

Latah County Library District

DIRECTOR'S REPORT April 2009

Activity Summary

- ✓ The library wishes to acknowledge and thank our many wonderful volunteers in celebration of National Volunteer Week, April 19th -25th. In 2007-2008, volunteers contributed over 3,600 hours of time to supporting the seven Latah County libraries. We appreciate our volunteers!
- ✓ Trustee election vacancies were posted beginning April 3rd. Candidacy applications are due Friday, April 17th at 5:00 PM, with write-in candidacy forms due May 1st at 5:00 PM.
- ✓ The library submitted two columns to the local newspapers. The first was by John Pool and discussed the Strategic Planning process. The second was written by Chris Sokol and promoted the library-sponsored presentation by author Dave Boling at the 1912 Center on April 21st.
- ✓ The Alternative Basic Library Education (ABLE) course "The Reference Interview" was selected as the first district-wide online training session for public services staff.
- ✓ The Strategic Planning committee met March 18th at the Troy Library.
- ✓ I attended the March 19th meeting of the VALNet Directors. Agenda topics included staff and patron training on the new authority control feature of the catalog, an update on implementation of the TomCat catalog upgrade, and the "My First VALNet card" project.
- ✓ The LCLD Foundation board met March 20th and April 17th at the University Inn.
- ✓ The next all-staff meeting will be held May 5th at the Moscow Library.
- ✓ I attended two online sessions offered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries. Both addressed free and low cost staff training opportunities available to libraries.
- ✓ Five staff members have registered for the May 8th Idaho Library Association (ILA) conference in Moscow.
- ✓ I attended the April 9th Friends of the Moscow Library meeting.
- ✓ The committee to investigate heat pumps for installation at the Potlatch library continues its work.

Department and Branch Reports

Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- New furniture for the children's section showed up and looks great. Kids love sitting on something their own size.
- We will soon be purchasing a new area rug for the children's section to match the furniture. Funds for this will be used from the memorials that have been received for Sue Hotinger.
- Friends group will be hosting some round table discussions starting in April. The first topic will be about ways to save money and cut costs. These are simply discussions that we are hoping will encourage people to share ideas with one another. We are hoping that one discussion will lead to another and we will be able to have these round table topics more often. We are asking people to bring ideas on ways to cut grocery bills, heating costs, credit card fees and such.
- The Friends are also holding a fundraiser selling flower bulbs and plants and so far we are doing well. People are anxious for spring to be here and the thoughts of flowers and green things are just what folks are needing.
- Computers stay busy, still loving the PC reservation!!

Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- ❖ We were fortunate enough to have Teresa Lucas come weed our paperbacks. It was a lot easier to shelve them by author, instead of genre. Have had no comments on the change yet!
- ❖ No Deary Friend's meeting was held in March. More about the upgrade in April's Report.
- ❖ March this year was about snow. It just kept coming down. We shoveled a lot. My grandson was born March 4 but I haven't seen him yet!

Genesee Branch Report – Connie Sobczyk

- ✓ Genesee Friends met at 7 PM on March 11 at the Genesee Library. Anne Cheadle was our guest for the night. It was an informative meeting where Friends had their questions and concerns answered on issues relevant to the Genesee Library and as a participating VALNet library.
- ✓ I attended the "Read To Me" conference March 4-6, in Boise Idaho. It was very informative and helpful, especially for a new rural librarian. I learned lots of good stuff!
- ✓ Books and informational pamphlets from Idaho Commission of Libraries to begin the Jump Start Program for Genesee's Pre- Kindergarten registration on April 10, 2009, have arrived.
- ✓ Paperback inventory is aggressively being weeded to make room for the new. Discarded Genesee donated books will be available for purchase during the annual Community Day Book Sale in June which helps fund the Summer Reading program.
- ✓ I developed and implemented an innovative shelving device (spring loaded curtain rod) which keeps paperbacks, audios, DVDs etc., from tumbling and easier for retrieval and filing. We need more (~ 40) to adapt all of Genesee's Brodart shelves. Donations are appreciated.
- ✓ I participated in the courier run between branch libraries on March 23. I will gather my findings and utilize organizational tips to help streamline and benefit Genesee's library and function.

Juliaetta Branch Report – Jan Welles

- Story times were well attended in March despite the colds and flu that seem to be making the rounds. We had 31 little ones with their moms attend four story times.
- Five of the scheduled seven classes made it down from Juliaetta Elementary School (JES) to check out books for the month of March. There were 77 students and 6 teachers here for class visits.
- The local preschool, which is no longer associated with the elementary school, has started making monthly trips to the library. There are usually 6 students but with one ill there were just 5 with the two adults who came to visit and check out books.
- Book Prowlers book discussion group met on March 10 to discuss "One Hundred Years of Solitude". There were 5 members present.
- On March 17 the Friends met and discussed upcoming events and planned some more fund raising projects as well as touching on Summer Reading plans. There were 9 members at the meeting so a great deal was accomplished.
- The Scrapbook group met on March 21 with 9 people getting together for the class and to use the District's AccuCut machine.
- On March 25th the library hosted a guest speaker from the Idaho Humanities Council. David Leroy came and presented a wonderful, informative talk and discussion on Abraham Lincoln's connection to Idaho. The fourth grade class from JES attended since they are studying Idaho history. There were 21 students and 15 adults in the audience for the program. I was impressed by the attentiveness of the students and the intelligent discussion that followed the talk. Justin Cope, the manager of the Castle Museum paid for this program and partnered with the Juliaetta Friends to bring Mr. Leroy to Juliaetta.
- On March 29th I attended the K-J Firemen's' breakfast and the Arts Commission's Arts and Crafts Sale which was held at the Juliaetta Elementary School. The Friends of the Library had a table at the Arts and Crafts Sale to sell some of the accordion scrapbooks that the Scrapbook group has been making. It wasn't very profitable in terms of money raised for the Friends but I made some good contacts and met some interesting people!

Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- The big project this month was rotating all my Juvenile Easy books in preparation for Summer Reading. Any rotation takes a lot of time and will affect many departments. Branch and Moscow staff pulling them, George moving all the audio visual stuff, Cathy and Chris weeding, Donna getting them discharged downstairs, Tech Services discarding, shelvefinders finding room and couriers moving them along the way! Juliaetta and Troy are next on the list.
- We are getting prepared for the Mary Clearman Blew author presentation in April.
- Went to the LiLI-D training in Lewiston on the 11th. Learned all the great electronic reference materials available through the State Library web site.

- Only 3 storytimes this month (I was at LILI-D training) with 60 kids and 33 adults attending.

Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- ✓ Linda Sundstrom presented a program at the Library on the 2nd. The program was Fraud Prevention. The 14 adults and 4 children that attended asked several questions and seemed to have enjoyed themselves. Linda did a great job. The Friends of the Troy Library provided refreshments.
- ✓ We are doing Audio Rotations. Pulling them from a list and sending them to the next Library makes it easier.
- ✓ Thanks very much to Sandy Taylor for decorating the display case for spring.
- ✓ March 18th the LCLD Strategic Planning Committee met in the Troy Library meeting room.
- ✓ Sadie Galloway, local artist, brought in 2 pictures for our Art Display. We have four local artists displaying their work at the Troy Library.
- ✓ The new book shelves were delivered the 20th. Fern McLeod, Troy Friends President, generously volunteered to assemble them.
- ✓ The Adventure Learning Camps held a meeting at the Library on the 23rd. Several of the local kids are going with them to Utah over Spring Break.
- ✓ Local author Ari Dean will be having a book signing at the Library April 15th from 5:30 -7:00. She will be promoting her new book "Rhinestone Flip Flops".