

Latah County Library District

DIRECTOR'S REPORT November 2008

Activity Summary

- ✓ On Wednesday November 19th, ITC Systems staff will install PC Reservation software on public computers at the Moscow Library. Installations at other district libraries will be scheduled once the system installed in Moscow has been tested.
- ✓ We are pleased to announce that Connie Sobczyk has accepted the position of Genesee Branch Supervisor.
- ✓ A retirement party for the outgoing Genesee Branch Supervisor Sharon Steiger was held at the Genesee Library and adjacent community center on November 7th.
- ✓ On Friday, November 14th, several library staff members as well as representatives of the Deary Friends group reviewed models and plans for interior and exterior improvements to the Deary Library. The models were developed by a UI Interior Design studio class taught by Lizette Fife.
- ✓ On October 22nd, several LCLD managers and I met with Cindy Bucey of OCLC Online Computer Library Center regarding new software that might improve catalog searches.
- ✓ Outreach Services Manager Betsy Bybell submitted a column to the Daily News and the Latah Eagle regarding the First Book program she is implementing at HeadStart this year as a result of a successful grant through the Idaho Commission for Libraries.
- ✓ Youth Services Manager Cathy Ensley wrote a newspaper column promoting new Young Adult fiction titles.
- ✓ Gary Ferguson, co-author of the Everybody Reads title "Decade of the Wolf" spoke in Moscow at the Junior High School and on the University of Idaho campus on November 13th. His visit to Moscow was partly sponsored the Latah County Library District and the Friends of the Moscow Library. Over 100 people attended his evening event at the UI.
- ✓ The LCLD Foundation board will meet Friday November 21st at the University Inn.
- ✓ The next meeting of VALNet directors will be held on Thursday, November 20th.
- ✓ The Friends of the Moscow Library held their fall book sale on November 7th and 8th. The sale netted \$3,483. Many thanks to the book sale volunteers for their hard work.
- ✓ The LCLD annual staff evaluation process began as scheduled on November 3rd.
- ✓ No definite date has yet been set for the authority control project. A tentative date of December 22nd is being discussed.
- ✓ The committee to investigate heat pumps for installation at the Potlatch library continues its investigation.
- ✓ The library continues to work with Washington-Idaho Network staff on the first batch update of our library's holdings in the OCLC WorldCat catalog.

Department and Branch Reports

Outreach Services – Betsy Bybell

- Returned to work in middle of September and leaped into scheduling monthly outreach visits to 13 daycares and preschools around Moscow.
- Handed out 60 free paperback books to children at Moscow's HeadStart for September and October. Corduroy and Apple Pie Tree, the books received in the Read-To-Me First Book grant have been a huge hit so far.
- Wrote column for Daily News and Latah Eagle about grant and importance of reading books for early literacy.
- Planning a retirement party for Sharon Steiger with the Friends of the Genesee Library. Library staff will present her with gift certificate from a local quilt store.
- Cathy and I co-hosted a Scarecrow family storytime in the evening of October 27. There must have been 50 children in Halloween costumes along with their parents, including many dads.
- Scarecrow storytime for Potlatch Library's regular Friday group of kids.
- Maintained PIH lists, ILLs, and Win-Borrow duties.

Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- ❖ Business as usual in Bovill.
- ❖ Computers are staying busy in the evenings.
- ❖ We have a crochet class started and we will continue on Wednesday evenings as long as there is an interest.
- ❖ Friends group will be getting together to work on photo albums.
- ❖ We saw our first snow today in Bovill.

Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- The University of Idaho Design Team came to the Deary library on Monday, Oct. 13. They met with Anne and Carol and several Deary Friends to get their input, measure the library and get a general idea of what could be done! Many thanks to everyone for all their time and energy spent with this project. I was sick so missed that part, although emails have been flying back and forth nearly every day. We will get to see the first presentation at the University on Friday, Nov. 14, and the final presentation will be Wed. Dec. 10. Both presentations are from 2:30-4:20.
- The City of Deary has replaced 4 ceiling lights and the ceiling light in the bathroom. With the shorter days it was becoming a safety issue and it is nice to have it done!
- Deary Friends of the Library are planning their annual open house/booksale on Dec. 4. They will decorate the library and provide treats. There may be entertainment in the evening, but nothing decided yet! The book sale will be at the old Wilbur Ellis Building from 11:00a.m.-7:00 p.m.
- More next month!

Genesee Branch Report – Sharon Steiger

- ✓ No report this month. Sharon enjoyed several vacation days in October/November before retiring on November 15th. Many thanks to Sharon for her 24 years of wonderful service to the library.

Juliaetta Branch Report – Jan Welles

- Story time attendance increased in October with a total of 41 coming for 5 programs. Our Halloween party had 8 little “trick or treaters” and their mothers or caregivers. The perfect size group of very young ones.
- Class visits went well this month with all 7 classes making it on schedule to check out books. In total there were 114 students and 9 teachers visiting the library in Oct.
- The Friends met at 9 am on the 21st and did a deep cleaning of the library for 2 and a half hours before the meeting and soup lunch. They discussed more plans for adult programs for 2009 and also some fund raising ideas for the upcoming year.
- Book Prowlers book discussion group met on the 14th with 5 members present to talk about “Water for Elephants”.
- The Friends’ sponsored Scrapbook-making class held its first meeting for this season on Saturday Oct. 18th. There were 8 people present and everyone had a great time visiting and working on their scrapbook projects.
- The city’s maintenance man, Frank Groseclose, has installed the under-the-sink water heater that Carol sent down. It needs adjusting as it does not make the water very hot. I will contact Frank and have him adjust it when he has time. He also removed the ancient water heater from the corner so we now have a little more free space for storage. The Friends plan to put in a cupboard or shelves. Now if we can get the new energy efficient lights installed during this fiscal year we will have accomplished what the Avista auditor recommended to make our energy costs go down.

Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- Linda Sundstrom came and did the Selling on eBay workshop sponsored by the USPS. She did a great job and we had a good turnout with 26 people attending.
- Attempts to start a Book Club in the library have kind of fizzled. We only had 3 people interested (one being me) so we are going to try again later.

- Betsy came and did a Halloween/Scarecrow storytime at the library. The kids had a great time.
- Things are finally moving on the foyer/bathroom remodel. Hopefully it will be done by the end of November.
- Diane and I volunteered at the Potlatch Community Halloween Party. She was a Bee and I was a Ladybug. (Imagine that!)
- The Onaway road is blocked from the HWY 6 to right before the library driveway. People are coming in the back way though!

Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- The U of I Interior Design Class stopped by the Library on the way from the Deary Library. They are doing a project at the Deary Library. They stopped by Troy to take pictures of the inside of the Library.
- I had a call from Paulina Freeberg, from Plummer. They are trying to build a new Library in Plummer and she called me to see what I would like to see different in the Troy Library. I told her you never have enough storage. She also told me that the Troy Library is in the slide show presentation that she is giving to the community.
- We had a very nice stuffed chair donated, by a very thoughtful patron, for the children's area.
- Betty and Gina did a terrific job holding the fort down when I took a few days off.
- Did I say that I can't wait until the PC Reservation software is installed? Adults are trying to find ways to get around the time limit- example: using their husband's card. ☺ The computers are very busy.
- We had some vandalism at Library. A couple of six year olds used markers to trace some of the grout lines on the brick building. The parents made them apologize to me and scrub the markers off the brick with a cleaner and toothbrush.
- The Friends have organized for local artists to display their work in the Library. James A. Amell is the first to do so. He has several pastels displayed for the patrons to enjoy.
- Story Times are going well. 56 kids attended this month.