

Latah County Library District

DIRECTOR'S REPORT October 2010

Activity Summary

- An all-staff meeting was held at the Moscow library on October 5th. It was a wonderful opportunity to recap events of the summer and connect with staff across all locations and departments.
- Five library staff members attended the statewide Idaho Library Association conference held in Post Falls on October 7th and 8th. Feedback from those attending was enthusiastic and we wish to extend thanks to the Board for continuing to support conference participation.
- Several staff members attended the conference session on developing effective library patron conduct codes presented by Latah County Library trustee Mike Brown and Jim Jatkevicius, a reference librarian at Boise Public Library.
- The CIN/VALNet directors met at the Idaho Library Association conference and have scheduled another meeting on October 20th to continue discussions of options to WIN membership. The WIN board will meet October 21st with the board of the INLAN consortium of academic libraries.
- The six rural branches of the Latah County Library District are still in consideration as candidates for participation in the second phase of the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program project. The Commission for Libraries announced that with very recent changes in E-rate rules, the grant committee needed more time to evaluate the responses to the RFPs for connectivity and Internet service provider.
- Idaho Commission for Libraries consultant Jan Wall gave a presentation at the managers' meeting on October 13th regarding the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program project. The project has potential implications for library procedure and policy.
- Access Services Manager George Williams contributed a column on author Robert B. Parker to the local newspaper.
- The semi-annual Friends of the Moscow Library booksale was held at the Latah County fairgrounds on October 1st and 2nd. The sale netted over \$4,000, compared to last year's net of \$2,500. Thanks to the many Friends who worked to make the sale run smoothly.
- The Friends of the Moscow Library will hold their annual meeting on Thursday, October 21st at 7:00 pm in the Great Room of the 1912 Center located at 412 East 3rd Street in Moscow. They will have their election of officers followed by a presentation by some of their members about their travels to Turkey this spring. Everyone is welcome.
- *Everybody Reads* author Molly Gloss will speak about her work on Wednesday, November 10th at 7:00 pm in the Great Room of the 1912 Center. Her book The Hearts of Horses is this year's *Everybody Reads* selection. This presentation is free and open to the public. The library's participation in the regional *Everybody Reads* program is sponsored by the Friends of the Moscow Library.

Department and Branch Reports

Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- Nothing too out of the ordinary for Bovill for September. Books in and books out.
- Getting ready for Todd Bailey to put insulation under the floor to help with the heating and cooling. The Friends and the Building Committee have all agreed to pitch in and help cover this cost.
- Excited to have a new couple move in to town from California that are looking to be involved in the community and are very interested in the library friends. Will be nice to have some new faces and maybe some new thoughts and ideas.
- Great to see everyone at the staff meeting on the 5th and witness the kazoo parade for Anne's party. Must say that it is a first for me to witness a parade like that; very entertaining.

Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- Maybe the reason I feel Sept. was so busy is because it was made up of wedding plans for my daughter, doc. appointments, the Compensation Committee information and meetings, and the regular day to day activities of running a branch! Usually, when the kids go back to school, the library settles into a quieter time for a while. This year we seem to be maintaining a pretty steady pace each day we are open. One of the great pleasures of a Branch Supervisor is helping each person who comes to the library leave with the information they needed. We have also had more people this summer "just passing through" who are familiar with libraries offering free Wi-Fi and stop in to take advantage of this service.
- Having our local quilting group provide us with a different quilt to display each month is still proving very popular. Patrons are stopping by just to see the latest quilt!
- I am working with the Friends to create a "Reading Group" to meet to discuss various books. I downloaded a great bookmark to advertise getting this group started. We just need to firm up a date and enough details to hold the first meeting. One of the suggestions was to have it be part of our Friends meeting to be held Oct. 21 at 6:30. My Friends group President has stepped down and we are looking at rejuvenating our Friend's group.
- Storytimes attendance is holding steady with 3 or 4 kids each week. I am pleased with this, as it has been very sparsely attended in the past.

Genesee Branch Report – Connie Sobczyk

- If you were a Genesee resident or visitor on Friday, Sept 24, you may have been lucky enough to observe our very own Horton "Who-lets" donning "a person's a person, no matter how small" newly crafted headband with Horton ears after Library Story time! Story time for the preschoolers began on Sept 10. Our theme will revolve around Dr Seuss for the entire year.
- A Genesee patron donated her time and calligraphy expertise to create wall hangings for our juvenile section of several favorite Seussisms.
- Story time averaged 14 youngsters for each Friday in September. That is an increase from 8 in September 2009. Every third Friday throughout the school year the Genesee Schools do not have classes. As a result, more youngsters may be attending Story time or just visiting the branch library. I will be monitoring student traffic more closely on those days.
- I provided a written request for additional support due to the increased library use and circulation over this past year. Additional sub help on Fridays will be implemented to help ease the work load and manage the circulation desk at this time.
- Over half of the shelving at the library has now been angled to allow for patron friendly accessibility. All 2 X 4's and lumber cutting were donated.
- I have been thinking of ways to generate Genesee Friends membership numbers. A healthy dose of volunteerism is necessary to make it more functional and active. Hopefully something can be done this year to energize an organization which can provide so many benefits to a community. It is very difficult to grow when relying on only 2 active members of the past year.

Juliaetta Branch Report – Linda Dahl

- The school year started on August 25 and classes began to visit soon after. I did a story relating to library fun and manners for the younger classes, which every teacher thus far has told me they are using the same "theme" of the book in their classrooms. The book – "What if Everybody Did That?" They loved it! I read Shel Silverstein's "Overdue book" poetry for the older classes. Seems like all had a good time, including the teacher who said, "That was fun". We had a total of 5 class visits (others cancelled due to no school days for the Fair). The total attendance of students was 73.
- Story times also began, just after Labor Day. This month we had a total of 20 little ones and 16 adults for the 4 Storytimes we had this month. We are learning our "Storytime" chant, a little poem which helps the little ones know when Storytime is beginning and when it is time to be ready to sit, listen and have fun in the library.
- Book Prowlers met for their planning meeting on Sept. 14th. They chose the books to read during the next 8 months. December's meeting will be "Everyone Share Their Favorite Book", and of course, everyone brings a goodie.

- Just a reminder, anyone and everyone is invited to attend. Cathy is posting the list of books for this year on the website. Thank you Cathy!
- The Friends of the Library met on Sept. 21st and made plans for the year; fund raising activities and community events. Their first activity/event will be participation in the Harvest Carnival, Saturday October 9th 4-6 p.m. at the Kendrick VFW hall. Admission is free.

Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- Started the month off by going to the elementary school open house to issue library cards. Didn't have too many sign-ups. It seemed like the attendance was down this year. At least we were there to promote the library!
- Storytime has slowly taken off. 3 programs with 38 kids and 21 adults in attendance.
- The Friends are gearing up for the Claire Davis program on Oct. 7. I will be at the ILA conference so my faithful sidekick Diane Brady (assistant) and Diane Kelly-Riley (Friends President) will oversee the event.
- Diane Kelly-Riley and I started a Potlatch Library Facebook page. We are hoping to get the word out about the library and what is happening here. Will report more on that later.
- "Batsy" has generously volunteered to do my storytime while I am at the conference. Thanks Betsy!

Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- Spent the rest of my program money on an order to Oriental Trading. I ordered craft items for Story Time.
- Anne and Mary were out to talk about the new Strategic Plan. It was nice to see them both.
- Story Time officially started on the 16th but kids showed up on the 9th so it was quick preparation for the first one. So far we are having 10-14 kids.
- I've been having computer problems. Andrew finally figured it was PC Reservation. I am having trouble printing Guest Passes. Hope it gets fixed soon. George is coming out to look at it.
- The monthly LCLD Board meeting was here on the 21st. Nice to see the board members again.
- Pre-school had their first visit on the 23rd. There are 19 kids this year. Stories and stickers made them very happy.
- Getting ready to do some paperback weeding. The adult paperback shelves are getting tight.
- Ordering new paperbacks since the new PB budget starts in October.
- Sent 5 boxes of books to the Moscow Book Sale. My Book Sale shelves were running over.
- Met with Joy Nickles, from the Horizon Group, to discuss up and coming programs in Troy.