

# Latah County Library District

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT May 2008

### Activity Summary

As always, questions are welcome.

- ✓ We are on track for the trustee election on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Candidates John S. Pool and William (Bill) A. Warren are on the ballot and there were no write-in petitions submitted. Thanks to Patti Roberts for stepping forward to serve as Clerk of the board and help with election issues.
- ✓ A search to fill the custodial vacancy at the Moscow Library closed on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The search committee is currently scheduling interviews.
- ✓ A search to fill the 20-hour Library Assistant II position opened May 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ The library celebrated National Volunteer Week by sending thank you letters and a special bookplate to over 140 people who gave their time to the library in the past year. Library staff hosted a reception honoring LCLD volunteers at the Moscow Library the evening of May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ The information compiled to resolve the shared Employer Identification Number problem was mailed to the IRS on April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ The library's attorney Jack Porter received a copy of the packet and is pursuing the issue of a legal name change for the library district.
- ✓ Four staff members attended the three day "Vendor Demo Days" event in Spokane on April 22-24<sup>th</sup>. This was extremely helpful in understanding what software options lie before public and academic libraries.
- ✓ Six staff members participated in the regional Idaho Library Association (ILA) conference in Clarkston on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ The Food for Fines campaign ended April 25<sup>th</sup>. Over 800 pounds of food was collected and sent to food banks throughout the county.
- ✓ The grant to The Circle, seeking funding for the planned xeriscape garden at the Moscow Library was not approved. However, two University of Idaho students presented their proposed garden plans to several library managers in early May. These detailed plans will strengthen future funding requests.
- ✓ I attended the Moscow Friends of the Library meeting on Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Youth Services Manager Cathy Ensley wrote a column thanking library volunteers and promoting summer reading activities for publication in the Daily News and the Latah Eagle.
- ✓ I wrote a column "WIN-Borrow from a wider collection @ your library" for the same papers.
- ✓ The committee to investigate heat pumps for installation at the Potlatch library continues its work. Currently we are waiting for results of a study on different types of systems.
- ✓ We continue to work with Washington Idaho Network staff on doing the first batch update of our library's holdings in the OCLC WorldCat catalog. This week WIN staff reported sending the first batch to OCLC.
- ✓ I attended the VALNet Directors' meeting in Clarkston on May 8<sup>th</sup>. A representative from the WIN consortium was present and sought feedback on Vendor Demo Days presentations.
- ✓ The Library District Foundation met on April 25<sup>th</sup> in Moscow. The Foundation also has a special committee meeting regularly to plan a major fundraiser in fall 2009.

### Department and Branch Reports

#### Adult Services – Chris Sokol

- ✚ The "Three Cups of Tea" events attracted quite a large portion of the Palouse community. Financial support from the Friends of the Moscow Library helped support speaking engagements by author David Relin at Moscow High School, both Relin and Greg Mortenson at the Kenworthy (for UI students) and in the evening at Memorial Gym, with an overflow crowd watching a live stream in the UI Admin Auditorium. The Friends and the library received public recognition as key supporters of this community-wide collaboration.
- ✚ "Selling on eBay" program on April 9 was attended by over 40 people. The presenter was Linda Sundstrom, the postmaster at Genesee and Troy resident.
- ✚ April display: Celebration of National Midwives' Day on May 5.

- ✚ Upcoming program: "Mining Idaho's History: Picking Your Way Through the Past" on May 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the 1912 Center in Moscow. Reed Lewis and Earl Bennett will speak about the mining history and geology of Latah County, with displays by various groups including the LCLD.
- ✚ Despite having my "New at the Library" column cut from the last two Co-op monthly newsletters, I'm persevering and submitted another one for May.
- ✚ Moscow Library Book Club titles for May:
  - Daytime group: *Pope Joan* by Diana Woolfolk Cross
  - Evening group: *Night* by Elie Wiesel

### Outreach Services – Betsy Bybell

There were lots of special events happening in April. A quick review –

- Storytelling for Arbor Day at the Juliaetta Library
- Special storytime for the final one for year at the Potlatch Library
- Family Fun Fair booth at Palouse Mall, split time with Cathy and librarians from Whitman County and Neill Public. I was amazed how many Moscow residents and their children stopped to spin the "Wheel of Fortune" and receive a goodie
- Regional ILA conference in Clarkston. Highlights for me were the session on multicultural books by Stan Steiner, enthusiasm and buggy ideas for SRP by Heather Stout, and the graphic novel session. Images reside for a long time in our minds, for better or worse.
- Changed ILL policies so we can borrow and loan VHS and audiocassette tapes now. Already have borrowed two items in these formats for Latah County patrons
- Start researching bug stories and other fun things for SRP
- Reference desk. All the managers who have been working reference brain-stormed strategies to ease the noise and confusion surrounding the multitudes of children every afternoon. Nicer weather has certainly improved the situation.

### Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- ❖ Story times are winding down and summer reading is gearing up.
- ❖ I plan on making a visit to the school before the end of May to promote summer reading.
- ❖ There will be an e-bay class with the USPS on May 7<sup>th</sup>, more on how that goes next month.
- ❖ Staying busy with all the regular routines.
- ❖ Friends group is making plans for the Bovill Days celebration.

### Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- The Deary Friends planned a work day to clean out and organize the back storage room. They moved seasonal items to the new storage cabinets, and switched the big storage cabinet and the wall shelves to make everything more accessible. They also organized all the loose items. It was a big job and it made a big difference!
- I attended a Strategic Planning Meeting for the Library District in Moscow. It was informative and interesting. I feel we met our goals set for the planning session, and commend Sylva for her skills in chairing the meeting!
- Anne Cheadle, our Director, attended a Deary Friend's Meeting and stayed afterward to discuss concerns with patrons/Friends. Anne is always a welcome part of any group!
- Summer Program is loosely planned and will be my main focus in the summer months.
- A "Sell on eBay" event is planned at Deary Library on June 5 at 6:30. There will be a Friend's meeting that night also.
- More next month!

### Genesee Branch Report – Sharon Steiger

- ✓ I was here the last half of the month after enjoying a trip to California to visit my family.
- ✓ While I was gone Julia Akin took over for me. Not only does she help in Genesee, but is also available to substitute in Moscow.

- ✓ While Julia was subbing for me she got to see what it's like when the library is overflowing with kids all wanting the computers at the same time. It was spring break for Genesee Schools.
- ✓ Since my return the month has been busy with book rotations and thoughts about summer reading.

#### Juliaetta Branch Report – Jan Welles

- Spring Break for our area was the first week in April so there many young people in the library using the computers.
- Class visits all went as scheduled with the exception of one class that was snowed/hailed/rained out! Ninety-four students and 6 teachers visited the library in April.
- Story times were very small this month due in part to Spring Break and also illness. Only 14 children and their moms were in attendance for April.
- Adult programs were very well attended in April: Book Prowlers had eight members attending to discuss "Land of Sheltered Promises".
- An Arbor Day Family Reading Program was presented on April 21 with a variety of entertainment including songs, storytelling by Batsy, art work and poems from Juliaetta Elementary student and poetry reading by adults and young people. There were 14 youth and 16 adults in attendance. The Friends partnered with the Urban Forestry Group, and ACTION to present this wonderful program.
- On April 29th, Linda Sundstrom presented a "Selling on eBay" workshop to an enthusiastic audience of 14 adults and two young adults. Everyone who attended said they learned something, even those who have been selling on eBay for a while.
- The Friends' sponsored scrapbook class was held twice this month with 10 people attending.
- The Friends met and continued their summer reading plans as well as other programs and fund raising for this year.
- Food for Fines was not as successful this year as it has been in the past. We only collected about 90 pounds of food for the Good Samaritan Food Bank.
- I attended ILA region 2 conference in Clarkston on April 18 and had a wonderful time. I was able to take my laptop along to the LiLI sessions so could do some hands on work which is always fun.

#### Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- ♣ It was nice to meet new board member Bill Warren when the monthly board meeting was at Potlatch on April 15th.
- ♣ Pat Peek gave an excellent presentation of her book "Silver Threads: War in the Coeur d'Alene's" on April 16th with 26 people attending.
- ♣ Went to the ILS vendor conference in Spokane with Anne and George for three days. It was very informative.
- ♣ We had the last storytime until the fall, with 24 kids and 10 adults attending.
- ♣ Finalized the programs for Summer Reading. We are going to have some really good programs!

#### Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- Spring Break was the first week of April. Computers were busy.
- I had a meeting with Bonnie Waldemarson, from the U of I, Latah County 4 H Extension; she is going to do a program for the Summer Reading Program.
- We are weeding Juvenile nonfiction books.
- Story time is still going strong. Up to 19 kids each program.
- Linda Sundstrom has agreed to do an eBay Program at Troy, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30
- Carol Kampenhout and her group of Primary Girls from the LDS church visited the Library and worked on the puzzle.
- Many patrons benefited from the Food for Fines. We cleared several accounts.
- The Friends had their meeting at the Library on the 23rd. It was a very productive meeting. We are getting some landscaping done, new entry way carpet mats and we are hoping to get some painting done later this year.
- The Library ceiling has some new water stains on it due to the harsh winter. The City has committed to fixing the leaks.