

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



VISION As the premier organization representing rural and small libraries, ARSL recognizes the uniqueness of small and rural libraries and is committed to providing an environment that encourages excellence within this community of practice, supporting their goals of service and speaking on behalf of this important constituency.

MISSION The Association for Rural & Small Libraries provides resources and support that empower those in small and rural libraries to deliver excellent service for their communities.



MILESTONES ■ ARSL President invited to attend IMLS Awards Ceremony at the White House ■ ARSL Vice President participated in the Center for Creative Leadership/Educopia Focus Group IV ■ ARSL is serving on the Advisory Group for the Research Institute for Public Libraries ■ ARSL Board participated in meetings with the Aspen Institute Dialogue on Public Libraries to provide the small / rural perspective ■ Renewed membership in SHLB and developed a more active role in current E-rate issues ■ ARSL Vice President took part in the one-day workshop to discuss successful broadband deployment and adoption initiatives across the country in Washington, DC ■ ARSL was invited to participate in the Pew research panel, digital inclusion project and the ALA Policy Revision Committee ■ Selected and approved Annual Conference locations through 2019 ■ Five states offered scholarships for rural library representatives to attend the 2014 ARSL Annual Conference in Tacoma, WA ■ Co-sponsored 4 WebJunction webinars for rural libraries ■ Co-sponsored Big Talk from Small Libraries Online Conference with the Nebraska Library Commission ■ ARSL took part in a shared booth at SxSW Interactive in Austin, TX ■ Developed and implemented an application process for the selection of an ARSL-sponsored ALA Emerging Leader ■ An updated ARSL Strategic Plan was approved, along with new Mission and Vision Statements for the organization ■ An Investment Policy was developed to solidify ARSL's financial base and future plans ■ Developed policy and application process to accept Student Chapters of ARSL ■ Developed a new, streamlined policy for accepting ARSL Affiliates and Partners ■ Several new policies were developed and approved, and all current policies are now posted to the website ■ All current policies are posted to the website ■ Added volunteer application information to the website ■ Membership in 48 states and 4 Canadian Provinces



"Libraries are a place of change. We need to be inspired and innovative to meet the challenges of the changes in our communities, to continue to meet the changing needs of our patrons, to ensure that we are continuing to educate, inform, and inspire. I believe that attendance at the Association for Rural & Rural Libraries Annual Conference provided my entire library system with new information and ideas that will reinvigorate us as we move forward to meet our next challenge."

- Jennifer Milligan, Director at Sherrill-Kenwood Free Library, Canastota, NY -

2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrea Berstler, Immediate Past President
Wicomico Public Library, MD

Tena Hanson, President
Estherville Public Library, IA

Donna Brice, Vice President/President-Elect
Eastern Lancaster County Library, PA

Tameca Beckett
Laurel Public Library, DE

Judy Calhoun
Arkansas Regional Library, AR

Paul D Healey, JD, PhD
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL

Kieran Hixon
Colorado State Library, CO

Jet Kofoot
Iowa Library Services, N Central Dist, IA

Lisa Lewis
Safford City/Graham County Library, AZ

Carolyn Petersen
Washington State Library, WA

Chris Rippel
Central Kansas Library System, KS

Gail Sheldon
Somerset County Library System, MD

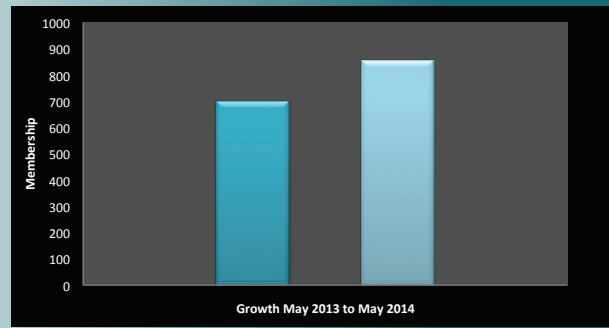
Cal Shepard
State Library of North Carolina, NC

Mary Stenger
Southern Area Library, WV

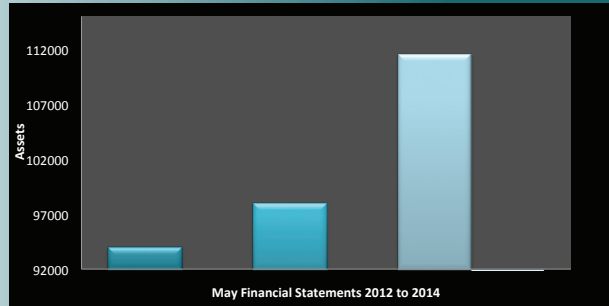
Elizabeth Watson
Duplin County Library, NC

Carla Lehn, Convener
California State Library, CA

ARSL Membership Growth



Our Financials are Healthy



ARSL Making Connections

ALA/Rural, Native & Tribal Libraries of All Kinds (RNTLOAK) • Aspen Institute • Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation • Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) • Church and Synagogue Library Association • College of Information, University of North Texas • Center for Creative Leadership (CCL)/Educopia • Heartland Center for Leadership Development • Library of Michigan • Nebraska Library Commission • OCLC WebJunction • Public Library Association (PLA) • Rural Information Center, National Agriculture Library • Rural Librarian Master's Scholarship Program, University of Tennessee • Rural Librarians Roundtable New York Library Association • Schools, Hospitals and Libraries Broadband Coalition (SHLB) • National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) • United for Libraries (formerly FOLUSA) • United States Fire Administration • Arrowhead Library System • California State Library • Caroline County Public Library • Colorado State Library • Crawford County Public Library • Geneseo Public Library District • Hood River County Library District • Idaho Commission for Libraries • Karuk Tribe • Keene Memorial Library • Monterey County Free Libraries • New Mexico State Library • Oregon State Library • Panhandle Public Library Cooperative System • Research Institute for Public Libraries (RIPL) • Rural Information Center • Satilla Regional Library System • SELCO (Southeastern Libraries Cooperating) • South Carolina State Library • Sunnyvale Public Library • TechSoup Global • Texas State Library & Archive Commission • Utah State Library Division • Vermont Department of Libraries • Wahoo Public Library • Wyoming State Library • Mandarin Library Automation • School of Library & Information Studies, University of Alberta, Canada • Collaborative Summer Library Program • Bradbury Associates/Gossage Sager Associates

BE A VOLUNTEER

ARSL is a volunteer driven organization! Everything we do is a result of volunteers who care about rural and small libraries rolling up their sleeves and making it happen! If you feel inspired to make a difference, sign up online to become a volunteer and take part with one of our committees. If you have a special talent you would like to share, let us know.

<http://arsl.info/faqs-contact-us/>



Our Annual Conference Engages Members!

2007 Columbus, OH
2008 Sacramento, CA
2009 Gatlinburg, TN
2010 Denver, CO
2011 Frisco, TX
2012 Raleigh, NC
2013 Omaha, NE/Council Bluffs, IA

2014: Tacoma, Washington
2015: Little Rock, Arkansas
2016: Vermont/New Hampshire
2017: St. George, Utah
2018: Illinois
2019: North Dakota/Minnesota

"The ARSL Conference was a total immersion experience! My head is so full of ideas that I'm walking a little slower. Ideas flowed freely, not only in workshops, and luncheons, but in the elevators, the lobby, over dinner, in the hallways! Imagine librarians from 41 states meeting, sharing, planning, dreaming...All these librarians will take ideas home, mold them into a great fit on the local level, and bingo! Information needs are met in a fabulous way!"

PROMOTE ARSL AT YOUR NEXT CONFERENCE!

- Gina Wilson, Thomasville, AL -