



Letter from the Chairperson:

MLA Annual Conference was a big success this year for the Paralibrarian Section. I'm excited to report seven PARA Certifications were conferred to some well deserving, hard-working, forward thinking paralibrarians in Massachusetts Libraries. These people received PARA Certifications at levels 1, 2 and 3, and are eager to bring the PARA certification to their coworkers.

Karen presented the PARA Certifications after the Section Annual Meeting with a lively Q&A discussion. She also co-presented a Staff Training program about "Bite Sized Learning" and no cost staff development. The program was packed with over 70 attendees, and Karen presented a similar program at the Rhode Island conference the next week. She is a great resource and please don't hesitate to contact her with your questions about the PARA or staff training.

The Paralibrarian Award recipients and nominees received great cheers at the Awards Gala dinner. And welcome PARA Recipient Heather Maganzini to the Section support team appointed to coordinate Awards for 2018. Heather works at the Tewksbury Library. Thanks to her library director who advocates for paralibrarian staff to get involved and develop career opportunities.

The video Book Cart Drill Team was a lot of fun and DEMCO once again was a generous sponsor. Teams split \$500 in DEMCO gift certificates, plus trophies and cheers. The 1st place winning Arlington Rockin' Robbins performed a specular, artistic video. The Reading Rollers followed with open hearts inviting you to visit their remodeled library. Get your BCDT video ready for 2018 because DEMCO has generously agreed to sponsor again!

Join the Paralibrarian Section with fresh ideas to *WoW!* at the 2018 Conference in Framingham. Want a mentor to guide you through the PARA Certification or how to film a BCDT video? Contact me or any of the Section Board members for more information. Calendar of meeting dates on page 2.

Submitted by Paralibrarian Chairperson, Allison Sloan

**MLA CONFERENCE
LIBRARIES:
OUR COMMON WEALTH
MAY 21-23, 2018**

2017 WINNERS

PARA Certificate Recipients: Levels I; II; III; IV*



**Developed and implemented by the
MLA Paralibrarian Section****

Level I: Irene Cunningham -Concord Free Library
James Graham-Dedham House of Corrections
Heather Maganzini -Tewksbury Library
Rachel Mimms - Gale Free Library

Level II: Judith Fallon - Gordon Library/WPI, and
Kevin Mackenzie - West Springfield PL

Level III: Stacey Charbonneau - Concord Free Library

OUTSTANDING PARALIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR

Winner: April Noel - Springfield Tech. Comm. College

Nominees: Roxanne Boyd - Jones Library, Amherst,
Joseph Ferreira - Watertown Public Lib.
Meghan Forsell - Somerville Public Lib.
East Branch
Danielle Mattei - Worcester Public Library
Catherine Novick -Worcester Public Library
Circ. Staff (all) - Robbins Library, Arlington

PARALIBRARIAN ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

Winner: Nancy Milone Hill - Dracut Public Library.
She received 3 nominations!

Paralibrarian Awards

Brag! Blab! Share! Tell! Nominate! Who's a shining star in your circle of library staffers? Someone who goes above and beyond their regular job description and contributes to the broader network, region and statewide? There are so many amazing paralibrarians and librarians to recognize that the MLA Paralibrarian Section presents the **Outstanding Paralibrarian of the Year** and the **Paralibrarian Advocate of the Year** Awards every year.

Heather Maganzini, from Tewksbury Library, is coordinating the Paralibrarian Awards for 2018 Conference. Heather is a paralibrarian in the Children's Room and earned a PARA Certification this year. She joined the Paralibrarian Section to broaden her career opportunities by contributing and participating in MLA on a statewide level.

Staffers are "Our Common Wealth." Help Heather by nominating Outstanding Paralibrarians and an Advocate (who can be a librarian or paralibrarian). Go to <http://masslib.org/ParalibrarianAwardsWeb2017> (soon to be updated for 2018) for more info. Link to nomination forms, or contact Heather for details. The deadline to submit a nomination is March 9th, but don't wait! Brag! Blab! Share! Tell! Nominate!

SECTION MEETING DATES 2017-2018

Meetings are on Thursdays 10:00AM to Noon

November 16, 2017: Medfield Public Library

January 18, 2018: Skype

February 15, 2018: Skype

March 15: Middleboro Public Library

April 12: Skype

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?>

PARA Certification

Submission Dates:

11/10/2017 and 3/2/2018

Deadline to submit Award Nominations:
3/9/2018

For More News!!

*Join the Paralibrarian discussion list to receive news,
events and other information!*

<http://mblc.state.ma.us/sympa/info/paralibrarians>

[MA Paralibrarians on Facebook](#)

[MA Paralibrarians on Twitter](#)

[MA Paralibrarians on Pinterest](#)

[MA Paralibrarian Blog](#)



Show off your Library's Common Wealth at 2018 MLA Conference

What is your common wealth? What makes your library great? Are you having a community read this year? Introducing a hot new service? Offering new, unique programs? Showing off a new space in your library? Or a new library of things? Share your news with an eye catching book cart drill team video! Your patrons, trustees, Friends and town officials will love it! Then you can submit it for the book cart drill team competition at the MLA annual conference in Framingham May 2018! Check out the book cart drill team promo video from Andover to promote their community read in 2016. <https://vimeo.com/166386059> It was well received by patrons, our friends loved it (and some even participated) and Andover's new town manager thought it was awesome!

Rules and guidelines are available online at www.masslib.org/paralibrarian. Nifty trophies to show off to your patrons and money to spend at DEMCO! The book cart drill team competition is sponsored by DEMCO!

Rules and registration material are located at <http://www.masslib.org/paralibrarian>

Watch a **drill team video**



<https://mlaparalibrarian.wordpress.com/2016/05/16/2016-book-cart-drill-team-videos/>

Submitted by Gerry Deyermond, Past Chairperson of MLA Paralibrarian Section Book Cart Drill Team Coordinator