

Search Newsletter

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Streamlining Search

Starting with this issue, *Search* will be published bi-monthly in the odd numbered months with a reduced number of topics.

Search will continue to publish links to local workshops and presentations as well as articles about member libraries.

Your feedback on these changes and suggestions for articles are always welcome. [Email](#) your comments or call Mary Beth Train at 650-356-2133.

News You Can Use

Big Box Programming

Authors participating in the 2007-2008 Big Box Programming LSTA grant program are:

- Kelly Corrigan
- M. Allen Cunningham
- Ron Hansen
- Catherine Ryan Hyde
- Lisa Lutz
- Ellen Sussman

[Big Box web site](#) _

[Press release](#)  [Press release](#) 

For further details about the Big Box program, authors, and scheduling, contact Sarah Kimmel: Kimmel - AT - plsinfo - DOT - org or 650-356-2129.

Out-of-School Online Homework Help Program Applications

Application form, instructions, and description for this LSTA-targeted grant for 2008-2009 are now available. Deadline: Friday, May 16, 2008 - [Link](#)

Events and Training

Gale and EBSCO - Databases, Enhancements and Forthcoming

Since the current three-year system database package is coming up for renewal, product managers and sales teams from Gale and EBSCO will conduct training at two locations. Both companies have expanded their content and enhanced their interfaces. Gale will explain their digital archive program, which can modify pricing, and introduce key new products.

Thursday, April 10, 2008 - [San Francisco Public Library](#) (Latino/Hispanic Room)

9:00am - 12:30pm - [Details and registration](#)

Thursday, April 17, 2008 - [San Jose Public Library](#)

9:00am - 12:30pm - [Details and registration](#)

Registration deadline: Friday, April 7, 2008

Music and Play for Babies and Toddlers with MaryLee Sunseri

In this workshop sponsored by the SVLS Children's Services Committee, [ALA Children's Notable](#) recording artist and [Parent's Choice](#) Gold winner [MaryLee Sunseri](#) will teach her techniques for young children's programs by singing and moving.

Thursday, March 27, 2008 - [Santa Clara City Library](#)

8:30am to noon - \$15 - [Details and registration](#)

Helping People to Help Themselves

Brainstorm and explore good instructional materials in written, audio, and video form in this Infopeople workshop. Attendees will create their own handout and short audio and video spots.

Thursday, April 17, 2008 - [Alameda County Library - Fremont](#)

9:00am - 4:00pm - \$75 - [Details and registration](#)

Who Are We Today? - Support Staff and Paraprofessional Conference

Sponsored by the Library Staff Development Committee of the Greater Bay Area, the 11th annual conference features [Jenifer Grady, Director](#), ALA APA ([American Library Association-Allied Professional Association](#).) [Agenda](#)

Tuesday, April 22, 2008 - [Berkeley Public Library - Central](#)

8:30am - 1:00pm - \$40 - [Registration](#)

Wednesday, April 23, 2008 - [San Jose Public Library](#)

8:30am - 12:30pm - \$40 - [Registration](#)

Registration deadline: Monday, April 21, 2008

XML for Librarians

This workshop, sponsored by [CLA-ACTSS](#) (Access, Collections and Technical Services

Section) and [NCTPG](#) (Northern California Technical Processes Group,) will introduce participants to extensible markup language (XML) through numerous examples, demonstrations and structured hands-on exercises. [Eric Lease Morgan](#), the featured speaker, is Head of [Digital Access and Information Architecture](#) at the University Libraries at Notre Dame University and the CEO of [Infomotions](#), which provides consulting, teaching, and computer programming services to libraries, librarians, and library organizations.

Wednesday, May 30, 2008 - [Santa Clara University Library](#)

9:00 am - 3:30 pm - \$95 - CLA and NCTPG members: \$80. Includes box lunch.

Limited to 35 participants. [Details and registration](#)

Spring Workshops

We Recommend - Readers Advisory with Duncan Smith

April 30 and May 1 - [Details](#)

Certified Public Library Administrator Local Courses

April 29-30, 2008: Fundraising with June Garcia

[Information, full schedule, instructor profiles, CPLA description and registration](#)

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News from Our Members

Sunnyvale Podcasts

When Steve Sloan launched Sunnyvale Public Library's first podcast in May 2006 at www.librarypodcasts.org, he was a pioneer in library podcasting. Instead of patrons' going to the library, the library came to them, via its audio-video blog, or vlog, of library programs and oral histories. The oral histories are 21 short memoirs by longtime Sunnyvale residents made by teen videographers between 1999 and 2001 as part of the *Sunnyvale Voices* digital storytelling grant. Previously, the stories were only available on VHS tapes, which had to be checked out at the library; now these stories are also available on [YouTube](#) and [Google Video](#).

Although the library issued a press release announcing the site's launch, the library has kept the podcasts' promotion to the public low-key, preferring to promote content, rather than its use of podcasts. The site is listed on libsucces.org, was in a primetime news story in Idaho about libraries' use of podcasting, has generated inquiries from other libraries, and is included in [Web 2.0 for Librarians and Information Professionals](#) by Ellyssa Kroski, just published by [Neal Schuman Publishers](#). The site receives about 550 unique visitors a month.

These are the sites and technology Steve uses to create the vlogs:

- [Wordpress.com](#) because it provides more customization options and has a plug-in or widget, [Podpress](#), to create attractive presentations


- Godaddy.com to host the site and [Ipswitch](#) FTP software for file transfer
- [Edirol MP3 Recorder R-1](#) for audio posts
- Digital video camera, [Adobe Premiere](#) to edit, and [QuickTime](#) to optimize the file for video posts

Steve's advice to other libraries:

- Focus on content.
- Have one RSS feed for the entire library. People get confused by separate feeds.
- Publish on [iTunes](#) also. Make content freely accessible wherever patrons are.
- Garner IT support for compatibility issues with browsers, plug-ins and editing RSS and PHP.

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BALIS/PLS/SVLS System Reference Center www.systemref.org

- For libraries to submit an article or a suggestion for *Search*, email Mary Beth Train at train-AT-plsinfo-DOT-org.
- Find *Search* archives at [Search Newsletters](#).
- We're part of the Library!
 - [Bay Area Library and Information System \(BALIS\)](#)
 - [Peninsula Library System \(PLS\)](#)
 - [Silicon Valley Library System \(SVLS\)](#)
 - [Monterey Bay Area Cooperative Library System \(MOBAC\)](#)
- To send a Second Level reference request:
 - [Web form](#)
 - Email us at info-AT-plsinfo-DOT-org
 - Fax: (650) 349-5089 or (800) 505-5583
 - Phone: (650) 349-5538 or (800) 644-6244
- [System Reference Center Flyer](#)  Use for staff orientation and training.

Who we are:

- Linda Crowe - Executive Director,
BALIS/MOBAC/PLS/SVLS
- Sarah Kimmel - Assistant Services Director
BALIS/MOBAC/PLS/SVLS
- Mary Beth Train - *Search* Editor
- Angel Kao - Program Assistant

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