



The

LAMPLIGHTER

a monthly electronic newsletter of the

Wisconsin Valley Library Service

October 2006 Volume XLIII, Number 10



DIRECTOR'S MEMO

*October is...pumpkins...acorns falling like big heavy raindrops...reds... yellows...
bursting cattails...mist on the early morning lake... tricks and treats... masks...*

SPEAKING OF MASKS, WHO OR WHAT IS HIDING BEHIND WVLS?

The WVLS staff and board were recently discussing the fact that very few people in the business of funding libraries and/or library systems know what 'WVLS' is. That's not surprising because, over the years, WVLS has chosen not to spend its scarce state aid dollars for publicity. We have always said that one of our most important tasks was to help our member libraries 'look good' to their respective patrons ... library users didn't need to know how the service got to them, it was only important that those users got ever-improving service.

Sometimes we think we may have made a mistake in not tooting our system horn more because now, when it comes to system funding, there are very few folks who know what WVLS does well enough to even write a letter to a legislator to describe the importance of state aid dollars for library systems in the WVLS area. Legislators say they don't want to hear from system staff about how important their services are...rather, they want to hear from the end-users of system services. That is almost impossible since the end-users rarely, if ever, know that the consultant service or item from the library's collection or book that was sent on interloan or the summer reading program performer they are enjoying might have come to them through their library's WVLS membership. It's probably often the case that the library staff itself forgets how insular life was before library systems came into being.

To help let the world know a bit more about WVLS – about the importance of libraries sharing materials and the state helping to fund the costs of that kind of sharing - the system staff will be trying to do a better job of providing news articles to area newspapers to announce when a member library will be participating in a WVLS project such as joining V-Cat, participating in an upcoming grant (such as the prison service grant), using a summer library program performer scheduled and subsidized by WVLS, sharing some of the interesting statistics that come out of the annual reports, etc.

Individual library staff members can really help in spreading the word, i.e., whenever your library prepares a brochure, writes a news article, writes your own board minutes, etc., please remember to give credit to your library's (and your county's) membership in WVLS as the source of these projects. That way, we can share those comments with area legislators on the local, regional and state levels who just might begin to see that the dollars they budget for libraries and library systems are really being used well...the more dollars the state budgets for systems, the more service member libraries will receive. When you have included WVLS in any of your publicity, please send a copy to me. Thanks.

LIBRARY SHARING IS BIG BUSINESS!

The 9/8/06 draft of the COLAND Biennial Report on the *Condition and Progress of Library Services in Wisconsin* states that "Wisconsin now has:

- 388 public libraries that serve 5.6 million state residents
- approximately 2,000 public school library media centers serving almost 880,000 students (many of whom increasingly depend on service from public libraries and public library systems – editor's note)
- hundreds of academic and special libraries serving students, professionals, businesses and others.

All of these libraries make important contributions to the education and quality of life for Wisconsin residents, and to the economic health of the state. A recently completed research study of Wisconsin's school library media programs shows that high-quality school libraries correlate with high student achievement. Other studies show that investments in public libraries result in positive returns ranging from 30%-1,000%...

The public benefits of library service in Wisconsin are further multiplied through high levels of interlibrary cooperation. Wisconsin's libraries cooperate through regional library systems and statewide services and organizations. Every year, millions of library items are shared among all types of libraries throughout the state. This sharing of library materials means that everyone in Wisconsin has access to over 7 million titles owned by Wisconsin libraries of all types. Resource sharing is also a cost-effective method of avoiding unnecessary duplication of purchasing...Wisconsin now ranks #1 nationally in per capita public library interlibrary loans. Public library system efforts to develop shared integrated systems have greatly contributed to the accessibility and growth of resource sharing. Currently 83% of Wisconsin residents are served by the 310 public libraries participating in shared integrated systems (like V-Cat)..."

WHO WILL WIN THIS ISSUE'S 'NAME THE CHARACTER' QUIZ?

I made up three quizzes for the fall issues of *The Lamplighter* (Fictional Characters - Quiz II is in this issue below). If you have ideas for games, quizzes, etc. that you think your colleagues would enjoy, please submit them to Marla Sepnafski, Editor of the newsletter.

MATERIAL FOR USE IN YOUR OCTOBER PRESENTATIONS (I'm sorry, I just couldn't help myself ;->)

Did you hear about the cannibal who was expelled from school?

He was buttering up his teacher.

How can you tell that a vampire likes baseball?

He turns into a bat every night.

What do you do with a green monster?

Wait until it ripens.

Where does a one-armed man shop?

At a second hand store.

Why did the vampire give his girlfriend a blood test?

To see if she was his type.

Why don't mummies take vacations?

They're afraid they'll relax and unwind.

-- Heather Eldred



IN THE SYSTEM

ATTENTION, AREA INTERLOAN STAFF!

The *new* and *improved* WISCAT is coming! The Department of Public Instruction has contracted with Auto-Graphics, Inc. for the Wisconsin Resource Sharing and Information Access project. The Department

plans to negotiate for a hybrid union/virtual catalog containing Wisconsin library holdings and an interlibrary loan management system. This new system will replace the existing WISCAT union catalog, ZPORTAL virtual catalog, and VDX interlibrary loan management system that the state has been using since 2002.

Unlike the current system, the new product will use a single integrated user interface for the hybrid union/virtual catalog as well as for the interlibrary loan management system. Search results can be de-duplicated and re-sorted so that records from multiple catalogs are displayed together. In addition the seamless search interface between the union and virtual catalogs is expected to reduce the need to batch upload records to the union catalog for those local catalogs that are Z39.50 compliant.

In addition, the new resource sharing system will allow library staffs and patrons to enjoy other exciting new features. To see a more detailed list of features available with the new system, go to http://www.wiscat.lib.wi.us/pdf/New_features.pdf

As the WISCAT staff works out the final details of the contract with Auto-Graphics, Inc., they are simultaneously working on an implementation and training schedule for all the libraries in the state who wish to participate in the new system. **WVLS has arranged with WISCAT staff to train area interlibrary loan staff on Thursday, November 16th at Marathon County Public Library.** There will be 2 sessions provided that day, one in the morning from 9:30-noon, and one in the afternoon from 1:00-3:30.

Libraries must attend a training session before being authorized to participate in the new WISCAT – either as a borrower or as a lender. Training over the telephone will not be available.

Following the training by WISCAT staff, libraries will immediately be able to access the new system. Sometime in mid-December, the current VDX and ZPORTAL systems will be discontinued.

Area interlibrary loan staff will receive more information, through emails, workshop flyers and *The Lamplighter*, about the November 16th WISCAT training opportunity when all of the details for the day are finalized. If you have any questions about the new WISCAT or the November 16th training sessions, please feel free to contact Leora Young, WVLS ILL Coordinator, at 715/261-7254 or lyoung2@wvls.lib.wi.us

Win a Prize!

FICTIONAL CHARACTERS – QUIZ II

WVLS is providing *LAMPLIGHTER* readers with a little bit of fun! WVLS is including a “Fictional Characters Quiz” in the September, October and November issues of the newsletter. The first *LAMPLIGHTER* reader (from anywhere!) to e-mail editor, Marla, at msepnafs@wvls.lib.wi.us with all correct answers will win a prize.

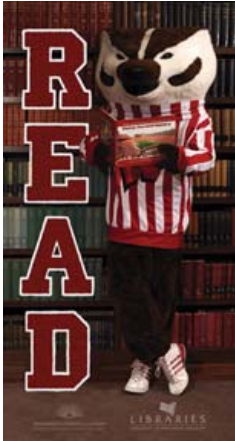
1. Magnificent lion of Narnia who acts as an Unlikely Christ figure
2. Prince Valiant's son
3. Girl of Green Gables
4. Leader of 'The Chipmunks'
5. Pogo's alligator friend
6. Daddy Warbuck's orphan
7. Stone-age blonde in Auel's novels
8. Name of detective couple, Nick and Nora's dog
9. First name of *All in the Family's* leading role bigot
10. First name of southern attorney who is the father of Scout and Jem

Jane Pearlmutter, Associate Director of the School of Library & Information Studies, UW-Madison, was the first person to submit all correct answers to Quiz I. Congratulations, Jane!

This is REALLY Cool!

BUCKY BADGER PROMOTES READING IN *NEW* POSTER!

If you want to be a Badger, just read along with Bucky!



There's a NEW small poster and matching bookmark co-sponsored by the UW-Madison Libraries and the Wisconsin Center for the Book.

The poster and bookmarks, designed by Senior Artist Daniel Joe of UW-Madison Library Communications, show Bucky standing against a bookcase reading about great moments in the history of Camp Randall Stadium, the home of the Wisconsin Badgers football team. The poster made its Wisconsin debut in the 9/20/06 edition of *Wisconsin Week*, and its national debut on September 30th in Washington D.C., during the National Book Festival hosted by First Lady Laura Bush.

Bucky's universal appeal among children and adults alike make the poster and bookmarks ideal for any library's READ campaign. If you are interested in receiving a FREE Bucky Badger posters and bookmarks, please email Marla Sepnafski at the WVLS office at msepnafs@wvls.lib.wi.us by **Friday, October 13th**.

YOUTH MATTERS

A CONTEST FOR TEENS

To go along with the "Get Active" theme of Teen Read Week (October 15 – 21, 2006), the American Library Association's Washington Office is challenging teens to create a theme and design a logo for the 2007 National Library Legislative Day. The teen with the winning logo wins a trip to Washington DC for two, a two-night stay at a hotel in Washington, and an award certificate.

What is Library Legislative Day? It's a two-day event in which people who care about libraries participate virtually or face to face by taking part in advocacy training sessions, interacting with Capitol Hill insiders, and visiting congressional member offices to ask Congress to pass legislation that supports libraries. In 2007, it will be held May 2-3. Find out more about this event at <http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/events.htm>

Teens ages 12-18 are eligible, and the **deadline to participate is October 29, 2006**. For more information, including contest announcements, rules and entry forms, visit <http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/nlld/nlld2007contest.htm>
(*pubyac listserv*, 9/18/06)

HELPING MILITARY FAMILIES COPE

Being part of the military can be a real challenge, particularly for young children. That's why Sesame Workshop and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., with support from the New York State Office of Mental Health (NYSOMH) and the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), have created a resource kit *Talk, Listen, Connect: Helping Families During Military Deployment*.

According to the Sesame Workshop website, this bilingual kit “will help military families cope with feelings, challenges, and concerns experienced during ... pre-deployment, deployment and homecoming.” The kit includes a DVD featuring the Muppets from Sesame Street, a parent/caregiver magazine and a children’s activity poster.

To view or download any of the resources in the *Talk, Listen, Connect: Helping Families During Military Deployment* Kit, or to order your **FREE** kit, visit the Sesame Workshop website at <http://www.sesameworkshop.org/tlc/>
(edited from *The Library Connection*, Eastern Shores Library System newsletter; 9/06)

CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LIBRARY DAY!

The eighth International School Library Day will be held on October 23, 2006. Always the fourth Monday in October, the aim of this special day is to draw attention to the importance of school libraries in the education of children. In honor of this event, the International Association of School Librarianship suggests school libraries might want to do the following:

- Recognize excellence. Use this day as an opportunity to recognize the contribution of other people to the school library program – student monitors/aides, support staff, teachers, parents, volunteers, donors, staff of the local public library.
- Write letters for your school newsletter. If your school (or school library) has a newsletter, write a short article about International School Library Day and the importance of the school library in education. Ask students to write about their school library and publish the best articles.
- Create a new mouse pad. Americans call them mouse pads. Australians and Europeans call them mousemats. Ask your students to design one that will remind the user of school libraries every time she/he uses a mouse! (A Christmas present for the school principal perhaps?)
- Help a school library in a developing country by raising money to enable them to buy books and other materials that they need.
- Organize a visiting speaker from an international organization, or speaker who has worked in another country, or someone who has been involved in an international project.



For more tips for celebrating International School Library Day, visit the International Association of School Librarianship website at http://www.iasl-slo.org/sldsuggested_activities.html, and for online resources visit <http://www.iasl-slo.org/sldresources.html>
(from *American Libraries Direct*, 8/30/06)

SPECIAL NEEDS

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A LITERACY TUTOR? NOW IS YOUR CHANCE!

The Marathon County Literacy Council (MCLC), a small, non-profit organization located in the Marathon County Public Library building, is offering six hours of Basic Training to people thinking about becoming literacy tutors. Founded in 1998 by a group of community activists, the Council’s mission is to train volunteers to tutor needy adults and families in reading, writing, math, speaking English, or career/occupational skills. Tutors work in independent matches at the library or as classroom assistants at the technical college. Other tutors choose to volunteer at The Neighbor’s Place, the Salvation Army, Wausau’s Fresh Start or UW-Marathon County.

This year's Basic Training will be held on Thursday, November 2nd and Monday, November 6th, from 5:15-8:15 p.m. at the Marathon County Public Library. The MCLC also offers 3-4 in-services a year to all tutors on current, educational topics. The next in-service, which focuses on the "Latest Tips Working with E.S.L. & Low-Level Learners" & "Tutor Networking," will be held on Thursday, November 9th from 6:00-8:00 p.m., at Marathon County Public Library.

There is no cost to enroll in the Basic Training sessions or the in-services, and anyone interested may attend. For more information about these educational opportunities and/or becoming a literacy tutor, please contact the MCLC at 715/261-7292.

INFO TO GO

Considering a New Library Building Project or Renovation?

LJ'S BUILDING PROJECTS DATABASE GOES LIVE

Imagine being able to look in one place for information on library building projects from across the country, search by footage, cost, special features (café, teen space, atrium), location, and find architects, consultants, and suppliers of furniture and equipment suppliers and more. This is now a reality via the Building Projects Database, developed by *Library Journal* and ALA's Library Administration and Management Association.

To log into the Building Projects Database, a searcher needs to register at <http://projects.libraryjournal.com/login.asp>. A subscription to *Library Journal* is not a prerequisite and registration is FREE. Once a username and password is established, searchers may either add information about library building projects – any information from the earliest planning phases to completion is welcome – or gather ideas from projects nationwide that are underway or at fruition.

Staff at *LJ* say "Don't even think about commencing your next building project without looking here!" (*LJXPress*, Special Edition: Library By Design, 9/25/06; and "Share Your Building Project" at [LibraryJournal.com](http://www.libraryjournal.com), <http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6370906.html>, 9/15/06)

GRAPHIC NOVELS: SUGGESTIONS FOR LIBRARIANS

The American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom in conjunction with the National Coalition Against Censorship and the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund has prepared a booklet *Graphic Novels: Suggestions for Librarians*. The nine-page booklet offers tips on how to develop a graphic novel collection, ways to deal with challenges in libraries, and where to shelve them. To view or print the PDF *Graphic Novels: Suggestions for Librarians*, visit http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/ifissues/graphicnovels_1.pdf (*American Libraries Direct*, 9/6/06)

GRANT UPDATE

YOUTH LEADERS FOR LITERACY GRANTS

Youth Leaders for Literacy is an initiative of the National Education Association (NEA) and Youth Service America (YSA) to help youth plan and implement reading-related service projects. NEA will award 20 grants of \$500 each to support literacy projects that begin on NEA's Read Across America Day, March 2, 2007 (<http://www.nea.org/readacross/index.html>), and culminate on National & Global Youth Service Day, April 20-22, 2007 (<http://www.ysa.org/nysd/>). During these seven weeks and beyond, youth will create a groundswell of literacy service in communities across the country. Applicants must be ages 21

or younger, and can be either individuals or groups. **Applications must be postmarked by November 24, 2006.** For more information, visit the NEA page at <http://www.nea.org/readacross/volunteer/index.html>.
(*Youth Service America's National Service Briefing*, 8/28/06; as seen in *CEO*, 9/1/06)

PROFESSIONAL READING

Lipinski, Thomas A. *The Complete Copyright Liability Handbook for Librarians and Educators*. Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., 2006.
ISBN 1555705324

Milwaukee native, Tomas Lipinski, a library educator, licensed attorney, and frequent presenter of copyright workshops, offers this comprehensive guide to copyright liability issues specifically aimed at libraries and information centers.

The author discusses three types of copyright liability, including direct copyright infringement, contributory copyright infringement, and vicarious copyright infringement. He notes penalties and immunities in copyright law for libraries and schools, and three ways they can limit their exposure. He includes information on digital technologies, websites, distance education, and recent legislation. "Real-world examples" which present a situation and legal analysis, are included in each section.

Also included is a copyright compliance audit, sample copyright policies, a subject index, and an index of copyright cases.

The author presents a very in-depth and detailed understanding of this intricate and complex subject.

This WVLS-owned title is on V-Cat and available for loan. – *Ellen Buchberger, WVLS Reference Librarian*

ON COMMAND

HOW TO REDUCE COMPUTER-RELATED ENERGY COSTS

An article in the September 2006 issue of *Computers in Libraries* ("High-Tech, Low Power: How to Reduce Computer-Related Energy Costs" by Marshall Breeding) offers practical advice on how to reduce the amount of energy consumed by library computers and save a bit on library budgets. Following are some strategies:

Turn off PCs at the end of the day. Years ago, one school of thought was that computers would last longer if left on, because the power spike associated with the initial start-up was more harmful to the internal components than the wear associated with longer operation, while others thought that turning equipment off when unused would extend the life of a computer. Components in current equipment suffer no ill effects from being powered on and off.

Get rid of the fancy screen saver. Screen savers do nothing to help reduce a computer's workload. Older generations of CRT monitors were subject to burn-in if the same image remained on the screen for an extended period, so to avoid the problem, people used screen savers that produced constantly moving images when the computer was inactive. Since more recent CRTs are less susceptible to burn-in and flat-panel LCD-monitors do not exhibit it at all, screen savers solve a problem that no longer exists. In fact, a screen saver that has fairly intensive graphics actually requires more computer processing than

spreadsheets or word processors, and may disable features that can actually extend the life of a monitor and reduce power consumption.

Program your computer to enter standby or sleep when not in use. In the past, computers were either on or off. PCs manufactured recently include a set of advanced power-management features that can dramatically reduce the amount of power used. To take advantage of this staged step-down activity, you need to configure your computer accordingly since many desktop PCs may not be set to use power-management features by default. "For example, with Windows XP, you can right-click on the desktop, select 'Properties,' and click on the 'Screen Saver' tab. At the bottom of that panel will appear a button labeled 'Power,' which when clicked on will display the 'Power Options Properties' page. It is at this page that the computer user can determine a lower power-mode schedule.

Servers are NOT the same as PCs:

- Servers need to be on at all times.
- Rack-mounted servers tend to operate more efficiently and use less power than free-standing towers.
- It is not necessary to connect a monitor to each server. A common configuration consists of a single keyboard, video monitor, and mouse that connect through a KVM switch to multiple servers.

FROM HITHER & YON

DEADLY AT SCRABBLE

Someone out there either has too much spare time or is deadly at scrabble. You decide! Rearrange the following words to create a phrase about the given word. For example, the word: DORMITORY When the letters are rearranged, the word becomes: DIRTY ROOM

- PRESBYTERIAN: Best in Prayer
- ASTRONOMER: Moon Starer
- DESPERATION: A Rope Ends It
- THE EYES: They SEE
- GEORGE BUSH: He Bugs Gore
- THE MORSE CODE: Here Come Dots
- SLOT MACHINES: Cash Lost In Me
- ANIMOSITY: Is No Amity
- ELECTION RESULTS: Lies – Let's Recount
- SNOOZE ALARMS: Alas! No More Z's
- A DECIMAL POINT: I'm a Dot In Place
- ELEVEN PLUS TWO: Twelve Plus One

WEB SITES OF INTEREST (tourist traps on the information superhighway!)

CRAFTZINE <http://www.craftzine.com/>

More and more people are rediscovering crafts these days, and craft mavens such as comedienne, writer, and hobbyist Amy Sedaris are dusting off the world of the crocheted tea cozy and finger puppets in a number of innovative and inherently hip ways. Sponsored by the magazine Craft, this site contains a web log of compelling craft projects, excerpts from their print magazine, and a number of community forums where visitors can kvetch and commune about their diverse craft experiences. The "Projects" area is a delight, as visitors will get introduced to multi-colored spiral crochet hats and funky skirts made out of fabric from a broken umbrella. There are even a few projects that may gain the attention of costume-

oriented visitors, such as a rather compelling pattern for a knitted wig that will allow the wearer to resemble Princess Leia of Star Wars fame. Like a child at a candy store, even casual visitors may find themselves dipping back into this site's proverbial jar of craft treats and projects repeatedly while no one's looking.

(From *The Scout Report*; Copyright Internet Scout Project, 1994-2006, <http://scout.wisc.edu/>; 9/15/06)

FALL IS SPRING BULB PLANTING SEASON! <http://www.bulb.com>

Fall is the time to plant spring-blooming bulbs such as crocuses, tulips and daffodils. This site provides all the information gardeners need to get started such as a spring flowering identification guide, forcing flower bulbs at home, a calendar with planting tips, and tips for perennializing.

FOOD, COOKING AND RECIPES FROM CHEFS.COM <http://www.chefs.com/>

"A passionate online community that shares its thoughts and recipes about food and its social connections." Not only a collection of searchable and browsable recipes (including the useful browse by ingredient category), it also includes a blog, podcasts, an ask a professional chef feature, a library of articles, safety tips, a fat and calorie calculator, and more.

(*Neat New Stuff*; 8/8/2006; Copyright, Marylaine Block, 1999-2006)

FLIGHTAWARE <http://flightaware.com/>

FlightAware is the first company to offer free flight tracking for both private and commercial air traffic in the United States. FlightAware's proprietary flight arrival time algorithms combined with our powerful, intuitive, and reliable web-based interface yield the most capable and useful flight tracking application on the Internet.

(RefDesk *Site-Of-The-Day*; 9/14/06)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October – NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH. For more information, visit the American Cancer Society website at <http://www.cancer.org> or <http://www.nbcam.org>

October 12 – **WVLS V-Cat Council meeting** – Minocqua Public Library – 9:30 a.m.

October 15-21 – 2006 Teen Read Week – "Get Active @ your library" – visit the new website at <http://www.ala.org/teenread/> for annotated booklists, a list of favorites compiled by teens, tips for planning TRW events locally and resources to help generate a buzz about libraries' teen events.

October 18 – 9th Annual Charlotte Zolotow Lecture – Wisconsin Union Theater, UW-Madison campus – 7:30 p.m. Lois Lowry, guest lecturer, is the author of many acclaimed books for children and teenagers, including the Newbery-award winning *Number the Stars* (1989) and *The Giver* (1993). Her most recent book is *Gossamer*. For more information about the lecture, go to <http://www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/czfaq.asp>

October 21 – **WVLS Executive Committee meeting** – Marathon County Public Library – 9:30 a.m.

October 22-28 – NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK - Use this time to creatively promote your group in the community, to raise awareness, to promote membership, and to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library. For more information, visit <http://www.folusa.com/sharing/national-friends-week.php>

October 29 – Daylight Saving Time ends.

October 31-November 3 – **2006 “Making Connections” WLA Annual Conference** – Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells – more information is available at <http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/conferences/2006/>. Please make room reservations at the Kalahari by calling 1-877-525-2427 at your earliest convenience. Conference room rates are \$99 and there is a deposit policy of one night plus tax at the time the reservation is made. (edited from *WLA E-News*; 6/9/06)

November 16 – **Learn the *NEW*WISCAT!** – a WVLS-sponsored workshop – Marathon County Public Library – details forthcoming.

November 18 – **WVLS Board of Trustees meeting** – Marathon County Public Library – 9:30 a.m.

November 13-19 – CHILDREN’S BOOK WEEK – for promotional materials and a list of ideas for celebrating this event, check out <http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbw>

ATTENTION: Wessler Scholarships are available to cover some/all costs associated with attendance at reference and/or interlibrary loan continuing education events. If interested in becoming a Wessler Scholar, contact the WVLS office (715/261-7250) for more information. The application form and more information are available at <http://wvls.lib.wi.us/About/wessler.htm>

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Whether you think you can or whether you think you can’t, you’re probably right.”

*-- Henry Ford
(School Library Journal; 9/06)*



The Lamplighter is a monthly electronic newsletter of the Wisconsin Valley Library Service. Contributions are welcome!

Back issues are available at <http://wvls.lib.wi.us/Newsletter/newsindex.htm> Note: Web links in past issues are not checked for currency and may no longer work.

When the most recent issue becomes available, readers are alerted by a notice posted to WISPUBLIB, or sent an email.

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