

## Tentative agenda set for Town Meetings

September's Town Meetings, sponsored by the State and Regional Libraries, will include topics on:

- library budget presentations
- computer security
- different ways libraries can measure their services

In addition, attendees will have a chance to visit with the new Assistant State Librarian Mary Wegner, and State Librarian Sharman Smith.

## Dates/Sites for Town Meetings

September 12 - Mason City

September 13 - Waterloo

September 14 - Kalona

September 19 - Storm Lake

September 20 - Anita

September 21 - Urbandale

Contact your Regional Library for registration information.

## SILO Locator: Up-to-date and better than ever

Despite hiring a new vendor and working by herself for several months, Liz Forney, SILO Programmer, has managed to bring the SILO Locator up-to-date.

The Locator, an electronic "card catalog," lists more than 4.1 million books and other materials owned by Iowa libraries.

Libraries contribute about 70,000 electronic catalog cards to SILO each month.

After verification of format, the records are aggregated by library and

submitted to the vendor for preprocessing.

The vendor "collapses" the multiple holdings onto a single catalog record that lists all the libraries that own a particular book. The entire process takes around a month, which means a library's new books are listed on the Locator much sooner.

The SILO Locator allowed all types and sizes of libraries to contribute and to participate in borrowing and lending statewide.

## Wegner joins State Library



Mary Wegner, director of the health sciences library for Iowa Methodist Medical Center and Iowa Lutheran Hospital, has been named Assistant State Librarian for the State Library of Iowa. Her new duties will begin in mid-August.

Wegner has an M.A. in Library Science from the University of Iowa and worked at the Waterloo Public Library before taking the director's position at Iowa Methodist in 1977.

She was president of the Iowa Library Association in 1999, and has served as a member of the Iowa Commission of Libraries.

"Although the majority of my career has

been spent in a hospital library, I have maintained my contacts with the wider Iowa library community and I have always found great satisfaction in working with librarians from all types of libraries," said Wegner.

"As a native Iowan, I love all of Iowa's libraries and have enormous respect for their important role in Iowa life. I am also aware of the challenges, both economic and cultural, facing all libraries in today's society.

"I have long admired the fine work done by the State Library staff, and I am delighted to have the opportunity to join this team. I hope to visit with many Iowa librarians during the Town Meetings in September," said Wegner.

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# FOOTNOTES

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## Notes from the State Librarian



CONGRATULATIONS to the 199 public libraries that have met the requirements of public library accreditation. This achievement requires a tremendous local commitment to quality library services.

Accredited libraries must excel in all areas of library administration and services including:

- Governance
- Administration/Funding
- Staffing
- Collection Management
- Services
- Public Relations
- Access/Facilities

Participation in the Accreditation Program has grown significantly and will continue to grow as a direct result of the Enrich Iowa Program. This year 42 public libraries achieved accreditation for the first time and 69 public libraries were reaccredited. (See listing on page 7.) Libraries of all sizes are meeting the requirements of accreditation as seen below:

Up to 4999 population	152
5000 to 9999	24
10,000 to 49,000	15
50,000 and over	8

I commend those libraries that have met the requirements of accreditation and encourage all public libraries to work toward this goal. After all, the basic reason for our efforts is to improve library services for all Iowans.

## Building consulting grants available

The State Library has allocated \$40,000 of FY01 LSTA monies to continue the building consulting services to Iowa libraries. East Central Regional Library will continue to administer the project.

The maximum amount a library will receive is \$2,500. Libraries must contact a qualified library building consultant with prior building experience. Building consulting fees and expenses must be negotiated by the library and consultant prior to submission of the grant application. The application process begins immediately.

LSTA funds for library building consultation may be requested for the following services:

- Library space needs assessment of current facility;
- Library building process overview;
- Evaluation of library sites;
- Building program review;
- Assistance in hiring an architect;
- ADA compliance evaluation and planning;
- Architectural drawing review;
- Funding consultation.

Projects must be completed by June 30, 2001. For an application or further information, contact Lily Lau at East Central Regional Library, 1-800-332-7914.

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## 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.

**Andy Alexander**, Mason City  
**Sally Butcher**, Palmer  
**Faye Clinton**, North Liberty  
**Robin Darland**, Cedar Falls  
**Karen Davidson**, Pella  
**Leon Green**, Cedar Rapids  
**Heidi Grootheest**, Doon  
**Dorothy Hanks**, Quimby  
**Peter Hartford**, Oxford  
**Theresa Hawkins**, Owen  
**Rebecca Heil**, Dubuque County  
**Patricia Holst**, Evely  
**Phyllis Jacobson**, Fontanelle  
**Linda Jensen**, Fontanelle  
**Susan Kearney**, Lakota  
**Laura Kuhl**, North Liberty  
**Martha Landsness**, Sioux Rapids  
**Jill Pasker**, Colesburg  
**Nancy Pfab**, Cascade  
**Eileen Redinger**, Lake Mills  
**Mary Rieger**, Waverly  
**Nancy Roe**, Mount Ayr  
**Phyllis Sargent**, Ottumwa  
**Mary Stabe**, Fredericksburg  
**Sarah Stephens**, Scranton  
**Roslin Thompson**, Sigourney  
**Amy White**, Lisbon

## State Library's Beverly Beck retires after 45 years of service

Before Ergonomics, before air conditioners, when lighting was "pretty bad," Beverly Beck began a 45-year career at the State Library that ended with her retirement on June 30, 2000.



The Merit System had not been introduced when Beck began working for the State Library in 1955. Departments made their own decisions about who to hire. "The State Library sent clerical job openings to the business teachers at East High School, and that is how I heard about the position of clerk-typist," said Beck.

"My work area was on the ground floor of this {Old Historical} building. There was no air conditioning, so if the temperature reached 100 degrees outside, the Executive Council would send everyone home. Of course in our building it would be higher than 100 degrees," said Beck.

"I sat at an old wooden desk on a straight-backed wooden chair and typed on an old Smith Corona manual typewriter that should have been in the historical museum. The first electric Remington typewriter I had was in 1958."

In 1955, the State Library was like a public library, according to Beck.

"There were fiction, non-fiction and

children's collections and patrons from surrounding areas used us as a public library. We served the public libraries and schools with three-month collections of books."

At the same time, the staff consisted of a state librarian, secretary/accountant, two reference librarians, an adult librarian, a children's librarian, a clerk-typist, receptionist, mail clerk and a cataloging department with three or four people who cataloged and mended the books. Later, pages were hired to help retrieve books and reshelve materials.

One of the most frequently asked questions Beck receives is, "how many state librarians have you worked for?"

She not only remembers their names, but when they were employed.

1955-56 - Blanche Smith  
1956-71 - Ernestine Grafton  
1971-72 - Maurice Travillian  
1972-73 - No librarian for six months  
1973-82 - Barry Porter  
1982-83 - Jack Hurkett (acting)  
1983-86 - Claudya Muller  
1986-87 - John Montag  
1987 - Linda Robertson/Ellen Holroyd (acting)  
1987-91 - Shirley George  
1992 - Christie Brandau (acting)  
1992-Present - Sharman Smith

"Beverly will be hard to replace," said State Librarian Sharman Smith. "We will miss her, but wish her the best."

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## Iowa Commission of Libraries - Minutes June 27, 2000 - Indianola Public Library

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

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Present: Dale Ross, Chair; Nancy Ross, Vice-Chair; Berta Van Ekeren; Eldon Huston; Dwight Carlson; William O'Brien; John Bennett; Mary Wegner

Guests: Katherine Von Wald, Central Regional Administrator; Kay Elliott, ILA Representative; Joyce Godwin, Librarian, Indianola Public Library

Staff: Sharman B. Smith, State Librarian; Beverly Beck; Alison Brinker; Annette Wetteland; Sandy Dixon; Gerry Rowland

### 1.0 Set Agenda

The agenda was set as follows: 1) Joyce Godwin reports after setting agenda. 2) Special Reports - 1. Library Services Task Force to be moved to 7.0 Discussion Items as C. 3) Under 6.0 Action Items, add E. Appointment of Task Force representatives.

### Host Library - Joyce Godwin -

The Indianola Public Library was established on June 29, 1884 and is the ninth oldest library in the state. The new library is 16 years old, 20 percent of its circulation is in the rural area and 10% of the library's funding is from the county. Godwin hopes to start a Friends group this fall.

### 2.0 Approve Minutes

Minutes approved as mailed. Motion by Carlson; second by Huston.

### 3.0 Financial Report

Brinker reviewed the FY00 budget through May 31. The financial report was received as presented. At the August meeting, the Commission will receive the FY01 budget for approval. The State Library's budget for FY01 is cut by \$48,000, below the midyear reversion. Because of adjustments in the state's salary scale and anticipated insurance costs increases, the salary budget is \$20,000 short, making the budget cut closer to \$80,000. Cuts will come from the materials budget, Open Access, Access Plus., salary attrition, and out-of-state travel.

### 4.0 Communications

#### A. Commission Reports

1. Planning Retreat - Commissioners reported the June 22/23 retreat to be very positive and profitable. Sandy Dixon and Jim Alsip helped to clarify the self assessment report. Smith said the commission discussions of priorities, recognition, and streamlined strategic planning would be extremely valuable as the staff continued to work on the self assessment and improvement plan. The State Library's IA

Excellence team will meet with the facilitator on June 28 to discuss the retreat results and begin development of the improvement plan..

#### B. State Librarian's Report

1. Building - Smith believes the library will move back to the east side in August or early September. Plans for staff offices have been finalized. Furnishings are being ordered. As the result of a major power failure on the capitol complex last week, the State Library lost a complete network transformer on first floor. First floor staff were without computers for 2 ½ days. Cost incurred as a result of the incident will be submitted to the DGS.

2. ALA Summer Conference - Ross, Bennett, and Huston are attending ALA in Chicago beginning July 8, as well as Smith and other State Library staff.

3. Libraries For the Future (LFF) - Iowa is one of nine states selected to participate in "Communities and Libraries," an advocacy training program organized by LFF. The program will consist of advocacy training for library trustees in the spring of 2001. Dale Ross will serve as the state coordinator for the project.

4. Calendar - Commission dates for the coming year will be decided at the August Commission meeting.

5. The Statewide Database Committee is meeting Friday, June 30. The committee will review different databases to determine those for which statewide contracts are desired. The 30-member committee includes public, academic, special and school librarians.

6. Articles - Smith pointed out the article from the American Association Law Library Journal on the Law Library, the Iowa Caucuses and CBS. Also, information on the history of the State Library was also distributed.

C. Iowa Regional Library System Report - Von Wald brought the Commission up-to-date on what is happening in the Central Region. In FY01 the Region plans a weeding project with area libraries. Libraries participating in the demonstration project will weed anything that has not circulated in three years. They will be required to keep two, six-month circulation records. After July 1, Central will provide backup reference service for libraries in Central, EC, NC, SE and SW Regions.

#### 5.0 Public Comment

Elliott - Pleased to hear about the Trustee Advocacy program, adding that it will be

beneficial to library boards. Suggested the Database Advisory Committee think about a consortium buying individual subscriptions as group subscriptions?

### 6.0 Action Items

A. Approval of Plan of Service - Regional Library Trustees approved the Regional Libraries' section of the Plan. Smith reviewed the State Library section. Huston moved approval, Second, Wegner. Carlson asked if we had a signed agreement of collaboration - a statement of commitment on both sides. After discussion, the motion to approve the plan carried.

B. Approval of Bylaws - After a review of the bylaws, Carlson moved approval, Second Van Ekeren. Motion carried.

C. Appointment of Budget Committee - D. Ross asked Van Ekeren and N. Ross to work with Smith on the 2001 budget. Both agreed. D. Appointment of Nominating Committee - At the direction of the Commission, a nominating committee was not appointed assuming current officers would continue to serve if nominated at next meeting.

E. Task Force on the Delivery of Library Services in Iowa - Appointments - D. Ross asked Carlson and Huston to serve as the commission representatives on the Task Force. Both agreed.

### 7.0 Discussion Items

A. Enrich Iowa - Smith reviewed the Enrich Iowa program for new Commission members. B. State Library Program Director - Interviews were held last week but no offer has been made.

C. Library Services Task Force - The State Public Policy Group (SPPG), has agreed to serve as an outside facilitator. An outside library consultant will also serve on the Task Force management team. Letters were sent to 25 stake holder groups asking them to appoint one or two people to the Task Force. The Commission will receive the final recommendations of the Task Force in November and make their recommendations to the Governor and Legislature in January 2001.

### 8.0 Adjournment.

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## Iowa City Historical Society building closes for repairs

Due to extensive interior and exterior construction projects, the State Historical Society of Iowa's (SHSI) Centennial Building in Iowa City will be closed to the public from July 24 through September 4.

While the Centennial Building is tentatively scheduled to re-open on September 5, inclement weather and other unforeseen circumstances can influence the construction schedule. For more information, call (319) 335-3916.

## Library program evaluations due

Libraries participating in the 2000 Summer Library Program, "Cosmic Connections," are reminded to submit an evaluation form and anecdotal stories by August 15. The forms are located on pg. 26 of the summer library program manual.

The State Library must provide anecdotal stories on the impact of Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)-funded projects. (For example, comments by children and their parents about the value of the program.)

Evaluation forms should be sent to the North Central Regional Library, 22 N. Georgia, Suite 208, Mason City, IA 50401-3435; or faxed to (515) 423-6261.

## Libraries can help provide information related to fall PBS Moyers series

On September 10-13, 2000, a four-part PBS series led by journalists Bill and Judith Davidson Moyers will report on the end-of-life issues facing Americans. Based on two years of research, "On Our Own Terms: Moyers on Dying" will reveal stories of the dying, their families, and their caregivers, and illustrate the growing struggle to balance medical intervention with comfort and humanity.

A statewide collaborative of health-care, social service, faith community, insurers, and governmental agencies has been established to work with local communities to assist them in identifying and addressing specific local end-of-life issues. Iowa Public Television and the collaborative are working in partnership to assist Iowa communities in using "On Our Own Terms" as a springboard to facilitate local end-of-life care dialogues.

In addition, the "On Our Own Terms" web site, the companion guide to the PBS series, will launch on August 28 and will feature a broad variety of resources on end-of-life care. Visitors to the site will find:

- an in-depth assortment of articles, written by experts in the field, on aspects of end-of-life care ranging from pain management to grief counseling for children;
- a guide to financial planning for end-of-life care;
- a digital diary of one dying patient's hospice experience;
- a debate between two leading doctors over the pros and cons of physician-assisted suicide;
- resources for art therapy for the dying and their loved ones;
- audio and video clips from the "On Our Own Terms" program;

- information about a Yahoo! chat with Bill Moyers on the series.

**The web address is [www.iptv.org/onourown/terms](http://www.iptv.org/onourown/terms).**

Iowans in more than 40 communities are holding regular meetings to plan outreach activities to coincide with the broadcast. To find out who to contact to join the efforts in your community, click on the "community contacts" link on the web site.

The web site includes additional resources, including other web sites, that may offer assistance. In addition, an annotated book list on end of life topics can be found at [www.lastacts.org](http://www.lastacts.org). (Click on book shop.)

To find out more about the Iowa outreach project, contact: Mary Bracken, Programming & Outreach Coordinator, Iowa Public Television, 1-800-532-1290; (515) 242-3124; or e-mail [mary@iptv.org](mailto:mary@iptv.org).

## How Iowa libraries may participate

Viewers of the documentary will be encouraged to contact their local libraries for more information or resources.

Libraries may want to consider offering book discussion groups or discussion sessions in conjunction with the series.

Iowa Public Television is sending brochures (see sample in this issue of Footnotes) and posters to hospices, home healthcare organizations, the medical community, community leaders and libraries throughout the state.

Please read the information, note additional resources, and be prepared for customers to visit their local libraries.

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# FOOTNOTES

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## **LIBRARY SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS**

**Patents\*ILL\*Medical\*Census\*Public Policy\*  
Library Science\*State and Federal Documents\*  
Audio Visual Services \* Law  
by Barb Corson  
State Library Reference Librarian**

### Iowa State Documents Depository Library - Update

The Iowa State Documents Depository Library at the State Library of Iowa has received an average of 200 documents per month this year from virtually every state agency, including publications of the state universities. It also received approximately 1,800 additional legislative titles. Two copies of each item received are permanently maintained in the State Library's collection.

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A project to retrospectively catalog state documents issued prior to 2000 began in March. Holdings information for these documents is being added to the State Library's online catalog.

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The State Documents Center website is <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/stdocsctr/statedocshomepage.htm>. The site includes names of participating depository libraries and a selected list of core documents with their retention schedules.

Discussions began on digitization of state publications and linking images to bibliographic records.

## **State Library will participate in advocacy training program**

The State Library of Iowa has been selected to participate in "Communities and Libraries: An Advocacy Training Program," organized by Libraries for the Future in cooperation with Friends of Libraries USA, and funded by a grant from the Viburnum Foundation.

Four identical programs for public library trustees will be held around the state in the spring of 2001. State Library Dale Ross will be the state coordinator.

"The goal is to diversify and expand the community of Iowa library advocates in order to increase support for public libraries," said Ross. Public library trustees will receive the training and tools they need to sustain and improve awareness and support for public libraries.

## **Two professors join SLIS faculty at Iowa**

The University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science announced the appointments of Dr. James Elmborg and Dr. Christine Pawley to the faculty effective August 15. Elmborg comes from Furman University and Wofford College where he served as Andrew Mellon Librarian for Information Technology. Pawley has taught information management, and library and information studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and at the College of St. Catherine.

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## Nearly 200 Iowa public libraries accredited

Congratulations to the following Iowa public libraries that recently met conditions for state accreditation for the first time:

Altoona, Ankeny, Armstrong, Atlantic, Britt, Chariton, Crystal Lake, Denver, DeSoto, Dubuque County, Dunkerton, Elkader, Fontanelle, Fredericksburg, Garner, Grand Junction, Greenfield, Guttenberg, Hudson, and Humboldt.

Also, Janesville, Lake Mills, Lakota, Logan, Lohrville, Luverne, Milford, Mitchellville, Monona, North English, Oskaloosa, Pella, Reinbeck, Richland, Scott County, Sioux Center, Urbandale, Vinton and Waukon.

Libraries which recently renewed accreditation include:

Ackley, Alexander, Anita, Arlington, Bancroft, Battle Creek, Belle Plaine, Bettendorf, Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Churdan, Clarion, Clarksville, Clinton, Columbus Junction, Coon Rapids,

Coralville, Corning, Cresco, and Creston.

Also, Dubuque, Earlham, Estherville, Fairbank, Fayette, Fenton, Fertile, Fort Atkinson, Gowrie, Grafton, Greene, Grimes, Grinnell, Harlan, Hawkeye, Holstein, Jesup, Jewell, Keokuk, Knoxville, Lake View, Laurens, Letts and Livermore.

Also, Manchester, Marion, McGregor, New Hampton, Nora Springs, Oakland, Osage, Ossian, Oxford Junction, Parkersburg, Pocahontas, Renwick, Rockwell, Roland, Scranton, Shell Rock, Sioux City, Slater, Spirit Lake and Storm Lake.

Also, Ventura, Victor, Waterloo, Wellsburg and Wilton.

To-date, 199 Iowa public libraries have been accredited. Each library will receive an official Certificate of Accreditation signed by the Governor and the Chair of the Iowa Commission of Libraries.

## BCR elects Iowans to board, offices

The BCR (Bibliographical Center for Research) Board of Trustees elected Richard Doyle, director of Library Services and Academic Computing at Stewart Memorial Library, Coe College, as its new president for the July 2000-2001 fiscal year. BCR member libraries also reelected Doyle to his second term on the Board.

Marilyn Mercado, associate dean of library services at Rod Library, University of Northern Iowa, was named to BCR's new Executive Committee.

Newly elected Board members include James Godsey, director of the Council Bluffs Public Library.

## When to Use First Search / Electric Library

by Karen Burns, Administrator  
Southwest Iowa Regional Library

These are not cut-and-dried or mutually exclusive; you may end up checking both!

### When to use First Search

- Locating books, for ILL or purchase
- Questions from professionals about their fields--medical, for example
- Information on education
- Scientific questions
- Events
- Statistics
- Consumer information
- Financial information about publicly owned companies
- Links to websites: NetFirst

### When to use Electric Library

- School reports for elementary, middle, high school
- Questions about people who have appeared in the media or on the news
- Full-text of well-known poems along with commentaries
- When you want to search both periodicals and reference books
- Maps
- Photographs
- Spanish language periodicals
- Full-text articles that are only indexed on First Search
- Full-text broadcast transcripts
- Certain periodicals that were not available on First Search
- Pop culture

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## Annual surveys mailed, also available online

A print copy of the 1999-2000 annual survey was mailed to public libraries on July 3.

The annual survey collects current information about public service outlets, holdings, staffing, income, expenditures, circulation, services, and hours open. Furthermore, it helps provide a picture of libraries on a state and nationwide basis. The report is authorized by law (Iowa Code 256.51 (H)).

The 1999-2000 annual survey can be downloaded and printed for reference purposes. The survey is available in Word and WordPerfect format at <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/statistics/annualsurvey.htm>. These files have a .zip extension for download purposes only. They are not compressed files. Once they are downloaded using the "save file" function in the web browser, they can be opened in the word processing program.

The annual survey is due October 31, 2000. Libraries that do not return an annual survey by then may not be eligible for Enrich Iowa funding in FY2002. Libraries are strongly encouraged to complete the annual survey by September 1 so that data for county contracts and Regional directories can be compiled in a timely manner.

The annual survey will be available in web-based format using Bibliostat Collect in late summer.

## FOOTNOTES<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Official Newsletter of the  
State Library of Iowa  
[www.silo.lib.ia.us](http://www.silo.lib.ia.us)

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### Iowa Commission of Libraries

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

State Library of Iowa  
E. 12th and Grand  
Des Moines IA 50319

BULK RATE  
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Des Moines, Iowa  
Permit No. 1195

MEDIA SPECIALIST/LIBRARIAN