

ST-12 - Wyoming MPLA Report
December 2, 2013
Stephen Boss

Wyoming Library Association (WLA) / MPLA Joint 2015 Conference Planning

WLA President Richard Landreth, Stephen Boss, MPLA Representative, Wendy Wendt, President, MPLA and Laura Grott, Executive Secretary of WLA worked together to set a firm date for the 2015, MPLA/WLA Conference. The joint conference will be held on September 23-25, 2015 at Little America in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Wyoming Library Association 2013 Annual Conference

The WLA 2013 Annual Conference was held at Little America in Cheyenne, Wyoming at the October 2nd through October 5th.

The WLA Opening Reception was held on October 2nd at the historic Cheyenne Depot Museum. Thanks to ProQuest for sponsoring the event.

The keynote speaker for this year's conference was Lee Rainie. Lee is the Director of the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, a nonprofit, nonpartisan "fact tank" that studies the social impact of the internet.

One of this year's conference's featured children's authors is Rich Wallace. Mr. Wallace is the acclaimed author of a wide range of books for children and teenagers. His first novel, Wrestling Sturbridge, was an ALA Top 10 Selection for Young Adults and a YALSA 100 Best of the Best for the 20th Century. Many award-winning novels have followed including Shots on Goal, War and Watermelon, and Sports Camp. Wicked Cruel--his 2013 release--is a trilogy of thought-provoking and spooky urban legends.

Another featured children's author from this year's conference is Sandra Neil Wallace. The first woman to host an NHL hockey broadcast on network TV, Sandra is now a full-time author. She wrote the inspirational achievements of the 1950 Jerome Muckers football team in her book called Muckers.

Matt Tischer and I are both leaders of WLA's New Technologies Interest Group. The url to the WIKI for the interest group follows.

<http://wlanewtechinterestgroup.pbworks.com/w/page/33346081/FrontPage>

The conference ended with the popular session called "What the Tech is That?" This session focuses on new technologies and technologies that can be used by librarians to improve server and inform patrons. The handout is offered as an addendum at the end of this report. Handouts and slides from presentations can be found at the following url.

<http://wlanewtechinterestgroup.pbworks.com/w/page/56929852/2013%20Tech%20Showcase>

At WLA, I was involved doing technology support during the conference. The conference went smoothly. Like last year, the sessions were varied and were well presented.

I setup the MPLA exhibit at the WLA conference. The new setup worked very well. A large number of people signed up for the MPLA half price membership drawing. The winner's names were sent to Judy. I am doing follow-up marketing MPLA to the non-winners.

Wendy Wendt, the President of MPLA, attended the WLA Conference. Members of the WLA Executive Board met with her while she was in attendance and discussed some of the logistics and possible schedule for the future 2015 WLA/MPLA joint conference that will be held at Little American in Cheyenne.

Current WLA Executive Board

The current WLA Executive Board follows.

- Richard Landreth, President
- Rebecca Steffen, Vice President
- Debbie McCarthy, Past President
- Carey Hartmann, ALA Representative
(term runs June 27, 2012 - June 30, 2015)
- Steve Boss, MPLA Representative
(term runs 2011 - 2014)
- an appointed Recording Secretary
- Karen Kitchens, WLA Interest Groups Representative
- two Leadership Coordinators Mary Rhodes and Ara Anderson (1 vote)
- Laura Grott, Executive Secretary, Ex-Officio
- Brittany Wells, Communications Advisor, Ex-Officio
- Jason Grubb, 2013 Conference Committee Chair, Ex-Officio
- Scott Barber, Legislative Committee Chair, Ex-Officio
- Lesley Boughton, State Librarian, Ex-Officio

Review of Wyoming MPLA Leadership Conference Applicants

Wyoming Library Association President, Richard Landreth of the Campbell County School District #1 and Stephen Boss, MPLA State Representative and Wyoming State Librarian Leslie Boughton reviewed Wyoming's 2014 MPLA Leadership Conference Applicants. We chose two applicants to attend. Both applicants have great leadership futures in front of them in the library profession. The MPLA Leadership Institute will help them further develop their leadership skills.

WLA Website to be on Member Clicks

The WLA website will transition from local hosting in Wyoming to Member Clicks. Thanks to Erin and Scott Kinney for their work over the years hosting and adding content to the Wyoming Library Association website.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Boss