

# Seneca District Newsletter

March 15, 2010

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## District Libraries

- *Bradford Area Public Library*
- *Barbara M. Brown Memorial Library*
- *Johnsonburg Public Library*
- *Friends' Memorial Library*
- *Marienville Area Library*
- *Mt Jewett Memorial Library*
- *S.W. Smith Memorial Public Library*
- *Ridgway Free Public Library*
- *Sheffield Township Library*
- *Hamlin Memorial Library*
- *St. Marys Public Library*
- *Sugar Grove Free Library*
- *Tidioute Public Library*
- *S.S. Bovard Memorial Library*
- *Warren Library Association*
- *Wilcox Public Library*
- *Youngsville Public Library*



## Job Search & the Library

The economic recession has hit American workers hard. The unemployment rate is the highest since 1983 & the unemployed are remaining without work longer than ever before.

The economy is seeing a changeover to highly skilled jobs, such as nursing, medical technician, electrical engineer, & accountant, forcing job seekers to scramble to acquire new skills to be competitive in today's job market. The five-day work week is being superseded by flextime, telecommuting, consulting/freelance work, & job sharing. In addition, there is no longer the job security & benefits once available to workers.

As a result of all these changes, job search strategies have also changed. Today those hunting jobs need a results-oriented resume & applications must be filed online.

Libraries have become the primary source of job-hunting & career information. The unemployed want libraries to teach them computer skills, job-searching skills, & resume writing. Libraries are also expected to provide information on jobs for the future.

Those seeking employment are not just the traditional male breadwinner. They are also retirees needing to supplement their income, baby boomers postponing retirement, military veterans, teens, women returning to work, & college graduates. Libraries are in a position to be indispensable to these individuals.

All too often career & job-search collections are neglected & thus outdated. To meet the needs of the community, an up-to-date collection is essential. Since job descriptions & salaries change as jobs change & new jobs are created, any book over five years old is an antique.

Career series are staples on library shelves. Libraries should consider purchasing the latest editions about in-demand occupations in the fields of health care, information technology, energy, & education. The author of this article recommends you check Career Voyages ([www.careervoyages.gov](http://www.careervoyages.gov)) for future job trends. The *Occupational Outlook Handbook* from the Department of Labor is still the standard & is available online from the Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco)). The "Careers in Focus" (Ferguson), "Career Opportunities (Checkmark Books), & "Great Jobs" (McGraw-Hill) series will be useful for libraries on a small budget. Two other publishers of career & job-search materials are JIST Works & Impact Publication.

The author, Bonnie Easton, also provides a bibliography of recommended publications & websites she believes are useful tools. That bibliography is in the February 1, 2010 *Library Journal* or contact the District Office for a copy.

Based on: Easton, Bonnie, "Collection Development: Our World of Work." *Library Journal*, p. 32-34, February 1, 2010.



## District Happenings

### Fundraising:

Friends' Memorial Library will hold a Soup'n Pie Lunch, Thursday, March 25 from 11:00 a.m. until all is gone—Twelve kinds of pie and seventeen kinds of soup, all homemade.

### Farewell:

Marienville Area Library bids farewell to long-time employee, Kathy Henschel, who has retired.



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## District Happenings (cont'd from page 1)

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### **Congratulations:**

The Elk County libraries have received a \$10,000 grant from the Stackpole-Hall Foundation to help recover some of the funds that had to be cut from collection expenditures

Friends' Memorial Library has been chosen as one of the recipients of the proceeds from the Kane Rotary Auction.

### **Welcome:**

Marienville Area Library welcomes a new library assistant, Rosie Everett. Rosie is a Marienville native & we welcome her to the Seneca District.

### **Programming:**

Warren Public Library held a Duct Tape Craft Night for teens & tweens. Directions for duct tape wallets & belts were

provided & participants devised other ideas such as headbands, flowers, ties, etc.

Marienville Area Library staff member Rosie Everett read to the elementary students at East Forest Elementary School & introduced the Make a Splash Summer Reading program as part of *Read Across America Week*. She gave students bookmarks with Swedish Fish attached.

Warren Public Library held Red Balloon Day on February 13. Families were invited to bring a bag lunch to enjoy after viewing the 1956 film *The Red Balloon*. Children iced red cupcakes, did some coloring and took home several red balloons.



## District Reminders

### **Teleconference**

April 9, 2010—*Technology Trends in Libraries: Tools, Skills, Staffing, Training*—Noon to 1:30 p.m. at Warren

### **District Meetings**

April 16, 2010—District Negotiated Agreement + Electricity Deregulation Explained, Warren Public Library, 9 a.m. to Noon.

May 21, 2010—*Putting It All Together: Great Boards with Dynamic Board/Librarian Relationships*, presenter Michael Kumer at Warren Public Library, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

September 24, 2010—note *new* tentative date, *Library Services to Businesses*, tentatively at Pitt-Bradford

October 22, 2010—note *new* tentative District Meeting date

### **Trustee Institute**

April 10, 2010—*Library Survival Tactics—Let's Not Waste a Good Crisis* at Penn Stater, State College, 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. OR

April 24, 2010—*Library Survival Tactics—Let's Not Waste a Good Crisis* at Doubletree, Monroeville, 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

### **Annual Report Due**

All annual reports must be submitted by April 5, 2010. All paper documentation should also be in the District Office by April 5, 2010.



## District Professional Collection

**Chmara, Theresa, *Privacy and confidentiality issues: a guide for libraries and their lawyers.* Chicago: American Library Association, 2009.**

In this clear, concise guide, Chmara, a First

Amendment attorney and litigation expert, shares her decades of experience in easy-to-understand language. Each chapter is arranged in a question-and-answer format.

## More District Professional Collection

Chmara explores various issues connected with requests for patron circulation records or library use records and First Amendment rights at stake when libraries are asked to supply these records. She also discusses these issues with respect to Internet use records, analyzes the role of the library as employer with regard to hostile work environment issues, and gives practical advice to librarians and their lawyers in drafting privacy and confidentiality policies. In fact, the last chapter focuses entirely on developing a privacy policy.

**Hysell, Shannon Graff, *Recommended reference books for small and medium-sized libraries and***

***media center.* Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2009.**

*Recommended Reference Books* is based on the reviews of *American Reference Books Annual*. The reviews will help librarians quickly determine the best and most affordable reference materials in any given field. This tool has reviews of reference books, CD-ROMs, and Websites from 2006-2009. Items included are selected based on their appropriateness for school libraries, small college libraries, or small public libraries. Each entry contains a code indicating the type of library for which it is recommended.



## Quick Notes

⇒ **The Great Scavenger Hunt Contest:** Here is a new, super easy, FREE reading program for teen and youth librarians. Over 150 YA and children's authors have created a 10-question trivia challenge for one or more of the participating novels. The list includes nearly every kind of book you can imagine: fantasies, mysteries, romance...many New York Times best sellers, winners or finalists of the Newbery Award, National Book Award and Edgar Award are included. Readers read a participating book, complete the related trivia challenge, and turn it in to the librarian. If they get 8 out of 10 answers correct, the

librarian enters them in the monthly contest for a \$50 gift card and the library might win a tote bag filled with the titles that were featured in the scavenger hunt. Check it out at: <http://www.kaycassidy.com/hunt/>

⇒ **Pics4Learning:** Pics4Learning is a copyright-friendly image library for teachers and students. It contains thousands of images donated by students, teachers, and amateur photographers. Permission has been granted for use of all the images. This collection of images is constantly growing. Go to: <http://www.pics4learning.com>



## Library Chronicles

The Bradford Area Public Library had its origin in 1879 when a free reading room was established. Books for the reading room were purchased over the next few years until the total reached 3,000 volumes. The reading room derived some of its income from a coffee shop on the building's first floor. At the same time, the city superintendent of schools set up a subscription fund to purchase a small school library to be supported through taxation.

In 1900, with \$25,000 from Andrew Carnegie, the two small libraries were combined and a new building planned. The design for the building was one of the 3 Carnegie-approved plans. Erected on the corner of Congress & Corydon Streets, the building was opened to the public in 1901.

The institution was known as the Carnegie Public Library until 1986 when, in an attempt to garner wider fiscal support, the library was reincorporated under the Bradford Area Public Library name.

In 1991, new building and structural codes meant that the facility would require extensive renovations. The Board decided it would better serve the community to construct a new building. The new Bradford Area Public Library opened at 67 West Washington Street in October 1991.

But new or old, the library continues to honor the promise carved over the entrance to the Carnegie building—"Free to the People."

## SENECA LIBRARY DISTRICT

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**Seneca Library  
District**

*Serving 5 counties in Northwest PA*

*We're on the web at  
[www.warrenlibrary.org](http://www.warrenlibrary.org)*



## Moments in Our Lives

- ◆ **Lois Strycula**, District Consultant, is very excited to report that her youngest daughter, Lara, is expecting her first child in late August!
- ◆ **Sandi Tudor**, Warren Public Library Administrative Assistant, and her husband celebrated their 20th Anniversary with a *spectacular* trip to Italy. They say the scenery, culture, food were just indescribable! And if asked, Sandi will happily share her 400+ pictures.

*A pound of pluck is  
worth a ton of luck.*

James Garfield



## Four-Leaf Clover

- The four-leaf clover achieved “lucky” status because the ancient Celtic druids viewed it as a sign of good luck.
- According to legend, during the fifth century, Saint Patrick used the shamrock to teach the Celts about the Holy Trinity. The three leaves attached to a single stem represented the Father, the Son, & the Holy Spirit in one God. If Saint Patrick came across a four-leaf clover, he used the extra leaf to represent “God’s grace.”
- The four-leaf clover is the symbol of the rural youth organization—4-H. Each leaf stand for one H—head, heart, hands, and health.
- In 2002, in Japan, Shigeo Ovava discovered a clover with 18 leaves, a Guinness World record.
- In 2006, on the Kenai Peninsula, in Alaska, Ed Martin Sr. of Cooper Landing found more than a thousand four-leaf clovers in a single day.
- One superstition says that if an unmarried woman finds a four-leaf clover & eats it, she will soon meet her husband.
- In the song *I’m Looking Over a Four-Leaf Clover*, the four leaves signify sunshine, rain, roses & the one I adore.
- One old saying about the luck of the clover goes, “One leaf for fame, One leaf for wealth, And one leaf for a faithful lover, And one leaf to bring glorious health, Are all in a four-leaf clover.”
- The difference between a shamrock and a four-leaf clover is that the shamrock has three leaves.
- George J. Kaminski holds the record for finding the largest number of four-leaf clovers (72,927). He found all of them on the grounds of various Pennsylvania prisons while he served time for burglary and shooting a police officer.
- The Irish word shamrock translates as clover in English.