

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 2007

Activity Summary

As always, questions are welcome.

- Summer reading season has begun. Early June saw the start of youth reading signups and special summer activities. Thanks to our wonderful library staff for their work preparing fun and interesting programs for kids. This is a great time of year.
- We learned in late May that the Traveling Lantern theater group would be unable to come to Latah County to perform in our district libraries as part of our summer reading activities. This was unexpected and disappointing, especially since the very next week we learned that the LCLD Foundation's grant request to fund these programs had been awarded in the amount of \$2,500. We are working with the Latah County Community Foundation to investigate the possibility of using these funds in the 2008 Summer Reading program instead.
- The 2007 Adopt-A-Magazine campaign was launched on Thursday June 14th.
- Carol Kampenhout coordinated a Spring Cleaning Day at the Moscow Public Library on Saturday June 9th. The Friends of the Library co-sponsored this volunteer event by providing food and assistance. Eighteen people worked 45 hours on special cleanup projects inside and outside the library.
- On May 18th, I attended the Director's Retreat sponsored by the Inland Northwest Council of Libraries. The conversations and sessions were very worthwhile and I appreciated the chance to attend.
- George Williams, the new Access Services Manager went on the courier run Thursday May 18th to visit the libraries and meet the branch supervisors. George has accomplished a great deal in the short amount of time he's held his new job, including developing a better report for picking up books on hold.
- George attended his first VALNet circulation group meeting in Lapwai on June 5th.
- Jeannie Haag and George attended the Northwest Enduser Group conference session in Spokane on June 7th. This group focuses on issues with Voyager software and both Jeannie and George reported that their time was well-spent.
- Pat Eck, Carol and I worked together to prepare to present the 2007-2008 budget proposal.
- The ADSL upgrade in Moscow has begun; this upgrade will allow faster Internet access for both patrons and staff.
- Over 20 library staff members and their families attended a no-host party welcoming George as the new Access Services Manager and thanking the interim team for their service. Thanks to Connie for coordinating the event.
- On May 31st, I attended the VALNet directors' meeting in Clarkston. Topics of interest include the Voyager software upgrade that is planned for July 24th-26th and the incorporation of Universal Borrowing, or "WIN-Borrowing" as it is now called, that is currently scheduled for September.
- The LCLD Foundation Board met on Friday May 25th. President Tim Hillebrand again led discussion on fundraising issues and strategies.
- I went out on the courier run May 24th to discuss safety issues with branch supervisors.
- The library district has been given the opportunity to apply for Gates Foundation funding for one new patron Internet access computer at each of our seven libraries. The grant award allows up to \$1,500 per computer, for a total possible grant award of \$10,500. Thanks to Sonja Hudson at the Idaho Commission for Libraries for helping make this grant opportunity available.
- Chris Sokol and Cathy Ensley worked this month on enhancements to the webpage. There is now a link from the main page directly to a patron's library account. Chris also started a subscription to Ancestry.com as yet another electronic resource available to patrons. This service is only available within the library buildings, but does allow access to patrons using their own wireless laptops. Great genealogy resource!

Department and Branch reports

Outreach Services – Betsy Bybell

- There's a new and easier format for the daily PIH reports. A huge THANK YOU to George for working on it.

- Delivered fliers publicizing the summer reading program for preschoolers to all outreach locations. Set up schedule for summer's programs. I will be a very busy librarian for June-July and the beginning of August.
- Regular duties of PIH report, visits to preschools and daycares, reference desk on Thursdays, and inter-library loan continued. Took a week of funeral leave in early May to fly back to St. Louis for my father's death.
- Only partly related to work, I performed a role as myself, "Batsy the librarian", in the Moscow Charter School's production of their original play "Fairy Tale Flip-Flop".

Youth Services – Cathy Ensley

- ❖ **P.R. activities:** From Mid-April to Mid-May, I spent 5.5 hours creating website and print promotion for various library activities. By contrast, from Mid-May to Mid-June, time spent on website and print promotion jumped to 34 hours. In addition, I spent seven hours promoting Summer Reading at the schools, reaching 1069 students. This year, I promoted SR to ALL 4th & 5th graders and Lena Whitmore's 3rd graders, as well as to ALL 1st & 2nd graders in Moscow's public schools. Zena Broughton, the new children's librarian at the public schools, is allowing me to do more promotion than allowed in the past. She's given me the green light to try to reach all children, grades 1-5, next year. In addition, flyers were distributed to St. Mary's Catholic School. Betsy promoted SR to Moscow Charter School.
- ❖ **Summer Reading:** I took the equivalent of a week off in May. Of the month's remaining 80 hours, almost all was spent taking care of SR details. I *still* need to plan the mystery game for the *You Never Know* age group, and the Harry Potter party for the *Get a Clue* age group, but otherwise the train has pulled out of the station and we are rolling!
- ❖ As of Monday June 11 (four days into signups), about 350 children have signed up for SR in Moscow—which is precisely on track.
- ❖ On Tuesday, June 12, programs begin. We will be offering six summer reading activities per week, with something for all children from ages 1-12. Two of the weekly programs are something we've never tried before. One is the *You Never Know* series, for ages 9-12. The other is a writing program that a children's author, Bruce Wetter, asked to do. He wrote *The Boy with a Lampshade on his Head*.
- ❖ For a full listing of all Summer Reading programming, at all branches of LCLD, see our website.

Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- Lots of computers being used for last minute school projects and novel evaluations
- One class visit for stories with the 1st graders
- Busy wrapping up summer reading plans
- Friends group busy working to pull together the raffle and t-shirts for Bovill Days
- Working on "walking books" for the parade on Bovill Days

Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- ❖ The First Annual Deary and Bovill Library Friends' Writing Contests was held this spring. The teachers co-operated by having each student in grades K-6 start each essay with "Come and see...in Deary" or "Come and see...in Bovill".
- ❖ Grades 7-8 wrote "It Happened in Deary..." "It Happened in Bovill..." Tall Tales or Short Stories. Judges were the Deary Mayor, a Councilman from Bovill and various Friends members. Prizes were gift certificates for Hastings Book Store and books.
- ❖ First place prizes went to Katie Bogar, Bailee Swanson, Cole Thompson, Kelsey Scott, Allison Ahlman, Luke Joslin, Morgan Batey, and Collin Daton.
- ❖ Winners of the 9-12 grades and adults will be announced at a later date!
- ❖ The winning essays will be displayed in the library during Deary's Great Outdoor Days.
- ❖ Summer Program is beginning. Thanks to Sheila Reed we will have a new drawing this year. Every child who attends a program receives a ticket, with a drawing each week for great prizes. The first week's prize is a CD player with headphones!
- ❖ Sheila Reed also went to grades 4, 5, & 6 to talk about the Library Summer Reading Program. She said all the kids were really polite and good listeners!

Genesee Branch Report – Sharon Steiger

- ♣ The month began with a video rotation much to the delight of the patrons. People do enjoy the movies that are available and look forward to the latest batch of them. The DVD collection here is growing and that too is appreciated.
- ♣ The regional ILA meeting in Clarkston was rewarding. Getting together with fellow librarians and attending the workshops is always revitalizing. At the meeting one of the workshops was on book talks. I enjoyed it and used some of the information I learned at the end of the month when I had two classes from Genesee School as my guests.
- ♣ Story time attendance is pretty constant with finer weather. The parents that bring their children also have the opportunity to visit with each other and are great helpers with any craft projects.
- ♣ I learned that my good substitute is not going to be as available. She has health issues, doesn't have health insurance and has to return to work. I don't like losing her, but she may still be able to help if it doesn't interfere with her nursing shifts.
- ♣ Summer reading sign up starts June 6th so I've been gearing up for that. The theme this year has lots of possibilities and seems like fun.
- ♣ The other fun thing that we're doing here at Genesee is writing the "great American novel". A legal pad with a topic sentence written on it will begin the adventure. All patrons will be asked to write a sentence to build the story.

Juliaetta Branch Report – Jan Welles

- Storytimes were winding down this month with our last program held on May 10. There were a total of 30 in attendance for the two programs.
- Class visits also ended early this month with only three of the six classes coming down. Sixty-one students and teachers visited.
- The last scrapbooking class was held this month with just 5 in attendance. They will resume next fall.
- Book Group met with five people attending to discuss "Gilead". Their last meeting for this season will be June 12th.
- The Friends of the Library held their annual Rummage Sale on May 12 and made almost \$300 after paying sales tax.
- The Board meeting was held in Juliaetta on May 15. I always enjoy having the board members visit our library. We will all miss Jennifer once she finishes her term in June. Thank you for all your years of service to our District.
- The Friends had an information table at the Locust Blossom Festival on May 26. A few local children signed up for summer reading and Friends bookmarks were distributed along with the District informational brochure.

Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- Friends Mystery Dinner Theatre a go for October 27! The play is called "Chapeau" and will be at the Log Inn in Potlatch with a catered western dinner. Phew!
- Visited elementary school to promote SR. School Principal is sponsoring a party next fall for kids who finish the Summer Reading program.
- Jo Minden, elementary school librarian, brought her "100 club" for a visit to the library. These are kids who have read over 100 books in the school year.
- After much confusion and disappointment about one program, we are ready for summer reading sign ups to start June 8th!
- Thank you to the Troika for a job well done and Welcome George!

Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- ❖ Visited the Elementary School and passed out Summer Reading Program flyers to the K-6th grades.
- ❖ Moscow Library's Centennial exhibit was on display at the Troy Library this month. Patrons really enjoyed seeing it.

- ❖ George visited the branches to meet the supervisors and to see the branch libraries. Glad to see George on board at the library.
- ❖ The Cub Scouts visited the Troy Library and took a tour of the History Room.
- ❖ An acting workshop was conducted by Jerica Haley and Bryn Ohlgren, the actresses who played Timothy Lion and Skin Horse in the Velveteen Rabbit. Many local kids participated in the workshop.
- ❖ Anne visited on the 24th to go over safety in the libraries.
- ❖ May 10th was the last Story Time until fall.
- ❖ Decorating is done, posters are up, prizes are on display, packets are packed, Summer Reading Program starts next week.