



## President's Corner

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Seems like just yesterday we were in Washington D.C. attending ALA's annual meeting and celebrating the one year anniversary of the Library Support Staff Certification Program. How appropriate that this program would debut under Camila Alire's ALA presidency. Camila has always been supportive of library staff.

Wow. We HAVE come a long way since COPE3. In addition to the certification program, LSSIRT members have been appointed to various ALA committees and we just elected our 2<sup>nd</sup> LSSIRT representative to ALA council. Accomplishments to be proud of? Yes. These accomplishments also bring new challenges. How can LSSIRT support the certification program and the support staff enrolled in it? How do we continue to foster growth and retain

members when many libraries and library staff are struggling with the difficult economy? A percentage of personal ALA members must belong to our roundtable in order for us to retain our councilor position. How do we encourage library staff that are unable to attend ALA to join LSSIRT? Addressing the challenges allows LSSIRT the opportunity to continue on as a vital and valued player within the ALA arena. Budget cuts have made it even more difficult if not impossible for many library support staff to attend ALA. But you can still be supportive of ALA and LSSIRT by continuing your membership, participating in committees and recruiting new members. We need members willing to serve on LSSIRT's by-laws committee, membership committee, and nominations committee. These committees will



**LSSIRT President  
Trish Palluck**

use email or conference calls to accomplish their goals. Attendance at the midwinter or annual meetings is not required of committee members. It would be great to see more than just the steering committee members and ALA staff at our next business meeting in San Diego this January. Please contact me if you have questions about LSSIRT, would be interested in working on a committee or running for a LSSIRT office. I can be reached at 307.777.5913 or by email at [tpallu@wyo.gov](mailto:tpallu@wyo.gov).



Washington DC Convention Center



Trish Palluck receives the LSSIRT President's gavel from Past-President Dorothy Morgan



Darlena Davis, graduated on May 27, 2010, cum laude, with a Bachelors of Arts from Chicago State University. Her minor was in Criminal Justice with strong interest in Sociology.

## LSSIRT Mini-Minutes from Annual

### LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF INTERESTS ROUNDTABLE

### STEERING COMMITTEE/ MEMBERSHIP MEETING

### ANNUAL MEETING, WASHINGTON, D.C.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2010

Renaissance, Washington, D.C., Room 07

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Meeting was called to order; Trish Palluck as Incoming Vice President was introduced as facilitator. AnnaMarie Kehnast sent a resignation letter to the board prior to the meeting. We had several guests that were introduced to the group.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report with budget discussion were accepted as read.

- ALA Councilor, Jennifer Kutzik, informed the Steering Committee about the motions she was going to

endorse at Council Meetings early next week.

- Karen Strege, LSSC, gave an update on the National Certification Program, LSSCP and the future plans with the new grant from IMLS.
- Joseph Eagan, as the ALA Board of Directors Liaison to LSSIRT, reported on membership of the ALA. As of Nov. 2009-62,865 included 59,423 personal memberships, 3208 organizational memberships and 234 corporate memberships. LSSIRT membership went from 598, Nov. 2008 to 617, Nov. 2009.
- Trish Palluck, Kareen Turner and Valeria Fike volunteered to be on the Program committee to help create a LSSIRT track at conferences.
- Board Reports were given from Nomination and Membership committees.
- Under New Business, Anita Kosinski has started work on the Dining Out in New Orleans for Annual, 2011 with the help of Darlena Davis, ALA Liaison.
- A new strategic planning committee was formed. Trish Palluck is the Chair.
- The LSSIRT Steering Committee meeting at ALA Midwinter will be scheduled for Saturday morning, on Jan. 24, 2009 from 8 A.M. to 12:00 Noon.
- Discussion was held to have a discussion group session at both Mid-Winter and Annual conferences for LSSIRT so LSSIRT would show up in searching the programs for significant functions.



Pat Wagner at ALA Annual Meeting. LSSIRT sponsored this well-attended session on communication.

## LSSIRT sponsors Pat Wagner, Pattern Research

LSSIRT sponsored a well-attended session by Pat Wagner, Pattern Research (Denver, CO), on "Communication skills for front line library staff." Pat focused on practicing "WORDS

THAT WORK" to turn a negative response into a positive opportunity for communication. Instead of "I can't" use words like "What I can do is..." Instead of "I don't know" use "I will find

out." Pat Power words like "next, instead, and despite" will turn a "NO" into a possibility. Read Pat's full handout at: <http://tinyurl.com/28ahe83>



## ALA Presidential Initiatives

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1. **Frontline Fundraising**
  2. **Our Authors, Our Advocates**
  3. **Why I Need My Library contest**
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Roberta Stevens, ALA's 2010-2011 President, is the Library of Congress Outreach Projects and Partnerships Officer and Project Manager of the National Book Festival. During her term as President, Roberta has identified 3 major initiatives:

1) **Frontline Fundraising:** This initiative will provide tools that can be used by every size and type of library who needs to supplement the budget from their jurisdiction or institution with additional support. The primary focus will be on the development of an online toolkit and webinars that can be broadly accessed by ALAs members. President's programs at the 2011 Midwinter Meeting and the Annual Conference are also planned. These programs will be taped

and made available to members.

2) **Our Authors, Our Advocates:** This initiative will focus on well-known, articulate and impassioned authors to highlight the key role libraries and library staff play in the economic, social and educational fabric of our nation. This initiative will celebrate these individuals through interviews, posters, podcasts, publications, and other media support. Additionally, "Our Authors, Our Advocates" will be used as a model for creating advocates for libraries at the community level through the toolkit "Cultivating Your Local Notables." The toolkit will provide guidance on identifying and enlisting local "celebrities" as your library's advocate.

3) **"Why I Need My Library" Contest:** This

initiative takes Camila Alire's member-driven, grassroots advocacy and Jim Rettig's experimentation with social networking a step further with the aim of adding to the arsenal of techniques for frontline advocacy and engaging a new constituency in supporting libraries. The products will be short videos by children and young adults made available on YouTube and the Ilovelibraries and @yourlibrary websites. The winners will identify either their school or local public library as the beneficiary of cash prizes for the best videos in the contest.

For more information and updates on these initiatives, visit Roberta's web page at: <http://robertastevens.com>



ALA President Roberta Stevens, Keith Michael Fiels, Jennifer Kutzik (past LSSIRT ALA Councilor), and Camila Alire (past ALA President)

## LSSIRT Councilor's Report

Selected ALA Council actions taken during Annual Conference, June 27-29, 2010, Washington, D.C. The full text of all actions may be accessed at: <http://tinyurl.com/2axjv7y>; the related documents may be accessed at: <http://tinyurl.com/26f7hup>

APPROVED, The FY2011 Total ALA Budgetary Ceiling of \$57,162,413 (ALA CD#13.3, ALA Treasurer's Report)

ADOPTED, ALA CD#19.3, Prisoners' Right to Read: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights.

ADOPTED, ALA CD#20.11, A Resolution to Ensure Equitable Access to Library Services for All People Regardless of Immigration Status.

ADOPTED, ALA CD#43, A Resolution Reaffirming Equal Employment Opportunity for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Librarians and Library Workers.

ADOPTED, ALA CD#47, Resolution on Ensuring Summer Reading Programs for

all Children and Teens, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA): Urges library directors, trustees, school board members, and supervising government bodies to ensure that libraries are provided adequate funding to support summer reading programs for all children and teens."

ADOPTED, ALA CD#20.6, Resolution to Increase Funding for the Improving Literacy through School Libraries Programs to a \$100 Million, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA): Urges Congress to commit a minimum of \$100 million designated specifically for school libraries in FY2011 and beyond to the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries program to establish a population-based state grant program that provides students in every state the opportunity to increase reading achievement and master 21st century skills."

ADOPTED, ALA CD#20.7, A Resolution to Include School Librarians in the Reauthorization of the Elementary and

Secondary Education Act, as amended to read: "The American Library Association (ALA): Conveys to the President, the Secretary of Education, and the Congress of the United States the urgent need to require that the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) have a goal requirement that every public school have a library staffed by a state-certified school librarian."

ADOPTED, ALA CD#45, Revised, A Resolution on Non-Discrimination in Conference Contracts, which read: "The American Library Association (ALA): Shall change Policy 7.1.1 to this text: "7.1.1—Non Discrimination in Conference Contracts There shall be no discrimination, including that based on race, origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, creed or disability, in the use of any facilities used by the American Library Association. This policy shall become a part of ALA contracts for the use of space. The ALA will avoid entering, whenever possible, into convention center contracts with



**Outgoing ALA LSSIRT Councilor, Jennifer Kutzik**

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*"It has been my great honor and privilege to serve as your first LSSIRT Councilor"*

*Jennifer Kutzik*

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**Continued on Page 5**

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*Thank you, Jennifer,  
for your valuable  
contributions as  
LSSIRT Councilor.*

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**Incoming ALA LSSIRT Councilor, Valeria Fike**

## LSSIRT Councilor's Report (continued)

organizations and legal bodies in cities, counties, or states that by law discriminate against gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender people.”

ADOPTED, the following action item contained in ALA CD#27.2, Committee on Organization (COO) Report: Action Item #1. Establishment of a Retired Members Round Table. “The establishment of a Retired Members Round Table, supported by petition by ALA members, addresses both a growing interest and a growing demographic within the Association. The

proposal came to COO with draft bylaws and a statement of purpose in place. The statement reads as follows: The Retired Members Round Table (RMRT) shall exist to develop programs of particular interest to retired persons from all types of libraries and all forms of library service, including formal opportunities for continued involvement and learning; a variety of leadership training and opportunities for mentoring; lifelong professional involvement and networking; and, active engagement in the American Library Association and the

profession of librarianship.”

It has been my great honor and privilege to serve as your first LSSIRT Councilor. I appreciated the support of all the LSSIRT members and of my fellow Councilors. Please, welcome our incoming Councilor, Valeria Fike. She may be contacted at: College and Career Information Center, College of DuPage Library, 425 Fawell Blvd, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 or by email at: [fikeva@cod.edu](mailto:fikeva@cod.edu) or phone at: (630) 942-3874.

## LSSIRT Members Receive Awards



**LSSIRT Secretary Karen Turner**

LSSIRT secretary Karen Turner has won the Lorrie Shuff Paraprofessional Award for 2010. First awarded in 1996, the award recognizes distinguished Paraprofessional library service in Arkansas libraries. The name was changed to the Lorrie Shuff Paraprofessional Award in 2002 in memory of Lorrie Shuff. Nominations are open to any member of the

Arkansas Library Association. Nominees must be employed in an Arkansas library as a paraprofessional at the time of nomination.

The award criteria was based upon the role of the individual in promoting staff development, the issues of concern to paraprofessionals, and participation in the Arkansas Library Association

Paraprofessional Roundtable.

Jennifer Kutzik, outgoing LSSIRT ALA Councilor, was recently elected Chair-Elect of the Colorado Association of Libraries Paraprofessional Division. She continues to serve on the ALA Membership Committee.

Congratulations to Karen and Jennifer!



LSSIRT's Night Out at the Capitol City Brewing Co.



Trish Palluck and Dorothy Morgan cutting the cake to celebrate the success of the Library Support Staff Certification Program.



Library Journal's Paraprofessional of the year award reception. Left to Right: Kareen Turner, Dorothy Morgan (past recipient), Allison Sloan, and Trish Palluck (past recipient)



Kareen Turner and Anita Kosinski handing out LSSCP materials at LSSIRT's station at the ALA Pavilion.



LSSIRT's informal Friday night gathering. Left to Right. Carol Thomas, Valeria Fike, Trish Palluck, Kerrie Stramler, Trevor Stramler (center), Dorothy Morgan, Jennifer Kutzik, Kareen Turner, and Nina Manning

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**Our mission is to provide an arena within ALA for programming, communication and networking for library support staff.**

**Sign-up for the LSSIRT Members-Only E-list!**

For timely updates and for networking with LSSIRT colleagues, be sure and sign-up for the very low volume LSSIRT e-list.

To sign-up, send an e-mail to Martha Parsons at...

[parsons@halcyon.com](mailto:parsons@halcyon.com) with your ALA membership number and ask to be subscribed.

