

Latah County Library District

DIRECTOR'S REPORT May 2009

Activity Summary

- ✓ No meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in May.
- ✓ Troy resident Michael C. Brown submitted a declaration of candidacy for the two-year vacancy on the Board of Trustees. Since there were no other candidates, he was declared elected by the Clerk of the Board and will fill the two-year position. No candidates applied for the five-year position.
- ✓ An all-staff meeting was held on May 5th. The meeting's primary purpose was to gather input from staff on the library's current strategic plan to help guide the Strategic Planning committee.
- ✓ The library submitted a column to the local newspapers written by Business Manager Carol Kampenhout and outlining the water-wise garden project at the Moscow Library. As a result of the column a local retired librarian contacted Carol and is now working on compiling a related bibliography and list of online resources.
- ✓ Carol submitted grant proposals related to the garden project to the Latah County Community Foundation, Wal-Mart and Avista. The Foundation was unfortunately not able to contribute to the project at this time, but the Friends of the Moscow Library have contributed \$1,500 with certain stipulations. In addition, \$755 contributed to the library in memory of longtime Moscow resident Grace Walter has been designated for the project by her family.
- ✓ Technical Services Manager Jeannie Haag hired two substitutes for her department, Teresa Lucas and Maxine Cole. Both Teresa and Maxine also work in public services.
- ✓ Jeannie attended training offered by OCLC Online Computer Library Center on how to use Dublin Core metadata standards in cataloging.
- ✓ I attended the April 28th meeting of the VALNet Directors. Agenda topics included updates on implementation of the TomCat catalog upgrade and the withdrawal of Walla Walla Community College from VALNet as well as discussion of WIN's long-term planning concerns.
- ✓ The LCLD Foundation board did not meet in May.
- ✓ Three staff members attended the May 8th Idaho Library Association (ILA) conference in Moscow. Two additional staff members registered but were unable to attend due to illness.
- ✓ Carol Kampenhout attended the May 14th Friends of the Moscow Library meeting. In addition to their contribution to the water-wise garden project, the Friends approved \$1,436 to fund new shelving for the library's DVD collection in order to provide better visibility and greater ease of use.
- ✓ The committee to investigate heat pumps for installation at the Potlatch library continues its work.

Department and Branch Reports

Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- Gearing up for summer reading, have most of my incentives here and ready to go. Have summer reading programs lined up and scheduled. Starting to decorate in order to get the kids thinking ahead about summer.
- Had Theresa Lucas come up and do some weeding for me and rearranging of book shelves. She was great to have here and I enjoyed my time spent with her. It's always nice to have someone else look at things and have some different thoughts and ideas. We spent 4 hours moving things and thinking and reorganizing. I think she really like the Bovill Library. I will look forward to having her help me again.
- The friends group had a round table discussion this month and had 6 people show up to share ideas and thoughts about our economy and the tough times people are facing financially and ideas were passed around on ways to save money in several areas. This seemed to go over well with those that attended and they have decided to have another discussion on May 13 at 6:00 p.m. to do more of the same. Since then I have had several people inquire about it and say they might like to join in. We'll see next week how it goes.

- The friends had a fundraiser in April selling flowers and bulbs. \$340 in total sales and the group gets to keep \$170 of that so we were all pleased and are thinking of doing it again this fall.
- Computers stay busy and I have had a few newer patrons that have recently started using the library on a regular basis. It's always nice to see someone new start using our library and realizing what we have to offer them.
- The friends also purchased a new rug for the children's area and that showed up just today, it goes great with the children's furniture that they just purchased.

Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- ❖ The highlight of April for Deary was a very successful Friends' meeting, with each of us walking away with assignments for the redesign of the library. We are information gatherers, and are gleaning information for possible bids for painting, attic insulation, carpet, lighting, furnace, bathroom light/fan fixture, bathroom remodel, new furniture, an outdoor sign, and a foyer addition. We are dreaming big while keeping reality firmly in check, and have leads for people to help us with grant writing, etc. Our next meeting is May 18 at 1:00. We should have a great deal of information to present at that meeting.
- ❖ We had scheduled Reed Lewis of the Idaho Geological Survey as a guest speaker during Library Week, but his presentation was postponed until Thursday, May 7 at from 7:00-8:00. There is a lot of interest in mining and geology in this area. We hope for a good turnout at his presentation.

Genesee Branch Report – Connie Sobczyk

- ✓ Participated in Genesee School's Child Find on April 3 and Genesee School's Preschool on April 24. Promoted Genesee Branch Library's involvement with the Jumpstart Reading program of the Idaho Commission for Libraries for preschool age children entering kindergarten this the fall.
- ✓ Hosted a volunteer dinner and recognized 14 active volunteers to the Genesee Library on Wednesday April 22. Friends will be preparing for their annual book sale on Community Days, June 13.
- ✓ Summer Reading Plans are continuing. Presently Genesee's program consists of:
 - Arranged visit from Moscow's "Music Junk Man" James Donnely at Genesee School for the June 4 Finale. This joint collaboration between the Elementary School and Branch Library takes place May 29, June 1-4.
 - Teachers ordered 20 "Be Creative" T-Shirts through the Branch to help motivate and create enthusiasm amongst the kids. This program stimulates continued reading focus from school to the Summer Reading Program at the Branch Library.
 - Six Summer Reading scheduled projects are:
 - Puppeteer Batsy
 - The Magician
 - Palouse Science Center
 - Fabric Art with Cheryl Greenstreet
 - Art with Tina Carlson
 - Finale - Cake Decorating with Melanie Ketchinson

Juliaetta Branch Report – Jan Welles

- Story times were very quiet this month with the flu (stomach not swine) spreading rapidly among the younger set. There were 23 in total for 3 storytimes.
- Class visits were all on schedule except for two classes that were scheduled for the Friday that school was closed because of the Norovirus. 100 students and 19 teachers came in and checked out books during the month.
- Book Prowlers met on April 14 with 6 adults and 2 youth meeting to discuss "Silent Spring".

- Scrapbook group met with only 3 in attendance on April 25. Illness and other activities keeping many away.
- On Saturday, April 18th the library/Friends co-sponsored the Arbor Day/Family Reading Event at Centennial Park. Betsy performed along with many other singers, musicians and poetry readings. The audience numbered approximately 57 adults and 26 youth. It was hard to get a head count with people coming in after the program began and some moving around during the performances. The weather was beautiful and everyone had a great time.
- The Friends met on April 21 and discussed the rummage sale to be held on May 9 and summer reading programs.

Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- Mary Clearman Blew program was very good. Had about 16 people attend.
- Antiques Roadshow was fun. Made about 100 dollars.
- Tried to weed the flower garden with a few Friends but it was windy and started to hail.
- Moved some shelving around to make it more open as you come into the library from the foyer.

Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- ✓ Local author, Ari Dean visited the Library to promote her new book, Rhinestone Flip Flops. Several people came to visit with her and have their books signed. The Troy Friends provided refreshments.
- ✓ Our new shelves have been assembled and are in place. Sandy Taylor was kind enough to volunteer her time to help transfer the items from the old shelf to the new one. They look very nice.
- ✓ Carol stopped by the Library on the 20th. Discussed with her, computer problems, lighting, the copier and other maintenance items.
- ✓ Herman Ronnenberg aka Dr. Beer, local author, gave a presentation on, "The Search for the Best Bottle Cap". We had a small group but they had a lot of "spirit". The Troy Friends provided refreshments.
- ✓ April 20th the Troy Friends had a very productive meeting at the Library. Tim Hillebrand gave a presentation on fund raising.
- ✓ The Winter Read Program has come to an end. There were 43 sign-ups and 29 finishers. Frank Luzzo kept track of the pages he read during the program and his total was 16934 pages. The patrons seemed to enjoy the program, there were even challenges. I think we will try it again next winter.
- ✓ Summer Reading is getting closer. I have been working on the schedule for the programs and presenters.
- ✓ Story Time ended April 30. We had another very successful year. Story Time will start up again in the fall.