

# BERKS COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Spring 2009



## SHELF LIST

### BCLA—We're Giving it Another Try

We're still here.

Yes, it's been a rough year for libraries around the nation and right here in Berks County.

The BCLA board has baby fever and needs new volunteers to lead the organization forward.

But we still care about libraries and we still care about keeping BCLA alive. We believe it is an asset and a resource to Berks County Librarians and we hope you think so too.

We know that library staff members, asked to do more with less, are experiencing a time crunch and of course budgets are crunched more than ever before.

That's why we're offering a simple Fall Workshop, just one Friday afternoon in October. Come listen to Human Resources legal expert, Dave Spitko talk about HR issues in libraries. No matter which or how many sides of the employer-employee fence you find yourself on, Mr. Spitko will have information useful to you.

Also, we will have a brief business meeting over lunch to discuss upcoming plans for BCLA and hear ideas from everyone on how to make BCLA better and more useful to you. As always, you can enjoy the company of colleagues who understand your struggles and share your frustrations in this difficult economic climate.

We hope you can find a few free hours to join us!



#### Fall 2009 Meeting & Workshop

**"Employment Laws You  
Need to Know About"**

**Friday October 16th  
12 Noon—4pm**

**Wyomissing Public  
Library**

**Just \$5 for members  
and \$8 for non-  
members!  
Fee includes lunch!**

Berks County Library Association  
Winter Meeting  
Friday, March 13, 2009  
Muhlenberg Community Library

- I. President Celia Colby called the meeting, hosted by library director Sue Davis, to order at 5:15pm.
- II. Introductions were made by the 4 officers and 11 members present.
- III. Approval of Minutes from the Fall 2008 meeting put forth by Jane Sullivan and seconded by Cathy Rhodes.
- IV. Treasurer's Report by Mindy Peters shows a balance of \$1665.87.
- V. Committee Reports  
Membership equals 41 members versus 58 last year.  
Professional Development will try again to have Lolly Gassaway speak on copyright issues. Melanie Solon volunteered to check whether law librarians outside the county would be interested in attending. Julie Rinehart offers county money to support the event. The last survey reveals Continuing Ed. is popular with members.
- VI. Old Business  
Secretarial post has been filled by Marcina Wagner.  
BCLA will not be disbanded.
- VII. New Business  
Survey Monkey has 28 responses: 1) Institutional Members as a class will no exist. 2) Retirees will be a new class with a \$5.00 membership fee. 3) Annual meeting can be held in Spring, not specifically May. 4) Union list will no longer be maintained. Motion to approve put forth by Julie Rinehart and seconded by Wendy Hampton. All changes to by-laws approved unanimously.  
Why the decline in members debated. Julie Rinehart believes two yearly meetings with an educational component will increase membership. Mindy Peters suggests social gatherings and blogging to stay in touch with members.
- VIII. Announcements  
Mindy Peters reports on possible tours of the Athenaeum and the Rosenbach Library. Suggestions for other tours include: QVC, NML, Conrad Hilton Library at CIA, Longwood Gardens library, Hershey Antique Automobile Museum and Library.  
Julie Rinehart shares that 2 vans are traveling to Book Expo in NYC.
- IX. Motion to adjourn passes.  
Respectfully submitted, Marcina Wagner

# FALL MEETING AGENDA

Berks County Library Association  
Fall Meeting  
Friday, October 16, 2009  
Wyomissing Public Library

I. Call to Order

II. Introductions

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Treasurer's Report

V. Committee Reports

Membership

Professional Development

VI. Old Business

Create SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Committee

VII. New Business

Recruiting new board members

Treasurer—Sue Davis

Proposed new board position—Historian

Winter meeting and tour idea—Hershey Corporation Library and chocolate tasting

VIII. Announcements

IX. Adjournment

**BCLA**



## HR Workshop & Fall Business Meeting: **EMPLOYMENT LAWS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT**

*Presentation by David Spitko, Attorney at Law*

FRIDAY 10/16/09

Lunch & Meeting:  
12:00PM - 1:00PM

Workshop:  
1:00pm - 4:00pm

WYOMISSING  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cost:  
\$5.00 - Members  
\$8.00 - Non-members  
(Includes lunch)

This workshop is geared towards a library environment and should be beneficial to everyone from potential job seekers to those handling interviews and the hiring process.

Some of the topics to be covered include:

- What do you need to know about employment laws
  - Potential remedies available to plaintiffs
  - Potential basis for an employee to sue
- Contracts - Wrongful discharge - Defamation - Privacy
- Equal Employment Opportunity Laws and more

**PUBLIC LIBRARIANS WILL RECEIVE 3 HOURS OF CE CREDIT**

*Please RSVP no later than Tuesday, 10/13/09 - Thank you!*

*COST: \$5.00 - Members / \$8.00 Non-Members*

*Includes lunch and the workshop*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one of the following lunch options

Sandwich:

Turkey Ham Roast Beef  
Chicken Salad Tuna Salad

OR  
Salad:

Garden Caesar  
Cobb Spinach

Please mail a copy of this form with your cash or check made payable to BCLA. Mail to:

Mindy Peters  
BCLA Treasurer  
Carpenter Technology Corp.  
R&D Center Library  
P.O. Box 14662  
Reading, PA 19612



## New Member Spotlight: Corrine App

**Position:** Children's Librarian for Wyomissing Public Library

**Where and when born:** Community General Hospital, Reading PA, July 15, 1985

**First job:** Other than my years of babysitting, I was first officially employed by Tiny Treasures Nursery School 14 years after I was a toddler there myself!

**Accomplishment I'm proudest of:** There isn't one specific accomplishment. Rather, I'm proud that I have set my professional and academic goals high and have achieved them. Now that I have established myself in a job position I adore, I am working toward a new set of goals.

**When I have spare time, my favorite thing to do is:** Catch up on sleep!

**Dream vacation:** Travel back to Germany on a genealogy investigation to delve further into my family's roots (and enjoy the cuisine Germany offers!)

**How I plan to spend my retirement:** Can't say I've thought about this much since it is 40+ years away! I expect I'll want to spend time with my family and continue traveling.

**Favorite TV program:** Entertainment Tonight's, *The Soup*

**All-time favorite book:** *Good Hunting Little Indian*, by Peggy Parish, an old childhood favorite. The pictures and plot replay in my mind even today. I am sure that it is not one of my parents' favorites because they read it to me so often.

**The habit I just cannot break:** I am a shopaholic. I especially love bargain hunting at thrift and vintage shops. The "hunt" is addicting!

**The craziest thing I've ever done:** I'll let you know when it happens

**Proudest moment of my life:** Being wed to my husband Erik

**Job I would like to have for one day:** Actress, I bring life to storybook characters during story time, but bringing them to life on stage would be thrilling!

**People may be surprised to know that I:** Married the man I shared my first kiss with

**Berks County's biggest secret:** To mention the sense of community, incredible restaurants and fabulous shops isn't a secret I suppose. It is quite difficult to decide on a single Berks County secret however I think that the Stirling Guest Hotel is one of Berks County's "biggest secrets." The historical and architectural details are captivating. The cuisine is marvelous. One bite, and you know there won't be any leftovers! My family and I have spent many memorable meals at this historic gem.



***Times are tough for everyone and BCLA wants to help!***

**Any BCLA member with a current membership is eligible to apply for a professional development grant sponsored by BCLA.**

Any BCLA member attending library-related professional development (conferences, workshops, training, etc.) or completing library science coursework may apply for a grant of a maximum of \$100 during the fiscal year. The money may be applied towards your expenses such as registration, materials, transportation, etc. Interested applicants may contact Mindy Peters, BCLA treasurer, for more information and specific guidelines. More information is also available from our website: <http://www.reading.lib.pa.us/BCLA/grants.asp>

*Confidentiality of all applicants will be respected; however when appropriate the grantee may be asked to present information gained (from coursework, continuing education, workshops) at a future BCLA meeting or write an article for the Shelflist.*