Dear FAFLRT Members,

FAFLRT/ASCLA Merger Update

by Karl Debus-López, FAFLRT Past President

The FAFLRT and ASCLA leadership continue to work on the next steps related the merger of our two groups to stay on target to become the new Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASGCLA) effective September 1st, 2018. Once the merger is actualized, all FAFLRT members will be moved over to the new ASGCLA membership rolls.

A major step forward has occurred with the circulation of two petitions to the ASCLA membership to create a Federal Libraries Interest Group and an Armed Forces Libraries Interest Group. Only ten ASCLA members have to approve the petitions to create the interest groups and I am happy to report that we already have the required numbers to create the new interest groups. Lee Lipscomb,
who worked in the Federal Judicial Center, has agreed to be the convener of Federal Libraries Interest Group, and Renee Sanning of the U.S. Air Force Academy will be the convener of the Armed Forces Libraries Interest Group. By having these two groups established prior to September 1st, we will have new “homes” for the FAFLRT membership to move to after FAFLRT disbands as an organization.

Since division dues are always higher than round table dues, ASCLA and FAFLRT leadership have agreed that FAFLRT members will receive a discount of $15 to join ASGCLA when they have to renew their ALA membership in 2018-19. This means that the renewal will only be $11 more than the current FAFLRT renewal rate, just $26 for the first year. A discount code will be provided to FAFLRT members to use when renewing their memberships.

There is a lot that still needs to be worked on. ASCLA leadership has created a Task Force for Membership Promotion and Welcoming New Federal Librarian Members that will perform outreach to current FAFLRT members explaining the services and activities of ASCLA and how the new ASGCLA division will continue to support federal and armed forces librarians in their work and professional growth.

We also need to determine the following: how federal and armed forces librarians work and activities will be highlighted in the future ASGCLA newsletter; which FAFLRT awards should remain, renamed, or terminated under the new entity; whether to continue the FAFLRT listserv and social media presences under some other form or disband them; how to maintain the FAFLRT web page, prior newsletters, and general information on the work of FAFLRT over these many years for historical purposes; and how to ensure robust programming for federal and armed forces librarians in the future. There are probably many more matters to address between now and September 1st.

In order to keep the momentum going, FAFLRT leadership meets regularly with ASCLA leadership. Steve Pomes, FAFLRT President, Karl Debus-López, FAFLRT Past President, and Janice Young, FAFLRT Vice-President, are standing members of the joint leadership group. Lance Wiscamb, representing armed forces libraries, and Vicky Crone, representing federal libraries, also participate on a larger group that is assisting with the merger.

At ALA Annual in New Orleans the joint leadership group will meet on Sunday, June 24th from 4:00-5:30 in the Morial Convention Center rooms 271-273. There will be a table for the group. If you are interested in participating in the meeting, please come by. We want as many voices to be heard as possible as we finalize the tasks related to the merger.
THE JOYS OF BELONGING...

By Dr. Arlene Luster

Federal/Military librarianship is a special body of professionals who serve government and military personnel all over the world. I would like to share my experiences with the American Library Association (ALA) as a retired military librarian of 50 years. My main purpose in writing this article is to show how membership in professional organizations helped my career as I have noticed that not many 1410 base librarians are active with membership or attendance in conferences with ALA or even with the military librarians division in the Special Librarians Association (SLA).

I am a retired civil servant of more than five decades and not a day goes by when I reminisce what ALA has meant to me. In fact, believe it or not, I was recruited to become an Air Force base librarian during my first ALA conference at San Francisco in 1958. During this conference, I visited the Armed Forces Librarians Roundtable exhibit booth. I was intrigued with the display of library scrapbooks from various bases in the Far East and Pacific islands. Miss Mary J. Carter, Command Librarian of Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, was manning the booth. She asked me if I was interested in working overseas and if so, to place my name on a sheet of paper and select one or more of the Asian countries. Little did I know that I was “applying” for a job. I didn’t realize it was a time when recruitment for overseas assignments was so drastic as no one wanted to leave the comforts of home. In October of the same year, I received a call from the Civilian Personnel Office (CPO) of Travis Air Force Base notifying me that I was name requested in a letter for a position in Japan from Miss Mary J. Carter. Needless to say I was in a state of shock as I never officially applied for the job with a Standard Form (SF) 57 which at that time was the application form for government positions. CPO told me to think about it and not to worry about submitting a SF57 as it was only a formality. I finally called them in January 1959 that I would take the job in Fuchu Air Station, Japan and in March I was on my way to HQ PACAF for orientation with Miss Carter. And that is how it all began. I was hired at the entry level of GS-7 where Librarians with a master’s degree with no experience were hired.

Eventually entry levels were upgraded to a GS-9. There was a time that the Directors of the Air Force, Army, and Navy Headquarters and ALA fought the
proposals to downgrade entry level from GS-9 to GS-7 along with the devaluation of the MLS AS credential for entry into the professional series.

When ALA and H.W. Wilson initiated the John Cotton Dana Public Relations Awards program, Mary Carter made efforts to instill the value of the military libraries in the services she emphasized in her marketing and public relations by initiating the PACAF Publicity Scrapbook awards program with the Air Force awards program. This program was to insure that the single military and those unaccompanied personnel without their spouses and families were provided the most innovative programs. She was successful in obtaining a special budget to offer cash awards to libraries at the PACAF level before final judging at Air Force and the John Cotton Dana award. This preliminary judging by other military librarians and uniformed military was an excellent asset to how important library programming was to the bases. Air Force libraries not only earned a spot in these awards, but also a place in the library professional world. When Air Force libraries began winning annually in several divisions it became apparent to the judges in the award program that they did not know where to place military libraries. Were they public, academic, technical or special libraries? The PACAF public relations cash award program lasted for many years and became an independent program within the Air Force. During this time, the military librarians initiated the Armed Forces Librarians Roundtable in ALA. During my career as Base Librarian at Wheeler Base Library in Hawaii, our scrapbooks won twelve times. Our winnings not only earned cash prizes but also attendance to the ALA conference wherever they were held in CONUS.

Later Air Force library workshops were held at the ALA annual conferences with breakouts for each command. In fact every base librarian position description, states “Each librarian should be a member of at least one professional or military organization. Each must have attended at least one conference, workshop, seminars or formal library event during the year.”

Command budgets always included funding and attendance to at least one conference in a year. Mary Carter was forever conscious to maintain PACAF base Librarians as professional as possible. She required each base librarian to prepare a bibliography every year. These bibliographies covered subject areas on countries in PACAF and the various activities we were involved at each base. These bibliographies were indexed in the GPO Monthly Index.

Following three Command librarians after Mary Carter, I was selected as the HQ PACAF Command Librarian in 1979. I was able to maintain what Mary Carter started
for the base libraries in the Western Pacific: Japan, Hawaii, Guam, Okinawa, Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, Korea, Philippines, Singapore, China, Alaska, and so on. I became involved in the activities of AFLRT which later became FAFLRT, etc. and was eventually elected as president of AFLRT AND FAFLRT. As Command Librarian, I was fortunate to have a Graphics section to prepare all of the exhibits for AFLRT and FAFLRT at every annual ALA conference for more than six years.

In an invitation to participate “Professional Views” in the Jan-Feb 1989 issue of Public Libraries, I wrote: “Although participation in professional development activities is mandated in Air Force Library regulations, the rewards are not explicitly stated as policy. Luster believes that training should be a personal and professional incentive to succeed in one’s job or expand into another capacity. Participants may be rewarded in the form of promotion opportunities, increased self-esteem, incentives, motivation, knowledge and skills. Luster perceived the issue as follows:” My concept of professional development for armed forces librarians can be summed up in one word- growth. I believe managers have a responsibility to provide a viable training program to develop their staff to the utmost potential in the performance of their duties. I feel that managers should make every effort to bring out the best in every employee and encourage the sharing of ideas, knowledge and experience. I also see professional development as a creative way to boost morale, as personnel sometime have an opportunity in their training to enhance their careers. AFLS has helped provide such training. During ALA conferences the section has conducted professional development activities and has, additionally, sponsored practical workshops emphasizing strategies for survival, sharpening computer skills, improving the reference/interpersonal relationship, creating marketing programs, etc.”

I believe these thoughts are prevalent for today’s librarians! Federal and military librarians have an obligation to the profession to let their bosses know the importance of belonging and participating in our professional library organizations. Don’t delay, tempus fugit and carpe diem, do it today! For anyone needing or sharing ideas, mentoring, etc. I would be happy to help if I can!!!

Arlene Luster: arleneluster@yahoo.com
FAFLRT EVENTS

African American Pioneers in Library Leadership: Bridging the Past to the Present
Saturday, June 23
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Location: Morial Convention Center, Rm 283

During the one-hour presentation the audience will learn about the achievements and contributions of several African American pioneers in librarianship, who succeeded and excelled in their careers despite the many obstacles that littered their path.

The presentation is designed to be a conversation starter to further advance the scholarly record of African American librarians’ impact and influence as information professionals. This is an area of scholarship whereby the history of librarians of color remains to be studied. Adopting empirical methods to develop robust recruitment and mentoring programs that values diversity and inclusion in its membership. Attendees will learn about trailblazing men and women who affirmed their legitimacy as librarians during a time in American history that was governed under ‘separate but equal’ legislation. Two remarkable women, despite being born Black and female, leveraged their achievements to enact an institutional cultural of change in librarianship. Virginia Proctor Powell Florence, became the first African American woman in the United States to receive a formal degree in library science after graduating in 1923, from the Carnegie Library School. Dr. Eliza Atkins Gleason, was the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in library science after graduating from the University of Chicago in 1940. Her dissertation The Southern Negro and the Public Library, published in 1941, was the first comprehensive study of access to libraries in the U.S. South.

Dr. E. J. Josey and Dr. Joseph Harry Reason, fighting the good fight, advocated for authentic leadership and organization integrity. Dr. Josey, the founder of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, authored a resolution forbidding ALA officers and staff from participating in state associations that denied membership to black librarians. Dr. Reason, the first African American to serve as president of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), contributed to the scholarly record of library education through his published articles in The Negro College Quarterly. Both men, tirelessly campaigning to recruit African American students into the library and information science profession.
The session, chronicles African American librarians’ achievements in librarianship from 1905 through to the appointment of the 14th Librarian of Congress. These pioneers’ bequest to the next generation of librarians an inheritance that bridge the past to the present. Librarianship is the witness and messenger of their legacies, and that is cause for celebration.

Moderator(s)
Janice Young
Vice President, FAFLRT

Speaker(s)
Jon Cawthorne
Dean, Wayne State University Library System and School of Information Sciences
Alma Dawson
Professor Emeritus
Louisiana State University
Maurice Wheeler
Associate Professor
University of North Texas

ASCLA/FAFLRT Achievement Awards Ceremony
Saturday, June 23
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Location: Morial Convention Center, Rm 221

Join ASCLA and FAFLRT for their annual achievement awards ceremony including breakfast sponsored by Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)! This event recognizes exceptional library professionals that make a difference in improving the lives of the people they serve.

Building Your Brand: In a Landscape of Budget Cuts and Library Closures
Saturday, June 23
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Location: Morial Convention Center, Rm 345

This program provides a process for libraries and librarians to build their brand and link personal authenticity toward the mission of services offered by libraries to their communities. New insight will be disclosed to create a more inclusive view of all diverse voices such as representation from decision-makers, stakeholders, and library advocates. Also, barrier removal strategies will be shared, allowing equity in accessing information through internal and external relations strategy. The program is designed to provide insight into developing coalition
strategies. It is to note that the library sector is fantastic and leadership strategies are needed to save time. Key themes that will be covered in the program: Teamwork, Engagement and Resiliency.

Speaker(s)
Michael Steinmacher
Director, Barr Memorial Library,
Community Recreation Division Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Installation Management Command, USAG Ft. Knox, KY
Rachel Arizaga
Library Director, FMWR Fort Bliss Libraries, USAG Fort Bliss, TX

Moderator(s)
Karl Debus-López
Chief, U.S. Programs, Law, and Literature Division, Library of Congress

Nontraditional Partnerships: Architects and Health Sciences Librarianship make good Partners for Community Health
Sunday, June 24
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Location: Morial Convention Center, Rm 289

Consumer Health Sciences Librarians provides access to resources and networking opportunities for those who assist diverse populations to create a culture of health within their communities. Synergy between nontraditional partners, stakeholders, and other components that make up the neighborhoods built environment, leverage the role of consumer health librarians’ as key figures in healthy community design.

Demands for urban neighborhoods have evolved and require a new model of thinking to the quality of life within a community. The library, as the “community center,” in the design environment is the perfect platform to advocate for the value of libraries, and to ensure that all individuals have access to the information they need to make informed decisions.

Speaker(s)
Russell Lacoursiere
CDT, LEED-AP Project Manager, Design and Construction Contract Administration
Sarah Carnes, MLIS, AHIP
Clinical Librarian, Veterans Affairs Bedford VA Medical Center

Moderator(s)
Richard Huffine
Librarian, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection
The Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT) will hold its annual membership meeting. FAFLRT members and anyone interested in armed forces and federal librarianship are welcome to attend. The meeting will go over topics of interest to the federal and armed forces libraries communities as well as the upcoming merger with the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA).

Moderator(s)
Steve Pomes
Librarian, U.S. Department of the Interior
ASCLA All Committee & Budget and Finance

Sunday, June 24
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Location: Morial Convention Center, Rm 271-273

There will be a table at this meeting where joint leadership of FAFLRT and ASCLA will discuss next steps related to our merger. This is an open meeting, so please stop by and tell us your ideas for the future.
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Janice Young Awarded 2018 FAFRLT Distinguished Service Award

Janice Young, Librarian at the Department of Energy, Office of Scientific and Technical Information, has been awarded the 2018 FAFLRT Distinguished Service Award. Ms. Young is the current Vice-President/President Elect of the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table. Prior to that, she served as the Federal Director. Over the last two years, Ms. Young has been instrumental in ensuring that FAFLRT remained a vibrant organization for its 300 members. In addition to her service as a Board member, Ms. Young also served as the Federal Librarian newsletter editor and ALA Annual Program Chair. In 2016-2017, she ensured that three newsletters were issued. The newsletters were very professional and full of articles of interest to the membership. Coordinating the work to create the newsletters was quite a challenge, given that it was difficult to solicit content from the membership, but Ms. Young did a fantastic job. For 2016-2017 and 2017-2018, Ms. Young also coordinated the FAFLRT programs for ALA Annual. At ALA Annual in 2017, she was principally responsible and served as a moderator for a program on "Funding Mandates: A Game Changer in Faculty and Scientific Research."

For ALA Annual in 2018, she developed three programs: "Building Your Brand In a Landscape of Budget Cuts and Library Closures;" "Nontraditional Partnerships: Architects and Health Sciences Librarianship make good Partners for Community Health;" and "African American Pioneers in Library Leadership: Bridging the Past to the Present," which was chosen as an ALA sponsored program. During this time of transition as FAFLRT merges with ASCLA, Ms. Young ensured that the FAFLRT membership still enjoyed a full complement of program activities and information sharing through the newsletter. Her work has been exemplary and was instrumental in ensuring that FAFLRT operations continued without deterioration in quality or service. For her outstanding service to the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table, Ms. Young is very deserving of the FAFLRT Distinguished Service Award.

JANE CROSS, MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT, USMC AWARDED 2018 FAFLRT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Jane Cross is the head of the Marine Band library, which contains sound recordings and music scores created by and used by the Marine Band. She is an active member of the Music Library Association as well, where I have gotten to know her through our annual conferences. Her job is exceptionally unique in our field, as there are very few music librarians in the military. And, to be a librarian at her level in the military, it requires being more than
just a civilian member of the military. Her job also requires a great deal more than just reference and reader's advisory. It requires that she be well versed in copyright, licensing, public relations, human resources, management, cataloging, special collections/archives, history, AND a specific subject area. She is very well respected in music librarianship, and holds the highest position of her type in the country. For more information about what she and her colleagues encounter in the Marine Band library, she wrote an article about it for the Music Library Association Newsletter.

STEFANIE FALCO AWARDED THE FAFLRT ADELAIDE DEL FRATE CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP AWARD
With 18 years’ experience working for the USDA’s WIC program as a nutritionist, a second job in a library sparked an interest in librarianship. Now, nearing completion of the MLIS degree with a 4.0 grade point average Stefanie aspires to work in a federal library.

FABULOUS FEDS IN THE NEWS

PROMOTIONS:
Mr. Michael McNulty became the new Librarian of the Army/Director, Army Library Program on 14 May 2018.

RETIEMENTS:
Eleanor Uhlinger, University Librarian, Dudley Knox Library (DKL) at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), retired on 17 May 2018

UPCOMING POSITIONS:
Karl Debus-Lopez appointed to a one year term as a member of the ASCLA (future ASGCLA) Finance and Planning Committee, effective July 1, 2018.

Janice Young elected to serve a two-year term as the Designated Director, State Library Agencies for the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)

Sarah L. Carnes, Clinical Librarian, Bedford VAMC, webinar proposal "Libraries and Community Health: A Prescription for Programs that Support Your Community’s Needs, has been accepted by ASCLA as part of a series on libraries and community health.
Vicky Crone has accepted a two-year appointment to the ASCLA Membership Committee, effective July 1, 2018

**BOARD BUSINESS**

Dates for Future Midwinter Meetings and Annual Conferences

**Annual Conference**, New Orleans, LA
June 21-26, 2018

**FEDERAL AND ARMED FORCES LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE BOARD AND COMMITTEES: 2017-2019**

The Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT) exists as an official round table under the American Library Association to promote library and information service and the library and information profession in the federal and armed forces communities; to promote appropriate utilization of federal and armed forces library and information resources and facilities; and to provide an environment for the stimulation of research and development relating to the planning, development, and operation of federal and armed forces libraries.

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View the minutes of previous meetings of the FAFLRT Board and Membership.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Federal Librarian newsletter is the journal of the American Library Association's Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT) and published electronically. It presents recent developments and events of interest to the Federal and Armed Forces library community, including news and reports on international, federal, state, and local government issues.

The Federal Librarian is published three times per year. All issues are available online at: www.ala.org/faflrt/newsletters.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

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ADVERTISING RATES

Yearly
Full page 7w x 10h - 225.00

Half page (horizontal)
7w x 10h - $150.00

Half page (vertical)
3.75w x 10h - $150.00

Full page advertisements for one year (3 issues) discounted 15% = $765.00/year

Half page advertisements for one year (3 issues) discounted 15% = $540.00/year