

Good Morning! Today in EYE-OPENER December 21, 2015

1) Christmas Gifts For Your Library Part3

2) Our Top10 List For 2015

3) Meetings / Events This Week



1) Christmas Gifts For Your Library Part3: Four shopping days 'til Christmas! No worries if Christmas gifts for your library will be late, the library doesn't know what day it is. For a few more ideas to fill your library stocking...

For donors with deep pockets, this iPad Charging Station from DEMCO spells a techie 2016. It's a kiosk that holds 6 iPads; built-in WIFI and integrated Deep Freeze wipes devices clean after each use. Contact DEMCO for pricing information www.demco.com



"Get Your Green On" tote bags, also from DEMCO. Durable and reusable, these would make jolly give-aways at the circ deck or re-sell them as fundraisers.

How about a plush toy-like computer screen cleaner? Fun and functional, these are anti-static microfiber wipes for cleaning tablets and smart phone screens. Complete with tail loop for attaching to the office bulletin board. Amazon has 'em, so does Bed Bath & Beyond...



Have you heard of GliderGloves? Not so much for the library as maybe for you or any crazy texters on your list. From the GliderGlove website www.glidergloves.com "... They provide warmth for long periods of time outdoors and still offer great touch accuracy and finger dexterity. A stylish and fun solution for runners, commuters, men, women, children, dog walkers, and leisure outdoor sporting activities..." They'll make you look like a cat burglar, but oh well, that's the price of being techie...

That's a wrap for this gift-giving season ... until next year!

2) Top10 Highlights of 2015: This is the last issue of *Monday Morning Eye-Opener* for this year, which means it's time to unveil our **Top10 List of Highlights**. Like your libraries, Iowa Library Services boasted noteworthy accomplishments this past year. So we're popping the cork on our Highlight Reel for 2015!



10—State Library Commissioners: Two long-standing Commissioners stepped down in March; Dan Boice and Tom Martin both served 8+ years as commission members for Iowa Library Services. Theirs was an impressive volunteer commitment, working on various statewide committees and advocating for funding with legislators and with the Governor's office. Christopher Cox and Sarah Latcham were appointed to fill their seats in June. With appreciation, staff at Iowa Library Services!



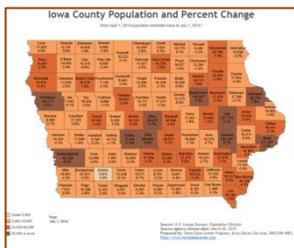
9—Center For the Book Gives Literacy Award: The Iowa Center for the Book (ICB) gave its first ever Iowa Literacy Award to an organization called "Raising Readers in Story County." This award recognizes an organization

that made significant contributions to fostering literacy in Iowa. Literacy volunteers throughout Story County did just that—read about their efforts on the ICB website <http://www.iowacenterforthebook.org/rrsc-press-release> The \$750.00 award was presented at the State Law Library in October.

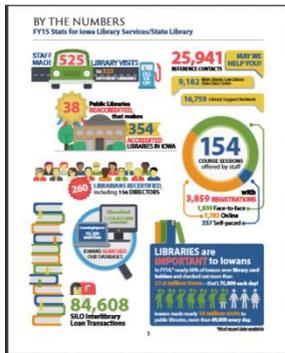


8—State Law Library Designated Among Most Beautiful: Speaking of the State Law Library, this awesome space was recognized this year by CNN as 1-of-11 in a list of America's Most Spectacular Libraries. Certainly something our agency staff has long known, although it is a hidden gem for most Iowans. But wait...in May, *Architecture & Design Magazine* placed Iowa's State Law Library on their list of the Most Majestic Libraries in the World! These photos show why

<http://www.architectureanddesign.net/45-of-the-most-majestic-libraries-in-the-world/>



7—State Data Center Unveils New Website: In February, the State Data Center unveiled a new website <http://www.iowadatacenter.org/data> Using Tableau data visualization software, over 80 reports were loaded onto the site at the outset, along with a tutorial to guide users through the content. The State Data Center is part of Iowa Library Services; Gary Krob is the Data Center Coordinator and always an MVP in helping Iowans access the wealth of demographic information found on the site.



6—Snappy New Annual Report: Each fiscal year, Iowa Library Services releases an annual report, detailing agency accomplishments, significant events, and strategic plan results. Thanks to Emily Bainter, new to our staff this year, our agency’s FY15 Annual Report was reformatted from previous years to include an Executive Summary from State Librarian Michael Scott, a Budget Snapshot of financials, and “By the Numbers,” a colorful page of infographic statistics. Other content includes an update on the Iowa Commission of Libraries, Staff Comings and Goings, and noteworthy accomplishments from the FY15 Strategic Plan. It’s very cool and

colorful, click here to see what we’ve been doing
<http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/about/annual-reports>



5—Super C.E.: IaLS staff delivered education events galore this past year. Classes covered the state and also covered plenty of topics. Merri Monks coordinated the Kids First Conference. Eunice Riesberg shared cool techie tools on Friday Tech Focus; Maryann Mori and panel showed small libraries how to scale back big ideas. Toss in roundtables for directors and ILL staff, a new board webinar series titled

Jumpstart Your Trusteeship, and *Big Ideas Book Discussions*. All that and more added up to some super c.e. Many thanks to you lifelong learners, you make our training efforts very gratifying!



4—Bridges A Transition to Statewide eBook Consortium: In July, Iowa Library Services secured a single statewide license for a single statewide eBook service. The former WILBOR group and NEIBORS group merged into one single service called

BRIDGES: Iowa’s eLibrary. OverDrive remains the company and **BRIDGES** remains the same digital eBook and audiobook service that your patrons have come to enjoy. But with a splashy new website and thousands more digital books to choose from...it’s good to go big!



3—Hello, New Directors: Northwest District welcomed 9 new library directors in 2015. While we were sorry to say goodbye to their predecessors, we’re also excited to welcome and work with these new people. Here are the newest Northwest library managers in 2015:

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| Havelock == Melissa Hoyt | Rolfe == Terri Kipfer |
| Larchwood == Sylvia Van’t Hull | Sioux Rapids == Kathy Lansink |
| Melvin == Pauline McDougal | Sutherland == Sara Sichelka |
| Plover == Gloria Gunderson | Somers = Heather Riblet |
| | Sergeant Bluff = Mary Torgerson |



2—Goodbye, Hello IaLS Staff: Along with the comings and goings at local libraries, we had some sad leave-takings ourselves at Iowa Library Services. Carol Simmons retired in February, Annette Wetteland in March, and Robin Martin in November. We miss you among us, but wish you all the best in retirement! And joining our staff this past year: Betty McAllister, Emily Bainter, Amy Rollinger...welcome!



1—A Presidential Visit: Sorry new staff members, but a surprise visit from the President—of the U.S., that's right—has to take the Number One spot on our **2015 Highlight Reel!** In September, Michael Scott and staff were stunned to learn that President Obama would be arriving at the State Library building for an impromptu meet-and-greet; Mr. Obama was in Des Moines to speak at North High School.

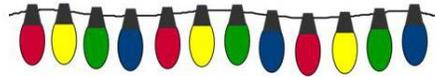
From the Des Moines Register 9/14: "...'*Since we are in Iowa to talk about education, a great place to start is the State Library,*' Obama remarked. *He was greeted by State Librarian Michael Scott and several library staffers and asked Michael 'How do you get to be State Librarian? It is a very cool title...'* "

He was there just over 1 hour and by all accounts, not just any old Monday for State Library staff lucky enough to be in the building that day. And while staffers were not allowed to take selfies with the POTUS, luckily Des Moines Register photographers captured indelible moments. Welcome, Mr. President, to the State Library of Iowa!

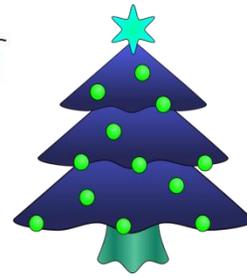
So that's our **Top10 Highlight Reel for 2015**. No wonder we're tired. In fact, we're sapped... now to turn down the covers for a long winter's nap!

3) Meetings / Events This Week: No webinars or workshops this week, only tinsel and eggnog ☺ Iowa Library Services will be closed on December 25 and January 1; **Monday Morning Eye-Opener** also takes a holiday, back on January 4.

From all of us at Iowa Library Services, wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Happy
Holidays!



Monday Morning Eye-Opener Editor:

Bonnie McKewon

Iowa Library Services

Northwest District Office

529 Pierce Street

Sioux City, IA. 51101

866-642-7920

bonnie.mckewon@lib.state.ia.us