### Leadership in South Dakota Libraries

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be president of the South Dakota Library Association? Here are some experienced people to answer. I sent a survey out to our current president, Jeanne Conner and three of our past presidents, Ann Smith, Mary Caspers-Graper, and Colleen Kirby to find out what they thought of their experiences as president.

I’ll begin with a little background about the office. The office of president is elected by the general membership each year. It is a three year term but each year you get a new title and have different responsibilities. The first year you are called “Vice President/President Elect.” After a year of this title, you move on to “President” for a year and then you relinquish the reigns and become “Immediate Past President.” After a year of Immediate Past President you rejoin the ranks of the everyday association members but you still get to call yourself a past president. The duties of the president are delineated in the procedures manual which is available on the SDLA web site at http://www.usd.edu/sdla/Bylaws.htm. The section on president is on page 25 and VP is page 27.

As for what the experienced people have to say, they were all positive about the office (even Jeanne, who is our current president and, with the help of some others, is planning our next conference and thus, has a right to feel more panicked than pleased right now). When asked what the major difficulties they faced, a couple said that simply taking a leadership role was the most difficult thing. Mary Caspers-Graper said that working with the Visions Committee was the hardest thing she did. This committee did a lot of planning and needed a lot of input from the association members. Mary and her committee had to be constantly creative and always pushing for answers to their questions. When asked what the great things about the office were, I got a consensus answer—working with librarians in South Dakota! Mary also felt a sense of accomplishment from a successful conference. When asked what their year as Vice President was like, Colleen and Ann both said that they were working with great presidents (Mike Mullin and Mary Caspers-Graper respectively) which made the job easy. They both commented on creating a budget for the coming year. Colleen said “I can’t balance my checkbook, so you can imagine what a challenge a budget for SDLA was.” She must have done a good job, we are still in very good shape financially. Ann commented that she started her new job with the Sioux Falls School District at about the same time she became VP which was a major challenge. The year as Past President seems to be a popular one as the three respondents with experience in the position all agree that it is an enjoyable year. The major job of the past president is to offer encouragement and advice to the current president. Since the past president is also on the Executive Board, there is opportunity for this officer to take on more responsibility as Ann is doing this year. She finds it nice to be able to continue participating in bringing the plans she helped create to fruition.

My final question was “Why should SDLA members consider running for president of the association?” Jeanne says, “In running for the presidency, members are affirming that SDLA is an organization that is worth supporting. It is an extension of having a passion for libraries and believing in the future of libraries. There is no better way to meet and spend time with such great people.” Ann says, “It’s a great way to connect with other librarians and to contribute to the future of libraries and librarianship in our state.” Mary says, “You get to know some of the great people in the association and realize how important it is for members to contribute. I certainly wouldn’t have been as effective if I hadn’t had so many wonderful people working with me.” Finally, Colleen says, “First of all, members should consider running because of the wonderful people they get to work with. It really is a fun three years. Secondly, members should consider running because it is a great learning experience. I may never be a great leader, but serving as SDLA President did improve my leadership skills. The opportunity to attend Legislative Days in Washington, D.C. was awesome and something I would never have had the opportunity to do if I hadn’t been SDLA President.” In conclusion, let’s have 20 candidates for president this year!

### Committee Work

#### Bylaws and Procedures Committee

This committee has up to three members and is charged with reviewing the bylaws and procedures and making any updates necessary. Members serve three year terms. Each year, the Executive Board minutes should be reviewed for anything that should be reflected in the manual and changes should be made. While changes to procedures just need Executive Board approval, changes to the bylaws must be brought before the general membership for approval. You can find more information on this committee in the procedures manual at http://www.usd.edu/sdla/Bylaws.htm on page 77.

#### Certification and Accreditation Committee

This committee of up to six is to create and maintain the standards for certification of librarians and accreditation of public libraries. The Public Library Consultant of the State Library is an ex-officio member. Members serve two year terms. The committee reviews existing standards and recommends changes that are needed to keep the standards current. The committee approves proposals for continuing education credits that are to be used toward recertification. You can find more information on this committee in the procedures manual at http://www.usd.edu/sdla/Bylaws.htm on page 78.
Calendar

April 6-12: National Library Week
April 27-May 3: National Volunteer Week
June 19-25: American Library Association Annual Conference, Toronto

From the President

By Jeanne Conner

Plans for the 2003 SDLA/MCMLA (Mid-continent Chapter of the Medical Library Association) conference in Sioux Falls at the Sheraton, October 15 through 17, are in full swing. The local planning committee, chaired by Ronelle Thompson, has been meeting regularly.

Kirsten Anderson, coauthor of Delivering Knock Your Socks Off Service, will be the keynote speaker. Brulé, a nationally known Native American musical group, will perform at the noon luncheon on October 16. If you haven’t heard of Brulé go to www.brulerecords.com. Ben Mikaelsen will speak at the author luncheon and present at a breakout session. Ben will also be spending time in several schools that week.

The programming will have appeal for every section.

The SDLA Legislative Day was January 15, the day that Pierre was hit with ten inches of snow. Those librarians and legislators who were able to attend were treated to a delightful evening of conversation, delicious food, and an opportunity to visit with not only legislators, but also SDLA’s lobbyists. Ethelle Bean did a splendid job of putting the reception together.

Under President Bush’s ‘No Child Left Behind’ education policy more and more testing will be required to make sure that we reach all of the students in a school. Librarians might wonder what their role is in this educational setting.

Never fear, librarians have a unique role in helping students develop higher-order thinking skills that are necessary for problem solving and real learning. Because information literacy involves organizing, analyzing, interpreting and evaluating information, we offer a pathway to knowledge that is often not available in any other classroom setting.

A St. Paul Pioneer Press article listed what high school graduates need to enter the workplace of the 21st century. Of the skills listed, a number of them are skills directly related to information literacy. Employers want employees who can reason and make decisions to solve problems and have the ability to process information. What better place than in the library to learn about processing information?

When students enter our libraries we have an opportunity to help them discover the world in which they live, learn the skills to live successfully in that world, and help them find their talents while in that process of learning.

Congratulations, librarians, for the work that you already do. We also have important work that lies ahead of us.

Plan now for the October convention. Coming together to learn, listen and share can help us plan the future of libraries in South Dakota.
By Phil Mulvaney
SDLN Advisory Council Chair

As we begin the new year (I am writing this in January), I would like to mention several items that will keep SDLN busy over the course of the year. First of all, the Ex Libris contract. Negotiations are well underway. The contract negotiation team has spent numerous hours in conference calls going over the contracts line by line. In the meantime, BOR Counsel has reviewed the contract, and our draft has been sent to Ex Libris for their response. By the time you read this, the contract should have been long signed and we should be on an identical implementation time-line with North Dakota.

Secondly, database clean-up. This is really rather simple: the more work we do now, the less we have to do later. Gary Johnson has posted to the web http://www.sdln.net/about/rfp-page.html information on how to go about cleaning up your individual library's SDLN records. The SDLN Technical Contacts met over the DDN during the first week in February (and will continue to meet, I am sure) and this was one of the major items on the agenda.

Finally, when I said before that the more work we do now, the less we have to do later, I did not mean to imply that system migration will be easy. It won't. It will be hard. In the November-December 1988 "Bookmarks" (for which I am greatly indebted to Ethelle Bean at DSU), Becky Bell is quoted as saying that her biggest stress point is "trying to explain why so much patience is necessary...." We should not forget that we only have an 18 month timeline; it has taken us 15 years to get where we are now. We will need all the patience, grace, and good humor we can muster.
Siouxland Gets New Director

Sally Felix is the new Director of Siouxland Libraries. Felix will be responsible for the overall operation and function of the Siouxland Libraries, its branches, bookmobile, and outreach services.

Felix has over 28 years of experience working in library services in Pennsylvania. She is was most recently the administrator of the federated Lackawanna County Library System headquartered in Scranton, Pennsylvania, serving in the capacity since September 1988. Felix has a BA degree in history and political science from Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA, and a master's in library science from the University of Pittsburgh, PA. Felix is a 29-year member of the Pennsylvania Library Association, serving as president in 1998. In addition, she is a member of the American Library Association, the Association of Pennsylvania Public Library Systems, and the PA Citizens for Better Libraries. She was a part-time instructor, teaching Public Library Management courses in the MLS program at Clarion University of Pennsylvania, an ALA-accredited graduate library school.

Felix’s accomplishments include working with the Pennsylvania Library Association and the public library community to develop the Platform for 21st Century Libraries, which resulted in an increase of $45 million in state aid for public libraries in Pennsylvania, implementation of a system-wide electronic network, construction of two new buildings with two more in the planning stages, and secured over $1.5 million in grant funds for Lackawanna County Library System. Felix received the Pennsylvania Library Association's Certificate of Merit in 1987 and the Distinguished Service Award in 1999.

Library Support Staff Day

Five years ago, library staff in the Brookings SD area held the first Library Assistants Day here in South Dakota. The following year, library staff in Sioux Falls joined this effort. In 2003, having changed the name to Library Support Staff Day, Brookings and Sioux Falls will again celebrate the efforts of the library workers in their areas. Library Support Staff Day is celebrated with a luncheon, short informational presentation, networking and door prizes. All library support staff are welcome to attend. The date is chosen in conjunction with National Library Week during the month of April.

This year, Brookings area library staff has chosen their Support Staff Day as Thursday, April 3, 2003. There will be a luncheon from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Pizza Ranch on 6th Street in Brookings. All library support staff from the surrounding area is invited to attend. For information contact Cindy Mielke of Briggs Library via email at: cyn-thia_mielke@sdstate.edu.

Sioux Falls area support staff is planning a Support Staff day as well. Tentative plans are for a luncheon from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on Wednesday April 16, 2003 at the Golden Star Restaurant in Sioux Falls. Deb Yoder, Peg Shields and Amy Denomme are doing planning. Watch for more information on this event or email Deb Yoder at deby@siouxland.lib.sd.us.

Generations on Line

A unique nonprofit program designed to introduce the Internet to seniors 65 years of age and older is now available for use at the Brookings Public Library through a grant from the IBM Global Work/Life Fund and the AT&T Family Care Development Fund.

Generations on Line (www.generationsonline.org) provides clear, step-by-step, on-screen directions in large type and plain English, guiding computer novices through the basics. It provides free, simplified email accounts and includes an intergenerational chat about the past and links to other sites. The program helps to break down the barriers of access, skill, and intimidation for 21 million people over 65 who otherwise would not use the Internet.

The grant provides Generations on Line software to the library along with instruction aids. It was launched in September 2000 and now is available in more than 400 public libraries, senior centers, nursing homes, retirement communities and subsidized housing units in 42 states and Canada.

Grants Available

Tight travel/training budget this year? Spotted an interesting meeting or Conference that you’d like to attend in 2003? Apply for an SDLA Professional Development Grant. These are stipends of up to $400 per person to help you defray the costs of attendance and travel to a work related workshop, conference or meeting. The spring deadline is March 15. Two Grants are available for 2003. Both may be awarded at this time if eligible applications are received, otherwise, an opportunity will come again in the early Fall. For further information, please consult the SDLA website at www.usd.edu/sdla/.

Attending an ALA accredited library science or NCATE accredited graduate school media program? Need help paying for it. There are two $500 scholarships available this year as well. The deadline for both of these is May 15th, and scholarships will be awarded for either summer or fall attendance in 2003. For scholarship requirements, please consult the SDLA website as well. We encourage all students working on their graduate degree to apply.

Rawlins Library

Rawlins Library Director Beverly Lewis again coordinated the children’s story times for Capitol visitors and we appreciated the volunteer readers from all the groups who participated. Readers wore red Santa caps and delighted the children with seasonal classics. A new feature this season was the morning group story times in which Children’s Librarian Pat Weeldreyer provided delightful programs for children from area day care centers. In addition, she made three large colorful tote bags and each contained a collection of recommended books so that readers could check a bag out and then choose their own stories. We provided 22 evening and 5 morning story times with a total of 237 children and 181 adults participating. We really enjoy this special Christmas tradition!
**Children's & Young Adult Literature Winners**

**Children’s and Young Adult’s Literature Winners**
It is once again time to spotlight Children's and Young Adult Literature with this year's announcement of the Caldecott, Newberry and Michael L. Printz awards from the American Library Association. For more information about these awards, check out the American Library Association's awards page at: http://www.ala.org/alsc/awards.html The 2003 winners of these prestigious awards are:

**Caldecott Medal**: *(Given for outstanding Picture Book Illustrations)*
- My Friend Rabbit by Eric Rohmann

**Caldecott Honors**:
- The Spider and The Fly by Tony DiTerlizzi
- Hondo & Fabian by Pater McCarty
- Noah's Ark by Jerry Pinkney

**Newbery Medal**: *(Given for outstanding Juvenile Fiction Literature)*
- Crispin: The Cross Of Lead by Avi

**Newbery Honors**:
- House of Scorpion by Nancy Farmer
- Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff
- Hoot by Carl Hiassen
- A Corner Of The Universe by Ann M. Martin
- Surviving The Applewhites by Stephanie S. Tolan

**Robert F. Sibert Medal**: *(Given for outstanding Juvenile Non-Fiction Literature)*
- Life and Death of Adolf Hitler by James Cross Giblin

**Michael L. Printz Medal**: *(Given for outstanding Young Adult Literature)*
- Postcards From No Man's Land by Aidan Chambers

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**For Better or Worse—A Book Review**


Intimate, candid, and poignant best describe this book of poems and stories. In 52 short pages the author shares many events of her 25-year marriage (her second, his third) to Ritchie Mikesell. Marriages fall apart, families are shattered, new love is found, lives renew, old wounds never heal. Like many blended families, the couple struggles to maintain a sense of togetherness despite the sadness of a bitter divorce and estrangement from some of their nine children (his five, her four). Ultimately it is a testament to the love and devotion of two ordinary people who survive the complexity of blended families.

The volume is set in four sections: …but first, a word from our sponsors; For Better; And Worse; and, House Blend. By exposing the emotional rollercoaster often associated with marriage, remarriage and parenthood, *For Better And Worse* will appeal to the general reader and anyone interested in the dynamics of contemporary American families and marriage.

Reviewed by LaVera Rose, Librarian, SD State Historical Society.

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**News**

**Freeman Public Library**

Freeman Public Library celebrated Children’s Book Week of 2002 with a "Read With Franklin" week, which included a pajama party. A complete set of Franklin books were purchased for this purpose. Treats were served, prizes given, and a Franklin video was enjoyed. One mother was brave enough to show up in her pajamas!

A 2003 Valentine promotion is also planned for children ages 3 - 12. These promotions are made possible by added staff.

A Citizens’ Committee is being formed to debate an expanded space project for the Freeman Public Library. The recommendations of the library board will be expressed by three members of the board who will join the Development Corporation and the City Council representatives.

**Alcester Community Library**

The Alcester Community Library raised $5300 this fall.
to match that amount donated by the school district and bought 5 new tables and 34 new chairs for our combination library. They gave our 10 year old facility a brand new look.

Our 4th, 5th and 6th graders are holding a contest to see who can read the most Prairie Pasque books. The winner will have a room party which has encouraged them to read like never before. One room has the goal for everyone in the room to read all of the Prairie Pasque titles. In two months 64 students have read 311 books and they are still going strong. We have a huge chart up in the library and they look at it daily to see who is winning.

The library hosted a signing for local authors this fall. We have two published authors in Alcester that signed their most recent book in a very successful book signing at the library. Kim Dearth and her dog, Rio brought her most recent release "The Compassion of Dogs," while Gertrude Lapour was signing "His Stroke, Our Recovery."

SDLA/MCMLA Web Site
The 2003 website for SDLA/MCMLA Convention is up and running at www.augie.edu/library/sdla. The vendor registration form is available there as well as contact persons list for the conference which will be held October 15 through 17, 2003 at the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center in Sioux Falls, SD.

Bowdle Public School Library
On Nov. 14th Bowdle Public School Library presented Harlan Mertz, a farmer in the rural vicinity, who does rock polishing as a hobby for the past 10 years. He explained the procedures from cleaning to polishing and creating your original piece of art with rocks found on his farm or in the area. The children from first through eighth grade asked various questions that sparked a new interest in reading books on the subject and possibly a new hobby for some. He was very much appreciated and well received.

Yankton Community Library
PC instruction classes offered at the Library: The Yankton Community Library will hold PC use/instruction classes January 20 through February 24, 2003. Individual classes are available free of charge to pre-registered people. Participants need not possess a library card to attend. Each class is 1 1/2 hrs and includes a brief lecture, hands-on drills and practice time; classes are taught by library staff. Topics include the following: mouse basics, navigating Windows, surfing the web, (introductory and advanced), searching SDLN and related databases, using MS Word, using the scanner, getting an e-mail address, basic web design and purchasing a PC. This is the third year for YCL to offer PC instruction classes and public response has been tremendous, even though other outlets in the community offer more in-depth classes. The philosophy behind the library offered classes is we only offer introductory classes for software/equipment/services that we offer and we try to make these classes introductory in nature so that students can move on to the more advanced and detailed classes offered by other educational/training organizations in the area.

YCL to offer Daycare Outreach Storytimes - Beginning Jan. 20, the Yankton Community Library will be offering free weekly storytimes to local, state certified daycare centers in the Yankton area. Preregistration by requesting daycares is required. A volunteer storyteller will travel to the daycare center and provide a 30 minute session, including a story and an activity. Books will be left at the daycare facility for children to check out. A great idea by Children's Librarian, Lola Harens.

MPLA/NDLA/SDLA Conference Photos
About 40 images from the 2002 conference in Fargo last October. It's online at http://www.usd.edu/mla/conferences/2002/.

Celebrate National Volunteer Week April 27-May 3, 2003
SDLA has received a promotional magazine full of ideas for recognizing your volunteers during National Volunteer Week. If you would like to look at the magazine, you may contact me, or look at the company website at www.positivepromotions.com They have ideas for many different events.

Black Hills State University
The BHSU library recently launched a new web site at http://iis.bhsu.edu/lis/index.cfm. Check it out!

Publications available from your executive secretary
SDLA has received some new publications that may interest some of you. We have updated information concerning cataloging software for smaller libraries called ResourceMate.

SDLA has also received the 2003-2004 Touring Arts Roster from the SD Arts Council. If your library or group is looking for entertainers from various areas of expertise, this guide has plenty of information. Contact Brenda.Hemmelman@sdsmt.edu if you would like to borrow any of these materials.

Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes:
If you are a librarian who works with young people, this may interest you. Author T.A. Barron has created a national award to celebrate heroic kids. The prize recognizes...
outstanding young people (ages 8-18) who have shown leadership and courage in public service to people and our planet. Winners receive $2000 to be applied to their higher education or a service project. If you know of someone who might be deserving, deadline for nominations is May 31, 2003. To nominate, visit www.tabarron.com or www.barronprize.org.

SoDakLIVE
South Dakota LIVE, Land of Infinite Variety Electronically, is now available free-of-charge to the public at www.sdstatelibrary.com. South Dakota LIVE, or SoDakLIVE, is a World Wide Web-based, one-stop directory for South Dakota state government information providing access to South Dakota state government websites and publications.

Library Lingo Website
The goal of the “Library Terms That Users Understand” site is to “help library web developers decide how to label key resources and services in such a way that most users can understand them well enough to make productive choices.” Includes links to usability studies, suggested best practices, and a list of related resources, some paper-based and some on the Web. From John Kupersmith, a librarian at the University of California, Berkeley. Find the site at http://www.jkup.net/terms.html.

State Library: Kids Create! Contest Winner Selected
Alyssa Morgan, a fourth-grade student from Northwestern School, Mellette, SD is the winner of the statewide Kids Create! Library Card Design Contest. Sponsored by the South Dakota State Library and the South Dakota Arts Council, the contest for students in grades K-5 called for young artists to submit drawings of what libraries and reading mean to them. The State Library received 945 other outstanding entries submitted from more than 41 South Dakota communities.

An image of Morgan's winning entry, a marker and crayon drawing, will be printed on the front of the State Library's new library cards. In addition, Morgan will receive a $100 Savings Bond from South Dakotans For The Arts. The original artwork will be framed and hung in the South Dakota State Library.

Contest grade level winners are listed below. To view the winning entries, visit: http://www.sdstatelibrary.com/forlibrarians/art/artcontest.htm

Best of Show: Alyssa Morgan, 4th Grade, Northwestern School, Mellette

K-1 Grades:
1st Place: Morgan Huber, 1st Grade, Clark Elementary, Clark
2nd Place: Debra Dougherty, 1st Grade, Oldham-Ramona School, Oldham
3rd Place: Jordon Peterson, K, Northwestern School, Mellette
Honorable Mentions: Katlyn Gelling, 1st Grade, May-Overby

2-3 Grades:
1st Place: Maddy Smith, 3rd Grade, Northwestern School, Mellette
2nd Place: Katrina Frericks, 3rd Grade, Northwestern School, Mellette
3rd Place: Mae Allen, 3rd Grade, Spafford Elementary, Flan-dreau
Honorable Mentions: Shilo Hill, 2nd Grade, Tiospaye Topa School, LaPlant
Kianna Knutson, 3rd Grade, Philip Elementary, Philip
Ashley Larson, 2nd Grade, Groton Elementary, Groton
Tylyn LeBeau, 2nd Grade, Tiospaye Topa School, LaPlant
Megan Serr, 2nd Grade, Bison Elementary, Bison
Lexi Slack, 2nd Grade, Viborg School, Viborg

4-5 Grades:
1st Place: Brandi Becvar, 4th Grade, Sacred Heart School, Yankton
2nd Place: Nathanael Brown, 5th Grade, Garretson
3rd Place: Dante James Bezpaletz, 5th Grade, Sioux Falls
Honorable Mentions: Molly Coyle, 4th Grade, Philip Elementary, Philip
Alyssa Haiwick, 4th Grade, Whitewood Elementary Whitewood
Paris Holleran, 4th Grade, Life Tree Montessori, Rapid City
Shaaina Jensen, 4th Grade, Northwestern School, Mellette
Bryce Ladwig, 5th Grade, Northwestern School, Mellette
Sammi Nachtigal, 4th Grade, Platte Elementary, Platte

Alexander Mitchell Public Library
The Alexander Mitchell Public Library will kick off National Library Week and celebrate our newly-renovated lower level by hosting an Open House on Sunday, April 6 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at the library. All are invited to attend.

North American Baptist Seminary Display
In response to a problem with students bringing food and drinks into the library, Vicki Biggerstaff and Linda Watts developed a display to indicate what kinds of containers are acceptable. The display includes various beverage containers as well as homemade fake 'spills' showing the results of accidents on library materials and equipment (complete with bugs, melted ice cream, and ruined keyboard)."

Mount Mary College
Mount Marty College opened its new Scholastica Learning Center for classes on January 13, 2003. In addition to the new Mother Jerome Library, the building houses several new classrooms, a distance learning classroom, an assessment center, an information technology classroom, a graphics lab, an oratory and board room. Attached to the Scholastica Learning Center is a new Cybercafe. The dedication of the building will take place on Saturday, February 15, 2003 with a Dedication Ceremony at 1:00 p.m. in the Mother Jerome Library followed by an Open House from 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Acceptable drink container display at North American Baptist Seminary. (See news item on page 7.)

Coffee, cider, and doughnuts offered to students studying for finals in the Briggs Library, SDSU. Studying in the library became quite popular!