

Kaleidoscope Special Edition

W C L A F A L L C O N F E R E N C E T O B E T H E L A S T . . .

The Wisconsin Chapter of CLA (WCLA) held their 2017 Fall Conference on Friday, November 13th at Saint Cecilia Parish Center, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. Twelve persons were in attendance.

Merri Lindgren, librarian at the Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC), a library within the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, book talked many titles from the CCBC's Preliminary List for *Choices 2018*. This annotated bibliography is a best-of-the-year list created annually by the CCBC librarians with approximately 250 titles, birth through high school, published in the previous calendar year. *Choices* is published annually by the Friends of the CCBC, Inc. and *Choices 2018* will be available to the public on March 3, 2018.

Some of the books Merri discussed, in no particular order, included:

Eye of the Storm: NASA, Drones, and the Race to Crack the Hurricane Code

by Amy Cherrix
Dazzle Ships: World War I and the Art of Confusion by Chris Barton

Her Right Foot by Dave Eggers

Undefeated by Steve Sheinkin

Vincent and Theo by Deborah Heiligman

Dangerous Jane by Suzanne Slade

A New School Year: Stories in Six Voices by Sally Derby

A Greyhound, a Groundhog, by Emily Jenkins

All the Way to Havana by Margarita Engle

The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya

Cyclone by Doreen Cronin

The Great Hibernation by Tara Dairman

All's Faire in Middle School by Victoria Jamieson

Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly

Amina's Voice by Hena Khan

The First Rule of Punk by Celia C Perez

Exo by Fonda Lee

When Dimple Met Rishi by Sandhya Menon

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

A brief sharing session included discussions around fund raising ideas for Catholic school libraries. In addition, Jennifer Younger, executive director of Catholic Research Resources Alliance (CRRA), briefly spoke about an initiative that has been hard at work digitizing a dozen of the top U.S. Catholic newspapers. This information is available at no cost on the web at <http://thecatholicnewsarchive.org>. Jennifer encouraged attendees to investigate the amazing resource.

A very brief WCLA Annual Meeting was held following lunch. It was stated that chapter membership numbers have drastically declined due to the reduction of library staff at Catholic schools in Wisconsin, and attendance at the Fall Conference has proportionately declined. Following a brief discussion, all twelve members at the event signed a petition which will be forwarded to the national CLA office, asking that WCLA be allowed to dissolve.

LAST FALL CONFERENCE ...

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After the business meeting, author Carmela A. Martino, whose latest book, *Playing by Heart* (Vinspire Publishing), was launched on Sept. 30th, shared her interesting road to publishing that story. It is a piece of historical fiction, based on the lives of two sisters living in 18th century Milan, Italy, and well ahead of their time: Maria Teresa Agnesi, a musician, and Maria Gaetana Agnesi, a

mathematician. The manuscript took first place in the Young Adult category of the 2013 Windy City RWA Four Seasons Romance Writing Contest. This book is recommended for readers aged 12 and up.

Ms. Martino was a guest speaker at the 2006 WCLA Fall Conference, shortly after her first novel, *Rosa, Sola*, was published.

The Conference adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Submitted by Jean Elvekrog

WCLA ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

WCLA Annual Meeting – October 13, 2017
Saint Cecilia Parish Center, Wisconsin Dells

The Meeting was called to order at 12:40 after the lunch and sharing session at the WCLA Fall conference.
Minutes by Toni Smith and Cindy Marach

Call Meeting to Order: Cindy Marach

Minutes: Members read minutes. Motion to accept the minutes was approved and seconded.

Treasure's Report: Liz Van Handel presented the Treasurer's Report. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and seconded.

New Business:

Jennifer Younger from the Catholic Research Alliance presented their project on archiving into digital format Catholic newspapers. One may access the research and project at www.catholicresearch.net. Jennifer talked about the grants they have acquired and how they are utilizing these to support their continued work.

Membership was discussed. WCLA has 14 paid members down from 18 members last year.

Questions arose about the CLA organization's membership. Cindy Marach stated the Children's Section has 66 members. In April it was decided CLA will no longer be a part of NCEA. The organization instead will be offering spring and fall virtual presentations through ZOOM. The spring 2018 presentation will be various virtual awards sponsored by academic, parish, HS/YA and Children Sections. The Fall 2018 virtual presentation will be something educational for the section members prepared by section members. There was discussion about the Regina Medal Award. Input was received from Merri Lindgren of CCBC. She was adamant that at the Children's level, a prestigious award that has been presented for 58 years should not be presented virtually as though the award hasn't changed. The recipient receiving the votes for the first virtual award could be offended. A suggestion was made to change the award, suggesting the Dominican University in

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River Forest or another Catholic University with a Library School could administer the award. Another suggestion was to have the CLA board present the award at an event at Dominican.

The future of WCLA was discussed. With falling numbers in members and 7 officer positions not being filled, there was a discussion to dissolve the WCLA Chapter. After reading the CLA Bylaws Article 6 Section 8, there was a motion to dissolve WCLA by Jean Elvekrog and it was seconded by Marcia Griskavich. Twelve members were in favor of this decision.

A petition was sent around for all to sign their name in agreement of dissolving WCLA. Jean Elvekrog will send the petition with the names and signatures in regards to this to the CLA headquarters.

Moving forward after payments from the 2017 conference are paid and dues are reimbursed to the members from 2016 forward, the treasurer will follow the CLA Bylaws Article 6, Section 8.

A list of all current members' emails was circulated so present members can continue to share ideas and meet at upcoming events in the state.

Merri Lindgren suggested we use the Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) website for upcoming events <https://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/>

Deb Gilkes moved to adjourn the meeting; Liz Van Handel seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05.

Ideas Sharing Notes: Fundraising

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- Scholastic Book fair
- Follett Title Wish - e-mail flyers to donors what needs are in library; set goal; parents/donors contribute on line and purchase through Follett; cash goes on school credit card to order with
- Anonymous donor donates \$200 in an account at a local bookstore. When the amount is depleted, the donor is notified and the balance is made up.
- Thank you's are sent out.
- Books are shelved on a special shelf for new books only.
- Catholic Order of Foresters does matching funds to Scholastic book fair earnings.

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- Sleep over in the library fundraiser - auction item highest bidder receives one night, six patrons, themed events, begin after school, snacks, meals planned, outdoor activity, indoor activities, (crafts, paper airplane competition, movie) breakfast, clean up.

- Catholic News Archive is a great site to use when looking up saints. Articles from 1920-1955 were digitized through a grant. A second grant digitized 1880-1919.

The archive is freely available to end users. It exists on donations - contact Jennifer Younger at jyounger@nd.edu

