inquiries to Bernadette A. Lear, Penn State Harrisburg Library, 351 Olmsted Dr., Middletown, PA 17057, telephone: (717) 948-6360, e-mail: BAL19@PSU.EDU.
—Bernadette A. Lear, Penn State Harrisburg

Call for Nominations: ALCTS Outstanding Collaboration Award

The ALCTS Outstanding Collaboration Award recognizes and encourages collaborative problem-solving efforts in the areas of acquisition, access, management, preservation or archiving of library materials. It recognizes actions, services or products that improve and benefit library collections. The citation may be presented to two or more individuals or groups who have participated jointly in an appropriate achievement. Recent winners include the Queens Memory Project, and the Open Folklore Project of the Indiana University Library and the American Folklore Society. For more additional information, see http://www.ala.org/alcts/awards/profrecognition/collaborationcite.

Nominations are due on December 1, 2012 and must include two letters of recommendation and a written justification for the citation. The justification should include demonstrated outcomes; how the achievement contributed to the fulfillment of needs in the work of collection management or technical services; and any other factors relevant to the merit of the achievement.

Send all materials and direct any questions to Arthur F. Miller, chair, Citation Jury, afmiller@princeton.edu, or to Arthur F. Miller, Head, Invoice Unit, Acquisitions Section, Princeton University Library, 693 Alexander Road, Princeton, NJ 08540
—Arthur Miller, Princeton University
**Library History Round Table**

**Executive Board, 2012/2013**

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</tbody>
</table>

The Library History Round Table (LHRT) was founded in 1947 to commemorate great library leaders of the past and to celebrate the importance of libraries in society. Since then, LHRT members have critically examined libraries and their services in light of class, culture, gender, geography, race, and other perspectives. LHRT is an inclusive and diverse organization that supports anyone who is interested in the history of libraries. LHRT strives to further the study of history of libraries and reading through thought-provoking programs and monetary awards for outstanding research. We encourage library schools to incorporate historical content and methodology in their curricula and to support students who are doing historical research. Through involvement in LHRT we offer members the opportunity to network with colleagues interested in library history. LHRT members include librarians, archivists, curators, and others doing historical research; LIS students with a background or interest in history, faculty in LIS, the humanities, and related disciplines; Administrators, staff, and volunteers working in historic libraries; and retirees.