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"Libraries in Partnership": Innovative ways of connecting to provide services

The State Library is featuring a new series in Footnotes titled "Libraries in Partnership." The intent is to showcase libraries that are forming innovative alliances with other organizations to provide quality library service in their communities. Articles will run intermittently.

Oskaloosa agencies join forces to teach information literacy

Frustration was the motivating factor in Nancy Simpson's decision to develop an Internet training class for customers.

A typical scenario in the Oskaloosa Public Library, where Simpson is director, involved an older person asking to use the Internet or e-mail, getting signed up, and staring blankly at the computer while inquiring "Now what do I do?"

"Depending on the number of people waiting to be served, the librarian may be able to spend three minutes 'instructing' the person how to use the Internet," said Simpson. "It just wasn't adequate and left both the customer and the librarian feeling very frustrated."

Partnering with Indian Hills Community College and the library at William Penn University, Simpson helped create M.I.C.E. - Mahaska (Co.) Is Computer Educated. The project was partially funded with a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant.

The goal was to reach the "have nots" in Mahaska County -- those citizens who possessed neither the skills nor had ad-



From left, Susan Hasso, Lloyd Patterson, Erma Johnson and Paulette Groet

equating access to the internet to fully benefit from the advantages of electronic resources.

As the lead agency in the project, the Oskaloosa Public Library administered the grant, signed up citizens for the classes, publicized the program and managed the budget. Oskaloosa librarians Susan Hasso and Paulette Groet helped teach the classes, with assistance from staff at Indian Hills, where the training sessions were held.

Librarians at William Penn developed and printed the class curriculum, which emphasized how to use the Internet, e-mail and electronic resources.

Between April 2000 and June 2001, the collaboration was responsible for training over 400 people, many of whom were "older than average" students.

Erma Johnson and Lloyd Patterson were two students who took more than one class.

FOOTNOTES

State Librarian's message

In an effort to help readers get to know State Librarian Mary Wegner, we decided to ask her a few questions. In this issue, we asked Mary when and why she decided to become a librarian.

I didn't consider librarianship as a career until after graduating from Iowa State with a degree in history. While realizing my need to become employable, I also discovered that library work was quite appealing to me, so I enrolled in library school at the University of Iowa. During that time, I worked at the Veterans Administration Hospital library, which included both a patients' library of recreational reading materials and a medical library.

After library school, I became a reference librarian at the Waterloo Public Library. The reference desk was always very busy, and the work was consistently fast-paced and stimulating. At that time, one aspect of the job was answering reference questions which had been submitted to the regional library headquartered in Waterloo. The regional administrator took me on the road with her several times to visit many of the small public libraries who were submitting questions. This experience deepened my appreciation of the role of public libraries in rural Iowa.

My next library job was director of the library at Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines. The advent of electronic database searching had a tremendous impact on our ability to quickly locate information for our customers. During my years at the hospital, we built a new medical library, inaugurated an evidence-based medicine class for resident physicians, and developed a consumer health library for patients, families and the public. My experiences at the

hospital helped me understand the importance of focusing on library visibility and of telling the library story to potential customers and funding sources.

I left the hospital to become Assistant State Librarian in August 2000, and became the Interim State Librarian in July 2001. I worked closely with the Library Services Task Force, the development of the Library System Priorities by the Iowa Commission of Libraries, and the transition from Regional Libraries to Library Service Areas. My responsibilities as Assistant State Librarian included the Gates Grant program in Iowa as well as Library Services and Technology Act (federal) programs and activities. My work with these projects has heightened my awareness of existing library cooperative activities in Iowa, as well as additional opportunities for future library collaboration.

Autonomy and variety are important job characteristics for me, and both have been a part of all of my library positions. There are no dull days in a library! I also value the intelligence, the willingness to cooperate and the innate decency that I find in nearly every librarian I meet.

My term as president of the Iowa Library Association in 1999 confirmed my belief that libraries of all types are fundamentally more alike than different. Libraries have much in common, and the similarities are stronger than the disparities. We strengthen ourselves and each other when we work together.



Oskaloosa agencies teach information literacy

(Cont. from Pg. 1)

"I just decided it was time to drag myself into the 21st century," said Johnson. "Computers and the Internet are so much a part of our world now."

Patterson had more pragmatic reasons. As a nature mapper for Iowa State University, he sends animal tracking information regularly to the school via the Internet. And e-mail is the only way he keeps in touch with an old Navy buddy who refuses to write letters the "old-fashioned" way.

Hasso and Groet found teaching the classes as exciting as the students did taking them.

"It was very rewarding," said Hasso. "The people who attended were very interested in learning all they could. Now we see them coming to the library excited to be able to e-mail their grandchildren or just get on the Internet."

Though grant money has run out, Simpson and her staff are surveying the community to see if there is interest in pursuing more courses. With the curriculum and staff in place, overhead costs would be minimal, said Simpson.

Libraries interested in receiving a copy of the curriculum, or who would like more information about the project, are encouraged to contact Nancy Simpson at (641) 673-0441.

(Cont. on pg. 3)

FOOTNOTES

ALA Libraries encouraged to apply for Year 5 E-rate despite CIPA

The American Library Association (ALA) recently reported that many libraries are deciding not to apply for Year 5 E-rates based on requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). The following is reprinted from the ALA's Washington Office Newswire.

"The following are points ... that, taken together, illustrate why [not applying for E-rate] may be a premature decision for ... libraries:

1) The application window for E-rate form 471 is November 5, 2001 to January 17, 2002. The trial date for ALA's case against CIPA before the United States District Court is February 14, 2001. The Courts will likely reach a decision on the lawfulness of CIPA requirements BEFORE libraries and schools are required to install filtering technology.

2) If libraries do not begin the application process (i.e. file forms 470 and 471 within the application window) they will NOT be allowed to receive E-rate discounts this year, even if the Courts determine that CIPA is unconstitutional. ALA believes its case against CIPA is extremely strong and that libraries who are not beginning the application process will suffer unnecessarily.

3) CIPA is a requirement for E-rate recipients, not E-rate applicants. The forms 470 and 471 do not have CIPA certification components on them. They are simply an indication to SLD and to vendors that a library would like to participate in the program. CIPA certification is not required until form 486 when a library or school indicates

that it will accept funds. Even before CIPA, libraries and schools often received Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDL) and then decided for a variety of reasons not to participate in the program and not to file a form 486.

4) The strongest statement against CIPA is one that clearly demonstrates what the library user community loses because of these overburdensome requirements. This goal is best met by being able to show through a FCDL exactly how much money a library is forfeiting because of CIPA.

Now more than ever, libraries need to apply for the E-rate."

For more information on the E-rate, please contact the local Library Service Area or Judy Jones, State Library, 1-800-248-4483; or e-mail judy.jones@lib.state.ia.us.

State Librarian's message *(Cont. from pg. 2)*

I am honored to have been chosen as State Librarian of Iowa. I have lived in Iowa all my life, and I know from experience what a central role Iowa's libraries play in Iowa communities. I am particularly interested in fostering collaboration among libraries of all types in Iowa, and I believe that my professional background has positioned me to do this. By serving as State Librarian, I believe that I have an opportunity to give something back to my state and to the libraries in it. I look forward to working with all of you to promote excellence and innovation in library services for Iowans.

Libraries get discount on videos/CDs

Iowa libraries may purchase MacAcademy/Windows Academy Computer Training videos and CDs at the same price as Iowa K-12 schools. Ordering information is available on the AEA Collaborate for Educational Media web site at www.acem-ia.org/macacademy.htm.

Certification Update

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

Nancy Easley, Marion
Judith Ferguson, Storm Lake
Ruth Kuhn, Spillville
Kim Olson, Auburn

Dates to Remember

JANUARY 2002

January 1 - New Year's Day
January 15 - Accreditation Report due
January 17 - E-rate filing window for Year 5 closes
January 18-23 - ALA Midwinter Conference - New Orleans
January 21 - Martin Luther King birthday observed
January 30 - Iowa Library Association Legislative Day - Des Moines

FOOTNOTES

Iowa Commission of Libraries - Minutes October 23, 2001 - State Library

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

Present: Dale Ross, Monic Gohlinghorst, Berta Van Ekeren, John Bennett, Pam Bradley, and Eldon Huston

Guests: Karen Burns, Jim Godsey, and LaWanda Roudebush

Staff: Mary Wegner, Steve Cox, Annette Wetteland, Ellen Wilmoth, and Carol Simmons

1.0 Set Agenda

Change 4.0 D of agenda to 4.0 C, Iowa Library Service Area report.

2.0 Approve Minutes

Gohlinghorst moved to accept the minutes of 8/21/01; Huston seconded. Motion carried.

3.0 Financial Report

Cox reported on the State Library's financial status as of September 30, 2001. A special session regarding the budget will be called by Governor Vilsack on November 8. Discussion followed regarding projected cuts and possible scenarios. Cox said that Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) funds have been delayed. Ross noted that there will be a change in the formula for LSTA funds next year which could mean a difference in the amount Iowa receives. Huston moved to accept the financial report. Bradley seconded. Motion carried.

4.0 Communications

A. Commission Reports

1. Iowa Library Association (ILA) Annual Conference. Ross reported that the ILA Conference was well attended and had many interesting sessions, including one on the need for libraries to focus on under-served populations. Ross said the American Library Association's Mid-winter Conference in New Orleans in January will also address the subject. Wegner, Karen Burns and Gina Millsap presented a program at ILA on the Commission's priorities. Wegner said it generated productive discussion and was well received. Roy Kenagy, State Library, presented a HealthInfoIowa session at the conference. Also at the ILA conference, Wegner and the LSA administrators hosted a reception for Library Service Area trustees that was

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well attended. She noted that many said they were pleased to be serving on the boards. The State Library had a display in the exhibit hall where First Lady Christie Vilsack signed her literacy posters for attendees on Thursday afternoon.

B. State Librarian's Report

Wegner reported that a State Library emergency response team had been appointed that will be responsible for updating the disaster manual and arranging training for staff. In the building update, Wegner noted that new tenants will begin moving into the west wing in mid-November. The Office of Citizens' Aide / Ombudsman will be located on the first floor, the Office of Drug Control Policy on the second, and the Treasurer's Office on the third and part of the ground level. The State Library's technical services unit will eventually move to the ground floor of the west wing. The State Library will furnish the board room and the ICN room on the third floor as originally planned. Town Meetings were held the first two weeks in September and were attended by 436 people. Recipients of LSTA partnership grants will be announced soon. The LSTA Advisory group will meet this fall. Wegner said that approximately 80% of public libraries in the United States have a high speed internet connection, compared to 20% in Iowa. LSTA funds will be used for a pilot project using a satellite internet service provider for high speed internet connection for three small public libraries. Wegner announced that Ross was named ILA Member of the Year at the fall conference.

C. Iowa Regional Library System Report

Burns said all Library Service Area Boards have met at least once since being appointed. In response to a question about multi-type library systems and collaborations, Burns reported that North Central Library Service Area has been encouraging these collaborations for some time. Central Iowa Library Service Area is forming a multi-type partnership, and Southwest Iowa Library Service Area has talked with school

districts, public libraries and community colleges about collaboration. Burns noted that information literacy could be a focal point for libraries who wish to focus on multi-type systems. She suggested a possible conference where organizations could come together to discuss the subject. Discussion followed on budget cuts and how LSAs would manage their responsibilities.

5.0 Public Comment

Godsey commented on the impact of last year's legislation (HF 637) to allow for different configurations of library districts. He described scenarios in other states where he has worked. Ross asked how the state budget cuts would affect the Council Bluffs Public Library. Godsey noted that Council Bluffs is growing and possible land annexation could help revenues in the short term.

6.0 Action Items

A. Commission appointments to LSA boards in Southwest and North Central

Ross reported that some LSAs were having trouble filling their boards due to the state requirements to balance gender and political party. Bradley moved to appoint John Teget from Shenandoah to the Southwest Iowa Library Service Area Board, and Janet Adams from Webster City to the North Central Library Service Area Board. Gohlinghorst seconded. Motion carried.

B. Selection of Commission representative for 2002 to Iowa Library Association Foundation

Huston moved to keep Ross as the State Library representative to the Foundation; Bradley seconded. Motion carried.

7.0 Discussion Items

A. Impact of state budget cuts on State Library, Library Service Areas, Enrich Iowa distribution

Wegner said the State Library had prepared several possible budget cut scenarios. Because of the 6% cut at the beginning of FY02, drastic cuts have already been made to the materials budget for the legal and medical collections. Future cuts may affect programs. She gave the Commission a

(Cont. on pg. 5)

FOOTNOTES

Commission minutes

(Cont. from Pg. 4)

short overview of how Enrich Iowa funding might be distributed to libraries. Direct state aide payments have not been made because of uncertainty over the total budget cut. Wegner asked the Commission to approve holding back 15% of the Open Access and Access Plus money to cover possible future budget cuts. Discussion followed. It was agreed that, as soon as possible, the State Library should send 100% of direct state aid and Infrastructure monies to libraries, and up to 85% of Open Access and Access Plus funds. Huston moved; Ross seconded. Motion carried.

B. Formation of LSA Executive Council

Ross gave an overview of the previous Executive Council's duties. The former Regional Library Executive Council had two representatives from each Region. Ross said he will send letters to each LSA to initiate the formation of the new 14-member Council. Burns asked if the Council would act in an advisory capacity to the State Library Commission. Ross said in the past it had not, but that new bylaws could be written to reflect that change. Van Ekeren moved to initiate formation of the new LSA Executive Council; Bradley seconded. Motion carried.

8.0 Recommendation from Search Committee Regarding State Librarian

Ross announced the recommendation of the Search Committee to appoint Mary Wegner as the new State Librarian effective as soon as possible. Huston moved to accept the recommendation; Bradley seconded. Motion carried. Congratulations were extended to Wegner.

9.0 Adjournment

Huston moved to adjourn; Bradley seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: December 4, 2001,
State Library, Des Moines

Happy Holidays

from the staff of the State Library of Iowa



Front row from left, Gerry Rowland, Roy Kenagy, Beth Henning, Steve Cox, Karon Polyard and Linda Maurer. Second row, Geri Mallett, Sandy Dixon, Mary Wegner, Judy Jones, Georgiann Fischer and Lisa Manley. Third row, Carol Simmons, Fran Fessler, Barb Corson, Judy Jones, Gary Krob and Steve Person. Last row, Annette Wetteland and Doug Stephenson. (Not pictured: Alan Schmitz, Helen Dagley, Jacqueline Kokke, Liz Forney, Margaret Noon, Mary Cameron, Nancy Haigh, Nancy Lee, Pam Rees, Rinda Kramme, Ruby Weigel, and Sarah Goepel.)



Law Library staff: Cory Quist, Linda Robertson and Mandy Kirchner

SAVE

2002 Calendar

DATES TO REMEMBER

SAVE

JANUARY 2002

January 1 - New Year's Day**
January 15 - Accreditation Report due
January 17 - E-rate filing window for Year 5 closes
January 18-23 - ALA Midwinter Conference -
New Orleans
January 21 - Martin Luther King birthday observed**
January 30 - Iowa Library Association Legislative
Day - Des Moines

FEBRUARY 2002

Registration for Spring Public Library Management
1 and 2
February 5 - Legislative Day / North Central
February 12 - Legislative Day / Central
February 19 - Legislative Day / Southeast
February 26 - Legislative Day / East Central
February 26 - Commission Meeting* - Des Moines

MARCH 2002

March 5 - Legislative Day / Northeast
March 12-16 - Public Library Association
National Conference - Phoenix
March 19 - Legislative Day / Northwest
March 26 - Legislative Day / Southwest

APRIL 2002

Registration for Summer Public Library
Management 2
April 14-20 - National Library Week
April 18 - Westgate Lecture, Des Moines area
April 19 - ILA/ACRL Spring Meeting, Newton
April 23 - Commission Meeting* - Des Moines

MAY 2002

FirstSearch agreements due at Central Iowa
Library Service Area
May 6-7 - American Library Association
Legislative Day - Washington, DC
May 27 - Memorial Day**

JUNE 2002

June 13-19 - American Library Association
Conference - Atlanta, GA
June 25 - Commission Meeting* - Des Moines
June 30 - Year 2 - 2001 Partnership Grants / Grant
project completion date

* Iowa Commission of Libraries

**State Library Closed

June 30 - Direct State Aid funds expended
June 30 - LSTA Partnership Grant interim reports
due
June 30 - Library Infrastructure funds expended

JULY 2002

Registration for Fall Public Library Management
1 and 2
July 1 - Year 5 e-rate discounts begin
July 4 - Fourth of July Holiday**
July 31 - Direct State Aid Final Report
July 31 - Library Infrastructure Final Report
July 31 - Open Access Annual Report
July 31 - Access Plus Annual Report
July 31 - Year 2 - 2001 LSTA Partnership Grant
claims due
July 31 - Year 2 - 2001 LSTA Partnership Grant
Final Report due

AUGUST 2002

August 15 - Summer Library Program Evaluations
due
August 27 - Commission meeting* - Des Moines
August 31 - Enrich Iowa Letter of Agreement
postmarked

SEPTEMBER 2002

Library Card Sign-Up Month
September 2 - Labor Day**
September 10-13 - Town Meetings
September 17-20 - Town Meetings
September 21-28 - Banned Books Week

OCTOBER 2002

October 9-11 - Iowa Library Association Fall
Conference - Des Moines
October 13-19 - Teen Read Week
October 22 - Commission Meeting* - Des Moines
October 31 - Annual Survey due

NOVEMBER 2002

November 11 - Veteran's Day observed**
November 18-24 - Children's Book Week
November 28-29 - Thanksgiving Day holiday**

DECEMBER 2002

December 10 - Commission Meeting* - Des Moines
December 15 - Direct State Aid Report due
December 25 - Christmas Day**

December 2001

SAVE

**State Library of Iowa
Programs/Services and Contacts**

SAVE

| Program/ Service | State Library Contact | Program/ Service | State Library Contact |
|--|---|---|---|
| Access Plus | Gerry Rowland | Iowa Stories 2000 | Mary Cameron |
| Accreditation | Gerry Rowland | Joblist | Annette Wetteland |
| Annual Survey/ Library Statistics | Gerry Rowland | Legal Reference | Linda Robertson law@mail.lib.state.ia.us |
| Certification/ Public Library Management/ Continuing Education | Sandy Dixon | Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) | Mary Wegner Judy Jones |
| Direct State Aid for Libraries | Sandy Dixon Gerry Rowland | Library Science Collection | Roy Kenagy |
| E-Rate | Judy Jones | Library Standards | Gerry Rowland |
| Electric Library | Judy Jones | Medical Reference | Pam Rees is@mail.lib.state.ia.us |
| FirstSearch | Judy Jones | Open Access | Sandy Dixon |
| Footnotes | Annette Wetteland | Public Policy/ Government Reference | Roy Kenagy |
| Government Documents | Barbara Corson is@mail.lib.state.ia.us | SILO | Gerry Rowland Judy Jones |
| Grants/Funding | Judy Jones | Summer Lib. Program | Mary Cameron |
| <i>HealthInfolowa</i> | Roy Kenagy | State Data Center / Census | Beth Henning Gary Krob |
| Interlibrary loan | Rinda Kramme | State Librarian | Mary Wegner |
| Information Services | Roy Kenagy is@mail.lib.state.ia.us | Youth Services | Mary Cameron |

Iowa WATS Line - 1-800-248-4483

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Mary Cameron | mary.cameron@lib.state.ia.us | (515) 281-7572 |
| Barbara Corson | barb.corson@lib.state.ia.us | (515) 281-6718 |
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FOOTNOTES

Spring 2002 Public Library Management classes scheduled

The State Library is offering Public Library Management I and II beginning in April 2002. The registration fee is \$35. Registration is available online at www.silo.lib.ia.us/certification/cecat.htm, or by calling Fran Fessler, State Library, (515) 281-5790; 1-800-428-4483; fran.fessler@lib.state.ia.us.

Public Library Management 1

Date: Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; May 7, 14, 21, 2002

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 2; 9 to 11:30 a.m. on all other days.

Place: Urbandale Public Library on April 2; ICN sites (to be announced) on other dates.

Instructor: Susan Henricks, MLS

Public Library Management 2

Date: Mondays, March 25; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 2002

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 25; 9 to 11:30 a.m. all other days.

Place: Urbandale Public Library on March 25; ICN sites (to be announced) on other dates

Instructor: Deb Tobias, MLS

FOOTNOTES¹

¹The Official Newsletter of the State Library of Iowa
www.silo.lib.ia.us

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Iowa Commission of Libraries

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Pamela E. Bradley (Burlington)
Dwight Carlson (Des Moines)
Monica Gohlinghorst (Council Bluffs)
Eldon Huston (Des Moines)
William O'Brien (Des Moines)
Dale Ross (Ames)
Berta Van Ekeren (Monroe)

State Library Services

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

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