



# WALE: an interest group of WLA

Summer 2015

WALE Newsletter

Page 1

## WALE... WAshtington Library Employees

### Our Purpose:

- To build a communication network among library employees
- To encourage continuing education for library personnel
- To improve library service through skill development

### We Promote:

- Better understanding and communication within individual communities and throughout the state
- Improved working relations in the library community
- Improved services to the library patron

### Need WALE info?

[www.wla.org/wale](http://www.wla.org/wale)

Remember to connect with **WALE Conference** on Facebook!

## *A Note from our WALE Conference Co-Chair Di Zhang*

### Why I WALE

My career has grown by leaps and bounds since joining WALE in 2012. I attended the WALE Conference in 2012 as a shelver, and WALE has been with me each step of my professional development ever since.

Over the last few years, there have been wonderful sessions such as *Burnout: Leading Others Through the Flames* taught by Debra Westwood at King County Library System. There have also been inspiring speakers such as Robert Dugoni, the keynote speaker at WALE 2013 who spoke about how he persevered through challenges in the publishing world to achieve his dream of becoming an author. These experiences were well worth the price of admission. But if you are looking for opportunities to expand your leadership skillset, WALE has you covered there too.

Last year I signed up to be part of the Conference planning committee as the Local Arrangements Coordinator with no conference planning background and little project management experience. The fact that WALE offers the opportunity for any member to help lead a conference is very unique and speaks to the power of mentorship and grassroots efforts. I had wonderfully supportive people to help me carry out my role on the planning committee: Joe Olayvar (Vice Chair at the time) and Lisa Vos and Kristina Payne (Co-Chairs at the time). This year, I am a Co-Chair of the committee. This conference planning experience has done wonders for my resume, helping me land a position in my organization that had more than 400 applicants.

WALE is a conference where front-line staff feel engaged and comfortable learning and networking among their peers. Not only is the WALE conference an opportunity to attend excellent sessions that are relevant to library staff, but it is also a way for front line staff to get together and talk shop. One of my favorite things about last year's conference was meeting State Librarian Rand Simmons and learning about the challenges the State Library faces and how I can advocate for the Library. Each year at WALE, I meet library staff who are experiencing similar challenges and concerns in their libraries to mine. The sense of camaraderie at WALE is truly something to behold and is unlike any other library conference that I have been a part of.

This year, the Conference returns to Chelan on October 26-28. Here are a few things we have in store: keynotes (Sharma Shields, Bobbi Newman and Clancy Pool), 20 excellent conference sessions, pre-conferences, raffle prizes, and more! Also, we are always looking for volunteers for the conference and new committee members for planning next year's conference. We hope to see you there in beautiful Chelan!



Benefits of your WLA/WALE Membership:

- Legislative Advocacy
- Interest Group membership (1 free when you join WLA)
- WLA/WALE website and resources
- ALKI—WLA’s journal with current & enduring issues & articles
- WLA & WALE Conferences for continuing education & networking (with special member registration rates)

UPCOMING EVENTS & CONFERENCES:

August 5-7, 2015  
PLNA Conference

October 15-17, 2015  
WLMA Conference  
Yakima, WA

October 26-28, 2015  
WALE Conference  
Chelan, WA

April 27-29, 2016  
2016 WLA Conference  
Spokane, WA

WALE Officers Needed!

One appointed and two elected positions are open for the next term in October. If you are interested, please contact [Joe Olayvar](#).

WALE IG Vice Chair

Elected three year consecutive term:  
Vice Chair (1<sup>st</sup> year)  
Chair (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)  
Past Chair (3<sup>rd</sup> year)

WALE Secretary

Elected two year term

WALE Communications

Appointed; no set term

Meet WALE Conference Committee Member Sophia Tsang

Where do you work, and what do you do? I work at the Seattle Public Library. Currently, I am a Summer of Learning LAIV providing backup to the reference desk for librarians while they are doing outreach. I assist patrons with their reference questions, provide reader advisory recommendations, and refer them to our resources that can better aid them with their needs.

What is the best part of your library job? Having the patron smiling and walking out the door with more information than they can do with makes my day.

How long have you been a WALE member, and what does WALE mean to you? I have been a WALE member a little less than a year. To me, WALE means a chance to gain new experiences and meet new people and a way for library employees to share knowledge with one another to inspire change and improvement.

What is your favorite classic book, and what is a favorite recent book you have read? My favorite classic book is *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss; a recent favorite is the Stephanie Plum series by Janet Evanovich.

Do you have a favorite quote or motto? Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind. --Dr. Seuss

Do you have a favorite movie or TV show? My favorite TV show is *Psych*.

What is your favorite Washington state destination? My favorite Washington state destination is the Pike Place Market.

What is your favorite vacation spot outside of WA? My favorite vacation spot outside of WA would be Disneyland.



Sophia at the Capilano Suspension Bridge in Vancouver BC

WALE Officers

CHAIR: Joe Olayvar Washington State Library

VICE CHAIR: Lisa Vos Libraries of Stevens County

SECRETARY: Carol Ellison Everett Public Library

COMMUNICATIONS: Beth Bermani Mount Vernon City Library

WEB SITE: Mary Wise James E. Brooks Library, Central Wash. University

2015 WALE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS: Warren Chin Di Zhang

SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS: Brian Hulsey

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS: Chi Saeteurn & Christy Karwoski

PRIZES & PACKETS: Mary Wise & Mai-Khanh Huynh

FACILITIES: Jeffrey Weis

VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS: Danielle Marcy Grace Vanzandt & Beth Bermani

PRINTING & SUPPLIES: Darren Ng

HISTORIANS: Sophia Tsang & Joe Olayvar

Meet WALE Conference Committee Member Jeff Weis

Where do you work? I'm an architect at Studio 19 Architects

How long have you been a WALE member, and what does WALE mean to you? I've been a WALE member for about 9 months, and volunteering for WALE is my way of giving back to librarians for what they've meant in my and my daughter's lives.

What is your favorite classic book, and what is a favorite recent book you have read? Classic (relatively speaking): The Worst Journey in the World by Apsley Cherry-Garrard; Recent: The Blood Meridian by Cormac McCarthy

Do you have a favorite quote or motto? From Tommy Boy: [Tommy carelessly set an open bag of M&M's on the dashboard and they immediately pour into an open vent]

Richard Hayden: Oh that sounds good: melted chocolate inside the dash. That really ups the resale value.

Tommy: I think you'll be okay here, they have a thin candy shell. 'Surprised you didn't know that.

Richard Hayden: I think your brain has a thick candy shell.

Do you have a favorite movie or TV show? Cosmos with Neil deGrasse Tyson

What is your favorite Washington state destination? The coast, La Push, Kalaloch, etc.

What is your favorite vacation spot outside of WA? My hometown: Galena Illinois



Peyto Lake, Banff National Park, Alberta CA



WALE Conference registration and scholarship information coming soon!

## Getting Real

*by Joe Olayvar*

It's not always easy relating specifics to an event. Often times we find ourselves hashing over details we'd rather forget, or agonizing over nuances that elude our recollection. Then there's times where the circumstance was so harrowing that it replays in vivid color over, and over again. One such time was fairly recent which many know the outcome, but few have heard the story...

It was June 19<sup>th</sup>, in a gritty, but accommodately supplied conference room at the Bellevue Library. With utmost importance and away from curious eyes, a not so elite team filed in through the back and secured themselves behind closed doors. Their goal? Brave uncharted territories and prepare the way ahead no matter how physically, or mentally draining it would be. After all, the fate of WLA operations was at stake.

As they took up positions and awaited orders, their commanding officer, stern and in want of a mocha, looked squarely into their souls and threatened to unleash her mom voice should they misbehave. A hush (well, more like hearty chuckles) fell over the room.

From that point on, locked and loaded, they met each challenge head on with controlled mayhem. The cries of battle could be heard as far as right outside the door if anyone had their ears pinned to it. Though it was fierce, not a single one of them flinched, or cowered behind the safe walls of the little kitchenette area stocked with comfort food and java. No, they kept moving forward, casting obstacles aside like pieces of paper with writing on them. Unabashed mania took hold and words fired at will (after raising hands of course) as the air thickened with lack of ventilation until the HVAC system was properly adjusted.

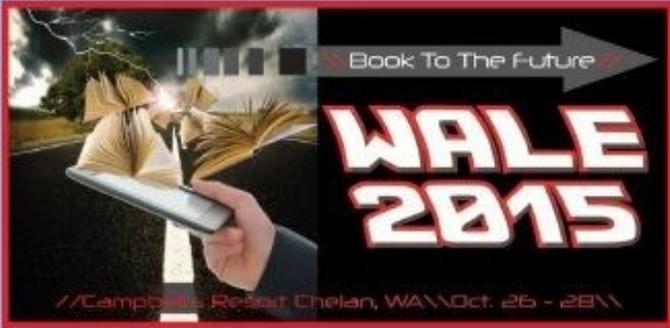
Somewhere along the way, they were forced to break formation and gather into pockets of resistance. From there, they engaged their opponent with unrelenting fervor and thanks to early reconnaissance, they were able to neutralize most of the barriers and fortifications that stood in their way as they came to a consensus on many things.

But as the pens were sheathed and they looked across the field of battle, splattered on walls were the remnants of feverish chatter. Navigating beyond their immediate area was nearly impossible with tables and chairs strewn about. And the carnage of lunch weakened even the strongest constitution as it lay exposed in various bins. Oh the humanity! But in the end, a new horizon and purpose rose from the ashes. Their foe wounded, but not yet slain, was on the run. They vowed to continue the fight, but never to forget what happened there that day. Many gave their lives (at least a few hours of it anyway) for the good of the whole.

I know these things because I was there. A witness to history in the rough and scarred for life perhaps, I owe my survival to extensive seal pup training and countless hours in the simulator. Through it all and right alongside was my comrade in arms, Lisa Vos, who is savvy, steadfast, and probably enjoys hanging out around campfires. I knew I could count on her to watch my back.

It was a tough go that day (thanks to the drive) and I probably should've left the gory details out, but it's my best shot at a movie contract. So even though this is not likely the last you'll hear from me (sorry), I'd like to say it's been an honor serving the WALE Membership as this year's Chair. A lot has happened that will create changes in the near future, but within those changes, great things are possible, and that's a story all its own.





## PHOTO CONTEST



### Envisioning a Futuristic Library:

- Submit a photo that portrays an envisioned future library
- Use whatever media or medium to create the photo
  - Must be submitted as a .jpg
- Two categories available
  - "Enhanced" (e.g. Photoshop or some other media used for electronic manipulation)
  - "Non-Enhanced" (no electronic manipulation used, but any other kind of medium used to create props, costumes, ...?, is encouraged)
- Team (group) efforts are welcomed
- All entries will be included in the looped Power Point shown during various times and events
- Winners of (Enhanced & Non-Enhanced Category) announced at the Business Meeting Breakfast on Tuesday morning
  - 1<sup>st</sup> place receive basket of goodies (**must be present to win**)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place receive 2 raffle tickets per team member (**must be present to win**)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place receive 1 raffle ticket per team member (**must be present to win**)

**Entry Deadline: August 24<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm**

**Please submit photo entry to: [Sophia.Tsang@spl.org](mailto:Sophia.Tsang@spl.org)**

Joe Olayvar | WALE Chair

Lisa Vos | WALE Vice Chair

<http://www.wla.org/wale>

Warren Chin | Conference Co-Chair

Di Zhang | Conference Co-Chair

#WALE15



//Book To The Future//

# WALE 2015

//Campbell's Resort Chelan, WA\Oct. 26 - 28\



SHARMA SHIELDS | WALE LUNCH KEYNOTE SPEAKER | OCTOBER 27th

SHARMA SHIELDS is the author of a short story collection, *Favorite Monster*, and a novel, *The Sasquatch Hunter's Almanac*. Sharma's writing has garnered such awards as the Autumn House Fiction Prize, the Tim McGinnis Award for Humor, and the A.B. Guthrie Award for Outstanding Prose. Sharma has worked in public libraries throughout Washington and now serves as a board member for the Friends of the Spokane County Library District.



BOBBI NEWMAN | WALE DINNER KEYNOTE SPEAKER | OCTOBER 27th

BOBBI NEWMAN, aka, Librarian by Day, is a blogger, a Tweeter, and an international speaker. Bobbi is the author of the award winning blog, *Librarian by Day*, and in 2011 was named a Mover and Shaker by Library Journal. Her writing is regularly highlighted by American Libraries Direct.

## CAMPBELL'S RESORT CHELAN, WA



CLANCY POOL | WALE BREAKFAST KEYNOTE SPEAKER | OCTOBER 28th

CLANCY POOL, manager of the tiny St. John Branch of the Whitman County Rural Library District, was named Library Journal's Paralibrarian of the Year 2014. Clancy also received the Washington Library Association's 2009 Merit Award for Outstanding Performance.