

Trustee Advocacy workshops

Workshops for public library trustees will be held in May on how to be better library advocates at local, state and national levels. See page 5.

ICN session set for Partnership Grants

An ICN session on Applying for Partnership Grants will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. May 21. To register, call Jackie Kokke, State Library, 1-800-248-4483; (515) 281-4316 and ask to be added to reservation #203097. The session will cover criteria and information for applying for grants. See related article on page 2.

Census statistics available online

Census 2000 counts for Iowa counties, incorporated places, townships, and census tracts are located on the State Data Center's web site at www.silo.lib.ia.us/datacenter/census_2000.htm.

For information about Iowa redistricting, see the web site of the Iowa General Assembly, www.legis.state.ia.us/Redist/Redist.html

State Library holds open house for state employees

Hundreds of Iowa state employees braved the rain and snow on March 15 to get a peek at the newly restored State Library facility and a sampling of the many services available.

State Library staff provided tours of the facility and highlighted the hundreds of business, public policy and management magazines; videotapes; books; and newspapers available, along with the full-service medical library, patents depository, and Internet reference databases.

First Lady Christie Vilsack was on hand during the lunch hour to sign copies of her cookbook "Fresh from Terrace Hill."

More events are planned to showcase the wide variety of services and resources available at the State Library. To arrange a tour, contact Helen Dagley, State Library, 1-800-248-4483; (515) 281-3063; Helen.Dagley@mail.lib.state.ia.us.



Guests enter an elevator, above, on their tour of the State Library



Sandy Dixon, third from right, gives a tour of the State Library.

First Lady Christie Vilsack, seated, signs copies of her cookbook "Fresh from Terrace Hill."



FOOTNOTES

Notes from the State Librarian

Even though I have been a member of the library profession for 30 years, I am still awed by the desire to serve the greater good and the level of cooperation that can be found among libraries. While these traits are not unique to Iowa, they can be found throughout the Iowa library community.



*Sharman
Smith*

Locally, the examples of cooperation among libraries are numerous and varied. In the Waterloo/Cedar Falls area, the University of Northern Iowa, the Cedar Falls Public Library, Hawkeye Community College, and, soon, the Waterloo Public Library share one automated "card catalog and check out" system. From any location, library users can tell not only what libraries in the area own a title, but whether it is on the shelf. A similar shared system can be found in the Cedar Rapids/Marion/Hiawatha area. The nine public libraries in Clayton County, as well as the libraries in Denison, are working on similar systems.

In the Quad Cities area, Iowa libraries of all types (public, academic, and special) share not only an automated system with each other, but with libraries across the river in Illinois. In addition, they do joint purchasing of electronic information databases, and provide a van delivery service that transports

books and other materials for patrons from one library to another.

Other libraries such as Arlington/Fayette and Waterloo/Cedar Falls are sharing a library director. The Decorah Public Library is providing a large-print books collection to libraries around the state. A number of libraries in southeast Iowa are sharing rotating collections of CDs and audio books. In northwest Iowa, the Emmetsburg Public Library, the Iowa Lakes Community College Library, and a community wellness center share a joint facility. In southwest Iowa, a number of librarians have agreed to provide technology assistance to other libraries in exchange for some intense technology training.

On a statewide level, Iowa is one of only a few states with a "statewide library card program" (Open Access) where an Iowan can take his or her local library card and check out books, audiotapes, videos, and other library materials from almost any library in the state. This means Iowans can use libraries that are convenient to them in their daily lives, whether they use a library near where they work, shop, or play or as they travel around the state. Iowans take advantage of this privilege almost 3 million times a year.

In a much more invisible way, there is another statewide program that provides Iowans with access to all of Iowa's library resources, the Access Plus Program. More than 600 Iowa libraries have agreed to share their books and other materials through interlibrary loan with other libraries to fulfill Iowans' information needs that cannot be answered locally. This kind of cooperation and sharing gives Iowans access to all of the state's library resources.

The list of collaborative efforts among Iowa libraries is endless. These efforts are being made, not to benefit the library, but to provide Iowans with the best library service possible.

Perhaps it is the nature of those who choose to work in libraries. Perhaps it is the very purpose for which libraries were established. Whatever the reason, Iowa and Iowans are the beneficiaries of these cooperative efforts.

LSTA Partnership grants available

The State Library is providing a third year of competitive Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Partnership Grants.

The grants assist public libraries with pioneering innovative service with new partners and provide a mechanism for sharing their experiences with other libraries.

Another \$100,000 in LSTA funds will be awarded to Partnership Grant projects which:

- focus on information literacy projects;
- encourage partnerships between libraries of different types, agencies, community organizations and other groups;
- and include activities that address meeting Iowans' increasing demands for information and library services by identifying and encouraging resource sharing and partnerships. (Goal III, State Library of Iowa's Five-Year Plan for the Use of LSTA Funds, FY98-02)

More information about the Partnership Grants is available at www.silo.lib.ia.us/LSTA/partnership_grants.htm, or by calling or e-mailing Judy Jones at 1-800-248-4483; judy.jones@lib.state.ia.us.

FOOTNOTES

Certification Update

Congratulations to the following public library staff recently certified for the first time through the State Library's Iowa Certification Program for Public Librarians.

Karen Burkett-Sandoval, Ankeny
Vickie Coleman, Nora Springs
Kathe Fichter, Randolph
Mary Frisbie, Lake Mills
Teresa Gonterman, Malvern
David Grebasch, Maxwell
Nitavonne Herr, Fort Atkinson
Sarah Holtz, Rudd
LeAnn Kunz, Washington
Orlys Maasen, Bode
Merri Mayfield-Cook, Winthrop
Carol Niles, Fairfax
Michelle Parizek, Clutier
Melissa Patrick, Harpers Ferry
Joyce Peel, Perry
June Rush, Elliott
Paul Seelan, Council Bluffs
Jacqueline Shafar, Creston
JoAnn Spear, Beaman
Susan Von Behren, Morley

Dates to Remember

April 1-7 - National Library Week
April 19-20 - KidsFirst Conference, Johnston
April 24 - Commission meeting
April 30-May 1 - ALA Legislative Day, Washington DC
Registration for Summer Public Library Management 2
May 7-11 - Trustee Advocacy Training Programs (

PLM class is catalyst for children's reading program

A project for Public Library Management 1 has had a marvelous influence on nearly 400 Ankeny youngsters.

Karen Burkett-Sandoval, children's librarian at the Ankeny Public Library, wanted to begin a daycare outreach program through the library. The project paper was just the stimulus she needed to study, outline and implement the project.

"Our board had a goal of doing more outreach in the community, and I had a desire to reach out and share with the children of Ankeny how wonderful reading is and how great their library is," said Burkett-Sandoval.

Each month, Burkett-Sandoval and Karen Estep, another Ankeny children's librarian, visit the nine largest daycares in town for story times. They also provide parents with newsletters that highlight special library events and offer helpful reading tips.



"The children love the visit," said Burkett-Sandoval, "and an unexpected benefit of the program was revealed when we had three of the daycares call the library last fall to schedule a tour of the library.

"I've had several children come up to me at the library and say, 'I saw you at my daycare.' What a great feeling."

The Eldora Public Library and "Home Connection" received an LSTA Partnership Grant to offer the program "Reaching Out to Read Out Loud." Fourth grader "Katie P", winner of the program's essay contest wrote:

"My Dad was never a big reader. That was problem in our family because I *love* to read. At least that is until Harry Potter.

My Mom got the first Harry Potter book and said we were going to read them together as a family.



When we started the first book we weren't sure we were going to like it. Soon, however, we couldn't wait to see what was going to happen next.

The biggest surprise was Dad. He loves our reading time. He is always the one to request Harry Potter time. He sits back, relaxes, and closes his eyes. He is truly in heaven. His enjoyment of reading has gone beyond Harry Potter. We have also read the whole Shiloh

series.

Now we get to do something as a family that I love to do. That is how Harry Potter has changed my life."

FOOTNOTES

Iowa Commission of Libraries - Minutes February 27 - State Library of Iowa

(These minutes are considered draft until approved by the Iowa Commission of Libraries.)

Present: Pam Bradley, Dwight Carlson
Bill O'Brien, Dale Ross, Nancy Ross

Absent: John Bennett, Eldon Huston,
Berta Van Ekeren

Guests: Kay Elliott

Staff: Sharman Smith, Mary Wegner,
Carol Simmons, Mary Cameron, Sandy
Dixon, Roy Kenagy, Gerry Rowland,
Annette Wetteland

DRoss called the meeting to order at
10:00 a.m.

4.0

B. Commission Reports

DRoss reported receiving a letter from
Ted Stilwill, Director of the Department of
Education, in response to submission of
the State Librarian's evaluation. DRoss
also received a letter from Frank Strong,
Director of Independent Living,
expressing his concerns with the Task
Force recommendations regarding sight
and hearing impaired persons. DRoss
will convey to Strong the Task Force
discussion of the issues.

DRoss discussed the public input
sessions about the Commission
Priorities and the Library Services Task
Force recommendations. An estimated
100 people attended. Others are
requesting the video.

DRoss talked about study bill H145
which requires high speed internet
access for all Iowans and is very close to
Task Force recommendation #4.

The dates and tentative locations of
the Iowa Trustee Advocacy Training
workshops were announced: May 7th,
Anita; May 9th, Storm Lake; May 14th, Des
Moines; May 17th, Waverly; and May 18th,
Amana or Iowa City.

1.0 Set Agenda

Smith requested one change in the
agenda, to move State Library Customer/
Potential from 4.0 A to 4.0 C. Motion
carried.

2.0 Approve Minutes

NRoss moved to approve minutes,
O'Brien seconded.

4 March 2001

3.0 Financial Report

Smith gave the financial report and
explained the status of the open
accounting position.

Discussion followed regarding the
budget cuts and de-appropriation bill.
Carlson moved to receive the financial
report; Bradley seconded. Motion
carried.

4.0 Communications

A. Special Reports

Mary Cameron, Youth Services
Consultant, reported State Library
involvement in a number of statewide
initiatives such as Every Child Reads
and Stories 2000. Cameron also
introduced one of the two Promise
Fellows recently hired to work on Iowa
Stories 2000, Sarah Goepel. The
second Promise Fellow, Steven Person,
will begin March 1.

Roy Kenagy introduced the
HealthInfoIowa web site developed by
the State Library through a grant provided
by the National Library of Medicine. The
web site will go public in approximately
one month. Kenagy also provided the
Commission with an overview of usage
of the library (phone requests, visitors,
interlibrary loans, etc.)

B. Commission Reports (continued)

DRoss reported that approximately 80
legislators attended the Iowa Library
Association Legislative Day January 24th.
Several meetings were held at the State
Library that day, including the Regional
Trustees Council, the Iowa Urban Public
Libraries Association, First Lady Christie
Vilsack's news conference, and a State
Library open house for the Iowa library
community.

D. State Librarian's Report

Smith outlined current vacancies and
the procedures for filling the four
positions.

She also reported that terms expire for
Huston, Van Ekeren, and NRoss April
2001. NRoss has requested not to be
reappointed. Huston and Van Ekeren
would accept reappointment. This
information was reported to the

Governor's Office.

Wegner announced that Iowa's
application was approved by the Gates
Foundation. Iowa libraries will be
included in the fourth round of Gates
grants in 2003.

E. Discussion Items

DRoss told the Commission about two
legal suits pending in opposition to the
child Internet protection legislative
recently passed by Congress. The act
will go into effect April 20th.

Commission Retreat. Two dates
were discussed. Smith asked the
Commissioners to reserve July 12-13
and July 19-20. Final dates and location
will be announced at the April meeting.

Wetteland distributed copies of the
registration form for ALA Legislative Day,
Washington, DC., April 30 and May 1.
Information on the agenda and
scheduled Congressional visits were
also discussed.

Wegner, Dixon and Rowland talked
about the Library Services Task Force /
Commission Priorities. Wegner
suggested two advisory committees be
formed to help the Commission begin
implementation of the priorities. The first
two priorities to be studied are 1) collect
statistics from all types of libraries, and
2) teach Iowans how to find and use
information more effectively. The
Commission recommended that no less
than 10 and no more than 14 members
be named to each committee. The State
Library will provide a timetable and a
proposed list of committee members at
the April Commission meeting.

F. Iowa Regional Library System Report

Due to illness, there was no report.

5.0 Public Comment - None

6.0 Action Items - Bylaws Review
NRoss and Bradley, the Bylaws
subcommittee, recommended no
changes to the bylaws dated June 27,
2000. Motion carried.

Next meeting: April 24, 2001.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

FOOTNOTES

Library trustee advocacy is focus of May workshops

Workshops for public library trustees will be held in May on how to be better library advocates at local, state and national levels.

The State Library, in cooperation with the Iowa Library Association, the Iowa Library Trustees Association and the Iowa Regional Library System, received assistance from Libraries for the Future, a national organization for library advocacy, through its "Communities and Libraries" program.

Attendees will learn about:

- the nature of library advocacy
- goal setting strategies
- state/local issues affecting libraries
- outreach strategies
- coalition building

Letters were sent to library board presidents asking them to designate a trustee to attend the program, and then to share the information and concepts learned with other local board members. Library directors may attend if space allows.

For more information, contact Sandy Dixon (sandy.dixon@lib.state.ia.us) or Fran Fessler (fran.fessler@lib.state.ia.us), or 1-800-248-4483.

Schedule and Locations

All programs run from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

May 7

Anita Community Center
812 Third St.
Anita, IA

May 8

Four Points Sheraton Hotel and Suites
4800 Merle Hay Road
Des Moines, IA

May 11

Buena Vista College
Hanson Conference Center 8
610 W. Fourth St.
Storm Lake, IA

May 17

Red Fox Inn
1900 Heritage Way
Waverly, IA

May 18

Holiday Inn / Amana
I-80 Exit 225

Presenters

May 7 and 8 - Patricia Owens

- Recently retired from the Connecticut State Library where she was director of library development.
- Consults with local library boards on advocacy and marketing issues

May 11 - Peter Pearson

- President of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library in Minnesota
- Served six years on the board of directors of Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA)

May 17 and 18 - Marianne Roos

- Former reference librarian at the Library of Congress
- Former director of Ramsey County (MN) Library

PLM 1 & 2 classes offered Summer 2001

The State Library is offering Public Library Management (PLM) 1 and 2 in Summer 2001. An extra class is being added to help library directors become certified to meet requirements for Enrich Iowa funds.

The registration fee is \$35. To request a registration form, contact Fran Fessler, (515) 281-5790; 1-800-248-4483; fran.fessler@lib.state.ia.us. Or print a copy of the form from the State Library's website, www.silo.lib.ia.us/certification/cecat.htm.

PLM 1

Registration deadline April 30.

Instructor: Bonnie McKewon

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 1

AND

ICN sessions 9 to 11:30 a.m. June 8, 15, 22, 29; July 13, 20, 27

PLM 2

Registration deadline April 30.

Instructor: Deb Tobias

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, June 4

AND

ICN sessions 9 to 11:30 a.m. June 11, 18, 25; July 2, 9, 16, 23

FOOTNOTES

"Promise Fellows" hired to help with Iowa Stories 2000

Steve Person and Sarah Goepel (shown right) have been hired through Americorps Promise Fellows to work on First Lady Christie Vilsack's "Iowa Stories 2000" project. Person and Goepel will help develop a kit, an outline and make suggestions for communities participating in the project. They will also work with local public schools and libraries to set up literacy inventory councils, and will assist with starting the First Lady's "Books for Babies" program. They can be reached at the State Library, 1-800-248-4483.



FOOTNOTES¹

¹The Official Newsletter of the
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Pamela E. Bradley (Burlington)
Dwight Carlson (Des Moines)
Eldon Huston (Des Moines)
William O'Brien (Des Moines)
Dale Ross (Ames)
Nancy Ross (Harlan)
Berta Van Ekeren (Monroe)

State Library Services

Audio/visual services; Information services and medical library; Specialized consulting services; Law library; Networking; State Data Center; Publications; State documents program

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