

October 2016

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## REPORT FROM YOUR CHAIR

Welcome to Fall, AWSL-ers! Before reviewing the year that AWSL has had and looking at what is planned for the future, we first must clear up why the past chair and board liaison are writing this report. The AWSL current chair, Christina Johanningmeier, accepted a position in Spartanburg, South Carolina in May. AWSL wishes her all the best in her new position. AWSL was sad to see her go, but happy for her exciting new job!

Carrie and I, along with the rest of the AWSL board, have been busy over the summer and into the fall. AWSL, as usual, has a great slate of programs, tours and meetings lined up for the WLA Annual Conference, taking place in Milwaukee at the Potawatomi Casino from October 26-28. We hope to see many AWSL members there, especially on Friday when AWSL has a member presenting during each time slot. The programs will be great, and the tour will be as well. This year, we are touring the American Geographical Society Library at UW-Milwaukee. We love maps and think this tour may be the highlight of the entire conference. Find out the exact times and locations for all our events later on in the newsletter.

Over the summer, AWSL sponsored another tour, this one not so coincidentally aligning with our upcoming event in Milwaukee. In June, we visited not one, but two science libraries on the UW-Madison campus. We enjoyed seeing the Chemistry Library and the Arthur H. Robinson Map Library. Learn more about this tour later on in the newsletter.

The AWSL board also visited SLIS orientation to connect with incoming students and encourage them to consider working in a special library. It was great to see interest in medical, GIS, law and business libraries! Just last week (in mid-September), AWSL had a social with SLIS students where they could ask questions of professional special librarians and enjoy some networking on a beautiful

evening on the Union Terrace in Madison. We think that the professionals learn just as much from the students, eagerly asking them about their classes, what their library goals are, and of course, what books they are reading!

It's been another busy year for AWSL, and we hope to keep the momentum going into 2017. If you are interested in working with a friendly group of colleagues, we'd be happy to have you join us! Get more involved, become more special and help out your fellow librarians. We'll see you in Milwaukee! Respectfully,

- Kris Turner, Past AWSL Chair

- Carrie Doyle, AWSL WLA Board Liaison

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## **REPORT FROM YOUR WLA BOARD LIAISON**

I hope to see many of you at the WLA Annual Conference in Milwaukee in a two weeks. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a list of the great programs our AWSL Conference Representative, Lisa Abler, has put together. Special thanks to Lisa, Kris Turner, and Anne Moser for keeping up AWSL's great tradition of AWSL members providing WLA Annual Conference attendees with interesting and informative insights into the world of special libraries. Please let us know if you, too, are keeping up the AWSL tradition of presenting programming at the WLA Annual Conference. We'd love to help promote your program.

There are many reasons to attend the WLA Annual Conference, such as the opportunity to stay abreast of trends and happenings and to network with librarians from different kinds of libraries and from all over the state. Yet another reason is that WLA depends heavily on conference proceeds to fund its operating budget. The more people who attend WLA conferences, the more great stuff WLA can do for us. Attending Conference is a win, win situation. Please consider attending the conference yourself, and encourage your colleagues and friends to join you.

Membership is the other major leg of WLA's current mostly two-legged revenue model. Membership renewal time will be here before we know it. This past year, each member of the AWSL Board was encouraged to bring one new member into the Association. We have had mixed success but we hope some of the overtures we made to potential new members this year will bear fruit in the future. I encourage each AWSL member to also try to recruit a new member in 2017. New members not only strengthen WLA and AWSL, they introduce new opportunities for friendship, learning and fun.

Executive Director Plumer Lovelace and the WLA Executive Board is exploring possible alternative revenue streams. The Leadership Development Institute is in the works and is set to launch in 2017. Once established, the Institute will have the dual benefits of providing WLA members with leadership skills needed to lead the profession (and their careers) into the future, and will help diversify WLA's income portfolio. President Pamela Westby is establishing a task force that will look at initial designs for an "accreditation criteria" for public libraries. Some WLA units are currently presenting occasional webinars on topics of interest to their members and are looking at ways to potentially monetize those offerings. Even if, in the end, the webinars do not increase revenue on their own, they can be considered terrific benefits that increase the value of WLA membership.

If you have an idea that could potentially produce revenue and/or increase membership benefits, please let me know. The WLA Board wants to make WLA the essential Association for all library workers and supporters in the state. Any ideas that could help achieve that goal are welcome.

- Carrie Doyle, AWSL WLA Board Liaison

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## **CHECK OUT THE AWSL PROGRAMS AT THE 2016 WLA CONFERENCE**

Here are the great programs and events AWSL has planned at the 2016 WLA Annual Conference. We really hope to see you there!

### **Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>:**

#### **12:00-1:00PM Association of Wisconsin Special Librarians (AWSL) Business Meeting**

Woodland Dreams Ballroom - Salon C

Meet at the Woodland Dreams Ballroom – Salon C at noon. We will then walk over to The Motor restaurant to hold our annual luncheon business meeting.

### **Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>:**

#### **10:15AM-12:45PM Association of Wisconsin Special Librarians Tour of American Geographical Society Library at UW-Milwaukee (*Limit 40 people*) *Transportation provided***

AWSL is touring the American Geographical Society Library at UW-Milwaukee! Learn how the AGS Library is one of the premier collections of its kind in North America, with collections that date from the 15th century to the present and that are worldwide in their coverage. Explore resources including maps, atlases, books, globes, periodicals, photos and geospatial data. Discover how the AGS Library can support your project, library or community through instruction, research, outreach or hosting visiting scholars. Please join us for an in-depth introduction to this unique collection!

### **Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>:**

#### **8:30AM-9:15AM Water Science is Child's Play: STEM Kits for Public (and all) Libraries!**

Track: Building Collections

Woodland Dreams Ballroom - Salons D/E

**Anne Moser**, *UW-Madison Wisconsin Water Library*

In his books, *Last Child in the Woods* and *The Nature Principle*, journalist Richard Louv has written extensively about how young children develop either an affection for, or suffer from phobias of, the natural world. He posits that the preschool and early elementary years offer a critical window to reach children with age-appropriate messages about ecosystems. Public libraries and programs like

Head Start and early learning programs in 4K are natural places where these messages can be shared. Libraries especially have a unique role in engaging in and offering informal education on many topics, including many in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) related areas. Wisconsin Water has some new tools to help. After several years offering water-themed story times to interested librarians and preschool teachers, the library has developed STEM Kits on a variety of water science theme that can be checked out and delivered using the Library Delivery Network. During the session, you will learn how to “Jump like a Frog!,” test for buoyancy, wear a blubber glove and learn to think like a scientist.

### **9:30AM-10:15AM Engage and Discover: Building a Digital Repository**

Track: Technology & Digital Services

Prosperity

**Kris Turner**, *UW-Madison Law School Library*

Libraries provide users with a place to learn about their local history or research archival material about their institution. Learn how to connect with your users by building a digital repository that celebrates your community's history and emphasizes the importance of your library. Discover how one library brought together photos, oral histories, newsletters and other diverse content, built a repository from the ground up, and worked with their patrons to create a free repository that cements the community's legacy and the library's critical place in that community. Celebrate WLA's anniversary with AWSL by preserving and sharing your history with a digital repository!

### **10:45AM-11:30AM A Librarian in the Lab: Data Management Needs and Best Practices in the Academic Research Environment**

Track: Library Issues & Challenges

Woodland Dreams Ballroom - Salons D/E

**Lisa Abler**, *UW-Madison*

Grant applications increasingly require attention to data management. Initiatives like NIH's Rigor and Reproducibility expand data reporting from information collected to aspects of research like materials and methods. How can librarians help researchers meet funder requirements in grant applications and the lab? Hear from a scientist cum librarian about how researchers interact with data, data management best practices and how good data management can improve data accessibility for the lab and the research community.

### **Please volunteer!**

AWSL is seeking Room Monitors for Friday programs. Would you like to get involved in AWSL and help your fellow librarians? Please volunteer to serve as a Room Monitor for one of the three programs listed above! Contact Lisa Abler at [labeled@wisc.edu](mailto:labeled@wisc.edu) if you are interested and available.

### **Are you presenting a program?**

Are you a member of AWSL and presenting a program that was not included in the list above? Please let us know! We would be happy to update our membership with additional program listings so we have the opportunity to support our fellow AWSL librarians. Please contact Lisa Abler at [lalbler@wisc.edu](mailto:lalbler@wisc.edu) with the following information:

- Presenter/s name and affiliation
- Program title
- Program time and location
- Program abstract (optional)



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## **WLA CELEBRATES 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

### **Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, Event Center Foyer, Potawatomi Hotel & Casino**

Be sure to attend WLA's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception, to be held during the 2016 WLA Annual Conference. 125 years is a big deal! The hard work and support of hundreds of librarians like yourself have helped WLA thrive for a long time. Come pat yourself on the back and help see WLA into the next 125 years. I have it on good authority there will be cake.

In addition to the reception, check out the [Wisconsin Library Heritage Center](#) website and blog for posts about the history of WLA and Wisconsin's libraries, including a timeline of WLA's history.

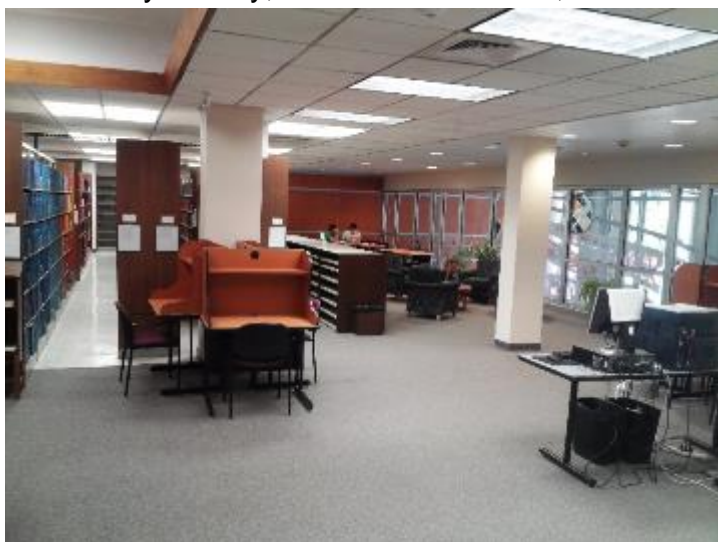


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## AWSL DOUBLE DIPS WITH TWO SCIENCE LIBRARY TOURS

In what has become a summer tradition, AWSL sponsored a special library tour in June, followed by a social at the UW-Madison Memorial Union. This year, we amped up the tour by enjoying not one but two wonderful libraries: The Chemistry Library and the Arthur H. Robinson Map Library, both located on UW's campus in Madison.

The tour met on a pleasant June afternoon just off of University Avenue and proceeded to the Chemistry Library, where Ariel Andrea, the Chemistry Librarian, showed off her library. Potentially the



most interesting portion of the tour was having the chance to tour a space that was in the midst of change. The Chemistry library was in the process of moving and consolidating. Ariel provided plenty of background on why the move was occurring, what this move meant for the library's users and how the collection was actually physically to be moved. The space was still being used, even though it was summertime and the library was in process of relocating.

The collection itself was an extensive one that was still relied upon pretty heavily by researchers in the chemistry building. It also included a unique feature: One set of rare books that was kept under lock and key, but in view of all users. Ariel could retrieve these books, but staff members in the building also had keys, allowing them access when no staff were available. Happily, very few books have ever been lost.



We bid farewell to the Chemistry Library and took a leisurely 10 minute stroll across campus to Science Hall. We took the stairs in order to admire the beautiful maps that lined the stairwell, and



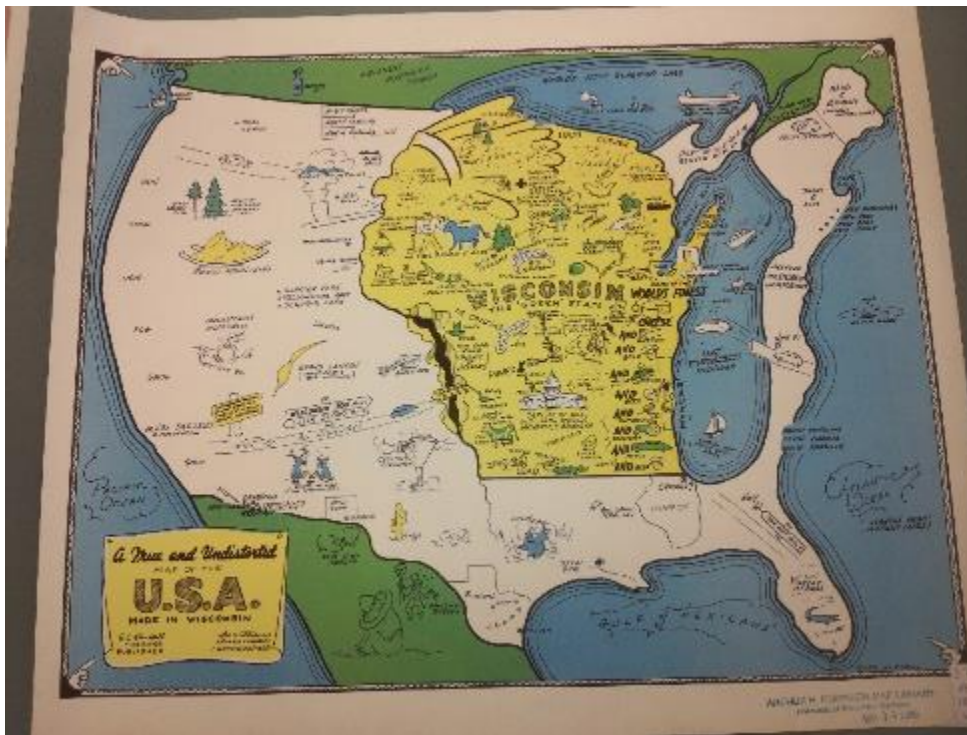
were greeted by Jamie Robinson, Map and GIS (Geographic Information Systems) librarian at UW-Madison. Jamie was in the midst of a reference question, and told the group about how she gets many questions from cartographers, property owners, historians and experts in many other fields that need to establish just exactly where a property line begins and ends. The GIS data that Jamie works with daily is incredibly important to ensuring a quality record of ownership and delineation across Wisconsin and the United States.

Of course GIS data, no matter how important it is, is not as fun to look at as historical or whimsical maps. The assembled group was able to review just a small amount of the vast collection of unique



and rare maps that the Arthur H. Robinson map library has on hand. The maps can be checked out, and the staff and faculty of the geography department has used them for double-checking research and more. Pictured are just a few

samples of the maps the group viewed.



As the tour ended, the group discovered that there were free maps available just outside the map library. Many of us grabbed a unique souvenir, and then headed for the Union. We ended our tour with a few cold drinks, a little delicious Babcock ice cream, and some librarian camaraderie. We hope to see many more AWSLers next year...stayed tuned for the next great tour!



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## **CONTRIBUTE TO THE END OF TERM 2016 U.S. GOVERNMENT WEB ARCHIVE**

Please think about helping to preserve the United States federal government .web domains. There is a small but mighty volunteer group made up for librarians from the Library of Congress, California Digital Library, University of North Texas Libraries, Internet Archive, George Washington University Libraries, Stanford University Libraries, and the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) working on a collaborative project to preserve public United States Government websites at the end of the current presidential administration ending January 20, 2017.

They need all of our help. Any librarian's help. All you need to do is submit urls of your favorite or any interesting, live .gov website other federal government websites, or governmental social media account with the End of Term Nomination Tool (link below). The url has to be on the active internet (e.g. not just in the wayback machine). It doesn't matter if the url was submitted by all of your friends. The more the better. Please tell your friends, family and colleagues to do the same. Help them preserve the .gov domain for posterity, public access, and long-term preservation. "Only YOU can help prevent ... link rot!" Read [more](#).

End of Term 2016 Nomination Tool

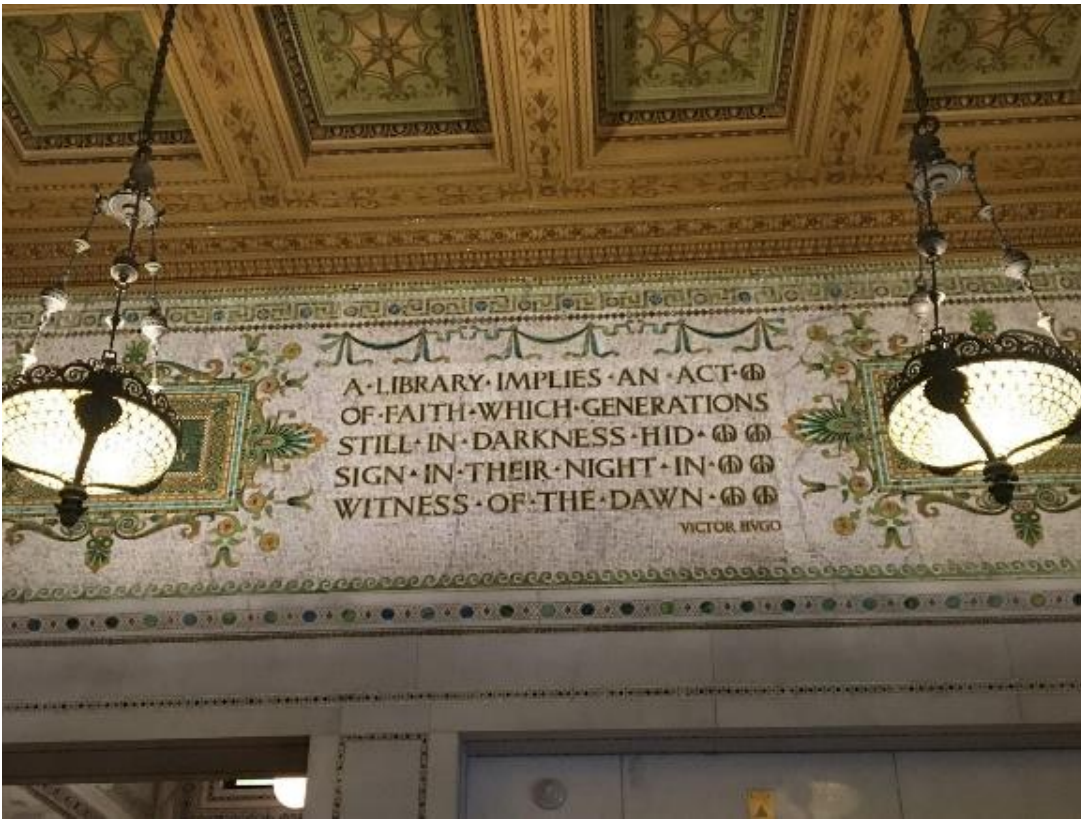
<http://digital2.library.unt.edu/nomination/eth2016/>

The End of Term Presidential Harvest 2016 team thanks you for your support!

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## **AWSL TRAVELS: LIBRARIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

We love our professional very much and even on vacation, some of us will drag along our traveling companions and loved ones to visit libraries during our travels. AWSL has decided to document the libraries our members visit around the world. Here is our next installment of AWSL Travels.



Former library, now Chicago Cultural Center  
[https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp\\_info/chicago\\_culturalcenter.html/](https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca/supp_info/chicago_culturalcenter.html/)

Submitted by Anne Moser, Aug 2016





Strahov  
Monastery

Prague,  
Czech  
Republic

April 2016

Submitted  
by Kris  
Turner

Estes  
Park  
Public  
Library

Estes  
Park, CO

July 2016

Submitted  
by  
Anne  
Moser



Chinatown  
Branch

Chicago Public  
Library

Chicago, IL

August 2016

Submitted by

Anne Moser

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