

BCLA Shelflist

Winter 2006

Newsletter of the Berks County Library Association



Greetings! Here is another issue of the BCLA electronic newsletter. If you have comments, questions or problems please let us know. lpirlroth@state.pa.us or chris@wyopublib.org

Winter Meeting

Where: Wernersville State Hospital

When: Friday, February 17th @ 2pm.

What: We will conduct our business meeting at 2pm. Following the business meeting, Amy Deuink from the Penn State University Library and possibly one other speaker will talk to the group about virtual reference. The meeting will conclude with a tour of the Wernersville State Hospital Treatment Mall which will include the Consumers' Library.

Please RSVP if you will attend the business meeting:

chris@wyopublib.org or call 610-374-2385

Rachel Simon's Bus Stops for BCLA

Rachel Simon, author of the "One Book Berks 2005" selection, *Riding the Bus with My Sister*, stopped by the Muhlenberg Middle School auditorium on October 18, 2005 to discuss the creative process that went into writing her book and also examined the development of the Hallmark Hall of Fame movie with the same title.

Ms. Simon began her talk by first explaining what she had done for a living prior to the publication of her book. She highlighted her work at bookstores, the Philadelphia Inquirer, and Bryn Mawr College. She then told the audience how the idea of her book was developed and what went into the writing, editing, and production of the book.

After describing her writing career and the success of the book, Rachel explained how the movie was created and commented on the many differences between her book and the movie.

Along the way, Rachel made the audience laugh at stories, (one included a friend of hers who helped edit the book while he had to sit in a bathtub for a week straight for medical reasons) and reflect on the true bonds of family.

While audience turnout was lower than what BCLA had hoped for, the event was deemed a success for the BCLA membership and the Berks library community.

Minutes

Berks County Library Association

Fall Meeting

October 18, 2005

Call to Order: Chris Ritter, BCLA President, called the business meeting to order at 6:04 PM in the Muhlenberg Middle School auditorium, Laureldale, PA, with approximately 15 members in attendance. All attendees introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the June 7, 2005 Spring Meeting was made available in the Fall 2005 Shelflist newsletter, which was disseminated via the BCLA listserv. Motion was made to approve the minutes by Kathy Thren, and seconded by Krista Prock. Motion carried. The approved 2005 Spring Meeting minutes will be filed by the secretary.

Treasurer's Report: Mindy Peters, Treasurer, submitted the Treasurer's Report. The previous balance was \$1,367.98. For this reporting period, income amounted to \$685.00 and expenditures amounted to \$78.25. The balance as of October 18, 2005 is \$1,974.73. It was reported by Mindy Peters that four new memberships and one new student membership were included in the income. The Treasurer's Report is filed with these minutes.

Committee Reports:

Membership: The Membership Committee will be reassembled and will include Wendy Schmehl, Elizabeth Eshelman, and Krista Prock. Krista Prock is compiling a list of potential members and will be sending letters to them. The exact number of members was not verified due to disk problems.

Professional Development: No report.

Nominating Committee: The committee members for the Nominating committee will be appointed at the Winter Meeting.

Unfinished Business:

The problems with the listserv will be addressed at a later date, as Bryan Leithiser was not in attendance.

It was moved by Krista Prock that the mailing address for BCLA be changed from c/o Albright College Library, P.O. Box 15234, Reading, PA 19612-5234 to c/o Reading Public Library, 100 South Fifth Street, Reading, PA 19602. The motion was seconded by Kathy Thren. Motion carried.

Krista Prock also has a list of special libraries that she will be using for distributing the recruitment brochures. She recommended that new memberships be good for the rest of this year and all of next year.

Kim Stahler inquired if any new Friends memberships were initiated due to the Rachel Simon event. Celia Fritz reported that The Exeter Community Library received one new Friend.

New Business: Diane Pawling reported that the ticket sales for the Rachel Simon event were below the 300 tickets needed to break even for the auditorium rental and speaker fees. A basket was put out for any additional donations to help defray the costs. Some gratis tickets were given to acquaintances of Rachel Simon.

Announcements: Kathy Mazurek announced that there is an open position for a part time Library Assistant at the Reading Hospital. Those interested are encouraged to apply online.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 PM.

Jennifer Balas
Secretary

Changes in BCLA

The New Year has brought some change to BCLA. Our Vice President, Diane Pawling, has accepted a Business Librarian position in Lancaster County. Because of her new job and time constraints, she had to step down as Vice President. Wendy Schmehl, Librarian for the Carpenter Technology Corporation has graciously agreed to fill this empty office through June.

Bryan Leithiser, a long-time BCLA member, recently retired from the Reading Public Library after more than twenty years of service. In addition to his duties at the Reading Public Library, Bryan also maintained the BCLA listserv and website. Past BCLA President Joe Zappacosta will be maintaining the listserv and website in the future. Any messages for the listserv can be sent directly to Joe or to any BCLA officer.

BCLA sends both Diane and Bryan best wishes for the future and thanks for past service. We would also like to express gratitude to Wendy and Joe for stepping in to help the Association.

15 Minutes of Fame:
Colleen Stamm

Position: Children's Librarian, Wyomissing Public Library

Where and when born: West Reading, PA

First job: Ride Operator at Dorney Park

Accomplishment I'm proudest of: Graduating College

When I have spare time, my favorite thing to do is: Go dancing

Dream vacation: Bora Bora, Tahiti

How I plan to spend my retirement: Traveling & relaxing

Favorite TV program: Law & Order – any of the shows

All-time favorite book: "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White

The habit I just cannot break: I say, "I'm sorry" all the time

The craziest thing I've ever done: Swim with stingrays and nurse sharks

Proudest moment of my life: Having all my family and friends attend my wedding

Job I would like to have for one day: Flight attendant – because I love to travel

People may be surprised to know that I: Own and ride a motorcycle

Berks County's biggest secret: Snuzzle's – A great restaurant in Lyon's with affordable good food. I especially love their cheese steaks and fried vegetables.