

WESTERN MARYLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY'S LEARNING JOURNAL

APRIL 2009

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WESTERN MARYLAND'S TEEN INTEREST GROUP MEETS IN BOONSBORO



“The first of April
is the day we
remember what we
are the other 364
days of the year.”

~ Mark Twain

The second meeting of Western Maryland's Teen Interest Group (WMDTIG) was held on March 16th, at the lovely new Boonsboro library in Washington County. Over twenty regional library staff members attended the meeting, including special guests Joe Thompson, WMRL's Associate Director, and Jamie Watson, Assistant Materials Manager for Harford County Public Library.

Joe began the meeting by welcoming the group and addressing them from a statewide perspective. Naomi Butler, WMRL's Children's/YA Coordinator, then updated the group on regional happenings and staff development activities and materials. Later in the day, Ms. Watson gave an informative and engaging presentation on finding books for reluctant readers, types of reluctant readers, and then book talked some of the most popular titles in YA literature. The group wrapped-up their day by sharing what had been happening in their counties over the last six months in regards to teen/young adult services and programs. It was incredible to hear about the wide variety of fun and positive programs that have been taking place across the region, including:

- A hometown book exchange between a South African city and Oakland's Teen Advisory Board
- WCFL's Teen Idol Contest and upcoming 2nd Annual Animapalooza, June 27th
- Clear Spring's Teen Lock-in and Boonsboro's Stephanie Meyer Night
 - ACLS' Teen Team's Program in a Box Initiative
 - LaVale and George's Creek's new teen areas

The group's next meeting will be held in Garrett County at the Grantsville branch on Monday, September 21st. We at the regional library are extremely pleased to see so much sharing taking place across the region and thank all who participate in the group and those who support the attendees back in the branches and in administration.

Attendees at the meeting included:

Maryland Appel, Naomi Butler, Judy Castleman, Angie Garcia, Debbie Hartman, Catherine Hall, Chris Hawkins, Sally Hull, Ashley Hutson, Joyce Joslin, Renee Mason, Lisa McKenney, Krista McKenzie, Kate Metzger, Joni Reed, Susan Schnebly, Liz Sell, Jennifer Spriggs, Nancy Sudine, Joseph Thompson, Barbara Twigg, Janlee Viands

Inside this issue:

WMDTIG Meets in Boonsboro	1
WMRL Learning Journal	2-4
Black Belt Librarian	4
April Calendar	5
Michele Gorman	6

Western Maryland Regional Library Learning Journal

A place for Western Maryland library staff to share what they've learned with each other.

Think back to the last time you attended a workshop, conference, or training session....

Once you got back to your library, did you share what you'd learned with your co-workers? Or did you immediately get caught back up into your daily work routine, file your hand-outs somewhere in a folder and kind of forget about the session?

Sharing the information and skills that you learn at workshops, conferences, online training sessions, etc., is such an important component of the training. Not everyone can get out of their buildings to attend workshops and conferences, so sharing your experiences benefits your fellow library staff and can also generate new ideas and energy across your library system. A new regional online learning journal has been created to help staff share their experiences and ideas at <http://westernmdlearning.blogspot.com>. See below for instructions for posting to the journal.

POSTING TO THE LEARNING JOURNAL: A QUICK HOW-TO

Step 1 — Contact Jennifer Spriggs to be added to the blog as an author.

Step 2 — You should then receive an invitation via email with the subject line: **You have been invited to contribute to westernmdjen's blog**. Click on the link in the email. You will then be taken to a webpage where you can join the blog.

Step 3 — Join the blog by signing in with your Google account or by creating a Google Account.

For those of you who created a blog in 23 Things, you already have a Google account.

Can't remember your password? Click on "Forgot your password?" and your password will be emailed to you.

westernmdjen has invited you to contribute to the blog

Western Maryland Regional Library Learning Journal
<http://westernmdlearning.blogspot.com/>

To join this blog as an author, accept the invitation by signing in with your **Google** Account below.

Don't have a Google Account? [Create your account now](#)

Username (Email)	<input type="text"/>	
Password	<input type="password"/>	Forgot your password?
Remember Me?	<input type="checkbox"/>	This is not recommended for shared computers!

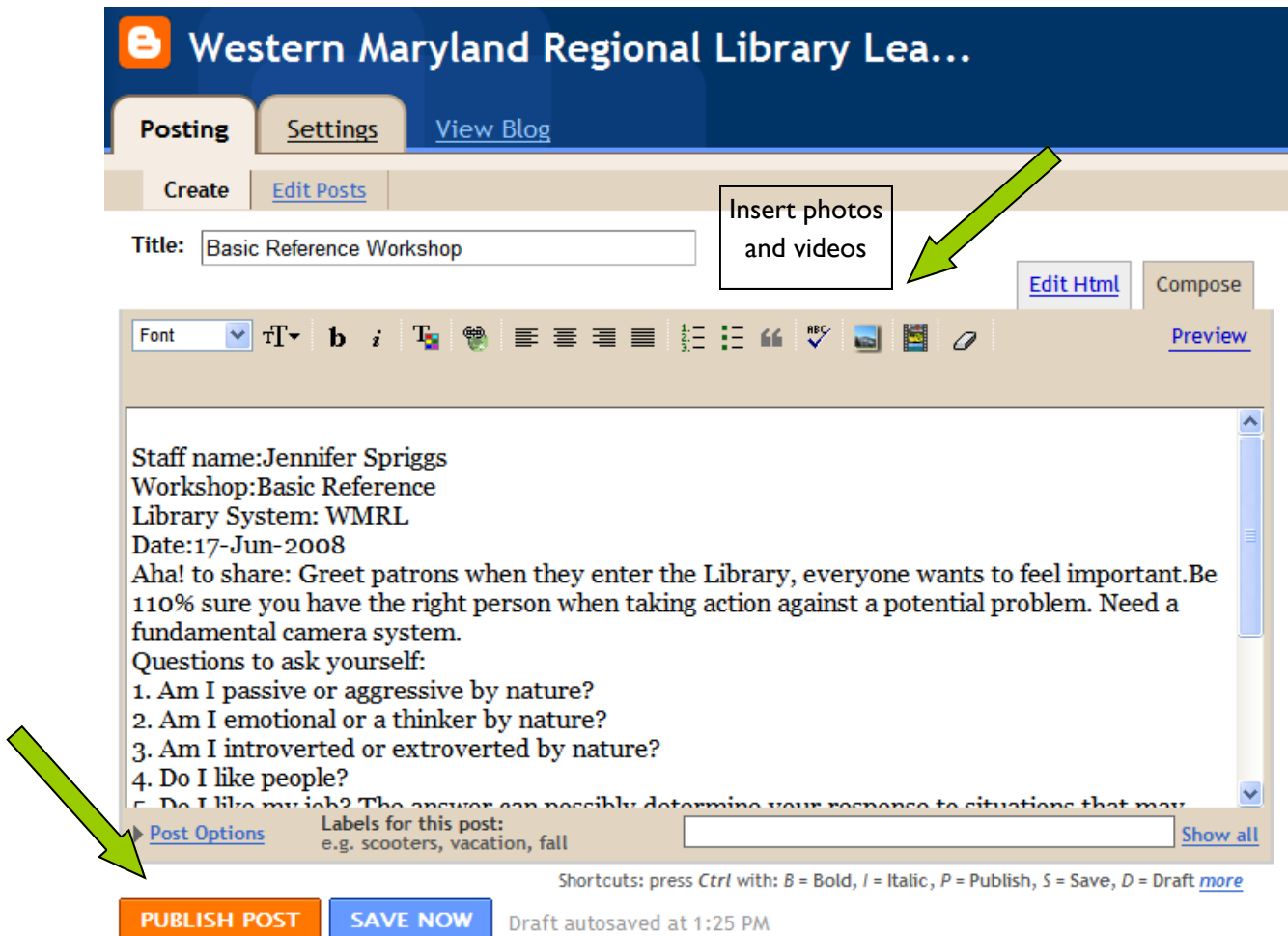
ACCEPT INVITATION

Step 4 — You will be taken to your Dashboard, which will list all of the blogs that you contribute to on Blogger.

Click on the blue New Post button to create your post.



Step 5— Share your learning experience by creating your post. See page 4 for a Sample post. Please feel free to insert photos, videos, and websites along with your text into your posts.



TEMPLATE POST FOR LEARNING JOURNAL

Not sure what to post to the learning journal? See below for a template to guide you as you post to the blog.

Staff Name:

Workshop:

Library System:

Date:

Aha! to share: For example: Greet patrons when they enter the Library, everyone wants to feel important.

Questions to ask yourself:

Quotes that made an impression:

For example: No means no, say it in 3 words. "Cellphones not allowed".

Websites to share:

Rating: One Star (the worst) to Five Star (the best)



BLACK BELT LIBRARIAN TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT WMRL 2009 CONFERENCE

We are pleased to announce that Warren Graham, also known as the "Black Belt Librarian," will be the keynote speaker at this year's November 11th tri-county conference. Mr. Graham is renowned as an expert of day-to-day library security procedures. He has been a security professional for 25 years and he spent the last 17 years as the Security and Safety Manager for the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg. Warren has traveled across the United States helping libraries of all sizes acquire a sense of really controlling their work environment. Unlike other security consultants, Warren actually has worked in a library, so he is well aware of the problems that front-line library staff experience on a daily basis.

Developing his techniques for handling difficult situations and patrons through the years of facing myriad security situations, Warren knows by his own experience what works and what simply does not. His "real world" approach and strategy, grounded in much trial and error, will quickly give you a sense of empowerment and put you well on your way to doing all you can to develop a practical, workable, security program.

We are looking forward to this fun and practical workshop!

You can find out more about Mr. Graham at:
<http://www.blackbeltlibrarians.com/>



WMRL's 2009 Keynote Speaker, Warren Graham, aka the "Black Belt Librarian"

"Finally! Everything about security you didn't learn in library school presented in everyday language based on real experience in a public library. Having Warren work with staff is the best investment in continuing education that we've ever made."

~ Susan Henricks, Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque, IA

APRIL 2009

APRIL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

All learning opportunities are available online at: <http://tinyurl.com/55gl6a>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>Have a question? Please contact Jennifer Spriggs. Email: jspriggs@allconet.org Phone: 301-777-1200</p>		1 April Fool's Day	2 Basic Reference Presented by Helen Blumberg and Bob Burke, SLRC LaVale, ACLS 2—4 p.m.	3	4
5	6	7 Telling Your Story With Photostory 3 10—11:00 a.m. or 2:30—3:30 p.m. Online Course	8 Telling Your Story With Photostory 3 2:30—3:30 p.m. Online Course	9 Biography Resource Center Webinar 2—3 p.m.	10	11
12 	13 Learn How to Learn Online 10—11 a.m. Online Course	14 Testing & Education Reference Center Webinar 3—4 p.m.	15 Health & Wellness Resource Center Webinar 3-4 p.m.	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Learn How to Learn Online 10—11 a.m. Online Course	23	24	25
26	27 Literature Resource Center Webinar 2—2:45 p.m.	28 Biography Resource Center Webinar 1—2 p.m.	29	30 What is Reference Now? Presented by Helen Blumberg and Bob Burke, SLRC LaVale, ACLS 2—4 p.m.		



www.westmdlib.info

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Have a question or comment about these learning
opportunities?

Please contact Jennifer!

Jennifer Spriggs, Staff Development Coordinator

Phone: 301-777-1200

Email: jspriggs@allconet.org



A Special Workshop for Western Maryland Library Staff!!!

Presented by Michele Gorman

Date: Friday, August 28th, 2009

Location: Allegany College of Maryland Continuing Education Building

Time: 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Who should attend this workshop?

All library staff who develop, plan, and carry out library programming for preteens and young adults, library staff who interact with preteen and teen patrons on a daily basis, and administrators who understand that young people between the ages of 12 and 18 make up approximately 25% of library users today!