

Latah County Library District

DIRECTOR'S REPORT September 2009

Activity Summary

- The school year is starting and libraries are seeing the usual influx of new patrons and afterschool crowds. Storytime and outreach programs are starting again as well.
- The new Career Information System database resource for patrons is available on the library website as of September 1st. The database provides Idaho and national career, workforce and educational information in a user-friendly format. This subscription was offered to interested libraries through the Idaho Department of Labor; logon information is available at each District library.
- Outreach Services Manager Betsy Bybell provided information about the library at the Arts and Culture Showcase at Moscow's 1912 Center on August 26th. She promoted upcoming events, distributed LCLD brochures and bookmarks, and had a laptop available for demonstrating the online catalog.
- The heat pump at the Potlatch library has been installed and is currently helping cool the library during these final days of summer.
- After many months of cooperative effort, new energy-efficient lights have been installed at the Juliaetta library. Thanks to everyone who worked so patiently to make this happen.
- The library purchased a new laptop. The old laptop is being repurposed to use for proctoring online exams, while the new one will be used for programs inside and outside the libraries, and as a portable staff computer.
- Business Manager Carol Kampenhout and I visited with Moscow mayor Nancy Chaney regarding the proposed water-wise garden.
- Technical Services Manager Jeannie Haag met with the VALNet Bibliographic Standards core group to address the problem of item records accidentally deleted during an agency's recent withdrawal.
- Marj Hooper and Teresa Lipus from the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) visited the Moscow library on September 9th. Teresa recently joined the ICFL as a Public Information Specialist.
- Thanks to the City of Moscow for installing and replacing light fixtures at the Moscow library. A new fixture was installed in the video browsing area and has earned compliments from patrons and staff.
- Youth Services Manager Cathy Ensley submitted a column to local newspapers which promoted youth access to library programs and resources.
- There will be a meeting of the VALNet Directors on September 17th. On the agenda is discussion of the consortium's NetLibrary eAudiobook subscription; the subscription paid for by the Idaho Commission for Libraries will expire on September 30th.
- I took advantage of a recent semester break to visit the rural libraries.
- The LCLD Foundation is scheduled to meet September 18th.

Department and Branch Reports

Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- August brought the last summer reading program which was well attended with 20 kids and 5 adults. Lots of prizes were handed out and ice cream cones were enjoyed by everyone. I will still have a few stragglers with the reading logs so I will let the last few finishers have a little more time to return their reading logs for a book and a prize.
- Friends group is once again selling flower bulbs for a fundraiser, if anyone is interested in planting fall bulbs let me know.
- School started once again in our district on the 26th so Mondays and Thursdays are quiet days much to the relief of some of my older patrons.

Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- ✓ The heat did not seem to affect people waiting for computers. Kids and grownups alike were lined up and waiting for me to open up nearly every day! Now that school has started, the library seems quieter.
- ✓ We had no programming in August, so after a little break we turned our attention to the remodel plans. We are working on a permanent floor plan, so Carol can install new lighting and we can paint and carpet.
- ✓ The City sprayed for yellow jackets all around the library. They were making permanent homes under the eaves. I can tell there are a lot less now, especially around the back door.
- ✓ Nancy Hoobler has been working with the Serenity Garden on the corner, in addition to keeping the front flower planters watered.
- ✓ Patrons are asking if the hours are going to remain the same. We are discussing using the "SurveyMonkey" program linked to the website to get final thoughts from people concerning the open hours. It should be interesting!
- ✓ More next month...

Genesee Branch Report – Connie Sobczyk

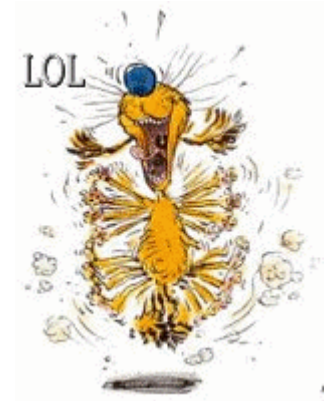
- A picture display of participants in some of the 2009 "BE CREATIVE" Summer Reading programs is on display at the Genesee Library for one month.
- I spent the first 11 days of August traveling with two of my daughters (age 11 & 19) so the oldest could have the "college car" at Clemson University. It was a one-way trip that took us from the Middle Fork of the Clearwater (best swimming hole!), Yellowstone Park (loved those fumaroles!), Big Horn Mountains (looks like the beginning scene in "Sound of Music", the Black Hills (right in the thick of the Sturgis Cycle Rally!), Missouri River swimming hole (not our favorite), Crystal Cave of Wisconsin (sleuthing for gemstones too), Great Smoky Nat'l Park (very crowded) and finally, Lake Jocassee (peaceful), South Carolina.
- Thanks to Betty L. who held the fort down nicely at the library so I could make this wonderful trip, connecting with my daughters and meeting with old friends along the journey!
- The final "Read to me" gathering for the underserved at the Genesee preschool occurred August 25. There were 6 participants in attendance. Each reader received his/her own book.
- I telephoned Wal-Mart to check on the status of Genesee's grant-in-kind proposal. I expect to hear from them soon, once activity slows down after all the students have returned to Moscow.
- I have been preparing for Friday story times with a theme revolving around "trains". Waddler and toddlers are encouraged to attend during the second and fourth Fridays as it will be more interactive; incorporating music, rhythm and dance as opposed to a craft.
- I have contacted Latah County Historical Society about borrowing some train pictures for our display case and train theme.

Juliaetta Branch Report – Jan Welles

- ❖ Summer reading ended on July 30 with our final party but those registered could read until the Monday before school opened on August 26. We ended up with 80 registered and 60 finishers. The final drawing for special prizes was held on August 25 and all the prizes were awarded to the finishers. Some are still waiting to be picked up at the library. All in all, a successful SRP even though the number of registered readers was down. Our school district lost a lot of kids this last year- 30 between the Elementary and High School.
- ❖ I took the last week of August and the first week of Sept off for a stay-at-home vacation or "staycation" as one of my friends calls it. Didn't accomplish much but George told me to look at it as training for retirement. It was nice to just goof-off and not have to "get to work". Betty Leslie, Anna and Jayne helped keep the Juliaetta library open and running efficiently in my absence.
- ❖ Story times and class visit schedule are set for this year. Onward towards May!

Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- FINAL numbers for Summer Reading 176 sign ups and 97 finishers
- Projects: Sent back all Juvenile Non-fiction from Cathy's weeding list. Will pull books from Moscow to fill in gaps in Sept.
- Shifted Juvenile DVD's, VHS, CDBooks, Audio, music CD's and CDRoms to the Juvenile Non-Fiction area. DVD section was too crowded.
- Weeded Juvenile paperbacks and re-labeled all the paperback JB's.(Juvenile Beginning Readers)
- Heat pump up and running August 31st! →
- "Murder at the Lone Wolf Ranch", Mystery Dinner Theatre is progressing and tickets will go on sale Sept. 8th at the Library. The event is October 10th at 7:00. Cost is \$22 for dinner and performance. There will also be a no host bar with beer and wine from 6:00 to 6:45.
- Enjoyed the visit with Anne at the Potlatch Library.



Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- Wendi Gunter, local artist, held an open studio on the 5th. She is willing to hold classes if she gets enough interest.
- Maxine was kind enough to work for me so I could take some vacation time.
- We had a visit from Anne on the 17th. It was very nice to see her.
- Jeannie stopped by on the 24th. It was very nice to see her also.
- Ellis Anderson has done a terrific job in watering the flowers and landscaping this summer.
- Carol provided the branches with soap dispensers. Now mine won't keep disappearing.
- Summer Reading Program is over, with 128 sign-ups & 82 finishers. Story Time will start September 10th.
- I am working on planning Story Times and working on my board report. Their monthly meeting will be in Troy next month.
- Carol stopped by on the 26th to visit. Nice to visit with the managers.
- Blenda Henrichs, my faithful volunteer, is back volunteering at the school for the season. She volunteered over 200 hours this summer. She will be missed!