Name and address April 10, 2015

Dear First Name:

This year, National Volunteer Week and National Library Week are both being celebrated from April 12 through April 18. It must be karma or something. What better time could there be to thank you for giving so generously of yourself to the California State Library. So many people benefit in so many ways from what you do here.

So much so, we’ve been trying to engage even more volunteers over the past couple of years. Our statistics -- thanks for submitting the timesheets they’re based on – show a 76 percent increase in volunteer hours in 2014 over 2013. To say, “You Rock,” is understatement.

Here are a few of the terrific projects you and other volunteers accomplished in 2014:

* Inspected over 600,000 audio books and cleaned and repaired over 2,200 cassette and digital talking book players (Braille and Talking Book Library).
* Set up a browsing collection of 500 Digital Talking Book titles in the public reading room and recorded 10 titles for *Californiana* talking book collection (Braille and Talking Book Library).
* Added 308 links to online versions of California description and travel books in our collection, making them available to anybody with web access (Tech Services).
* Preserved items of historical importance and made them accessible to our patrons (California History Section).
* Helped streamline our volunteer recruitment, application and interview process to reach out to more volunteers and successfully fill a variety of new positions (Library Development Services).
* Designed and implemented a statewide public relations campaign to recruit volunteer tutors for the 30th Anniversary of the statewide adult literacy program (Library Development Services).
* Identified, measured, and recorded the more than 500 rare cataloged and un-cataloged maps in the Sutro Library vault. (Sutro Library).

Your gift of time to the California State Library, your energy and your special skills make a real difference. By volunteering, you help us provide the highest quality service to our patrons across the state and beyond.

Libraries are a unique community resource filled with information, creativity and imagination. You’re an ambassador spreading the magic of libraries and the joy of giving. Your unique talents help us get the J-O-B done but also help others see the rich return that comes from giving freely of yourself.

So whether you’ve been donating your time for many years, or just recently joined our team, please accept the State Library’s sincerest and warmest thanks.

Respectfully yours,

Greg Lucas

California State Librarian