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Iowa Libraries: Here's your chance
to shine

What is your proudest achievement in 2011?

What is your library looking forward to in 2012?

In the spirit of celebration of the important role of libraries in the world today and in hopes of a bright year ahead for your library, Iowa Library Services/State Library asks you to share your accomplishments and your dreams with your library friends and supporters.

Whether you're in a library that serves a community of 500 or 50,000, you DO have a story to tell. Maybe it was a special program, event or new service that you implemented in 2011. We want to hear about it, and what you hope to accomplish in the coming year.

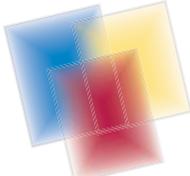
Our goal is to make the December issue of *Footnotes* full of your stories, hopes and dreams. We realize that the obstacles are many, but Iowa libraries charge ahead the best they can, often with wonderful results. If you need a little encouragement, look at your Direct State Aid report for 2011. Librarians tell wonderful stories about what they did with that money. Or ask your colleagues, your board, your customers -- they certainly have insights into what you did well and what you can accomplish in the future.

Between now and December 1, send your proudest achievements and your goals for 2012 to [Annette Wetteland](#), Iowa Library Services, Des Moines Office. Please keep your responses to around 300 words. Photos are welcome.

Students enjoy new technology in PLM classes

While the basic tenets of becoming a certified librarian in Iowa have not changed dramatically, the methods for taking Public Library Management 1 and 2 (PLM) classes have. In the beginning, students had to go to community colleges or the Grimes building in Des Moines and use Telenet, an audio system using microphones. With the genesis of the Iowa Communications Network, students traveled to the closest ICN room - often in another town's library, school or national guard building. Recently another new model has evolved where, except for the first in-person class, students can take the classes in bed if necessary.

The new method includes lecture and discussion using any computer and Adobe Connect web conferencing software, as well as reading, written discussion questions and homework outside of class time that can be accessed through Moodle. Moodle is an Open Source Course Management System (CMS), also known as a Learning Management System (LMS) or a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). It has become very popular among educators around the world as a tool for managing resources, discussion forums, assignments and



other class activities for students. Access to the Internet, an e-mail account, and a set of headphones and microphone are required to complete the course.

“The online classroom, Adobe Connect, has great features like chat, the whiteboard and audio. In the classroom it adds more ways for us to communicate,” said PLM instructor and Ankeny Public Library Director Sarah Willeford. “Moodle is great for organizing the class. Everything we need for the class, such as readings, assignments, discussions and grades, are all located in one place.”

It’s also popular with students. “It’s very easy to use, very intuitive,” said Virginia Cooper, Rake Public Library. Cooper, who just started PLM2, was one of the first to use the new teaching method when she took PLM1.

“I felt privileged to be a pioneer” using the new blended method of studying, said Sarah Weiss, Rockwell City Public Library. Recovering from surgery, Weiss said she studied and attended classes from bed. “Chatting with other students and finding homework was easy.”

Janene Shannon, Lost Nation Public Library, also likes the new combination of Moodle and Adobe Connect. “Except for the first class, I don’t have to travel, it’s very convenient and I can work from home if need be.”

Hundreds attend “The Future is Partnering”

More than 440 Iowa library staff learned that fostering partnerships is vital for libraries as they face challenges today and in the future. This year’s Town Meetings focused on existing and future partnerships between libraries and other community organizations.

There were updates about library services reorganization from State Librarian Mary Wegner and other topics from Iowa Library Services/State Library. Dale Vande Haar, president of the Iowa Library Association, and in some locations Lorraine Borowski, incoming president, gave updates and encouraged attendees to attend this year’s conference in Council Bluffs. In addition, Iowa Library Services staff were available to answer questions about state library programs during poster sessions. Des Moines office staff also premiered a new movie on partnerships.

The afternoon sessions include facilitated discussions on a variety of topics related to technology, fund raising, and the library as a “third place.”

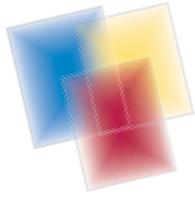
More photos from the meetings are available on the State Library’s Facebook page at: (<http://tinyurl.com/49SKLnj>).



Attendees at the Coralville Town Meeting



Ed Wallace, Iowa Workforce Development, talks to folks at the Storm Lake Town Meeting.



Notes from State Librarian Mary Wegner



Reorganization update. Legislation combining the Library Service Areas and State Library into a single streamlined agency called Iowa Library Services became effective on July 27, 2011. We have been busy creating six district offices around the state, and welcoming staff members from each of the district offices.

Our goal is to insure that Iowa libraries have consistent access to state-funded library support services, and to help and champion Iowa librarians as you work to provide excellent library services to Iowans.

Additional information about this transition can be found on page four of this newsletter.

Information literacy. October is National Information Literacy Awareness Month, highlighting the need for all Americans to have the skills necessary to effectively navigate the Information Age. People who are information literate know how to find and evaluate information of all types, from online information, to broadcast information, to the printed word. Having information literacy skills empowers people to make informed decisions and to successfully find information to improve their health, their education and their workplace performance.

Information literacy is a key 21st century skill set required for successful educational and workforce preparation. The sheer volume of information constantly available makes it necessary for us to learn how to effectively sift through it in order to locate what we need, how to critically evaluate what we find, and how to use it effectively to accomplish our purpose.

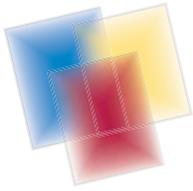
Teaching others how to find and critically evaluate information is a unique skill that librarians bring to our information-overloaded society. To me, one of the appealing things about the information literacy role is that it focuses on the librarian and the human connection between librarian and library user, rather than on the library.

Iowa teacher librarians build information literacy skills in our K-12 students, and academic librarians further develop these skills in Iowa colleges and universities. Public and special librarians also have a significant role to play in helping their communities become information literate.

Let's work together to educate all Iowans about the importance of information literacy skills and the key role that librarians play in developing these skills in our library users.

See you in Council Bluffs! Please stop by the Iowa Library Services/State Library booth in the exhibit area at the Iowa Library Association conference. We look forward to meeting you and hearing your comments and questions.





Support services for libraries enhanced through reorganization

When Governor Branstad signed the bill to reorganize state funded library support services on July 27, 2011, changes came fast and furious, and continue to progress.

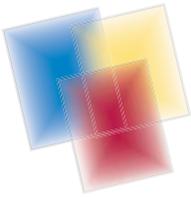
The library reorganization bill created a streamlined model of state-funded support services for libraries by combining the Library Service Areas and State Library into one agency, called Iowa Library Services. The new agency preserves the close-to-home services that Iowa libraries depend on, while ensuring the consistent availability of services across the state. One of the main purposes of the new agency is to work with Iowa libraries of all types and all sizes to make library service in Iowa the best it can be and as seamless as possible.

Libraries can continue to turn to their district office for support and answers to questions. The six district offices are located in Sioux City, Council Bluffs, Algona, Ankeny, Waterloo and Coralville. Each office has a district librarian consultant and a library resources technician. Seven of the district staff members previously worked in the Library Service Area offices, and will be familiar to you. The new employees all have experience working in Iowa libraries and schools. All the district office staff members are knowledgeable, talented, and looking forward to working with you.

- Northwest District Office, Sioux City: 866-642-7920
Bonnie McKewon, District Consultant, bonnie.mckewon@lib.state.ia.us
Janie Beaulieu, Library Resources Technician, janie.beaulieu@lib.state.ia.us
- Southwest District Office, Council Bluffs: 866-642-7922
Karen Burns, District Consultant, karen.burns@lib.state.ia.us
Susan Gruber, Library Resources Technician, susan.gruber@lib.state.ia.us
- North Central District Office, Algona: 866-642-7918
Jet Kofoot, District Consultant, jet.kofoot@lib.state.ia.us
Trisha Hicks, Library Resources Technician, trisha.hicks@lib.state.ia.us
- Central District Office, Ankeny: 866-642-7917
Maryann Mori, District Consultant, maryann.mori@lib.state.ia.us
Doreen Buls, Library Resources Technician, doreen.buls@lib.state.ia.us
- Northeast District Office, Waterloo: 866-642-7919
Eunice Riesberg, District Consultant, eunice.riesberg@lib.state.ia.us
Kelli Bremer, Library Resources Technician, kelli.bremer@lib.state.ia.us
- Southeast District Office, Coralville: 866-642-7921
Becky Heil, District Consultant, becky.heil@lib.state.ia.us
Debbie Crane, Library Resources Technician, debbie.crane@lib.state.ia.us

Please refer to the [map](#) showing the boundaries of the six districts. The boundaries have been adjusted to ensure that Iowa libraries have equitable access to the district staff. In the past, the number of public libraries served by an area ranged from 69 to 121. With the new district boundaries, the range is 87 to 96. The new boundaries balance the number of libraries served with the driving distance within the district.

For a complete history of library reorganization, go to <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/q-s/reorganization>.



2011 National Book Festival

Robin Martin, Coordinator for the Iowa Center for the Book (ICB), and Fran Fessler, Iowa Library Services/State Library secretary, represented Iowa at the 11th annual Library of Congress National Book Festival in Washington, DC, September 24-25, 2011. Over 200,000 people attended the event.

For the first time in its history, the festival was extended to two days. One hundred authors gave presentations and signed their books. Children met favorite TV characters and enjoyed outstanding reading and literacy programs. The event drew over 150,000 people.

"Families and friends came in droves to visit Iowa's table in the Pavilion of the States," said Martin. "Bookmarks, including one that highlighted Iowa authors, pencils, pens and Iowa Children's and Teen Choice Award posters went like hotcakes." The giveaways were all donated by several generous organizations and businesses.

"You're good book pickers," said one child as she picked up a poster from Shannon Miller, ICB Board member. Ge Your Geek On bags were popular with teens and adults.

"People loved learning about Dori Hillestad Butler's *The Buddy Files: The Case of the Lost Boy*, our pick for the Great Places Through Reading map this year," said ICB Council Member Kristin Steingraeber, who also volunteered that day. The Bound to Stay Bound company also donated books to give away, which were a big hit.

"It was an amazing experience," said Fessler. "People commented about the colorful bookmarks from Sticks. It seems every year Iowa has the best giveaways of posters and bookmarks."

"Even with the large crowd of people, everyone was very polite and having a good time," said Fessler. The Iowa Center for the Book proudly celebrated Iowa's literary and cultural heritage with people from all over the country.

To see several photos from the event, visit the Iowa Library Services / State Library Facebook page at <http://tinyurl.com/49SKLnj>.

Wardell breaks record for library visits

Dean Wardell, featured in Iowa Public Television's "Kids Clubhouse" and who thrills children, adults and librarians with his Summer Reading Road Trip which visits many Iowa public libraries says "Bravo to You!"

The following is a letter from Wardell:

Librarian Friends,

Bravo to your libraries! Bravo to your patrons! Bravo to you!

This summer during the Reading Road Trip we had a total of 15,465 participants. This is 2,290 more participants than last year and 1,323 more than our previous record of 14,142 participants, which was set in 2008.

Thank you for your enthusiasm, kindness and flexibility with all the adventures that the Reading Road Trip brings!

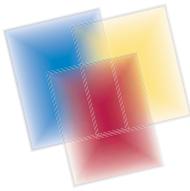
January 1st will be here soon, and so will the planning for the 2012 Reading Road Trip.

Thanks!

Dan Wardell



Wardell throws a sock hop this summer at the Atlantic Public Library



News from around the state

Several Iowa libraries honored the 10th anniversary of the horrific events of 9/11/01 with special displays and events.

The **Estherville Public Library** invited folks to stop in at the library between 9 and 11 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11 for the 10th observation of 9/11 events. A year ago the local National Guard deployed soldiers to Afghanistan and the Friends of the Library sponsored a project of raising the equivalent of \$911 to contribute to the support group to purchase supplies to the troops. A local Estherville resident had a sign designed for the library balcony stating “We Honor Those Who Serve” and it has remained in the library during the time the unit was deployed. On July 4th, the library displayed the annual lighted flag below the sign. Both remained there, but on Sunday evening the lights went out on the flag at 11 p.m. and soon after both the sign and flag were removed from the library balcony. The two hours on Sunday evening were dedicated to troops who served from the surrounding community.



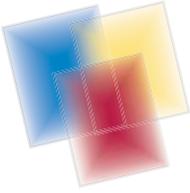
“Remembering Our Fallen,” a touring photo display honoring the military who died from wounds suffered in a war zone since September 11, 2001 was on display at the **Onawa Public Library** from September 6-10, followed by a presentation at West Monona high school on September 11.

The **Buena Vista University Library** has two permanent displays honoring the sacrifices made on 9/11. The first is a metal/rebar sculpture mounted on a display box, and the second is a framed and mounted photo exhibit given to the university by New York photographer John Naughton. The exhibit consists of a mix of 14 color and black and white photos taken just after the events at the Twin Towers. Mr. Naughton spoke at BVU in 2001 and left the prints from his presentation as a gift. The works reflect the anguish of rescuers and persons within the area.



Gail Hackett, teacher librarian, **Bondurant schools**, said there were displays outside each of the 3 school libraries. She asked staff to write what they remember of that day since many of their younger students weren’t born yet. “We got some great write ups to go with some artwork the students did and some photos of the event,” said Hackett.





Pictures and books were on display at the **Pocahontas Public Library** in observance of 9/11/01. Several people checked out the books.

The **Arnolds Park Library** had a nice, floral memory display a patron made for them -- very tall to represent the Twin Towers. "I was quite impressed that a man designed it," said director Susan Sup.



Pocahontas Public Library

Des Moines city leaders hosted a special remembrance ceremony on the lawn outside the **Central Library** on September 11. An Honor Guard featuring Des Moines police and fire department officers began the ceremony with a presentation of colors, followed by the singing of the national anthem by Des Moines Fire Chief John TeKippe and his daughter Gerene. A giant American flag draped across the Central Library's colorful copper/glass exterior formed the perfect backdrop for the event.



The **Altoona Public Library** had several displays commemorating 9/11. One book display had President Kennedy's famous words, "Ask not what your country can do for you..." along with books about serving in the military, or as emergency technicians, fire fighters or policemen. Another had a quote from Colin Powell, "You can be sure that the American Spirit will prevail over this tragedy" with books about 9/11.

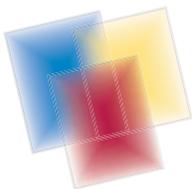
Finally, there was a "local heroes" display. The table had pre-printed "thank you" cards for people to fill out. Staff compiled and delivered them to the fire and police departments, and Captain Johnson of the Iowa National Guard. Also on the table were brief interviews with some of Altoona's local heroes from local emergency technicians, and fire and police department employees.

The **Oskaloosa Public Library** is building a reading garden in an empty lot across from the library. The garden will be 48 by 83 feet and will feature a 12 by 12 foot gazebo with a two-tiered amphitheater, park benches, learning centers, wireless Internet access and a butterfly garden.

"It's a wonderful project that will bring together all ages on the project," said director Wanda Gardner. The garden will be completed in three phases. The gazebo will be constructed in the next couple of weeks. Twenty-three donated bushes and trees will be planted this fall. Estimated costs are \$100,000 to \$150,000. Memorial funds and grants are being sought to pay for the project.

Wanda Gardner, left, and Linda Fox break ground for the new reading garden.





News from around the state

Stefanie Rosenberg Wager, a curriculum coordinator for **Des Moines public schools**, was chosen to participate for a week in July in the Library of Congress' Teaching with Primary Sources summer teacher institute. The Library of Congress each year holds seven teacher institutes in Washington, DC where participants work with library education specialists and subject-matter experts to learn effective practices for using primary sources in the classroom, while exploring some of the millions of digitized historical artifacts and documents available on the Library of Congress' website.

Interlude dances have been a You Tube hit. On August 10, kids of all ages filmed an interlude dance under tutelage of dance co-creator Ian Goldsmith at the **James Kennedy Public Library (Dyersville)**.

A Girl Scout From Monona is going for the Gold Award Service Project by building a small rain garden in the backyard at **Murphy Memorial Library**, Monona. Several local businesses donated about \$200 to Linda Newton which she used for supplies. The rain garden, with native plants, grasses and wild flowers, is designed to prevent erosion on the slope of the library's yard. The Gold Award is the equivalent of the Eagle Award for Boy Scouts.

The **Anita Public Library** celebrated a big number in September when it turned 100 years old. The two-day event included a raffle for a barn quilt and a display of an old Anita Theater Advertising Curtain circa 1929-1935. The curtain will be on display through December 4. The Board of Trustees honored the Anita Women's Literary Club of 1911 who started the library in city hall.

The photo shows the Anita Tween/Teen group giving a presentation during the festivities.



Congratulations to new retirees!

After 19 years of full-time employment and several more as a volunteer, **Nancy Galloway** has retired from her position as director of the **Union Public Library**. Galloway became the full-time children's librarian in 1992, after volunteering with story hour and summer reading programs for several years. Galloway said she has seen amazing changes in the library, such as the Internet, books are now on CD instead of cassettes, and much of what used to only be in print can be downloaded using computers. "Life has changed, however there will always be someone around who wants to hold a book and be able to check it out for two or three weeks for free," said Galloway.

The **McGregor Public Library** held a dinner honoring librarian **Sue Henkes** who retired after working for 20 years. Henkes was a mainstay for bookkeeping, inventory, day-to-day library services, as well as the library's houseplant and garden flower expert for anyone coming in with questions. She also kept up the many scrapbooks of history information in the library, helping people with genealogy and local history. She will continue to serve as a volunteer from time to time.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) recently announced the designation of the **Davenport Public Library** as a Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC). As the 81st library in the nationwide network, Davenport marks Iowa's return to the PTRC program and serves as the first center in the nation geared away from the "paper depository" concept towards electronic access and training for patent and trademark information. Replacing the State Library of Iowa, the former PTRC for the state, the Davenport Public Library will provide a place for Iowans to access patent and trademark information with the help of USPTO trained librarians.

