

**FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT  
Board of Trustees Public Meeting**

*October 13, 2003*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Merle Koplan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at Stevenson Community Library. She moved the meeting immediately into executive session, which lasted until 5:55 p.m., to discuss union negotiations. The regular meeting reconvened at 6:04 p.m. No action was taken during executive session.

**2. PRESENT**

Chair Merle Koplan presiding. Board members: Marilyn Butler, Jack Burkman, Jerry King, Shirley Morgan, Karen Peterson and Elena Smith. Staff attending included: Bruce Ziegman, Executive Director; Patty Duitman, Associate Director; Candy Morgan, Associate Director; Doreen Turpen, Associate Director; Sue Vanlaanen, Associate Director; Mara Reynolds, Stevenson Community Librarian and Becky Pettigrew, recording.

Others staff and citizens attending: Rick Smithrud, David DiCesare, Jude Roeder and Tom Vogt.

**3. AGENDA**

Koplan said Ziegman would provide an overview of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) prior to taking citizen comment on that topic. The agenda was approved as amended.

**4. MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 8, 2003 meeting were approved as emailed.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Koplan thanked Mara Reynolds for hosting the board meeting in Stevenson, especially during the Artists of the Gorge exhibit.

**6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**7. BUSINESS**

A. Expenditure Approval

**MOTION: Marilyn Butler moved and Elena Smith seconded approval of the accounts payable, payroll and payroll payables as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

B. Three Creeks Library Capital Facility Area Expenditure Approval

**MOTION:** Marilyn Butler moved and Elena Smith seconded approval of the Three Creeks Library Capital Facility Area expenditures. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Resolution 2003-11: Surplus

Ziegman explained that the resolution includes obsolete computers and monitors.

**MOTION:** Marilyn Butler moved and Shirley Morgan seconded approval of Resolution 2003-11, declaring library items as surplus and authorizing a sale of surplus items. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

**Overview by Bruce Ziegman**

CIPA was passed by Congress in 2000 and signed by then-President Clinton. The American Library Association challenged it in US District Court. District Court found the law unconstitutional on May 31, 2002. The government appealed the decision to Supreme Court. On June 23, 2003, the Supreme Court reversed the lower court’s decision. In a plurality decision, the justices found the law constitutional by a vote of 6-3.

The law affects libraries receiving E-rate discounts for Internet service providers’ costs and Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants for products or services directly related to Internet access. To comply, all internet-accessible PCs must be equipped with filtering software and material that is legally obscene or child pornography must be blocked for all ages. Also, “harmful to minors” visual depictions must be blocked for patrons under age 17. The law defines minors as under the age of 17 and uses the “Miller Test” (Miller v. California 1973) as applied to minors.

A majority of the justices agreed that the filtering software blocks access to significant amounts of constitutionally protected speech. The justices also agreed that the interest in protecting young library users from material inappropriate for minors is legitimate and compelling. The law originally stated that the filter could be disabled “for bona fide research or other lawful purpose.” The Supreme Court revised this provision, stating that an adult may have the filter disabled simply by asking. This was the basis upon which six of nine justices agreed that the law was constitutional.

Ziegman explained how CIPA differs from the board’s current policy:

Current FVRL policy	Under CIPA
Adults 18 and over have full choice.	All users would initially receive “basic filtered.” Patrons 17 and over could request that the filter be disabled.

Current FVRL policy	Under CIPA
Minors 13-17 years can make their own choice of access. Parent may override and/or lock in choice.	17 year olds would have the same choices as adults. Minors under 17 would have basic filtered. Parents could request enhanced filtered or no Internet access for their children. No provision for disabling the filter for minors under 17.
Minors under 13 automatically receive basic filtered. Parent may override and/or lock in unfiltered, or enhanced filtered, or no access.	Parent could request enhanced filtered or no access. No provision for disabling the filter.

Ziegman posed these questions as needing to be addressed, should the board decide to comply with CIPA:

- Should an adult have to request just once that the filter be disabled, or every session and can it be electronically?
- Will we unblock specific sites for adults on request or just have them request that the filter be disabled?
- How will we determine if a site requested by a minor for unblocking is “harmful”?

Ziegman summarized arguments against compliance with CIPA:

- CIPA is imperfectly written legislation that required Supreme Court “reinterpretation.”
- If required, having adult patrons ask staff each time for filter disabling would be burdensome.
- CIPA removes the parental option of allowing unfiltered access for their own minor children.
- CIPA requires significant FVRL policy change to avoid forfeiting a very small amount of money.
- We already have a well thought through Internet policy.
- CIPA locks in filtering for minors and we know Internet filters are not perfect.
- CIPA does not address the larger practical problem of inadvertent viewing.

Arguments for compliance included:

- E-rate dollar amount at stake is very small but potentially lost LSTA funds could be larger.
- The law does codify the right of an adult to have unfiltered access.
- Problems with inadvertent viewing involving access by minors might be reduced somewhat.
- CIPA has the power of all three branches of the federal government behind it.

- CIPA could be viewed as striking a reasonable balance between the rights of adults to view constitutionally protected material and the legitimate purpose of protecting children from sexually explicit material.
- Quality of filters is improving (exploration with 8e6 basic filter revealed few problems).

The deadline for implementation is June 30, 2004.

In his own testing of the filtering software utilized by the library, Ziegman found that very few sites were overblocked. He performed 30 searches using the 8e6 filter and viewed 50 sites for each search. Search terms he used included breast cancer, teen suicide, contraceptives, sexually transmitted disease, abusive parents, teen sexuality, teen pregnancy, teen abortion and more. There was less than 1% overblocking and only 5 sites were underblocked. With few exceptions, the filter blocked only sexually explicit sites. There would be a provision for unblocking specific legitimate sites if overblocked.

#### **Director's Recommendation**

Ziegman recommended that the board comply with CIPA as redefined by the Supreme Court. He recommended that we provide a one-time "electronic ask" to allow an adult to turn off the filter. He suggested that staff develop a procedure for determining if a site is not harmful to minors and could be unblocked.

Koplan thanked Ziegman for his presentation. She noted that in past years we've heard much from the public on this issue, both verbally and in writing. The board is taking those comments into consideration with their discussion tonight.

#### **Citizen Comments**

Jude Roeder said she lives in Cook, Washington, uses the library district extensively on the Internet and has been watching this discussion for several years. She attended the board's public hearing in May 2002. She said many people spoke with vehemence on this topic, asking the board to protect our children on the Internet. Roeder agreed with Ziegman's recommendations.

#### **Board Discussion/Action**

The board spent some time discussing the best format in which to make a decision.

**MOTION: Shirley Morgan moved and Karen Peterson seconded that the board adopt the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) as amended by the Supreme Court with the stipulation of allowing an adult to turn off the filter with an "electronic ask," and that this decision be referred to the Policy Committee to draft a revised policy for presentation at the November 2003 Board meeting.**

Before taking a vote on the motion, the board discussed other issues related to adoption of CIPA.

Butler asked if we are required to certify our filter as being CIPA compliant. Ziegman said he did not think there was a compliance issue. How applicable is our filter to CIPA compliance? Burkman noted that there is no perfect filter and under- and over-filtering will exist regardless of the filter used. CIPA does not require a perfect filter.

King submitted a memo to the board on the issue of CIPA. His first reaction several years ago was opposition to filtering. At that time, filters could not effectively block without much overblocking. The filters have gotten significantly better with time. It doesn't seem that the infringement on personal freedoms is as great as it was a few years ago. He wants to make sure the community knows we gave a lot of thought to the issue on whether we are making an infringement on their freedom and whether we are taking away rights of parents, some of whom have set open access for their children.

Ziegman explained that the library selected the 8e6 filter because it's bundled directly with our Smart Access Manager (SAM) Internet management system. If standards are later established for CIPA, then we should test our filter against it. If there are better filters then we should look at switching. Until then, he doesn't see a rationale to worry about it.

Burkman said we're not doing the filtering ourselves; we purchased the filter from a company. The company decides how the filter works and they can modify it at any time. He thinks we should have staff review it every 6 months to see if it's over- or under-blocking.

S. Morgan said that she didn't find any over-blocking in her testing of the filter, but did come across under-blocking. Since it's a service we're purchasing, do we have the ability to change what is blocked? Ziegman said yes, staff can block and unblock sites. S. Morgan asked about stronger filtering for parents who request it. Ziegman said parents could lock in an optional "enhanced" filter or no access for their kids under age 17. Otherwise, kids get the basic filter.

C. Morgan noted that if we change filters, we would not be able to have multiple levels of filtering. 8e6 is the only filter that provides this option with our SAM software.

Butler said it's important to offer a choice to parents who want a stronger filter for their children.

The board agreed that the policy committee should be directed to include in a new Electronic Access policy a semi-annual audit of the filter, done by staff, to see if it's meeting certain benchmarks. Also, the idea of enhanced filters should be included.

Smith said we've spent 10 years dealing with the Internet and filtering and have come up with two policies. Everyone has spent lots of time on it. She feels our current Internet policy is better than CIPA. She's not in favor of trading it so quickly to a more generic policy. She said that filters will do very little to change problems with inadvertent viewing. Inadvertent viewing usually occurs because adults are looking at something and a child inadvertently views it. Complying with CIPA will not solve these problems.

Smith said we could build a library in Vancouver that protects children from inadvertent viewing. Recessed screens and hoods do not work. We need to reconfigure our libraries. She said that this is one of the best reasons to support a new library in Vancouver. We didn't consider this when we built the new White Salmon library. At the new Hood River library, they placed the Internet computers in a wide-open space and are now getting complaints because it's so much easier to inadvertently view the computer screens. Architects are not taking this into consideration. Intellectual freedom issues have sidetracked librarians. Smith said that under our present Internet policy, the default for children is filtered access. She feels the 14-16 year olds should have full access to the full Internet and CIPA prohibits this.

Smith added that she does not want to provide porn to children and she is tired of people asking that question. CIPA won't protect children from porn. There are many people who will be falsely pacified by the board's vote if we adopt CIPA.

King said it's very important for teens to have access to information on issues of concern to them. There are many good programs sponsored by organizations such as Planned Parenthood that are accessible with the filter on. He doesn't think that filtering porn – a type of entertainment – will affect the good information that is still available.

Burkman said he agrees we have an issue with porn on the Internet. We have an obligation to provide information to our patrons. The Internet is a good tool, but it has pros and cons. When a filter is in place, some parents may falsely assume that the library has taken on a parental responsibility. How do we educate our community so they know it's a tool and that it's not perfect? We need to keep a policy in place that parents are responsible for their own minor children. In taking this action, we're going to violate some of our mission statement regarding full access to information. If we adopt CIPA, our mission statement needs to be revisited because the two won't mesh.

S. Morgan said we make selection decisions related to books and the material formats we provide. Also, she noted that the Internet wasn't around when our mission statement was written.

Koplan said the filter is only blocking sexually explicit materials for kids. Ziegman clarified that there is a clear difference between the prurient sites and

those unblocked sites that contained some nudity but contained information teens needed (for example, to convey medical information).

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Jack Burkman proposed and Shirley Morgan seconded a friendly amendment to the earlier motion to include that we direct staff to audit the level of filtering every 6 months.

**MOTION RESTATED: Shirley Morgan moved and Karen Peterson seconded that the board adopt the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) as amended by the Supreme Court with the stipulation of allowing an adult to turn off the filter with an "electronic ask," and that this decision be referred to the Policy Committee to draft a revised policy for presentation at the November 2003 Board meeting. The Board also directs staff to audit the level of filtering every six months. The motion passed with six Yeas (Merle Koplun, Jerry King, Shirley Morgan, Jack Burkman, Marilyn Butler and Karen Peterson) and one Nay (Elena Smith).**

Burkman asked if there were some type of education we could provide people when they sign up for the Internet? Butler said our goals include educating the public. She feels we always have to educate our patrons. There are a lot of ways to do it and it's an ongoing challenge.

Butler said inadvertent viewing needs to be addressed and could be part of the policy. Ziegman agreed that the methods we have tried are not working perfectly, but reconfiguring the libraries is much more expensive. Smith said that we should spend the money to do it and suggested a school lab model. She also suggested pursuing grant funding for this project.

Koplun asked how the filter would be disabled for adults. Do they have to elect this each time they use the Internet, or just at their first session?

Koplun gave the gavel to King so that she could make a motion.

**MOTION: Merle Koplun moved that the choice of filtered or unfiltered be made at each logon of the Internet computer; and that the default be basic filter. The motion died for lack of a second.**

King returned the gavel to Koplun.

**MOTION: Marilyn Butler moved and Karen Peterson seconded that in accordance with CIPA, our current policy of allowing parents to make a choice of enhanced filtering or no access for their own minors under age 17 be retained in our new policy.**

Before taking a vote on this motion, the board discussed concerns about enhanced being more restrictive. C. Morgan said the enhanced filter blocks violence, hate, tastelessness, adult material and other categories besides just sexually explicit.

Smith said she is concerned about further blocking for children. She doesn't see any reason to block further. Do we need to decide on an enhanced filter tonight? Can this be handled in a different way or later?

Koplan said she wants this to be a total board decision. Also, she doesn't want to throw away our current policy of letting parents have the choice of the enhanced filter.

Butler said we have an obligation to the parents to provide tools for them to manage their children's use of the Internet. They can sit with their child and use the Internet unfiltered, or they can set stronger filtering or no access for their own children. We've already decided in the past to provide these tools.

Burkman said he could support this but we also need to include it in our discussion of the Mission.

**MOTION RESTATED: Marilyn Butler moved and Karen Peterson seconded that in accordance with CIPA, our current policy of allowing parents to make a choice of enhanced filtering or no access for their own minors under age 17 be retained in our new policy. The motion passed with six Yeas (Merle Koplan, Jerry King, Shirley Morgan, Jack Burkman, Marilyn Butler and Karen Peterson) and one member abstaining (Elena Smith).**

**MOTION: Jack Burkman moved and Jerry King seconded directing staff to bring the discussion of the Mission statement and the impact to it by the board's actions tonight to the Board Retreat in April 2004. The motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting was recessed for a short break from 8:00-8:05 p.m.

## **8. REPORTS**

### **A. Community Library Services**

Candy Morgan introduced Stevenson Community Librarian Mara Reynolds. This is the 24<sup>th</sup> year of the Artists of the Gorge exhibit. The Stevenson library took the lead in relation to offering this kind of programming. There were 131 entries this year. It's a juried event, representing 17 communities in the Columbia River Gorge. Out of the entries, 72 were selected for display. Reynolds has an art history background and is an expert at hanging artwork.

C. Morgan also noted that the gallery has new lights and the walls were recently painted.

The library district has completed an intergovernmental transfer of one of its old bookmobiles to Skamania County for their use as a crime scene lab. This was done as a trade. In return, inmates from the Skamania County jail will do a number of hours of grounds work each week for just over 26 months.

- B. Support Services  
Patty Duitman's written report is attached.
- C. Communications  
Sue Vanlaanen's written report is attached.
- D. Vancouver Activities  
Doreen Turpen's written report is attached. Turpen said rearrangements are currently being considered for Internet terminals at Vancouver Community Library to help minimize inadvertent viewing.
- E. Greater Vancouver Building Project  
David DiCesare reported that there will be a library bond workshop with Vancouver City Council on October 20 at 4 p.m. This is being done as a precursor to Council's authorization of the bond and the County putting the bond on the March election. Board members were invited to attend.

The Citizens for Better Library Political Action Committee (PAC) has an office on the southwest corner of 39th and Main in Vancouver. Regular meetings are being held there. Campaign efforts have begun and volunteers are being sought. The PAC's phone number is 695-1060 and their email is [yesforlibraries@yahoo.com](mailto:yesforlibraries@yahoo.com).

- F. FVRL Foundation  
S.Morgan said the Foundation has hired an Administrative Assistant. Her name is Cassandra Franzen.

Smithrud said the Friends of La Center Community Library only plan to offer the bricks fundraiser through December 31, 2003. Also, the Foundation is participating in the Holiday Shop this year and the opening gala is October 17.

**9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ziegman and several other staff and board members attended the Artists of the Gorge opening reception. It was a wonderful event with about 100 attendees. Ziegman also attended the Hood River library's opening last month. He said it is a gorgeous library and that architects Fletcher Farr Ayotte, who also designed our Three Creeks branch, designed their remodel.

Secretary of State Sam Reed will present a cultural diversity grant award to the district on October 28 at 3:30 p.m. at Vancouver Community Library. The special reception will include entertainment, speakers and the grant presentation, along with refreshments.

**10. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**11. BOARD COMMENTS**

King attended the Workshop in Library Leadership (WILL) conference in Yakima. He said there were interesting presentations on CIPA, budgeting, the U.S. PATRIOT Act and more.

Koplan reminded the board of the October 21 dinner with the FVRL Foundation. Butler and Smith said they would not be able to attend. Butler and Smith were also uncertain as to whether they could make the November board meeting, due to family illnesses.

**12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The board agreed that the next meeting date should be moved to Monday, November 17 to accommodate schedules. It will be held at the First and Clark Building, located at 606 NE First Street in Battle Ground. The public meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

**Approved:**

*These minutes were approved at the November 17, 2003 meeting.*

**Date:** October 13, 2003  
**To:** Fort Vancouver Regional Library Board of Trustees  
**From:** Patty Duitman  
**Subject:** Support Services Report

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## **ACCOUNTING/ HUMAN RESOURCES/ADMIN SERVICES**

On September 1, 2003 the agreed upon terms that were negotiated during the latest contract negotiations were implemented per the terms of impasse. Therefore, on September 25, 2003 the union staff received their retro-active pay for the period January 1, 2003 through August 31, 2003.

On September the Library received notice that WPEA filed an Unfair Labor Practice complaint with the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC). The complaint was regarding regressive bargain, i.e. our offer in May was less than what was offered in January

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)**

### PHONES

Vancouver -

The phone system in the Vancouver building has been upgraded. The new upgrade has caller ID for calls originating outside of the building. Staff have been able to see on the display who is calling them from inside the building and from Three Creeks, but has not had that option for outside calls.

Annex –

The IT department is currently working on connecting the Annex to Vancouver using Voice Over IP (VOIP). This would allow the annex staff to be an extension on the Vancouver phone system and could use 4 digit dialing.

### TECHNOLOGY

The IT department is working on upgrading the Remote Patron Access (RPA), the library's authentication product that allows patrons to access the library's databases remotely. The current system makes it difficult for patrons to identify the correct subject databases.

Print Control –

There are still a few questions that need to be answered, but we are on track to have this up by the end of the year.

## **FACILITIES**

Stevenson -

The Library reached agreement with the Skamania County Sheriff's Office to transfer the old bookmobile (BKC) to them in exchange for help with weeding and parking lot clean-up provided by supervised trustee workers. Facilities staff met with the Sheriff's Office supervisors to review the scope of work and identify the areas to be weeded.

The ST gallery has been repainted and the old spot lights have been replaced.

New replacement book returns have been ordered.

Three Creeks -

RFP responses for the north courtyard renovation were received September 15th. After review, the low proposer, Zink Commercial Contractors of Vancouver has been selected as the apparent award winner. A contract is being drafted this week and work will begin as soon as the new brick is ordered.

Woodland -

The Woodland City Council agreed to pay up to \$10,000 for work to repair the foundation and sub-floor of the Woodland Library building. FVRL will contract to have the work done under our Small Works program. Facilities will issue an RFP in October.

Van Mall -

New shelving has been made to house a collection of BPA material at the Mall Library.


**FVRL Board Report**  
Sue Vanlaanen, Associate Director-Communications  
October 13, 2003

Campaign for holds-pickup and email notification

**To help the library control rising costs, please...**

- **PICK UP** reserved books at your local branch rather than having them shipped to you, unless it is difficult for you to visit the library. (When placing a hold in the catalog, select the "MAIL" option for pickup notification, and choose a branch location from the drop-down list.)
- Request **EMAIL NOTIFICATION** for holds and overdue notices by giving your library card number and email address to staff or sending both with your request to [circ@fvrl.org](mailto:circ@fvrl.org).

*Thanks for your help!*



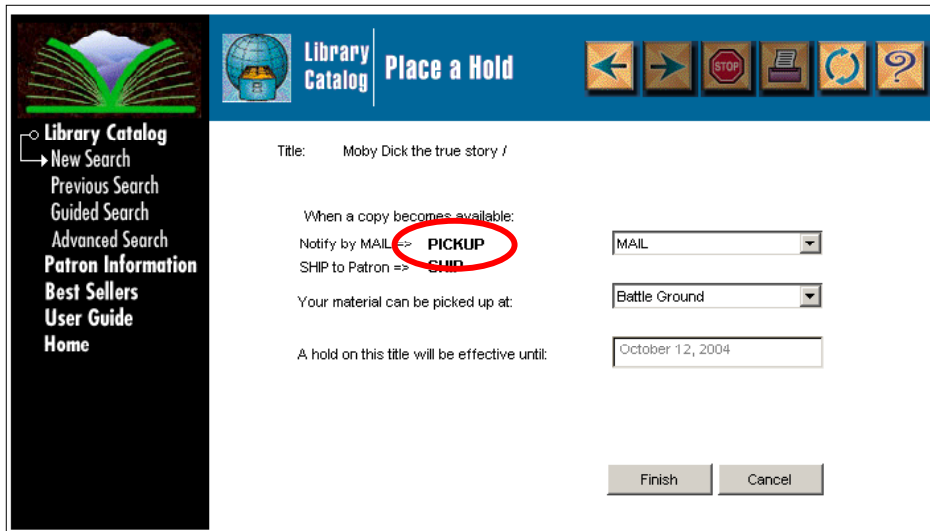
We've had a promotional message posted on the Web site home page for three weeks and have been pleased but somewhat overwhelmed with the response in requests for email notification. Here are the numbers of requests received for comparison:

Sept. 1-30, 2003: 35  
Oct. 1-13, 2003: **100**

At this rate, we've increased the monthly number of requests by a factor of six! We won't know until the end of the month what increase in pick up vs. mailed books we've achieved.

Meanwhile...We just today solved a Dynix problem we've struggled with for years; patron confusion over the choice of "MAIL" (i.e., mail a notice to let patron know to pick up items at a branch) vs. "SHIP" (i.e., mail the item to my address). The screen below shows the first step in clarifying choices: changing "MAIL" to "PICKUP" (the drop-down option will be changed to PICKUP as well). Once all

screen changes are completed, we'll consider sending out a news release if we're set up to handle the additional increase in requests for account changes.



**Vancouver Community Library  
Board Report  
September/October  
October 13, 2003  
Doreen Turpen**

**Programs:**

Forum at the Library provided a slightly different twist for their monthly forum in September. The topic was “Books, Books, Books” and featured a panel of English instructors and our own Children’s librarian, Ruth Shafer. The panelists were lively and entertaining and shared moving stories of books that were meaningful in their lives. They shared tips for starting book discussion groups, ways to encourage reading for family members of all ages, and lists of books. The program was taped by CVTV and has been running on local cable. A copy is available at the library for checkout.

The October forum scheduled for Oct. 16 will feature candidates for local offices and is again co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters.

Attendance at our monthly poetry events has picked up again. Fourteen people attended the Open Mic poetry event and 13 participated in the poetry workshop. A representative of WSU Vancouver’s English Department inquired about the programs and we may see participation from students and faculty.

The youth services department tried a different approach to promote their monthly Bonker’s program. The October program was to feature Yu-gi-oh which is a popular card trading game. They held several Friday afternoon practice sessions leading up to the Bonker’s program. The Friday sessions drew up to 35 participants.

Science Sleuths was held on Wednesday October 1. This program is held quarterly. Discussion Junction continues to occur monthly. Our regular weekly storytime sessions resumed in September.

**Services:**

The library district received a second Diversity Grant from the Washington State Library. Secretary of State Sam Reed will visit Vancouver Community Library on October 28 to present the award to the district. This second diversity grant will help us establish English conversation circles in 4 communities. We plan to follow the model so successfully established by the Battle Ground Friends of the Library. Vancouver Branch of American Association of University Women (AAUW) has expressed interest in being a lead organization to support this project in the greater Vancouver area.

The League of Women Voters, along with volunteers from CP and VA Friends of the Library and AAUW, staffed a voter registration table at Vancouver Community Library for a total of 18 hours from Sunday, Sept. 28 through Friday, Oct. 3. Cheryl Smith of LWV reports that during her 3-hour shift on Friday, she registered 13 voters and was pleasantly surprised at the amount of interest from patrons. There were 8 registrations during another shift. Taking a guesstimate average rate of 10

registrations per 3-hour shift, that means we helped 50-60 people become voters. Registrations included people from multiple areas such as Ridgefield and Battle Ground as well as Vancouver. This effort was a joint effort with between the Communications Director, Sue Vanlaanen and branch staff. LWV has now offered to work with Cascade Park teens and/or volunteers to set up a similar effort in their branch.

Vancouver staff conducted a trial program of displaying the multiple copies of recent books that were accumulating in the FV collection. These books were not circulating while in storage, but it took just 20 days to tally 1000 check-outs once they were visible to the public. We had long felt that the books stored in the FV collection were underused. Even though they are in the catalog, they seem unavailable to the public and are not visible to browsers. Our trial program reinforces the need to expand our facilities so all books can be easily accessible to the public.

The annual drawing for use of the public display case was conducted in September. Over 20 groups and organizations submitted applications.

Staff gained skills through attendance at a Family History Fair, Interlibrary Loan conference, Bookmobile conference, and WILL (Workshop in Library Leadership). We have cut back on travel but still find that conference attendance plays a critical role for continuing education and will continue to send staff to conferences that are rich in workshops and training.

Community outreach efforts included participation in the SCORE open house, speaking engagements with the Vancouver School District, family night at Fruit Valley Elementary School, and storytime at WIC outlets.

**Friends:**

The Vancouver Friends will hold their next book sale in Library Hall the weekend of October 24 – 26. A Friends-only presale will be held on Friday, October 24. The general sale starts Saturday, October 25 at 10:00 a.m.

**Foundation Director's Report**  
**Prepared by Rick Smithrud**  
**October 13, 2003**

**Casandra Franzen**

The search for a new Foundation Administration Assistant is complete. On September 15, Casandra Franzen officially started working for the Foundation. In addition to being a wonderful person, Casandra is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Washington State University—Vancouver and has been working for the Library District in a variety of capacities. Not only has she worked in several of the District's branches, her most recent assignment has been in the Technical Services Department where books (including donated books) are processed, cataloged and distributed. Her understanding of these procedures will undoubtedly benefit the Foundation. If that were not enough, Casandra minored in Accounting and has already started organizing the Foundation's current and historical financial records.

**PacifiCorp Foundation**

On September 15 the Foundation submitted a grant application to the PacifiCorp Foundation for Learning asking for \$10,000 to support 12 months of bookmobile service for Yale Valley. This grant would cover the cost of including bimonthly visits to Yale and Cougar using the Clark County Bookmobile. We should hear something on this grant in about six to eight weeks.

**Altrusa International**

The Foundation received a \$2,000 check from Altrusa International of Clark County. This gift represents the 2003 payment on Altrusa's pledge of \$10,000 in support of the Three Creeks Community Library. Three Creeks staff will be using this year's installment to pay for learning toys and crafts in support of their children's programs.

**Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation Grant**

On October 2 the Foundation submitted a grant proposal asking Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation for \$10,000 to support FVRL bookmobile service for the Yale Valley. This grant would cover direct expenses related to providing bookmobile service to residents of the Yale Valley area in Cowlitz County. We should receive a response to our request within eight weeks.

**Yale Valley Bookmobile Project**

The Foundation has been working with Kathi Wheeler from the Yale Valley "Let's Read/Step on Board" committee on developing a plan for raising funds for the Yale Valley Bookmobile project. As a first step, the Foundation opened a special bank account for the "Step on Board" campaign with a gift of \$300. The committee has already added \$211 from a yard sale held in Yale Valley and will soon add \$200 from the Yale School PTA and \$200 from the Friends of Woodland Community Library. In addition, Kathi has been corresponding with First Lady Laura Bush and has invited her to come to Clark County to help with a special fundraiser for the Yale Valley Bookmobile Project. Laura Bush is a former librarian, holds a Masters degree in Library Science and is a strong supporter of school and public libraries.