

President's Corner

As we end another National Library Workers Day and head into another ALA annual conference, the battle to prove our worth is heating up all over the country. Survey after survey and study after study all say the same thing; Libraries are an important entity and they play an essential role in today's society. But Libraries across the country are struggling to do more with less and if not for the tenacity and ingenuity of library workers, libraries would stop servicing the needs of our ever demanding communities and we would be closing up shop all over place. Library workers are a special breed of people. They see a need in the community and then they try to fill that need. As budgets dwindle, library workers just seem to get more energized to push and make the best of a bad situation. And while we have made strides to do "service with excellence" the years have taken their toll on the library worker and their ability to give service with a smile. To all Library Workers; do not lose hope, you do make a difference in the lives of the members of your communities. And without you, many would lose hope for a brighter future.

Kudos to all Library Workers.

And to the incoming ALA/LSSIRT President, Nina Manning, congratulations and here's to a great year.

Val Colon



LSSIRT President
Valentin Colon

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ALA Elections Results

The ALA Elections results are in. Thank you to all who took the time to vote. You have selected a new ALA President, councilors and most importantly new LSSIRT officers. Your participation is greatly valued. Please join LSSIRT in congratulating the winners.

Julie Todaro

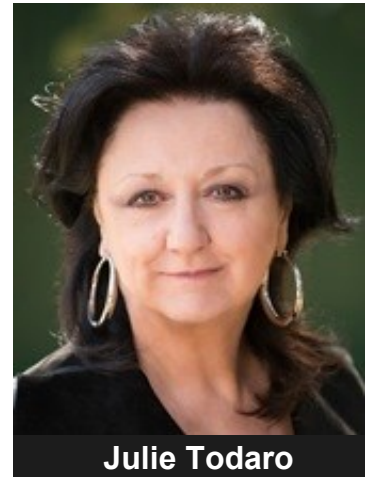
The 2015 election results show Julie Todaro has been elected ALA President-Elect.

Miguel Magos

Elected as LSSIRT Vice-President/President-Elect for one term. Miguel is from City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, California.

Jennifer Dale

Elected as Member-at-Large for a three-year term. Jennifer is from Forsyth County Public Library, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.



Julie Todaro



Miguel Magos



Jennifer Dale



LSSIRT Committee Meeting & Conference Program at ALA Annual

by Valentin Colon



"Calling all ALA 2015, Support Staff Attendees"

If you are attending this year's ALA Annual conference in San Francisco, June 25-30, 2015 and have time in your busy ALA schedule; come on over and join us at both our ALA/LSSIRT events:

Saturday, June 27, 2015

8:30 am - 11:30 am

ALA/LSSIRT Steering Committee Meeting

Moscone Convention Center, Room MCC 272S

and

Sunday, June 28, 2015

8:30 am - 9:30 am

ALA/LSSIRT Best Practices Forum:

Staff Development at the Library

Moscone Convention Center, Room MCC 3000W

Join us and share stories of what your institution is doing to promote Staff Development for support staff.

As your current LSSIRT President, I'd like to invite you to consider becoming a more active LSSIRT member. Come join the fun and maybe join a committee. Maybe even consider running for a post as Member-At-Large and who knows, a few years in you could run for President. The committee is always looking for creative, motivated and willing and able members. Remember support staff are eligible for a discounted dual ALA and ALA/LSSIRT membership.

See you in San Francisco! Val Colon



LSSCP Update by Ian Lashbrooke

The **Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) Program** continues to grow in its fifth year! Overseen by the [ALA-Allied Professional Association \(ALA-APA\)](#), the LSSC Program offers a national, ALA-sponsored continuing education program for support staff working in all types of libraries. There are currently 370 active candidates pursuing their Certification and 110 Graduates who have become Certified Library Support Staff (CLSS)!

For more information on the LSSC Program, [visit our website](#) or contact ALA-APA Certification Program Officer, [Ian Lashbrook](#).

Library Journal's Paralibrarian of the Year Reception

You're Invited to a cocktail reception honoring

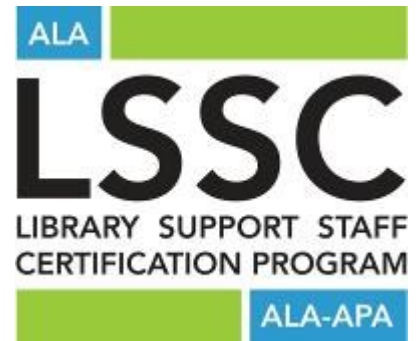
Paralibrarian of the Year 2015
Tamara Faulkner Kraus

Saturday, June 27, 2015
5:30-7:30 pm
During ALA Annual

[Perry's on the Embarcadero](#)
Hotel Griffon, 155 Steuart St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

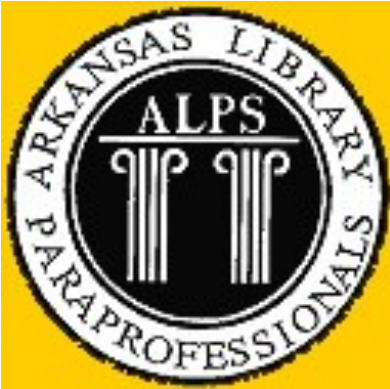
Kindly [RSVP](#) by June 19th:

<http://tinyurl.com/ph9blpz>



LIBRARY
JOURNAL





Report on the Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals Conference

by Karen Turner

FROM The Land of Opportunity--ARKANSAS:

I just came back from our state conference. The Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals, a Division of the Arkansas Library Association, commonly called ALPS, holds an annual conference in May for all academic, public and special libraries throughout the state. This year we invited the Public School Libraries Support Staff to attend if they were able. It was held in beautiful Eureka Springs. The theme was "COMING TO THE RESCUE! Be a Hero at Your Library!"

With that theme, obviously, we had a lot of customer service sessions. Berlinda Williams-Strong, the Human Resources Manager, Professional Development & Training from The University of Memphis, was our key note speaker. Berlinda's personal quote is "You are the example...not the exception to the rule." She is a transformational leader who exercises her vision...a vision to delight customers by sharing, training, and serving others in various/diverse organizations. Several sessions were on technology, including one on *Techno Stress, what it is and how to solve it*; and another one on *Not Just for the Classroom: Using Blackboard Learn in Employee Training*. We had several staff members from the Arkansas State Library giving sessions on *Does Privacy Exist Anymore?* and an updated version of *AR Government Resources for Libraries- what is available for free for general information and even for programs*, a session on *Genealogy: Getting the most out your resources*. Reference librarians from the University of Arkansas did a session on "How Can We Help You? Analyzing the Reference Interview" and a faculty member from the University of Central Arkansas did one on "Reserves and Copyright: Key Issues for ALPS".

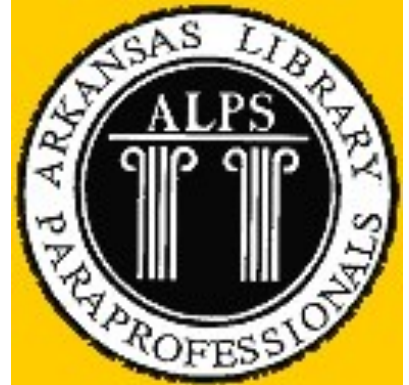
There were two events on Monday, one that involved taking the trolley through Eureka and that night, we held our Icebreaker at the local public library and also got a tour of one of the two remaining Carnegie Libraries in Arkansas, featuring a special basement tour hosted by local Zombie enthusiast Jeff Danos, who is knowledgeable about the Eureka Underground. Then we were able to pick a restaurant and were hosted by an

ALPS Conference cont.

employee of the CARROLL & MADISON LIBRARY SYSTEM. Other programs more designed for Public Libraries rather than the Academic Libraries included *“Creative Differences: How a More Creative Approach to Adult Programming Made all the Difference in Little Rock”*; *“3D Printing: The Future, the Present, and Maybe a Bit of the Past”*; *“The Changing Landscape of Electronic Reserves”*; *“Up Up & Away with Superscale Programming, With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility”*; *“Getting Out of the Library”* trying to help expand the library’s outreach services to reach as many children as possible in two Northeastern counties in Arkansas; *“Genealogy: Getting the most out your resource”*; *“Arkansas’s Carnegie Libraries”*; and *“I pin, Do you?”*, from the social media administrator for all the social media accounts for Arkansas River Valley Regional Library System. (She loves using Pinterest not just for work, but for personal use.)

The State Librarian, Carolyn Ashcraft, spoke at one luncheon and Jud Copeland, ArLA (State Chapter/Arkansas Library Association) President, spoke at the other one, both emphasizing the importance of support staff to all our libraries. We also had a Costume Party for our Tuesday night banquet with prizes for best costume of a “super hero.” We had Sookie Stackhouse as the Master of Ceremonies, a Spider-Man, yours truly, and lots of other characters. It was a blast!

During one luncheon, we had poster sessions highlighting events at different libraries over the past year. This was our group, The Mullinators, from the University Libraries, The University of Arkansas (including employees from Mullins (Main), Physics and the Fine Arts Libraries). We wore super hero capes with items showing our individual departments of ILL, Circulation, Technical Services, Physics, Fine Arts, and Systems.



(Left to Right)

Kareen Turner, ILL;
Lynaire Hartsell, PER;
Sherryl Robinson,
CIRC;
Elaine Roser, IT;
Cedar Middleton,
Cataloging;
Stephanie Freedle,
Physics;
Gale Golden, Fine Arts.

SAN FRANCISCO



Union Square



Palace of Fine Arts



Alcatraz



Coit Tower



Chinatown



Pier 39



Iconic trolley car



Golden Gate Bridge



The LSSIRT Newsletter is the official publication of the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table (LSSIRT) of the American Library Association. It is distributed free to members of LSSIRT and is published three-four times a year.

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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 Lorelle Swader at...

lswader@ala.org with your ALA membership number and ask to be subscribed.

