

# Latah County Library District

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT November 2007

### Activity Summary

As always, questions are welcome.

This month has seen the culmination of several important projects. Many people—including library staff members, Friends of the Libraries, and volunteers—contributed extra time and effort to ensure their success. On behalf of the library, I would like to thank all those who contributed to the following:

- ✓ The seven newest patron Internet computers provided through the Gates Foundation and the Idaho Commission for Libraries were installed. Our First Step Internet technician continues to work on trading out older staff computers and monitors.
- ✓ The long-awaited WIN-Borrow feature was activated between the VALNet and Cooperative Information Network (CIN) consortiums on November 5<sup>th</sup>. WIN-Borrow allows patrons from one consortium to place electronic holds on items belonging to the other consortium. At this point the service is at the testing stage and library staff are actively involved in testing and refining procedures.
- ✓ This year's "Everybody Reads" community reading campaign wrapped up with an author presentation by Gregg Olsen in Moscow on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Over 60 people attended his event at the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre.
- ✓ I attended the Potlatch Vigilante Dinner Theatre event on October 27<sup>th</sup>—a wonderful evening co-sponsored by the Potlatch Friends of the Library and the Potlatch Arts Council.
- ✓ The Friends of the Moscow library held their semi-annual booksale on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the American Legion Cabin in Moscow. Between memberships and proceeds from the sale, the group netted over \$3,300.
- ✓ The new outdoor sign for the Moscow Library was installed by the city on November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Donna Quiring, Potlatch Branch Supervisor, and I met with Dave Brown, Potlatch Mayor, and Joe Kren, Potlatch School Superintendent, to begin to discuss issues involving the library grounds.
- ✓ During Idaho Family Reading Week, November 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, a life-size story character "Clifford the Big Red Dog" appeared at the Head Start program in Moscow, the Moscow library and at the Juliaetta Elementary School, thanks to the library and the Read-to-Me program of the Idaho Commission for Libraries.
- ✓ The Moscow Library participated in "Make a Difference Day" on October 27<sup>th</sup>. From 8:00 until noon community volunteers helped with special projects in the library building and on the grounds.
- ✓ The Latah County Library District Foundation held their October meeting at the Potlatch Library.
- ✓ The library's annual staff evaluation process began as scheduled on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ On November 12<sup>th</sup>, six members of the library staff including myself attended an all-day workshop led by Nancy Pearl, the well-known readers' advisory advocate. The workshop was held at the new Coeur d'Alene public library and touring the building was an added bonus.
- ✓ The library column "What's new at the library" appeared in the Daily News and the Latah Eagle.
- ✓ I attended the Troy Friends meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ I participated in a "C3" online focus group sponsored by the Idaho Commission for Libraries. "C3", which stands for "Content, Community, Connection" is an ICFL initiative designed to help libraries learn about and take better advantage of new "social networking" Internet technologies.

### Department and Branch reports

#### Adult Services – Chris Sokol

- ▶ Programs this month:
  - Peace Corps information session
  - Two Xeriscape workshops at the 1912 Building (total attendance 100+)
- ▶ Library marketing activities:

- Bookmarks on xeriscape gardening
- Created new illustrated monthly flyer of "Staff Picks" to provide informal readers' advisory
- ▶ OPAC:
  - "Bookbag" feature was added to allow patrons to keep a list of titles
- ▶ Subscribed to NextReads database (still working on implementing it)
  - NextReads delivers reading lists-- that we set up-- to patrons' email inboxes. Patrons will also be able to link from a desired book in a list directly to our OPAC, where they can place it on hold
- ▶ DVDs are now rotating regularly to all libraries; audiobooks and music CDs will follow once the kinks are ironed out of the process
- ▶ Continued to publicize Everybody Reads event and book
- ▶ November selection of the Moscow Library Book Club: *Riding the Bus With My Sister* by Rachel Simon
- ▶ "New at the Library" column for Co-op Newsletter
- ▶ Contributed to the Friends of the Moscow Library newsletter
- ▶ Adult materials in, adult materials out!

#### Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

Not much different to report than last month:

- storytimes are going well
- we have a couple of home schooling families that keep us very busy daily with computer use and checkouts
- patrons are noticing the bigger selection of DVD's that we have now and appreciate seeing some new movies available to them
- Friends group has been brainstorming for some winter activities

#### Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- ✓ Deary Friends of the Library held their quarterly meeting on Thursday, Oct. 4. Plans are being made to purchase a new sign for the library.
- ✓ A holiday Open House/Booksale is being planned for Dec. 6. Treats and entertainment will be part of this annual event.
- ✓ Deary Friends of the Library helped the City of Deary with landscaping around the perimeter of the new park next to the library.
- ✓ Anne and Kathleen (WIN) made a whirlwind visit to all branches of the Library on Oct. 10. It was nice to meet Kathleen and ask her about Universal Borrowing, and it's always great to see Anne out here!
- ✓ We appreciate Connie being able to use her insight and expertise, in Moscow as well as the branches. She is a pleasure to work with.

#### Genesee Branch Report – Sharon Steiger

- October was annual report month. Not only was I able to pass on the news about Genesee library and the activities here it was also a time to get acquainted with library board members and see them at work.
- The month otherwise passed in a normal fashion. Friday story times with the little ones have turned into a social event for the young mothers who bring their children. It's a pleasure for me to see them interacting and having a place for it.
- The movie shelves are full of new VHS movies and many DVDs. The patrons really enjoy having new movies to choose.
- Books rotate in and out as usual which keeps me busy.
- Patrons are looking forward to new computers and I'm anticipating our move towards WIN/CIN.

#### Juliaetta Branch Report – Jan Welles

- ❖ Story times have been really up and down in attendance this month. One week there were 12 and the last week there was 1 child and her mother. The total attendance for Oct. was 17 children and 9 adults.
- ❖ Class visits went as scheduled with a total of 107 students and teachers coming in to check out books.

- ❖ The Friends met on Oct. 16 and decided to once again ask the City of Juliaetta to contribute towards the cleaning expenses for the library. The city has cut the amount budgeted for the library by \$500. The Friends will also ask that the city pay the cost of installing the new energy-efficient light fixtures when they are purchased. The electrician, Kim Cannon, has told me that it will cost about \$300 for the installation.
- ❖ The cupboards in the backroom have been repainted and look very nice. The new storage cupboard built for us by Larry Haylett has been loaded with supplies and the area is looking much neater.
- ❖ The Friends partnered with ACTION to host a "Tea and Sweet Reception" for the new Principal of the Juliaetta Elementary School, Mary Kren. She is a very gracious lady and a library supporter and we are happy to welcome her to our community.
- ❖ The first scrapbook-making class for this fall was held on Oct. 6 with 7 people attending. The next class will be held on Nov. 10 and we will borrow the Accucut from Moscow for the participants to use.
- ❖ The Book Prowlers (discussion group) met on Oct. 9 with 10 people attending to discuss "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle.
- ❖ I attended the Dinner Theater presented by the Vigilante Theater Troup in Potlatch on Oct 27. What a wonderful production and a fun evening! Congratulations to the Potlatch Friends and Arts Committee and to Donna for doing such a great job!

#### Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- Mystery Dinner Theatre was a huge success! Very positive comments, so I think this is something we will repeat. We even made a little money!
- Plans are being made for the Christmas Open House after the Potlatch Lighted Parade. There will be fireworks this year, so everyone is welcome to come for cookies, hot cider, maybe some music. Pat Peek will be selling and signing her new book. The date to remember is December 8th @ 5:00.
- New DVD rotation is going well on this end. Lots of new DVD's. Thanks, George!
- November will be a time to get some deep cleaning done, new carpet for the children's area, new rugs in front of the circ counter and door into main library, carpet cleaning and maybe some even get around to painting in the foyer and bathrooms.
- Even though we do not want to think about it, the new manuals for Summer Reading 2008 have come in the mail.

#### Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- ♣ The Troy Preschool stopped by for an unexpected visit. I read a couple of stories and we did a quick craft.
- ♣ The Troy Elementary has the display case full and a wall full of their posters that they have drawn for the Troy Horizon Group. They drew pictures of their ideas of what they would like their community to look like.
- ♣ Bob McCullough, Troy City Clerk, created a new web page for the city. There is a link on the Library's home page. It is very nice and informative.
- ♣ Idaho Correctional Industries delivered the Story Time table they refinished. It looks sooo nice. Thanks Anne and Carol for making the arrangements to make it happen.
- ♣ Story Time is still very exciting. Five programs and a total of 54 kids and 21 parents for the month.
- ♣ I attended a Troy Friends meeting on the 24th. Thanks, Anne, for coming to the meeting; your support is greatly appreciated.
- ♣ My daughter, Brandi Roberts, was kind enough to help me move the Adult Fiction and Adult Paperback shelves. It was discussed that the corner behind the shelves could be a safety issue. It certainly opened the corner up.