



Promoting and enhancing library services in southwest Louisiana.

What is "Libraries Southwest?"

Libraries Southwest (LSW) is a non-profit consortium made up of various libraries, librarians, trustees, and individuals interested in the promotion and enhancement of libraries and library services in Southwest Louisiana.

In 1998, LSW was designed to provide regional decision-makers in the library world with opportunities to share ideas, solutions, and knowledge.

More importantly, the combined resources of Libraries Southwest allows member libraries to offer to their patrons services and programs they might not otherwise be able to provide.

Institutional Members

Public Parish

Libraries:

Allen
Beauregard
Calcasieu
Cameron
Evangeline
Jeff Davis
Vernon

School & Academic

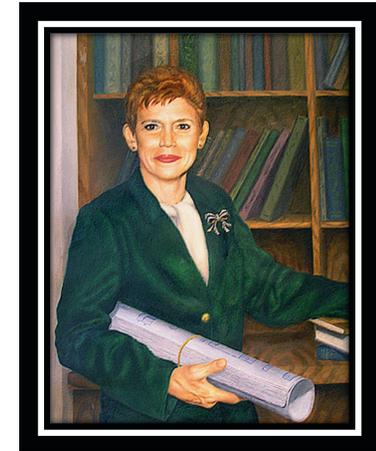
Libraries:

Calcasieu Schools
Frazar Memorial
Northwestern State @
Ft. Polk
Sowela Technical &
Community College.

How does Libraries Southwest benefit me?

There are many benefits available to you through your library, thanks to your library's membership in LSW. Some of these include:

- LSW library card from your home library that allows check-out privileges at Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jeff Davis, and Vernon parish public libraries. See reverse for more information.
- Access to regional special collections including: tourism (Allen), grant writing (Beauregard), genealogy (Calcasieu), archival collections of area historical documents (Frazier Memorial and Vernon), and federal and state government documents (Vernon).
- Access to services individual libraries may not have been able to otherwise afford. OverDrive digital library is one example of this.
- Better library service resulting from LSW - sponsored staff development workshops and monthly meetings.
- Annual Author's Dinner, an evening meal accompanied by a presentation from a regional author. *This is a paid event.



Lynda Carlberg Award

Lynda Carlberg was the former director of the Calcasieu Parish Library System, 1978-1997. She was active in state, regional and national library activities. She was a founding member and, indeed, the heart of Libraries Southwest.

The Carlberg Award was established to honor the memory of a dear friend, and to honor special individuals for their contributions to Libraries.

A list of previous recipients of the Carlberg Award can be found online at library.beau.org/lsw/carlberg.



Who needs an LSW library card?

Residents of Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jeff Davis, and Vernon Parishes who wish to use any other of these parish's public libraries should ask for a Libraries Southwest card.

Who is eligible for an LSW library card?

Residents of the parishes listed above who have an existing library account in good standing may apply for an LSW card.

How do I get an LSW library card?

The quickest way to get an LSW card is to visit your home parish library and fill out an application. If, however, you visit one of the other parish libraries, you may still complete an LSW card application.

This library will issue a temporary card* and send your application to your home library. Your home library will mail your card and/or a response letter to you.

*usage restrictions may apply while using a temporary card

Where do I use my LSW library card?

Your LSW card may be used at any branch of the following public library systems:

Allen Parish
Beauregard Parish
Calcasieu Parish
Cameron Parish
Jeff Davis Parish
Vernon Parish

What do I do if there's a problem with my LSW card?

After you have received your LSW card, if you experience difficulties trying to use it, ask the library clerk helping you for more information. If you are not at your home library, ask the clerk to call your home library for details.

Some, but not all, issues may be resolved over the phone so your transaction can be completed.

What else do I need to know about my LSW card?

It is important to note that each library system has its own rules and terms of service. You may find different checkout limits or time limits for computer usage, etc. in various library systems. If you have questions, feel free to ask any library employee. He or she will help you find the answers you need.

A final note:

The intent of the LSW card is to provide you with the most and best possible library services, in the locations most convenient to you.

If you find the LSW card and services to be helpful, please consider contacting your home library to let us know you use and appreciate the LSW features. Your feedback helps keep us moving in the right direction!