

Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development

*April 22, 2022 at 9:00am
Meeting at Hershey Lodge, Cocoa Room 4
Meeting space provided by PSLA at their annual conference*

Minutes

Present: David Belanger
Marsha Everton
Mary Garm
Rebecca Long
Allison Mackley
Beth Mellor
Larry Nesbit
Barbara Zaborowski

Excused: Patrick Oates

Office of Commonwealth

Libraries (OCL): Susan Banks, Deputy Secretary / Commissioner for Libraries (OCL)
Demetrice Barbour, Admin Assistant, (OCL)
Carrie Cleary, Executive Assistant, (OCL)
Sarah Greene, Director, Bureau of State Library (BSL)
Corri Hines, Library Advisor, School-Age Services (BLD)
Heather Sharpe, Director, Bureau of Library Development (BLD)

In-Person Guests: Christi Buker, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA)
Samantha Hull, High School Librarian, Ephrata Area School District
Rob Leshner, PA Forward®, Program Manager (PaLA)
Ryan McCrory, Executive Director, Lititz Public Library
Jessica Miller, Library Director, Cleve J. Fredricksen Library
Noe Ortega, Secretary of Education, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (PDE)
Maryam Phillips, Executive Director, Hosting Solutions and Library Consulting (HSLC)
Karla Trout, Executive Director, Library System of Lancaster County (LSLC)
Ila Verdirame, Retired Public School Librarian, PCBL/PSLA/PSEA Retired/NEA Retired Life/ALA Member
Laura Ward, President, Pennsylvania School Librarians Association (PSLA)

1. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Garm called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM. Council in attendance gave introductions

2. Approval of Minutes of the February 10, 2022 Meeting

Approval of Minutes of the February 10, 2022 Meeting
No corrections or questions. Approved as distributed.

3. Chair's Report / Mary Garm – Report Attached

Garm shared highlights from attached report

4. Deputy Secretary's Report / Susan Banks - Report Attached

Banks shared highlights from attached report

5. Materials Challenges / Samantha Hull, Ephrata High School Librarian

Garm Introduced Samantha Hull who related the story of how she was invited to testify before the Congressional subcommittee about library materials challenges and access. Hull had been interviewed about the important roles of libraries and the barriers to access. Hull shared her experiences educating people on the issues and highlighted an emerging problem of self-censorship. Many teachers, librarians and administrators tend to be more fearful of bad press than of the damage of removing materials or politicizing libraries. Hull receives some support from PSEA to help with what she's allowed to do within her rights as an individual. Council acknowledged Hull's bravery and the hard work of educating people on these issues.

6. State Budget Advocacy / Christi Buker – Handout Attached

Buker reviewed the talking points being shared widely in support of increased library funding from the General Assembly. Buker suggested building relationships with newer legislators is important because there will be 40 legislators that are not running for re-election.

7. Bureau of Library Development (BLD) / Heather Sharpe – Report attached

Sharpe shared highlights from attached report.

8. State of PA School Libraries / Laura Ward, President, PA School Librarians Association

- Laura Introduced the Incoming President, Aimee Emerson - They have done many things together which included attending national conferences representing PA. They also did a range of programs that activated and engaged member librarians.
- PSLA leadership surveyed members to see what kind of professional development they want moving forward.
- They also worked with Pennsylvania Library Association on materials challenges and want to continue to partner more moving forward.
- There is a new web page to assist School Librarians
- Using their LSTA Grant, the Leadership Institute and Leadership Academy just wrapped up. Working towards a virtual summer session to give everyone a refresh before returning to school year. They are making plans for next year's grant.

9. Special Guest: Secretary of Education Noe Ortega

- The Secretary gave kudos for all the work that shared in the previous report shared by Laura. He thanked her for elevating the need for school librarians, a concern shared by members of the General Assembly. He remarked on how limited resources and lack of investment result in setbacks to students.
- He publicly congratulated and thanked the group that did the work of helping to select Banks as Deputy Secretary for the Office of Commonwealth Libraries.
- Secretary Ortega answered questions from the GAC and a robust discussion took place which highlighted the value of all types of libraries and the need for libraries to play an important role in the education ecosystem.

10. Bureau of State Library (BSL) / Sarah Greene - Report attached

- Green discussed items on attached report.

Extension of Agenda Item #9: After Sarah Greene’s report, Secretary Ortega asked for additional time and announced to the Council that he would be stepping down from the position of Secretary of Education as of April 29 and that Eric Hagarty, previously Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor Tom Wolf, would be named Acting Secretary in his place.

11. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

From Teams Chat Room:

- Thank you to Samantha Hull for all the work she is doing.

Karla Trout added that they are proud of Samantha Hull in Lancaster County and support her as well.

12. Update on the Library System of Lancaster County as District Center – Susan Banks

Banks recommended to the GAC to move out of the pilot phase and into a more settled agreement pending a conversation between Garm, Banks and the directors in Lancaster County, an exchange promised to the library leaders at the beginning of the pilot phase.

Garm suggested that because the GAC won’t meet again until September and the Library System needs to move ahead with a negotiated agreement for District Services, that the Council vote on Banks’ recommendation today. It would then go to the Board of the Library System of Lancaster County to ensure they agree with the recommendation and would accept an appointment to District Center. Garm and Banks would then meet with the library directors. If the member library directors present no objection or material concern, the agreement could be ratified at the next meeting of the GAC.

Garm called for discussion or questions regarding the proposal. There were none. She then called for a motion to accept the recommendation.

Action: Motion by Zaborowski: **Pending a conversation with the library directors of Lancaster County, the GAC approves an appointment of the Library System of**

Lancaster County as the District Library Center - to be ratified at the next business meeting of the GAC.

Second by Everton

Vote: Passed unanimously.

13. Rare Books Fund Update / Larry Nesbit

There is concern about keeping the Rare Books Fund in the accounts at Mansfield University. Nesbit and Sarah Greene are seeking alternatives and will have a report next time.

14. Committee Reports

- Bylaws: None
- Communications: Working on talking points to share with all of GAC. Work in progress.
- Education and Advocacy: Working with Communications and Planning to get language in place. Thanks to all who participated in focus groups.
- Guidelines and Policies: Guidelines committee - looking at priorities: guidelines for Hours and guidelines for Distribution of State Aid by Library Systems (2010) both need to be updated. Guidelines committee will begin to meet virtually soon.
- Planning: Conducted focus groups across the state to gather information. A draft of the plan is with the planning committee. Soon will be shared with GAC Board, OCL and more widely. Will aim to post to the website when finalized.
- Ad Hoc Committee / Statutes and Regulations – previously reported that a group is working on a review of existing documents.

15. Public Comment

Maryam Phillips, ED at HSLC, responded to the comments by the Secretary about libraries as the repositories of knowledge. She recognized three HSLC board members in attendance: Allison Mackley, Samantha Hull, and Ryan McCrory. Phillips brought to the attention of the group a new accessibility widget on the powerlibrary.org website and addressed a question about geo-location for POWER Library authentication with a response about the possibility if contracts did not exclude academic organizations.

Christi Buker, ED of PaLA, reported that they hosted the PA Academy of Leadership Studies (PALS) and are excited to be back in person. Programming committee for annual conference is working. Wed the 19th for advocacy push.

16. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Everton and seconded by Mellor.

Meeting Adjourned 11:52am

Minutes to be presented for additions and corrections or approval on October 18, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Demetrice Barbour
Administrative Assistant
Office of Commonwealth Libraries

Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development
Chair's Report – Mary Garm
April 22, 2022

Search Committee Recommendation and Outcome

The Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development (GAC) is pleased to announce that Susan Banks has been appointed to the position of Deputy Secretary of Education, Commissioner for Libraries, and State Librarian, following an extensive search process. Her appointment was recently confirmed by Secretary of Education Noe Ortega. He will join us later today to make the official announcement. Susan has served as Acting Deputy Secretary since April 2021, following the retirement of Glenn R. Miller.

Susan has extensive experience in libraries, having served previously as Director of the Bureau of Library Development in the Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL); as Deputy Director of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; and as Director of the Multnomah County Library in Portland, Oregon. She has also held positions in Kentucky and Ohio libraries and holds a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Kent State University.

During her term as Acting Deputy Secretary, she has gained extensive knowledge about the standing of libraries within the Pennsylvania Department of Education and has developed important relationships with officials there. Her understanding of the Pennsylvania library ecosystem will enable her to begin work immediately on OCL's goals, while her vision, passion, and curiosity will drive her to continue questioning and learning.

The Search Committee commended her with emphasis on her leadership abilities and strategic mindset. She is building a strong team in the Office of Commonwealth Libraries and is committed to developing a culture of equity, diversity, and belonging in hiring practices for OCL and as a model for all Pennsylvania libraries.

The Search Committee was led by David Belanger, GAC Vice Chair. Committee members included Council members Allison Mackley, Marsha Everton, Beth Mellor, Robert Lambert, Barbara Zaborowski, and GAC Chair Mary Garm (ex officio).

The Governor's Advisory Council offers a warm and enthusiastic welcome to Susan Banks as she begins her tenure as Deputy Secretary and State Librarian.

Evolving District Services Update

Cathi Alloway, consultant to the Evolving District Services project, is unable to join us today, but she has shared an update. The project is expected to wrap up by the end of the month. The group plans to make 12 recommendations to the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, based on input from the field, along with a review of statistics and previous studies.

She shared two of the recommendations in advance of the final report. The first is to bring the seven districts that have been underfunded up to the \$200,000 funding level required by statute. This recommendation has been included in the proposed budget sent by Governor Wolf to the legislature.

The second item that is ready to share is a recommendation to revise district boundaries, likely reducing the number of districts. Part of the text for that recommendation states:

“Library service equity in the Commonwealth requires a reset of district service area boundaries and a reduction in the number of districts. The service areas have had population and demographic changes, and some districts have been oddly configured due to local disagreements, politics, or leadership changes, with little regard to a coherent, logical model of district center distribution.

“A logical, more equitable map would evenly distribute library services, recognize the availability of local library system assets and other resources, and address district and system overlap. It would provide more parity in the size, resources, and operations of all districts.”

The next and likely last meeting of the group is scheduled for April 26. GAC Vice Chair David Belanger has been a member of the working group.

Statute and Regulations Working Group

Representatives from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, the Governor’s Advisory Council, and the PA Library Association have begun a review of the existing statute and regulations regarding libraries in Pennsylvania. The group is meeting regularly and focusing first on an in-depth study of the documents. Following this educational process, the group will work to develop a strategy for moving forward with updating the statute, the regulations, or both. Interested parties are welcome to contact me for more information or if they wish to participate in this or subsequent phases of the project.

Rare Books Fund

Council is investigating options for placement of the Rare Books Fund, currently held on behalf of the Office of Commonwealth Libraries at Mansfield University. Discussions are underway. Larry Nesbit will share more information in his Rare Books Fund update later in the meeting or in the near future.

New Library Board Law Passed in Kentucky

A new Kentucky law gives local politicians the authority to appoint public library boards. Supporters of the law point to increased accountability to taxpayers, while opponents see it as an attempt to politicize library boards and to give politicians control over local library operations. While school libraries everywhere are seeing challenges, this seems to expand the target to public libraries, as well. For more information, see the article from Publishers Weekly: <https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/libraries/article/89080-new-kentucky-law-hands-control-of-libraries-to-local-politicians.html>

Governor's Advisory Council Meeting
Friday April 22, 2022
Pennsylvania School Librarians Association Conference
9:00 a.m.

Agenda Item 4:

Deputy Secretary's Report:

- PDE Leadership Work –
 - Appropriations Testimony, now Budget Language Work
 - TOP Survey results and insights
 - Coherence Lab 2.0
- OCL-LSTA 5-year Plan – work with Quality Metrics. [Evaluation is complete](#), work on the plan is currently with OCL staff, will extend to the field and library users over the coming weeks.
- OCL staff and leadership have been working with PDE Legal, Policy and Government Relations office in responding to challenges at the community level. Leaders are focusing on solutions and responses to help library leaders and the public understand how funding and services areas work – and pathways to more effectively resolve local issues.
- Equity, Belonging and Inclusion Work – OCL's EBI Committee and Leaders team met with Dr. Nikole Hollins-Sims and OCL's designated consultant, Dr. Erika McDowell to establish foundational agreements on the work for OCL. The EBI committee is charged with ensuring that EBI is reflected in every aspect of our new 5-year Plan and is providing links to all related events and training that are going on within the Commonwealth and within the library field.
- The Libraries Connect Communities and Broadband Resources project, contracted with KINBER, funded with Governor's Emergency Education Relief funds, has engaged a second cohort of participants. Participants get access to professional training by Carson Block to learn about broadband and ways to engage with community stakeholders. Some will also be eligible for a network measurement project as well as access to packages of support resources to help libraries be best prepared for improving broadband planning and technology access from a library resource allocation fund.
- Carrie Cleary continues work with an interagency team to complete work for the [National Governor's Association Workforce Innovation Network](#). This team is engaging in work to create a digital literacy asset map in the coming months in which information about digital literacy offerings—including those at libraries—will be collected. This work, along with other interagency work, may feed into the state's draft broadband plan for review by the recently created [Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority](#).
- Forum Building progress: On March 31, retired Deputy Secretary Glenn R. Miller, retired Executive Assistant Jonelle Darr, Glenn's wife Marion, Sarah Greene and Susan Banks took an extensive hard hat tour of the Forum Building to view progress on the preservation and restoration of the historic State Library reading room and stacks as well as the work spaces

on all other floors – and a glimpse of the Forum Auditorium which is reported to be ready to go back into action as the home of the Harrisburg Symphony as early as this fall. [Photos of the construction site tour and the work underway can be viewed here.](#) Ribbon cutting for the restored home of the Department of Education is slated for early 2023 with a return to the building to follow.

- [PAsmart Grants](#) – Carry Cleary and Sue Banks were part of the team of reviewers for the 157 applications submitted for the PAsmart Advancing grants for awards up to \$500,000. There were several grants from and involving libraries and library programming. There were also many more opportunities to include libraries that were missed, but that’s a good lesson for future rounds, should that program continue to be funded.
- [Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has announced that they have selected Andrew Medlar as the Library’s next President and Director.](#) Andrew served as Director of BookOps for the NYPL, leading the shared services organization responsible for the strategic management, technical services and distribution needs of 152 locations of NYPL and Brooklyn Public Library. He brings a focus on community engagement, shared services and equity, diversity and inclusion outcomes. He will officially join Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh on May 31, 2022.

The GOOD: Libraries are the keystones of our Communities!

- Service hours are now similar to pre-pandemic levels.
- Virtual programming provides a wide variety of topics, and on-demand access.
- Curbside service is a continuing option for interested patrons.
- Wi-Fi access outside the building remains for many locations.
- Lending of mobile hotspots continues to be in high demand.

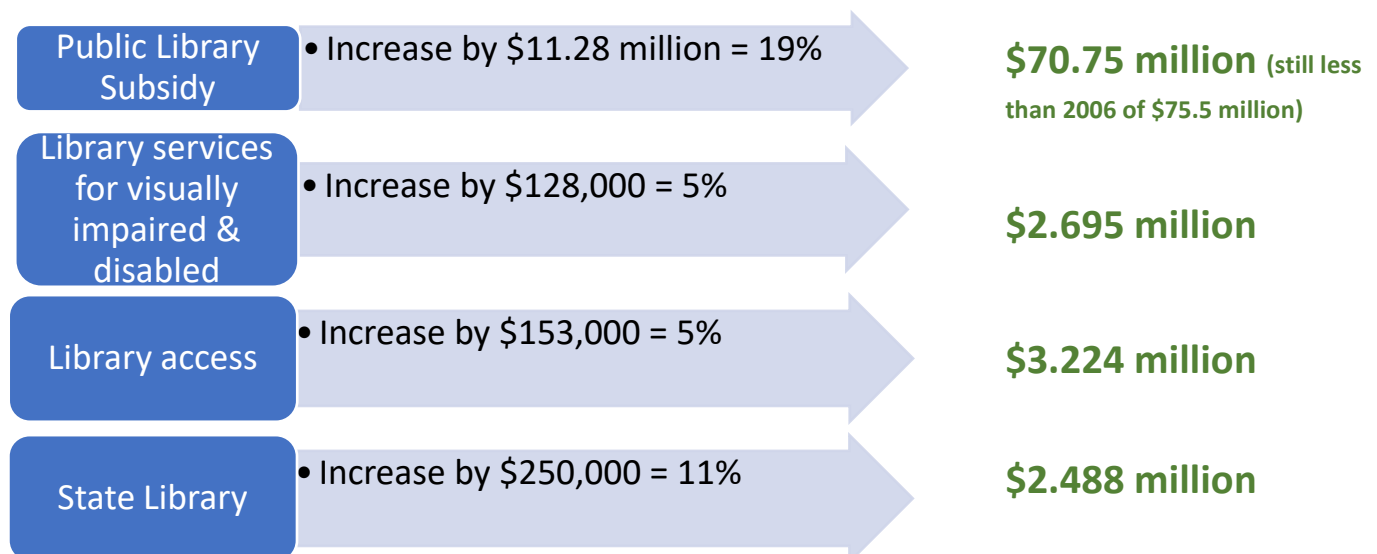
The BAD: Investments in libraries are not meeting the expenses of providing services.

- 60% of public library staff are part-time.
- Staffing levels continue to decline.
- Many full-time positions can't offer benefits and competitive wages due to limited budgets.
- Municipal support for libraries has been reduced or is at-risk for many.
- Fundraising is needed by libraries to cover as much as 60% **annual operating** expenses, but results are variable and stifled during the pandemic.
- Electronic resources such as eBooks and audiobooks generally cost 5 times more than a hardback.

The POSSIBLE: Restore stable funding to improve library services and access for communities.

Public libraries can provide internet access, staff assistance, training and literacy development programming.

We ask for increases to work toward restoration of previous library funding by increases in:



Questions? Christi Buker, Executive Director, christi@palibraries.org, 717-766-7663.

Bureau of Library Development Report

Governor's Advisory Council Meeting

April 22, 2022

State Aid

- Annual Report (Public Library Data Collection) closed and under review.
- District negotiations are under way.
- Waiver process and related procedures are being reviewed and updated.
- New public library directory is in development.

IMLS

American Rescue Plan Funds for Library Recovery (ARP-IMLS)

- 178 applications submitted for approximately \$4.3 million of the total \$4.7 million.
- 117 contracts executed, 4 returned for corrections, 19 under review, 33 comptroller, 5 legal

LSTA 2017-2022 evaluation complete, 2023-2028 five-year plan underway

LSTA Project Highlights

- **Including You:** An interactive six-week workshop series designed for library staff that focuses on communication strategies to help establish inclusive work and community environments. Wednesdays from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.: May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1 and 8.
- **Youth Services:**
 - The [Pennsylvania Library Summer Program 2022 Showcase](#) is now available on the [PA Library Staff Academy](#). The purpose of this showcase is to highlight Pennsylvania library staff who made an impact on their communities with exemplary and innovative programming during Summer 2021. This course provides information on 29 Summer library programs developed by library staff from across the Commonwealth. Guest speakers share their expertise on programming experiences from Summer 2021 and cover programs from in-person to outdoor to hybrid to virtual for youth ages 0-18.
 - **Pennsylvania Library Summer Program Roundtables** offer discussion on what we're doing for summer and WHY we do it in two agenda-free, informal sessions. Share summer programs with colleagues across the Commonwealth and take part in the conversation on summer outcomes.
 - [Register for the Roundtable Session on Tuesday, April 26 from 10-11am](#)
 - [Register for the Roundtable Session on Wednesday, April 27 from 2-3pm](#)
- **Statewide Library Training this quarter (Leadership and Training project):**

April 2022

- Wed., April 6 2pm – 3pm [Cataloging Graphic Novels](#)
- Wed., April 13 2pm – 3pm [Power Team: Grow Your Library with Your Circle of Influence](#)
- Wed., April 20 2pm – 3pm [How Do-We Do It? Practical Classification with the Dewey Decimal Classification](#)
- Tues., 26 10am – 12 pm [Financial Best Practices](#)
- Wed., April 27 10 am – 12 pm [Celebrating Diversity in Your Library's Collection](#)
- Wed., April 27 2pm – 3pm [Meditation in the 21st Century – Why Meditation Matters Even More](#)

May 2022

- Wed., May 4 2pm – 3pm [Building On Up: Hands on with DDC Built Numbers](#)
- Thurs., May 5 3pm – 3:45 pm [Customer Service Check-In](#)
- Tues., May 10 10 am – 12 pm [Part One: Trends, Scenarios, Plans – Oh My!](#)

- Wed., May 11 2pm – 3pm [Dispelling Neuromyths: Discovering What We Think About Learning May Not Be True](#)
- Fri., May 13 1pm – 3 pm [Celebrating Diversity in Your Library's Collection](#)
- Wed., May 18 2pm – 3pm [Cataloging Moving Images](#)
- Wed., May 18 4pm – 6 pm [Financial Best Practices](#)
- Wed., May 25 2pm – 3pm [Dealing with Change: Using Mindfulness to Respond in Difficult Situations](#)

June 2022

- Wed., June 1 2pm – 3pm [Reading into the Past with Census Records](#)
- Tues., June 7 10 am – 12 pm [Part Two: Trends, Scenarios, Plans – Oh My!](#)
- Wed., June 8 2pm – 3pm [How to Write to the Consumer](#)
- Wed., June 15 2pm – 3pm [“Do Your Research”](#)
- Tues., June 21 9am – 11 am [Board Governance 101](#)
- Tues., June 21 1:30 – 2:15 pm [Customer Service Check-In](#)
- Wed., June 22 2pm – 3pm [Improving Your Posture at Work for a Healthier You!](#)
- Wed., June 29 2pm – 3pm [Classic Picture Books are Boring and What You Should Read in Storytime Instead](#)
- Thurs., June 30 9am – 11 am [Board Deep Dive: “Help! We Need a Library Director!”](#)

Keystone

2021 grant awards were announced March 9th. 21 municipalities in 17 counties were awarded a total of \$5.28 million in Keystone grant funds to improve their local libraries.

Delta Consulting Group's long-range planning work has begun.

Library Access – POWER Library

POWER Library acquired 350 new eBook titles in the subject areas of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging, Mental Health, and STEM resources. All E-books are viewable on screen; and many are available for downloading and offline viewing.

POWER Library E-Books are available from powerlibrary.org in Find E-resources under the following categories: EBSCO E-books, Gale E-books, and ProQuest E-book Central. Residents will be prompted for a public library card number to access them, and those without a library card may sign up for an E-card for immediate access.

Operations/Personnel

Library Development Advisor – State Data Coordinator (SDC): Amy Geisinger has stepped into the role of the SDC following Beth Bisbano's retirement. She and Beth worked together to prepare for a smooth transition. Among other things, the SDC is responsible for Pennsylvania's annual report to collect information regarding state-level statutory requirements and report to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the national Public Libraries Survey (PLS).

Library Development Supervisor – Advising: Decision-making and HR processes

Other positions are expected to be posted in the near future.

**GAC, Bureau of State Library Report
April 22, 2022 Meeting**

RARE COLLECTIONS

In December 2021, the Rare Collection Library received the archives of the *Pennsylvania Library Association* as a deposit. This will allow for preservation in climate-controlled storage and public research access. Work continues in organizing and inventorying materials. Staff attended workshops on gilding, book binding, book repair and paper marbling to learn about history and techniques. These skills will help staff to better interpret these methods to visitors to the Rare Collections. The steam to the Forum Building was interrupted in March disrupting dehumidification in Rare Collections. Temporary dehumidifiers are in place until the new steam line, as part of the renovations, is installed.

Rare Collections Library New Acquisitions January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022

Purchases

- *Candle-lightin' time / By Paul Laurence Dunbar.* New York : Dodd Mead & Co., 1901.
- *Li'l' Gal / By Paul Laurence Dunbar.* New York : Dodd, Mead and Co., 1904.
- *When Malindy Sings / By Paul Laurence Dunbar.* New York : Dodd, Mead and Co., 1903.
- *Putting the most into life / By Booker T. Washington.* New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1906.
- *Alexander Anderson, 1775-1870 : wood engraver and illustrator : an annotated bibliography / By Jane R. Pomeroy.* New Castle, Delaware : Oak Knoll Press ; Worcester, MA : American Antiquarian Society, 2005.
- *English bookbinding styles, 1450-1800 : A handbook / By David Pearson.* London : British Library; New Castle, DE : Oak Knoll Press, 2005.
- *300 years of American papermaking : an exhibition in the Graphic Arts Hall National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., December 1990-November 1991 / By Helena E. Wright.* Washington, D.C. : National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, 1991.
- *Nineteenth-century dust-jackets / By Mark Godburn.* Pinner, Middlesex, England : Private Libraries Association ; New Castle, Delaware : Oak Knoll Press, 2016.
- *The repair of cloth bindings / By Arthur W. Anderson.* New Castle, Delaware : Oak Knoll Press, 2013.

Gifts

- Two business account ledgers dating 1817-1820 (Robert Beatty) and 1846-1854 (John Beatty) relating to the Beatty Edge Tool Co. of Chester/Media, Pennsylvania. Gift of Charles Beatty.
- 33 books on Pennsylvania-related topics featured on PCN-TV series *PA Books*.

PUBLIC SERVICES

The State Library has procured smart lockers from Ricoh which will be deployed at the Keystone Library temporary location. The smart lockers will allow for contactless and after hours pick up of materials by patrons.

Kathy Hale, Public Services Supervisor, attended the Spring meeting of Federal Depository Library Program. The State Library was recognized as a Preservation Steward for some of our 19th Century documents and as a Print Selector for the Federal Register and the Congressional Register Dailies. Being a Print Selector means that the State Library will maintain its holdings of the designated materials so that other federal depository libraries have more flexibility to maintain holdings of those items. Kathy Hale also spoke at a webinar at the SSHELCO conference along with the government documents librarians from East Stroudsburg University and Bloomsburg University.

Patrons may now search and view the State Library's catalog in Alma in Spanish.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The State Library provided four programs between February 2022 and April 2022 and had a total of 132 participants. Programs included:

- State Library book club discussion of "Life We Bury" by Alan Eskines
- Author Talk by Gerri Almand on her book "How a Reluctant RV Wife became an Accidental Author"
- Author Talk by Joel Burcat on his book "Strange Fire"
- Genealogy Lunch and Learn presented by Amy Woytovich, Genealogy Librarian, and Kathy Hale, Supervisor for Public Services, on using the United States 1950 Census for genealogy research.

For a list of upcoming programs, please visit the State Library Events page on the website found here <https://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/About/Pages/Events.aspx> .

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

The Digital Collections staff have been working with PDE procurement on an RFP for a digital asset management system, a digital preservation system, and a web archiving system. These systems are a critical component of providing and preserving the State Library's digital collections and will hopefully be in place by Fall of 2022.

The State Library of Pennsylvania is participating in the Community Web program through Archive-It. This program collects the web presence of local community groups and organizations and preserves these websites for the future.

Pennsylvania includes a wealth of diversity, and the State Library of Pennsylvania would like to capture as much of that diversity as we can. To that end, we are asking for your help.

The public libraries across the Commonwealth know their users and communities well. Help us find the local history organizations, minority communities, religious organizations, ethnic subcultures, LGBTQ+ information, environmental groups, hobby clubs, and others in your area.

Please nominate a site for inclusion [here](#).

If you would like to more know about the State Library's Community Web archiving program, please contact Alison Oskam at alokam@pa.gov for more information.

Submitted by Sarah Greene, Director, Bureau of State Library
4/15/2022