LINDA M. HASSELSTROM PRAISES LIBRARIES, WHERE INFORMATION AND ENTERTAINMENT Await READERS OF ALL AGES

Originally appeared in the South Dakota Standard, reprinted with permission

When I was growing up in Hermosa, South Dakota, where we moved when I was 9 years old, my mother was anxious for me to continue to read as prolifically as I had when we lived two blocks from the Rapid City Public Library (The current building is pictured above.).

And my father’s philosophy was to go to Rapid City only when we had a list of errands to run as long as his arm.

But Hermosa had no library, so my mother nervied herself up, and argued with my father, and drove me (I’d rather not think about her driving hysteria) to Rapid City.

There the kindly librarians — possibly worn down by my mother’s shrill explanations and demands — would allow me to check out as many books as I could carry on a card my mother paid for from her grocery money.

I seem to recall the card cost $7.50 for non-residents at that time. Now a non-resident card costs $99 per card per year or $8.25 per card per month!

These days, though, reading children in the Hermosa area can use the Hermosa Library, where they can get a library card for no charge!

Not only is this incredible privilege free, but Roberta Philip, the librarian, takes an interest in every single child who checks out books. She calls them by name, asks how they liked the books they are turning in, and recommends others they might like. Her volunteers, all women from the community, do the same.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jamie Formanek

It was lovely to see everyone’s faces this year during our first in-person SDLA Conference in two years. It was exciting to discuss ideas face-to-face, rebuild our connections, and make new ones. We even had a group of teens from Madison stop in for Lisa Martin’s session! So many ideas were sparked during this year’s conference. I would like to give a sincere thank you to Shari Theroux for not only planning the wonderful conference but for also taking charge of the Local Arrangements Committee.

We are beginning to plan for the 2023 SDLA Conference in Rapid City on September 27-29. The theme for the conference is “Roll for Initiative: Everybody In”. With this theme, we are hoping you encourage everyone to participate in SDLA. Please keep an eye out for the call for proposals and submit your ideas to help us make an exciting conference next year!

Jamie

The SDLA 2023 Conference committee is hard at work planning another spectacular conference for you. This year’s theme is "Roll for initiative: everybody in".

Submit your proposals for the conference sessions!

Deadline for submissions is Friday, April 14, 2023.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Rapid City, September 28th - September 30th.
Hello from the Mountain Plains Library Association.
Melanie Argo and I were able to connect with many of you at the SDLA conference. For those that we didn’t connect with, I wanted to share information about MPLA.

I am humbled to be serving as the current president of MPLA. Melanie is the SD representative to MPLA, serving on the SDLA executive board. She drew for 10 free MPLA memberships at conference.
The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) https://mpla.us/ is a 12-state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals and friends of libraries. Its purpose is to promote the development of librarians and libraries by providing significant educational and networking opportunities.
South Dakota is one of the member states.

MPLA is a regional library association, bigger than SDLA, but not as big as PLA, ACRL, or AASL. MPLA bases its success on an active, enthusiastic, sharing membership. Where our people are so few and distances are so great, each librarian, staff member and library is a vital resource.

The beauty of MPLA, in my opinion, is the relationships made with librarians throughout the 12-state region. I have gained so many ideas from other states and brought those back to South Dakota. The new state park pass program, Scan Day https://libguides.library.sd.gov/services/scanday, and having the SD State Library host monthly chats for librarians https://library.sd.gov/CAL/2022/SDSL-CllctCmnct.aspx are three examples.

I invite you to check out the MPLA website and see all that we have to offer https://mpla.us/. Our next conference is joint with the Oklahoma Library Association in March 2023.

Brenda Hemmelman
MPLA President

FROM THE INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE

Reporting Form Now Available: Intellectual Freedom Challenges
SDLA now has a form for reporting intellectual freedom challenges such as book challenges or program content complaints available under the Members dropdown on the website or here:
https://www.sdlibraryassociation.org/page/ChallengeReport

If you run into one of these situations, please report it to SDLA so that we are able to track challenges and have an idea of what’s happening in the state regarding intellectual freedom. We also ask that you report the challenge to the American Library Association as well here:
https://www.ala.org/tools/challengesupport/report

In both cases, reporting is confidential. If you have any questions about intellectual freedom challenges, please feel free to reach out to Intellectual Freedom Committee chair, Nancy Swenson: nswenson@cityofbrookings-sd.gov
Moreover, the library offers interlibrary loans, so if the book is available, the Hermosa library can get it for you.

In addition, Hermosa has access to the Black Hills Library Digital Consortium via the Libby or OverDrive apps, allowing you to check out hundreds of ebooks and audiobooks.

Besides all this, you can find videos, local newspapers, magazines, printers/copiers/scanners, computers, Free WiFi 24 hours a day and seven days a week, meeting rooms, study rooms, reference materials, book discussions, story time, and an online catalog. Ask about the summer reading program and test proctoring.

And I’ve noticed that many library patrons who buy books from other sources donate them to the library for further sale, enabling the library to make additional funds. And every Friday from 1-5 p.m., while one of her volunteers staffs the library, “Bert” is in the basement where you can buy discarded books for a free-will donation!

I go to the Hermosa branch library almost every day that it is open to borrow a magazine to which I do not subscribe, to browse the shelves, check out or donate books, to ask the knowledgeable librarian about her recommendations for books or other materials, and sometimes to catch up on the news of various groups in town who keep the librarian informed about public activities. I use the interlibrary loan privilege frequently.

The Hermosa Branch Library has saved me an incalculable amount of money in providing services I’d have to drive to Rapid City to find.

Find it at 234 Main St., on the left as you drive down the main drag, opposite the red-brick school.
ALA Counsel has been meeting quite a bit these last few months about revising the ALA Bylaws. On Friday, 26 August, I attended a virtual ALA Council meeting where we conducted the required second vote to rescind the ALA Constitution---again voting overwhelmingly in the affirmative to do so. The first was at the ALA Annual Conference this past June in Washington DC, (which I attended virtually).

During the Annual Conference this past June, the ALA Council tasked the Constitution and Bylaws committee with creating a revised set of ALA Bylaws that integrates content from the Constitution into a single updated Bylaws document that reflects a modern, forward-looking Association. It is requested that the Bylaws document supports “One ALA”, and is inclusive, transparent, iterative, and accountable. The Constitution hasn’t been touched in 30 years, and it is about time that it is revised.

On November 3, I attended a virtual ALA Council Discussion regarding the draft for the Operating Agreement Policy Revision.

There is a Feedback Listening Session scheduled for November 14 for the ALA Bylaws 2nd Draft which I am signed up to attend.

The proposed policy achieves the following:
- Shorter, clearer policy
- References to Constitution, Bylaws, and other policies to reduce duplication
- Clear direction about the budget process
- Elimination of overhead – costs to be determined within budget process
- Policy is focused on policy only, while practices/implementation to be documented within budget and operational practices
- Focus is on Divisions but the policy influences Roundtable practices

I will be virtually attending Library Learning Experience (Lib Learn X, which used to be known as Mid-Winter) in January 2023, which is in New Orleans this year (it would be nice to travel to New Orleans though, wouldn’t it?). There will be a Bylaws Convention to put the finishing touches on the General Revision for Council approval. Following that, the membership will be invited to vote on both the rescission of the Constitution and the new Bylaws on the April 2023 spring ballot.

**MPLA UPDATES**

Submitted by MPLA Rep, Melanie Argo

Hey Friends! It sure was great to see everyone at SDLA. I had a good time connecting and chatting about life and libraries. As part of MPLA’s commitment to the state associations, we had a booth where current MPLA president, Brenda Hemmelman and I had a chance to share more about MPLA. It was a great time. If you know any of these lovely librarians, be sure to send them congrats on receiving a FREE membership to MPLA.

- Hannah Caffee, Hand County Library
- Jayne Niland, Sisseton Memorial Library
- Jamie Formanek, Watertown Regional Library
- Hannah Voudry, Siouxland Libraries
- Lori Williams, Flandreau Public Schools
- Teri Ewalt, Webster Public Library
- Beth Wells, Adventure Library, Harrisburg School District
- Misti Burns, Tripp County Library Grossenburg Memorial
- Tammy Wollschlager, Grant County Public Library
- JoAnne Freitag, Presentation College Library

New at MPLA: Recently, MPLA launched a same address newly designed website: https://mpla.us/ If you are not a member yet, first year is ½ off!

What’s coming up for MPLA: MPLA is celebrating 75 years at the next conference – Norman, OK March 8th – 10th
[https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual_conference](https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual_conference)

Leadership Institute May 2023 – Learn more to prepare for 2025: [https://mpla.us/leadership/](https://mpla.us/leadership/)

What are the Board and committees working on:
Institutional membership perks, dual memberships, an updated logo.
CONFERENCE PHOTOS

Jeri Light

Craig Johnson

Elizabeth Fox

Sarah Jones-Lutter and Cheyenne Marie Chontos

Water Room fun

Keynote Speaker Anton Treuer

Lisa Brunick and Ana Oliver

Sand fun

Keynote Speaker Axton Betz-Hamilton

Awards Banquet

email your photos to bookmarksdl@gmail.com for inclusion in the SDLA photo archive!
ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

Submitted by SDLA Public Relations Committee

The South Dakota Library Association (SDLA) held its first in-person conference since 2019 in Brookings, SD last week. After digital conferences and constant change, the theme was Resilience & Reinvention. The sessions focused on how to stay relevant in an ever-changing environment.

Annual Awards are a highlight of the conference. This year, SDLA honored five recipients. A lot of people are doing great things in libraries, and these awards give libraries and librarians an opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments!

- Friend of the Library Award Winner – Sean Dempsey, Watertown Public Library. Dempsey’s Brewery & Restaurant partnered with the public library resulting in more than 340,000 minutes read and 266 pizzas donated for area K-12 students.

- Trustee of the Year Award Winner – Faye Bice, Rapid City Public Library. Bice was crucial in guiding the library during the COVID-19 crisis and a guiding force in RCPL’s pop-up library and bookmobile projects.

- Support Staff of the Year Award Winner – Linda Keller, Redfield Carnegie Library. Keller dedicated over 30 years to the Redfield Carnegie Library. Highlights of her tenure include guiding the community through a physical library expansion, book delivery and outreach, and organizing community gatherings.

- New Librarian of the Year Award Winner – Micole Davis, Phoebe Apperson Hearst Library. In one year at the public library in Lead, Davis transformed the summer reading program, expanded preschool story time, and home-school hour.

- Librarian of the Year Award Winner – Doris Ann Mertz, Custer County Library. Mertz is known as a mentor in the library community. She was the Director at Custer County Library for a decade, active in the South Dakota State Library Institute, and expanded programs for Custer High School students. She recently transitioned to District Librarian of the Custer County School District.

Congratulations to the recipients and their libraries! The work librarians are doing is not going unnoticed!

If you want more information about the awards, visit the SDLA website. If you’re interested in nominating someone for next year’s awards, please reach out to the Public Relations Committee Chair, Jennifer Williams-Curl: jennifer.williams@wdt.edu
WEBSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY: A SIGN OF THINGS TO COME

Submitted by Teri Ewalt

After 79 years of being in the same building with city hall, the Webster Public Library has finally been recognized with a sign on the outside of the building. The newly erected sign is on the boulevard of Main Street, Webster, South Dakota. We are very happy to now be visible for local and especially visitors to the community to locate us.

CI-CI HALLOWEEN CRAFTS

Submitted by Marilyn Mendenhall

Elementary students at Crow Creek Tribal School, Stephan, South Dakota made pop up monsters during library class after reading a monster story prior to Halloween.

They learned that the Dakota word for monster is ci-ci (pronounced chi-chi.) Marilyn Mendenhall is the district librarian and also a Wookiye (Lakota term which means to help, aid, assist) teacher.

She attempts to incorporate cultural information into instruction whenever possible in order to retain the childrens’ heritage.
The Madison Public Library works to provide access to dynamic collections, but that dynamism isn’t limited to building the collection. Staff brings that same energy to ensuring the library serves the community well. Recently, systems librarian Melanie Argo spearheaded a project which resulted in a new look in one area of the library. With the new look came expanded options for using the space.

“I’ve always thought about this space and how we can use it to better serve our community,” she said this week, referring to the space east of the circulation desk.

In the past, the area was bisected by the library’s magazine collection and a collection of prints hung on the wall. The prints were given to the Friends of the Public Library for a fundraiser.

“Its usage was down, and we felt the need to move in a different direction,” Argo explained, acknowledging that in its heyday, the prints formed a popular collection. Donating the collection to the Friends made sense because the organization exists for one purpose – to support the Madison Public Library.

“Basically, it comes back to us in a different way that benefits us and the community,” Argo said.

With the bare wall and an awareness of community needs, she went to work. She had noticed the meeting room was too small for some community events, and moving them out of the meeting room didn’t fully address the issue.

“When Contae Loch played, a lot of people came to enjoy the music, but it always seemed so tight,” Argo observed.

Her solution was to move the magazine collection to open up floorspace. She turned to local businesses for assistance.

Kolorworks Paint and Decorating was able to recommend a color for the wall which was both striking and nonintrusive. Gary Fawbush of Gary’s Custom Woodworking, who had built the library’s display cases, built the wall shelving where magazines are now displayed.

Argo is delighted with both the quality of the work and with the cost. When she initially developed the concept and researched costs, she turned to traditional library supply companies. Although the library board fully supported the concept, they did suggest she have Fawbush bid the project.

“He came back with a quote. It was way less than we were expecting and included the installation,” Argo reported.

The shelving previously used for magazines has been moved and is now used for audiobooks. Portable racks displaying new books have been moved into that space, and other furniture was rearranged.

Dakota State University students assisted with that on the university’s Day of Service, Sept. 22.

“We’re very thankful for their willingness and muscle,” Argo said. “About a dozen people helped with moving furniture and collections, dusting and taking items to the basement. It was a great collaboration.”

The public response has been positive. Patrons have commented on the way the changes have opened up that area of the library.

Recently, when the Friends of the Library hosted a concert by Kerry Grombacher and Aspen Black, that area was used. The comfortable chairs which are arranged in conversational groupings for daily use were lined up with more than four dozen of the chairs normally used for community events.

This provided an attractive and comfortable area for the performance, but didn’t curtail other users from taking advantage of library resources. “If people were coming in and didn’t want to listen to the music, they could get back to the collection,” Argo noted. “There was space for everyone.”

She is pleased the library can now offer the community another resource: a gathering space larger than the meeting room, but not too large for modest gatherings. There is only one caveat: the event must be open to the public, Argo indicated.

Original article at the Madison Daily Leader
With support from the Sanford School of Medicine’s Ethics and Humanities faculty and from the DeGroot Center for Bioethics, Humanities, and the Healing Arts, the Wegner Health Sciences Library launched a Health Humanities book and speaker series titled "Speaking of Health." This series is funded in part by a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council.

The first author and speaker, Mara Buchbinder, spoke at Wegner Library on September 15th. Dr. Buchbinder is a Professor of Social Medicine and core faculty in the Center for Bioethics at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She is the author of three books and the editor of three more, including the two-volume series The Social Medicine Reader (Duke University Press). She spoke about her most recent book, Scripting Death: Stories of Assisted Dying in America. (2021).

The second speaker, Sam Kean, will speak on December 20th. Kean, a NYT bestselling author of six books, will discuss medical ethics and medical history related to his most recent publication, The Icepick Surgeon (2021), a fascinating survey of crimes committed by scientists, all of whom shared the desire to "do science too well, to the exclusion of their humanity" [Publishers' Weekly].

Follow Wegner Library on social media for an announcement of our third speaker in April. All events begin at 6:00 PM and are held at the Wegner Library and live-streamed through YouTube.

More information can be found here: https://libguides.usd.edu/healthhumanities
An illustrated review of the Northern Great Plains that blends natural history and human history

“The most complete, in-depth look at Dakota ecosystems and their history. An absolutely fascinating read!”—Gabe Brown, author of Dirt to Soil

W. Carter Johnson and Dennis H. Knight describe the natural and human histories of the Northern Great Plains in this comprehensive and handsomely illustrated book. Covering a vast period of time, they move from geological developments millions of years ago and the effects of glaciers to historical and ecological developments in recent centuries and the effects of agriculture. The book ends with a discussion of the future of this region, mediated by climate change, with recommendations on how to balance agriculture and other pressing needs in the twenty-first century.

Johnson and Knight bring decades of experience to chapters on the major ecosystems of the Dakotas. Written for readers with varying backgrounds, and with discussions of the Prairie Pothole Region, the Missouri River, grasslands, woodlands, the Black Hills, and rivers, lakes, and wetlands, the book is unique and will become a long-lasting source of information. Readers will appreciate the plentiful photographs and other color illustrations.

W. Carter Johnson is professor emeritus at South Dakota State University and resides in Brookings, SD. Dennis H. Knight, professor emeritus at the University of Wyoming, is the author of Mountains and Plains: The Ecology of Wyoming Landscapes. He lives in Laramie, WY.

"Ecology of Dakota Landscapes is simply a grand and wonderful book. If some apocalypse removed all libraries and repositories of knowledge, this one volume would preserve the most important knowledge and insights about the Dakotas."—Dan Binkley, author of Forest Ecology: An Evidence-Based Approach

"There is more to the Dakotas than wheatfields and rangelands, and these landscapes have changed greatly through time. W. Carter Johnson and Dennis Knight demonstrate they have the northern prairie in their blood."—William H. Schlesinger, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies

Save 30%: $31.50 with code YEEDL30.
Welcome New Members:

- Deborah Miller, Dorothee Pike Memorial Library
- Jenny Kluck, Brookings Public Library
- Douglas O’Neill, Brookings Public Library
- Linda Richter, Brookings Public Library
- Steven Watson, MPLA co-member
- Leatha R. Roland, Rapid City School District
- Kayleen A. Dornacher, Huron School District
- Bev Dunn, Huron Public Library
- Dayna Winter, Huron School District
- Enerel Dambiinyam, H.M Briggs Library, SDSU
- Aine O’Connor, H.M. Briggs Library, SDSU
- Mary Lunnebrog, Brookings School District
- Cassi Pietz, Yankton Community Library
- Kelly O’Dea, Yankton Community Library
- Kathy McKillip, Deadwood Public Library
- Jessie Phelps, Custer County Public Library
- Hannah Caffee, Hand County Library
- George Seamon, South Dakota State Library

Quick News:

- In an effort to promote transparency, the membership will be reminded of board meetings and sent out invites to attend.
- Conference registrants received a feedback survey link in their email boxes. If you did not get the link, you can access the survey here.

Executive Secretary’s Report

November 2022

Wells Fargo Checking........$7,879.69
Wells Fargo Savings...........$7,022.86
Ameriprise Savings Cert...$14,879.86
Ameriprise Savings Cert...$19,149.66
Raney Endowment.............$90,357.00*
Total............................$139,289.07

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