

Latah County Library District

DIRECTOR'S REPORT December 2007

Activity Summary

As always, questions are welcome.

- The library held an all-staff meeting on Tuesday, December 11th. We were fortunate to have Sergeant Carpenter of the Latah County Sheriff's department speak to us about safety issues. Also on the agenda were information on staff benefits, an update on WIN-Borrow, and a progress report from the Policy committee. After the joint meeting, we held branch and circulation department meetings. Libraries remained open on the 12th as scheduled.
- Staff evaluations are in progress and should be completed before the end of December.
- The VALNet consortium submitted a grant to fund adding authority control to the catalog. Chris Sokol, Adult Services Manager, was one of several who reviewed the draft.
- The library's Policy committee met on November 28th and December 12th.
- Jeannie Haag, Technical Services Manager, and I attended a meeting of the VALNet library directors. WIN-Borrow was one of the topics of discussion, as was the tentative plan for a Voyager software upgrade in March 2008. I am now one of two directors assigned as point people for VALNet staff training issues.
- The Moscow Friends of the Library had a booth at Moscow's Winter Market on December 1st. The group netted nearly \$200 through the sale of calendars, books and booklights.
- I attended the December 3rd open house at the Troy Library held in celebration of the four new patron Internet computers the library received this year through grants from the Gates Foundation and the Idaho Commission for Libraries.
- On December 6th, I visited the annual open house at the Deary Library. The Deary Friends sponsored the event and I had a chance to talk with some of them about the proposed library facelift.
- Our First Step Internet technician continues to work on trading out older staff computers and monitors.
- The Latah County Library District Foundation held their November meeting in Moscow.
- On November 16th, I attended the semi-annual directors' meeting of the Inland Northwest Council of Libraries (INCOL). Attendees shared news from their libraries then we enjoyed a presentation by Spokesman-Review columnist Paul Turner.
- The library column "It's big" was sent to the Daily News and the Latah Eagle.

Department and Branch reports

Adult Services – Chris Sokol

- 🌲 Programs this month:
 - Gregg Olsen for "Everybody Reads": book-signing at BookPeople, presentation at Moscow High School and the Kenworthy Theatre.
 - Display: Palouse Board Gamers
- 🌲 Website enhancements:
 - "Automotive" section on Adult Links page
 - "Voter Information" button on main page, linking to several sites, such as Project VoteSmart, League of Women Voters, Latah County Elections, etc.
- 🌲 Library marketing:
 - Co-op Newsletter "New at the Library" column
 - "Staff Picks" handout at all libraries

Outreach Services – Betsy Bybell

- Universal Borrowing began between VALNet and the Cooperative Information Network (CIN)
- Nancy Pearl workshop in Coeur d'Alene on readers' advisory

- Self-evaluation
- Clifford the Big Red Dog visited three Moscow HeadStart classes and an afternoon program at Moscow Public Library. He was a BIG success!
- Busy month for inter-library loans

Bovill Branch Report – Paula Winter

- I had two story times this month. The weather kept families at home on a couple of days. My story time families are generally my home schoolers and they keep me very busy when they do come in.
- My circulation has gone up thanks to my home schoolers. They are in on a regular basis to use the computers as well.
- Tuesdays and Wednesdays are usually pretty busy with kids after school.
- My Friends group is sponsoring an ornament beading class, more on this next month.
- I stay busy trying to keep the shelves weeded and looking inviting to readers and rotating new books.
- I am ready and waiting for a WIN borrow notice to show up at my branch but so far no one has placed a request from the Bovill Library :-)

Deary Branch Report – Debbie Fischer

- ✓ We hired Shera Callister to clean once a week. She is doing an excellent job!
- ✓ Gina did an excellent job working for me while I was on vacation for two weeks.
- ✓ Plans are going forward for the Open House/Book Sale on Thursday, Dec. 6.
- ✓ Refreshments will be served all day, and entertainment will be from 5:00-7:00.
- ✓ The holiday book sale will be at the old Wilbur-Ellis Building, with some books free!
- ✓ We hope to have new carpet installed next August. The City of Deary, the Library Foundation, the Deary Friends Group, the Library District and a U of I design class will all be involved in giving the Library a facelift!

Genesee Branch Report – Sharon Steiger

- ♣ It was pretty uneventful this month at Genesee.
- ♣ New DVD's have rotated in. Patrons have noticed the change and are appreciative.
- ♣ Books continue to move in and out. When people see the unpacked crates they know there is "new stuff" on its way to the shelves and ultimately them.
- ♣ Story time has had autumn and Thanksgiving themes and regular attendance by a core group of kids with their mothers or day care providers. When I was away one Friday Betty Leslie subbed for me and had the little ones make feathered turkeys.
- ♣ The Friends group met. Well, two of them and me. A last minute winter book sale was planned.
- ♣ Not much else new.

Juliaetta Branch Report – Jan Welles

- ❖ The class visits from the Juliaetta Elementary School went well with 6 of the 7 scheduled classes coming in to check out books. 123 students and 7 teachers visited in Nov.
- ❖ Story times were way down in attendance this month due to illness. 30 children and their mothers attended four story times.
- ❖ Book Prowlers met with 9 members present to discuss Elizabeth Peters' "Crocodile on the Sandbank"
- ❖ The scrapbook-making class was held on Nov. 10 with 11 adults and 5 children attending. They all appreciated having the Accucut machine to use for their projects. The classes will start again in January with the possibility of two classes per month, a Friday evening class and a Saturday morning one.
- ❖ On Friday, Nov. 16th, Jan and Friends' President Randy Haylett took "Clifford the Big Red Dog" to the elementary school to visit in four classes- a total of 75 students and 8 teachers. A wonderful time was had by all and as one little girl explained to her mother "I know Clifford was real, 'cause I saw him wag his tail when he walked out of the room." It was a great way to promote the library and Family Reading Week.
- ❖ The Friends met on Nov. 27 to plan this years activities and fund raising. They approved the purchase of one of the protective carpet runners like Moscow has to be placed in front of the circulation desk and a

new shoe-scraper mat for in front of the entry door. The group also decorated the bushes for the "Light the Park" ceremony held at Kendrick Park. The Friends sponsored scrapbook-making class has raised \$175 to be used to continue with more classes.

- ❖ Summer reading supply order was placed on Nov. 30. In spite of the fact that we do not wish to even think about summer reading at this point.

Potlatch Branch Report – Donna Quiring

- We closed the library on November 9th, and a volunteer and I cleaned all of the bookshelves and spent a lot of time removing tape residue from them, we washed windows and did some deep cleaning. The carpets were cleaned at the end of the month.
- I purchased a new carpet for the children's area with Gifts & Memorials money. The pictures are on the library Flickr site. We also got some new mats for inside the library. The quilt group that meets at the library made some new removable fleece covers for the pillows in the window seats.
- Betsy came and did a storytime on November 16th.
- Carol is working on getting the linoleum fixed in the bathrooms and then the foyer and the bathrooms will be painted.
- Anne and I met with the Mayor, Dave Brown, and Joe Kren, the School District Superintendent, to talk about the lease with the school district and other issues.

Troy Branch Report – Margie Fitzmorris

- ♣ City maintenance crew finished winterizing the Library by cleaning the gutters, draining outside faucets and changing light bulbs.
- ♣ Evaluations have been done and are to our supervisors.
- ♣ Troy Library received another computer from the Bill and Melinda Gate's foundation. That makes four public access computers from the Gates Foundation for Troy since June of 2007. I also was fortunate to get a new 19 inch monitor for my staff computer.
- ♣ The Troy Friends and I are working on an open house to let the public know about the Gates computers we have received to encourage patrons to join the Friends Group and encourage people to get a library card .
- ♣ 'Tis the season of shoveling snow.
- ♣ Happy Holidays!!!!