



WALE: an interest group of WLA

Fall 2014

WALE Newsletter

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WALE... Washingt on 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

Remember to be a...
WALE Conference
Friend on Facebook

A Note from our WALE Chair, Daurice Siller

With the WALE Conference just around the corner, I find myself reflecting back over my years serving as a committee member. I remember being terrified my first year. For one, I was co-presenting at the conference because when a co-worker and I asked our director about getting involved she said, "Forget the baby steps! Go as presenters!" We went to that conference, presented, and we were never the same again. It was an incredible experience both personally and professionally. Now I ask myself how I am going to leave all of this behind me. Joe Olayvar, that is how. He is brilliant and his dynamic personality will motivate you and keep you laughing! It has been my honor to serve as your WALE Chair.

It has always been important to me, as a member, that others see the value and purpose in volunteering for an organization like WALE because it encompasses all of us library lovers. It is no secret that libraries are struggling and it is crucial that we, as a collected effort, brainstorm and implement new ways to secure the succession of libraries. In my opinion, the best way to do that is with other library employees who share your passion for the work being done in libraries. I have made wonderful life-long friends and impressive professional contacts. I have advanced in my career knowing that my motivation came from my love for my library and my community, but my support from WALE was tremendous.

The benefits of being a WLA member supersede anything you can imagine. The discounted conference rates are nice (because who doesn't enjoy saving money), however; the real benefits are in the connections you will make with other members. The conference is a networking dynasty! You will have conversations and take home ideas that lead to big changes. You will make friends with people who are passionate about libraries and genuinely care about libraries that are suffering. You will become part of a library community that will support you and even offer a little bit of professional mentoring, should you ever need it. I beg you to join. I dare you to take a chance on us. This organization is only as strong as its members. I understand trying something new can be scary but discovering a world like WLA, can be empowering. It can motivate you to change your own life, as it has done for me.

WLA needs you and your fresh perspective. In order for libraries to continue to thrive we need perpetual momentum; bigger and more diverse ideas. Together, as an organization, we will save the libraries we love so that we may continue to serve the communities we treasure.

Your support and friendships will be cherished always,
Daurice Siller



Daurice having fun with her youngest daughter and niece.

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:

- October 27-19, 2014
WALE Conference
Campbell's Resort
Lake Chelan, WA
**Register on or before October 1st for early bird registration rates!*
- January 30, 2015
Library Legislative Day
- Jan. 30-Feb. 3, 2015
ALA Midwinter Meeting
Chicago, IL
- April 15-17, 2015
WLA Conference
Tulalip Resort & Conference Center,
Tulalip, WA
- June 25-30, 2015
ALA Conference
San Francisco, CA

MEET WALE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBER, DI ZHANG



Where do you work, and what do you do?

I work at the Delridge Branch of the Seattle Public Library. I'm clerical staff.

What is the best part of your library job?

I love teaming up with my coworkers to create displays for our branch. The arts and crafts element is definitely a huge plus in my job. I also enjoy getting to know the regulars who come through the doors.

How long have you been a WALE member, and what does WALE mean to you?

I have been a WALE member since 2012, when I attended my first WALE Conference.

At the time I was still working on my MILS. WALE has been extremely helpful to me as a library employee who wants to continue to advance in my field. I have benefited from wonderful conference sessions, networking, and opportunities to lead. This year, I am helping to plan the conference as the Local Arrangements Coordinator. WALE has given me many ways to get involved and deepen my professional skillset.

What is your favorite classic book, and what is a favorite recent book you have read?

My favorite classic book is Plato's *The Republic*. I remember how much fun I had reading and discussing it for the first time in a college philosophy class. After that class, I became a huge fan of the Socratic dialogues and philosophy in general, so much so that I became a philosophy major.

My favorite recent book is *Fresh Off the Boat* by Eddie Huang. It's a memoir of a Chinese American kid who grew up on hip hop and basketball and who resisted the boxes people tried to fit him in. It's a funny, heartfelt memoir and I can relate to it because I was also a Chinese American kid who grew up on hip hop and basketball. It's cool to have a voice like mine out there.

Do you have a favorite quote or motto?

Benson Henderson, a UFC fighter and former champion, has the motto: "Each and every day, I want to get 1% better." That really resonates with me. I think growth is all about consistent effort. You're not going to reach the mountain top in a single stride.

Do you have a favorite movie or TV show?

One of my favorite TV shows is *The Mentalist* and it's because of the lead character. Patrick Jane is one of the most intriguing characters I've seen on TV. I love that he's a trickster and how he always does the right thing but in the wrong way.

What is your favorite Washington state destination?

Chelan ☺

What is your favorite vacation spot outside of WA?

I love going to New York because of the great museums, food, and sights to see.

WALE Officers

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Daurice Siller
Richland Public Library

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Joe Olayvar
Washington State Library

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Meet WALE Member, Linda Stover

Where do you work, and what do you do? I work at Evergreen Branch of the Everett Public Library. I have been here 18 years, and have done a variety of things! I started as a page, became the children's page, tech trainee, and then on to becoming a technician. I get to do the displays and work on special events.



What is the best part of your library job?

Definitely working with the public during all the special events such as mayor's awards for summer reading, national library week, banned book week, 4th of July Parade and many other events.

How long have you been a WALE member, and what does WALE mean to you?

I have been a WALE member off and on for the majority of my time at the library. It had lapsed for a while, but I rejoined to get the member price for registration at the WALE conference last year. This was a BLAST!

What is your favorite classic book, and what is a favorite recent book you have read?

Hmmm.... Can we call Stephen King books "classics"? I love almost everything he has done, but one of my most recent favorites was *The Care of Wooden Floors* by new author Will Wiles.

Do you have a favorite quote or motto? One of my favorite quotes is "The hardest choices in life aren't between what's right and what's wrong, but between what's right and what's best." Not sure who wrote that. One of my main "mottos" is "it is easier to get forgiveness than permission!"

Do you have a favorite movie or TV show? Favorite movies are *Shawshank Redemption* (I LOVE the "twist" at the end!) and the *Emperor's New Groove*.

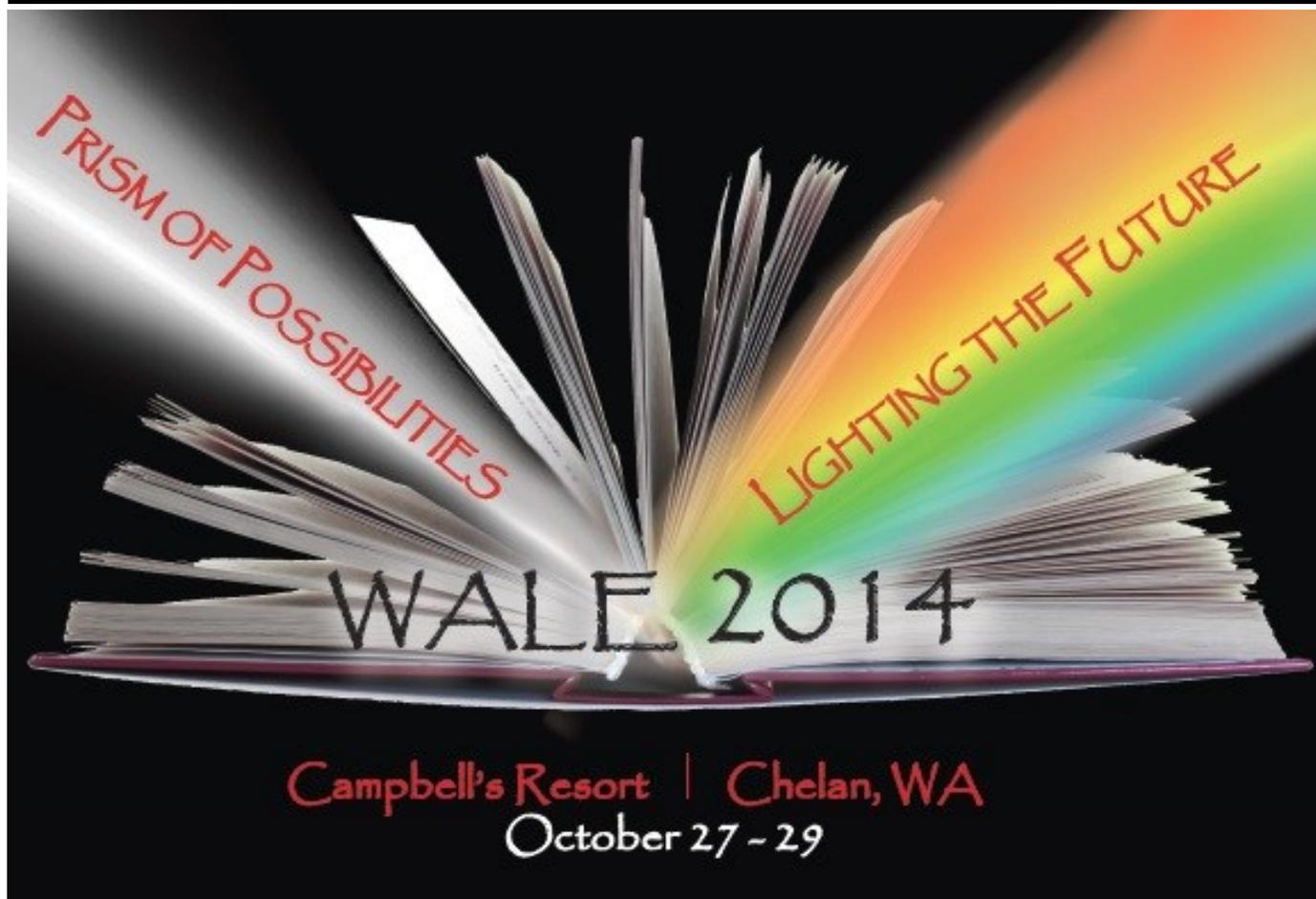
What is your favorite Washington state destination? I really enjoy going to Leavenworth, there are so many people to watch, and the yummy smells and food.

What is your favorite vacation spot outside of WA? Mazatlán, Mexico. Warm beaches, drinks with umbrellas.... Need I say more?

Register on or before October 1st for WALE Conference Early Bird Registration Rates

<http://www.wla.org/wale-registration-2014>





Conference Highlights:

- ◆ The *Jennan Oaks Band* kicks off our meet and greet, playing at the Dessert Reception on Monday, October 27 at 6:30pm
- ◆ Three terrific keynote addresses:
 - * Library advocate and Washington's Secretary of State, Kim Wyman
 - * Rebecca T. Miller, editorial director of both *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*
 - * "How to Ban a Book" created by *Unshelved* comics, Gene Ambaum & Bill Barnes
- ◆ Find new ideas and inspiration at the conference sessions
- ◆ Gather your friends, new and old, for some amusing photo booth antics
- ◆ Enjoy some friendly, fun competition in the downtown Chelan Poker Walk
- ◆ Win prizes with the gift basket and wine raffles
- ◆ Tour the Lake Chelan Library