

# System Reference Center

## Search Newsletter

July 2009  
Volume 30 No. 1

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### News You Can Use

#### Pacific Library Partnership (PLP)

As of July 1, 2009, under a joint powers agreement, BALIS, MOBAC, PLS, and SVLS now comprise the Pacific Library Partnership. PLP streamlines the systems' administrative tasks and offers opportunities to leverage technology to enhance service to members and, in turn, the public.

Watch for the unveiling of PLP's website and announcements of its structure and benefits.

#### Bigbox BETA

Big Box Programming, launched last spring with six authors participating, has launched a beta site, [Bigbox BETA](#), to utilize social networking for finding and scheduling speakers, and enhancing collaboration. To publicize your author programs and send suggestions and requests, [request a login](#).

When you receive your confirming email, then contribute your information about your programs, speakers, and schedules.

Bigbox BETA is only for library staff and book store staff. For more information:

Monica Schultz - [schultz-AT-plsinfo.org](mailto:schultz-AT-plsinfo.org)  
650-356-2120

#### Family Place Library Program LSTA Grant

Under the 2009-2010 *California Family Place Library Program*, public libraries will have a chance to apply for a competitive training grant that will allow up to 13 libraries to attend a *Family Place Training Institute* that will train librarians and administrators. These libraries will then be eligible to apply for a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Implementation Grant,

- [About Us](#)

up to \$15,000, to establish early childhood centers (toys, books, etc.) in local libraries.

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[California State Blog entry with details, links, and contact information](#). Before proceeding, please contact Bessie Condos - 916-651-0981 - bcondos AT - library.ca.gov.

Deadline: August 26, 2009

### **National Broadband Plan - [Broadband.gov](#)**

The Broadband Initiatives funded in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) are intended to accelerate broadband deployment across the United States. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will hold workshops August 12-September 3, to promote an open dialogue between the FCC and key constituents. As of *Search's* press time, libraries were not specifically mentioned as key constituents.

[Workshop schedule and contacts](#) - [Topic suggestions](#)

### **Stimulus Funds for Libraries**

The Broadband Initiative is just a part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA.) Here are some sites to utilize this information for your library:

[Know Your Stimulus](#) - American Library Association (ALA)

Programs, oversight, regulations, grants and more

[Stimulate Your Library: Local Uses of Federal Funds](#) - *American Libraries*

An overview of the library-specific provisions in ARRA

[Library & Museums Category](#) - [AFSCME Information Highway](#) - By the library of the [American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees](#)

Surveys, best practices, press releases and more

### **Libraries to the Rescue - IMLS Resources**

Since library use is on a steady rise and since the economic downturn has resulted in even greater need for library services. the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) introduced *Libraries to the Rescue* to share with libraries steps that other libraries have taken to help their communities. Five 12-15-minute episodes include increasing access to key information through virtual libraries, the importance of broadband access, and new partnerships between libraries and state and federal agencies.

[Podcasts](#) - [Podcast presenters' toolkits and resources](#) - [IMLS library studies](#)

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## **Events and Training**

## **Open Source Library Software (OSLS): Empowering Libraries – Creating Opportunities**

Open Source Library Systems (OSLS), such as [Koha](#) or [Evergreen](#), give libraries control over features, enhancements, and hardware platforms. Sponsored by the Califa Digital Resources Group, this workshop led by Lori Ayres and Cheryl Gould features lectures, group discussions and group activities. With a new relationship to their library system software, library staff at all levels can participate in making the library experience better for staff and patrons. The workshop is for techies and non-techies alike, and discussions will be about support options, collaboration possibilities, and the ways your library can get involved with an OSLS project.

Tuesday, August 4, 2009 - [Milpitas Library](#), Activity Room

Address: 160 Main Street, Milpitas 95035 - [Directions](#)

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

Information, including late registration:

Heather Teysko - hteysko AT - califa.org

## **Overview of Open Source Library Software (OSLS) Webinar Archive**

*Open Source Library System Software: Libraries Are Doing it For Themselves*

Tuesday, July 21 - 12:00pm - 1:00pm - [Archive at Infopeople](#)

## **Califa Vendor Fair** - Thursday, August 27, 2009 - Santa Clara University Library

This full-day event will feature hour-long demos from many Califa vendors, giving members an opportunity to delve deeper into learning about updates, future plans, and training than would normally be possible without a site visit. The day will be broken up into six demo periods, during which time the attendee may choose from up to 8 demonstrations at each period to attend. The day will end with an optional tour of the new Santa Clara University Library.

Thursday, August 27, 2009 - [Santa Clara University Library](#)

8:30am - 4:00pm - [Overview and Vendor List](#) - [Registration](#) - [Directions](#)

Cost includes breakfast and lunch: Non-member: \$30 - Member: \$20

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## **Reference Picks**

### **Foreclosure Information for Owners and Renters**

Find reliable information on avoiding foreclosure, deciding on foreclosure, mortgages and loans, and help for renters from these sites.

Foreclosure in California - [www.foreclosureinforca.org](http://www.foreclosureinforca.org)

Links to agencies, advice on mortgages, loans and avoiding foreclosure, and finding legal help. Information in English and Spanish brought together by [LawHelpCA](#), with support from the State Bar of California, [California Bar Foundation](#) and [Public Interest Clearinghouse](#).

Center for California Homeowner Association Law (CCCHAL) - [www.calhomelaw.org](http://www.calhomelaw.org)

Help for condo owners in English and Spanish, including workshops and information on filing complaints.

### [Foreclosure Sites Selected by the System Reference Center](#)

#### **Program Planning "Day" and "Month" Events**

Publicity templates, educational tools, booklists, and program planning ideas are in each link. Some events lend themselves to collaboration with schools and community organizations.

[Smithsonian Heritage Months](#) . [February](#) - [March](#) - [May](#) - [September](#) - [November](#)

[KQED Heritage Months](#) - [February](#) - [March](#) - [May](#) - [June](#) - [September](#) - [October](#) - [November](#)

Reading is Fundamental - [rif.org](#) - Reading Rockets - [readingrockets.org](#)

#### **July and August - Reading!**

[California Summer Reading Program](#) - [Children](#) - [Teens](#) - [Adults](#)

[Bay Area Literacy Programs \(BALIT\)](#) - [BAYLIT Webliography](#) - [Literacy Works.org](#) - [California Library Literacy Services](#) - [LibraryLiteracy.org](#)

[California Reading List](#) - [ALA YALSA Book Awards and Reading Lists](#) - [Reading is Fundamental \(RIF\)](#) and [American Library Association Children's Reading Lists](#)

#### **NEW** [Rebecca's Pocket](#)

Rebecca Blood has an extensive list of reading list sites and reviews of good reads which she updates weekly. The lists include fiction, thrillers, "chick lit," travel, cooking, gardening, history, and politics. Posts include separate sections for book lists for children and young adults.

#### **September**

##### **Hispanic Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15**

For an authoritative, easy-to-use list for programming and school reports, see these [eleven sites](#), the result of a search on [Librarians Internet Index](#), using "Hispanic Heritage Month" as a search term in the search box. Tap into the media your patrons see in grocery store circulars and Sotomayor media coverage to showcase your library's resources.

##### **Library Card Sign-up Month**

Tap into the publicity generated by "Back to School" advertising and the media coverage on the effect of the California budget on education funding to promote your library's databases, webliographies, and catalog.

[ALA publicity materials](#) - [Read Write Think](#)

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### News from Our Members

#### Big Read Grant for Hayward

[Hayward Public Library](#) was one of 269 nation-wide awardees of a [Big Read grant for 2009-2010](#). The grant was for \$20,000, and the book is [Bless Me, Ultima](#).

The [Big Read](#) is funded by grants from the [NEA](#) and the [IMLS](#). It is designed to encourage reading as a part of the American cultural experience by promoting community partnerships for events planned around a single book, which the community reads. Almost all grants are awarded to applicants which have at least one public library in the partnership.

#### We're Back! / Salinas Reborn

Salinas Public Library Director, Elizabeth Martinez, summarizes the comeback of the [Salinas Public Library](#) from its loss of funding in 2004 to the present on page 42 in the March 2009 issue of *American Libraries*, the monthly members magazine published by the American Library Association. There is an [online](#) version of this article on the site of Mayor Dennis Donohue. However, only the print version has a chronology of some of the major events.

#### Library Re-openings

San Francisco Public Library

- [Richmond/Senator Milton Marks](#) - May 16, 2009 - [Historical Views](#) - [Opening day report and photos](#) - [Press release](#)

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If your library has interesting statistics or press releases about services which other libraries could adapt or replicate, please share them with your staff, post them on committee listservs, and send them to [Mary Beth Train](#) for inclusion in *Search*. One good idea begets another!


*Corrections:* The online version contains post-publication corrections. Send your corrections to [Mary Beth Train](#).

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**BALIS/PLS/SVLS System Reference Center**

[www.systemref.org](http://www.systemref.org)

- For libraries to submit an article or a suggestion for *Search*, email Mary Beth Train at [train-AT-plsinfo-DOT-org](mailto: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](mailto: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
- Mary Beth Train - *Search* Editor
- Angel Kao - Program Assistant

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Volume 30 Number 1

*Search* is published bi-monthly: January, March, May, July, September, November

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