

Amigos Pasa?

The Official Newsletter of Amigos Library Services

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Amigos Announces Western Resource Sharing Agreement

Amigos has announced the formation of the *Western Resource Sharing Agreement* as a successor to the *Amigos/BCR Reciprocal Interlibrary Loan Agreement*. The move coincides with the pending dissolution of the Denver-based Bibliographical Center for Research (BCR).

In a statement about the agreement, Bonnie Juergens, President and Chief Executive Officer of Amigos, said, "As changes occur in network relationships for BCR libraries, Amigos is pleased to be able to continue sponsorship of this important program that will allow Amigos member libraries to retain long-standing resource sharing relationships."

Continuing Education Librarian Tim Prather is coordinating the program for Amigos. Tim notes there is no cost to participate in the agreement and all Amigos and BCR members are eligible.



Tim Prather

All current Amigos and BCR participants are invited to continue, and no action is required on their part to do so. Tim has requested that those libraries wishing to opt out of the agreement contact him at 1-800-848-5878, ext. 2892, or prather@amigos.org. He adds that Amigos and BCR member libraries that have not previously participated but would like to be included in the new agreement should complete and submit the form found at <http://www.amigos.org/node/571>. Amigos has

set December 31, 2010, as the deadline for current BCR member libraries to sign on to the agreement.

The complete text of the *Western Resource Sharing Agreement* can be found at http://www.amigos.org/sites/default/files/amigos_western_resource_sharing_agree.pdf. QP

Also in this issue...

Upcoming Online Conferences	Pg. 2
Mobile Phone Apps.....	Pg. 3
Amigos Learning Passports.....	Pg. 3
Amigos to Present at AZLA, ARLA.....	Pg. 4

Amigos Expands Fellowship Program

Amigos has introduced enhancements to its longtime fellowship program that seek to inspire member library creativity and innovation. By funding a wider range of projects, the expanded program – now known as the Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Award – will appeal to member libraries in greater numbers. With the newly published guidelines, Amigos hopes to foster more competition for funds and address member requests for flexibility in use of the funds.

Amigos Senior Operations Manager Laura Kimberly commented on the enhanced fellowship program. "We will be looking for libraries of all types to be as creative as possible in their proposals. We want to put funding out there that will significantly impact member libraries, librarians, and the communities they serve. To that end, we will encourage proposals that stress innovation, cooperation, leadership, and education within libraries, their communities, and the library profession. The revised guidelines, with the addition of the Opportunity Award component, open up the fellowship award program to more members and will hopefully encourage innovative thinking in their proposals, ultimately benefiting all Amigos members."

The program is a continuation of the Amigos Fellowship Program established by the Amigos Board of Directors in 1990. Over its 20-year history, member-involved selection committees have awarded over \$80,000 to foster research and development of resource sharing capabilities among Amigos member libraries. With the program's expansion, selection committees will give greater consideration to projects marked by innovation and development of new library services.

Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Award funds will be awarded to one or more projects per year through a competitive selection process. Project proposals may be submitted by an Amigos member library or an individual librarian at an Amigos member library. Final applications for 2011 Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Awards are due March 1, 2011. Amigos strongly encourages applicants to submit their proposals for preliminary review. The deadline for submitting a draft for preliminary review is January 20, 2011. Amigos will host an online information session on September 20, 2010. For complete Amigos Fellowship and Opportunity Award details, go to [Guidelines for Application](#). QP

Viewpoint from the Chair

Since last year, the Amigos Board of Directors has been actively engaged in exploring possibilities for future member services. In that effort we have examined a number of promising program initiatives, prioritizing them in terms of importance and usefulness to Amigos members. Our members have helped greatly in this process through participation in surveys and individual discussion. My thanks go to all those who participated. We have analyzed member input and determined we should move forward with one initiative in particular.



Bill Hair

I am pleased to share the exciting news that Amigos will begin a pilot project over the next 12 to 18 months to test the feasibility of providing hosted open-source Integrated Library Systems (ILS) services for Amigos members. Amigos has already been incorporating open-source topics into its Continuing Education programs.

In our surveys and discussions with Amigos members, we learned the top three benefits Amigos members perceive about a hosted open-source ILS are:

- host-provided technical support for hardware and software
- lower total cost of ownership
- shared expenses among participating libraries

A number of Amigos member libraries have expressed interest in participating in the pilot program. If you have any questions or comments about the pilot program or are interested in participating, please contact [Robert Watkins](#) at Amigos.

We'll be sharing more information about the pilot project as it moves along. In the meantime, [I invite you to contact me or any Amigos Board member](#) with any questions or comments you may have. We are enthusiastic about an Amigos-hosted open-source ILS for Amigos members, and look forward to turning this promising idea into reality.

Bill Hair, Chair, Amigos Board of Directors

Highlights of August 6 Amigos Board of Directors Meeting

At the August 6, 2010, Amigos Board of Directors meeting in Dallas, Directors approved a management proposal for Amigos to develop a new member service hosting open source integrated library systems. Amigos Chief Operations Officer Robert Watkins will spearhead a pilot project designed to engage member libraries in implementing the new service. Those Amigos member libraries interested in participating in the pilot project should email [Robert Watkins](#) or dial 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2823. (See Amigos' Board Chair Bill Hair's "Viewpoint from the Chair" column announcing the project in this issue.)

As is customary in the first meeting of a new fiscal year, Directors shared environmental information about libraries in their states. Sharing such information helps Directors better understand issues across the region and alerts Amigos staff to recent activities that may influence services from Amigos.

In his Chair's report, Bill Hair, Baylor University Libraries, reported on the Directors Orientation session held the previous day. He also announced the appointment of board members to the Budget and Finance Committee: Patrick Heath, Independent Director (Chair); Charlie Kalogeros-Chattan, Los Alamos County (NM) Library System; Art Lichtenstein, Torreyson Library, University of Central Arkansas; and Ken Morris, Independent Director. He also reported that Carla Stoffle, University of Arizona Libraries and Center for Creative Photography, will chair the Nominating Committee.

Treasurer Patrick Heath reported that the unaudited year-end financial report for FY2010, ending June 30, 2010, showed a net operational performance above the planned level, with realized and unrealized net gains on investments of over \$600,000. Amigos Chief Financial Officer Charles Cason reported that the Dallas accounting firm Weaver LLP is currently performing the FY2010 audit, scheduled to be completed in early September.

Director Anne Prestamo, newly-elected Chair of the OCLC Americas Regional Council, reported on a June 24-25 [Council meeting](#) held in Washington, DC, in conjunction with the American Library Association's annual conference.

Amigos Chief Executive Officer Bonnie Juergens provided various reports to update Directors on the operations of the organization.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be December 3, 2010. *QP*

Amigos Schedules Green, RDA Online Conferences

Amigos will host two online conferences in the coming months.

Going Green @ Your Library 2: Working Green, Teaching Green is set for November 3 as a follow-up to last year's well-received online conference *Going Green @ Your Library: Lean, Green, Clean Ideas*. *Going Green 2* will offer the latest information on the many aspects of environmentally conscious librarianship, from reference service to buildings and maintenance.

The keynote speaker will be Monika Antonelli, co-editor of the forthcoming *Greening Libraries* (Library Juice Press, 2011) and Reference/Instruction Librarian at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Conference organizers are currently seeking presenters and invite those with presentation

ideas to complete the submission form. Proposals will be accepted until September 30. Questions about the conference should be directed to greenlibs@amigos.org.

RDA @ Your Library is scheduled for February 4, 2011. The balanced program will address a variety of topics and views, including concepts behind Resource Description and Access (RDA), the RDA Toolkit, RDA's impact on library metadata, training, implementation, and considerations in making the choice to implement or not.

Conference speakers include Barbara Tillett, Library of Congress; Michael Gorman, California State University, Fresno; Diane Hillmann, Metadata Management Associates, and J. McRee "Mac" Elrod, Special Libraries Cataloging. Additionally, various integrated library systems vendors will present information on RDA's impact on their systems. ALA Publishing will

conduct a presentation on Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, Second Edition (AACR2)-to-RDA from the co-publishers perspective. OCLC will present a view of RDA and OCLC.

RDA launched June 23, 2010, designed to replace the existing AACR2. The USA national libraries – the Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine, and National Agriculture Library – chose to test RDA prior to implementation to ensure its operational, technical, and economic feasibility. Learn more about the testing process and partnerships on the [Library of Congress](#) website.

Individual registration for each online conference is \$89. [Amigos Learning Passport](#) holders are eligible for a no-charge registration for one or both of these conferences. *QP*

Amigos Vendor Partners Rolling Out Mobile Apps

How big are mobile apps?

A recent article in *Nonprofit Tech 2.0* offered this illuminating observation on how smartphones are transforming Internet access. Its July 13 article, “[Five Reasons Why Nonprofit Communicators Need Smartphones](#),” noted that one in five Americans access the mobile web daily.

New mobile apps (applications) are launched daily and currently number in the hundreds of thousands, as smartphones proliferate and their owners become more mobile-savvy and demanding of new uses. Like many areas of modern society, libraries are quickly discovering value in reaching their smartphone-equipped patrons. Recognizing this, Amigos’ vendor partners are rapidly developing and deploying smartphone apps.

Amigos’ newest vendor partner is [Boopsie](#), which bills itself as the “industry leading complete mobile solution for libraries and colleges.” Through Boopsie, library patrons can access their library account, find the nearest branch, contact the library, browse for books, CDs and DVDs, and much more.

Here’s a sampling of other currently available mobile apps:

- The H.W. Wilson Company has developed [WilsonWeb Mobile](#) for the iPhone®, Android, Blackberry phones and other devices. Wilson says the mobile app will be able to duplicate the quality search results users have come to expect from WilsonWeb databases.



- Mango Languages is offering [Mobile Mango](#) as a free app downloadable at the iTunes® store for iPhones, iPads,™ and iPod Touches®. Amigos members receive a five percent discount on Mango Languages subscriptions.



- Naxos offers two mobile apps: [Naxos Music Library](#) and [Naxos Music Library Jazz](#) through the iTunes® store.



- Alexander Street Press has launched mobile access to its complete line of streaming music collections, including [Classical Music Library](#), [Jazz Music Library](#), and [Smithsonian Global Sound® for Libraries](#). At present, the publisher supports mobile access for all Android and iPhone devices, including the iPod Touch and iPad. Later this year, it plans to release streaming access to its nine video collections, including [American History in Video](#), [Dance in Video](#), and [Ethnographic Video Online](#).



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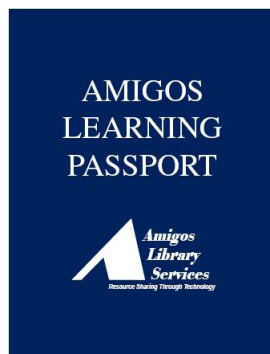
Amigos members receive discounts on these and other subscriptions when ordering through Amigos Member Discount Services. To find out what discounts are available, [contact a Member Discount Program representative](#). *QP*

Want to Be Featured in *¿Que Pasa?*

Do you have a creative way to engage patrons? Doing something innovative at your library? We want to help you spread the word! Contact Larry Godwin, godwin@amigos.org, for the opportunity to be featured in an issue of *¿Que Pasa?*

Amigos Members Purchase Learning Passports

On July 1, 2010, Amigos unveiled Learning Passports, a new prepayment training program available exclusively to Amigos members. Learning Passports allow convenient prepayment for training and related services at discounted prices.



Learning Passport plans entitle purchasers to attend regional training, participate in Amigos’ popular *Know & Go* update sessions, and register for online conferences Amigos has scheduled on topics ranging from reference to RDA. Current Learning Passports are valid through June 30, 2011. Once a library purchases a

plan, any staff member from that library may use it. As an added convenience, Amigos will track the number of Learning Passport units used by a member library throughout the year.

Amigos members may choose from either a \$500 or \$1,000 Learning Passport based on their anticipated needs.

The \$500 plan consists of:

- 6 units of regional training, up to a \$500 value
- access to all 18 *Know & Go* sessions, a \$450 value
- one online conference registration, an \$89 value
- a 10 percent discount on additional training throughout the year for regional or on-request classes

The \$1,000 plan consists of:

- 14 Units of Regional Training, up to a \$1,500 value
- access to all 18 *Know & Go* sessions, a \$450 value
- two online conference registrations, a \$178 value
- a 15 percent discount on additional training throughout the year for regional or on-request classes

If these plans do not completely meet a member’s needs, Amigos will customize plans especially for them upon request.

Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) in San Antonio, TX. is a recent purchaser. SwRI’s Sally Krash explained that her institution, like many Amigos members, has a minimal budget for staff training. Learning Passports offer them a way to effectively stretch their training dollars further. “Initially, we were going to purchase the \$500 plan, but within 24 hours, we realized that we needed the \$1,000 plan,” Sally noted. “We will definitely use the 14 units of regional training. Also, we like the *Know & Go* updates, which were a major selling point for us. This will give us the opportunity to have ongoing monthly staff development activities. We will schedule 30 minutes after each session for discussion on how that session topic affects our operations.”

“We packed the Learning Passport with a lot of value,” said Laura Kimberly, Senior Operations Manager, Support and Education Services for Amigos. “More and more members are becoming aware of this new program and the bargain it truly is. We saw Passport holders among the registrations for the August 31 reference conference and in courses over the last two months.”

For more information about Learning Passports or to purchase a plan, Amigos invites member libraries to complete the [online enrollment form](#) or contact Chris Brown at Amigos, 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2829, or brown@amigos.org. *QP*

Amigos to Present Programs, Exhibit at ARLA, AZLA Conferences

Arkansas

Amigos staff will present five programs at the upcoming Arkansas Library Association's annual conference, September 26-28, 2010, at the Statehouse Convention Center in Hot Springs.



Arkansas Library Association

Sunday, September 26, Continuing Education Librarian Arta Kabashi will present *Open Source Tools for the Reference Desk* from 2:00 – 2:50 p.m. in the Caraway

I Room. Continuing Education Librarian Christine Peterson will present *Cloud Computing: Pie in the Sky?* from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Izard Room, and *Catching Up with Technology* from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Izard Room.

Monday, September 27, Imaging Field Services Officer Bill Walker will present *Defining Digital Projects* from 10:00 – 10:50 a.m. in the Caraway II Room. Imaging & Preservation Service Manager Gina Minks will present *Arkansas IMLS Connecting to Collections Grant-Findings and Next Steps* from 4:00 – 4:50 p.m. in the Caraway II Room.

Additionally, all attendees are encouraged to visit the Amigos booth in the exhibit hall and chat with Amigos staff. Exhibit hours are 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Sunday, September 26, and 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday, September 27.

Arizona

Amigos staff will present four programs at the upcoming Arizona Library Association's annual conference, November 15 – 17, 2010, at the Radisson Fort McDowell Resort in Scottsdale/Fountain Hills.



Wednesday, November 17, Continuing Education Librarian Christine Peterson will present *Cloud Computing: Pie in the*

Sky? from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. in Room 101. From 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Christine will also present *10 Steps to an Outstanding Webinar* in Room 108, and *Catching Up with Technology* from 2:20 – 3:20 p.m. in Room 101. Imaging Field Services Officer Bill Walker will present *Defining Digital Projects* from 3:40 – 4:40 p.m. in Room 106.

Conference attendees are also invited to stop by the Amigos booth in the exhibit hall and visit with Amigos staff. Exhibit hours are 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. November 16 and 17. *QP*

Welcome to the Newest Amigos Members!

St. John's School Libraries

Mrs. Maribel Castro
Librarian/Technologist
Houston, TX
Join date: August 2010

Art Institute of Fort Worth

Ms. Ashlie Mildfelt
Assistant Librarian
Fort Worth, TX
Join date: September 2010

Member Job Bank

Member libraries can post their openings for free. Please submit your vacancy descriptions to tgay@amigos.org.

Amigos will post openings for 30 days (or longer upon request) at http://www.amigos.org/job_bank.

Subscribe to AmigosNow

AmigosNow is the bi-monthly digest of the Amigos news feeds on topics of interest to Amigos members.

Click [here](#) to subscribe.



View the Amigos Continuing Education Services Training Schedule at <http://www.amigos.org/node/218> for an up-to-date training schedule and registration information.

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