Feature:
Haakon County Public Library

The library actually began in 1929 as a front porch library run by the Philip Women's Club. In 1932 they moved their 282 books onto the 4th floor of the courthouse. By 1957 the library had moved down to a corner of the community room in the courthouse and had about 2300 books. Today we have more than 12,000 items contained in the same location, which is about 620 square feet of space. Our library serves all of Haakon County's 2200 residents as well as a few families who live just outside the county line. We're a very rural area. The city of Philip itself has about 885 residents and most people travel quite a ways just to come into town.

Annie Brunskill, librarian, has found one the most challenging aspects is the lack of space. “We have three public access computers tucked into corners, plus a laptop donated by the Horizons project that’s used for research and is connected to a printer,” noted Brunksill. The library is currently halfway through the automation process and now has library cards to go with the bar-coded books. The patrons are pretty excited to have a "real" library card like the big libraries.

Annie enjoys almost every aspect of working in her hometown library. Small public libraries have always been her favorite kind and this is a perfect fit. One of her favorite tasks is preparing new books for patrons to

State Library Updates

Building Update
I’m pleased to report that things are back to normal at the State Library, following our December fire. The fire itself was confined to the first floor, currently undergoing construction, so library equipment and furnishings were not directly involved.

Smoke, however, made its way up to the second floor and created some odor and residue issues. Air scrubbers were brought in to cleanse the air, and a cleaning company took care of the carpets, wall coverings, and other surfaces affected by the smoke.

Three different disaster recovery specialists were brought in to test and evaluate our book collection and recommend appropriate remediation steps to prevent any long-term damage. As a result of their recommendations, the entire collection is being vacuumed with special HEPA filter equipment to remove any vestiges of smoke and residue.

Damage to the first floor of the McKay Building was also minimal, and was quickly cleaned up. Construction down there is back in full swing, and we still expect to move into our new quarters sometime this summer.

Dan Siebersma, State Librarian

Staff Update
The State Library is happy to introduce 3 new members of their staff.

Daria Bossman, Assistant State Librarian
Daria has a bachelor’s degree from Midland Lutheran College in English, history and education, and an MLS from Emporia State University. She has also taken finance and business administration graduate courses from University of Iowa and the University of South Dakota.

Daria’s library experiences run the gamut—from public to school to academic libraries. “Just put me in a library—Any library and I am at home and happy,” she added. Daria has

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Thank yous for service to the South Dakota Library Association are definitely in order.

Many thanks to everyone who worked to make the annual Legislative Reception a success. Peggy Williams and the members of the Library Issues Committee organized the day’s activities, and librarians and legislators braved sub-zero temperatures to attend. Good information on SDLA’s legislative platform and the legislative process was exchanged in the afternoon, and many contacts were made with legislators from across the state at the evening reception. Thank you to everyone who participated and to everyone who encouraged his/her legislators to attend.

This has been, and continues to be, an active legislative session for SDLA. Your participation in the process has been noted. One legislator commented recently that the people he heard from most often were those supporting the arts and those supporting libraries. I don’t know if he intended it as such, but I’ll take that as a compliment.

So, thanks to all of you for contacting your legislators on the issues important to libraries.

The day-to-day operation of this Association—collecting dues and fees, paying bills, updating the information on the website, maintaining the membership records, arranging meetings etc.—has, for the last ten years, fallen on the capable shoulders of Brenda Hemmelman, our Executive Secretary/ Treasurer. All of us serving on the SDLA Executive Board know how much we depend on her efficiency, organizational skills, and memory. We wonder how we will manage without her. Brenda has resigned her position as SDLA’s Executive Secretary Treasurer, moved to Pierre, and started a new job at the State Library. The good news is that Brenda will still be a part of the library community in South Dakota. We are very grateful for her dedication and wish her every success in her new position.

One last item. There will be no Spring Forums this year. We are concentrating our efforts on the annual conference which will be in Aberdeen in October. Travel budgets are tight everywhere, so we are working to bring you a great conference without increasing the registration fees. Check out the next issue of Book Marks for more details.

Thanks, again, and keep up the good work.

From the President... Nancy Sabbe

SDL A Treasurer’s Report as of February 25, 2009

Financial information only available to members

Continuing Education Workshops in Sioux Falls
Workshops may be taken for undergraduate or graduate credit and meet teacher certification/re-certification requirements.
For more information, call 605.274.4126
Or visit www.augie.edu/workshop
These have been challenging months as the SDLN staff continue to fine-tune the migration to v. 18 and resolve numerous issues related to ILL2. The patience of the library community has been humbling. The Executive Committee is committed to ensuring that the SDLN membership never again experiences the prolonged down time and limited functionality that has plagued us in the past months.

What follows is an update as to where we are with issues important to members:

- ILL2 test libraries are planning an in-person meeting in March with SDLN and ODIN staff to review and resolve issues in conjunction with ExLibris.
- Google Books was a new feature provided in an ExLibris patch and has now been substituted for Bowker Syndetics to provide cover art and book information at a substantial savings.
- Member librarians are sharing information about local library implementation of MetaLib to increase its functionality across the network.
- A bid process is underway to provide an uninterruptable power source (UPS) and generator for the Spearfish SDLN data center, hopefully before the storm season.

The Executive Committee is reviewing the FY2010 budget to be more fiscally conservative. A revised document will be brought to the spring Advisory Council meeting for approval. The expectation is that member fees will be adjusted down from what was distributed at the fall meeting.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at ronelle.thompson@augie.edu or 605-274-4921.

Win your conference registration!

Two lucky SDLA members will receive free registration for the 2009 SDLA Conference.

To enter the contest

recruit a new member

Write your name on the membership form on the “recruited by” line.

The drawing for the free registrations will be held on July 31.
If your name is drawn, you and the new member you recruited will each receive free registration for the 2009 conference.

Prizes are not transferable.
Huron Public Library
The Huron Public Library construction/remodeling project began in summer of 2008.

New raised entrances will be available on both the East and West side of the library. These new entrances will separate the new and the old portions of the completed library building. Geothermal heat will be used in the newly completed library. This required Forty-eight 200 foot holes to be drilled.

The Library moved everything into the new south portion of the building at the end of January. In February, the old portion of the building will be remodeled with a probable June 9 completion date for the entire project. Then the library will move into the entire building.

The new space will allow for an increased area for the Children's Department, the Spanish Collection, Young Adult Collection, and Computer Access. The public meeting room will be moved upstairs and the South Dakota materials will be housed in an enclosed room.

Hopefully, the "new" Huron Public Library building will be finished and ready for the 2009 Summer Reading Program.

Yankton
Yankton native, Jon Anderson, has been appointed as the Executive Vice President and Publisher at Simon & Schuster’s Children’s Publishing Division. In addition to his work as a publishing executive, Mr. Anderson is the acclaimed author of over twenty-five children’s books under the pseudonym William Boniface, with cumulative sales of more than two million copies, including The Adventures of Max the Minnow, selected by Oprah’s Book Club as a best book for children, and most recently, The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy, a series of three middle-grade novels. Submitted by Colleen Smith

New Staff at the Sturgis Public Library
Marjorie DeJong is the new Assistant Director of the Sturgis Public Library. She will also be the coordinator of Teen Services. Marjorie previously worked at the Rapid City Public Library as the Technical Service Librarian. Marjorie received her Master of Arts Degree in Library and Information Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2004.

The Sturgis Public Library opened its new building in 2006. Library Director, Julie Moore-Peterson, shares some photos of the library.

New librarian at Frederick Public Library
Tamie Nickelson is the new librarian at the Emma Burnham Public Library in Frederick. This fall, the library started offering Sign Language classes. They went very well and will be continued.

Marla Johnson honored
The Duel School District recognized Marla Johnson for her 45 years of service.

Marla is currently employed part-time as a Library Media Specialist for the district. She has served the profession in many avenues including as AASL Information Literacy Standards Implementation Coordinator for South Dakota.

New library at Frederick
This fall, the library will soon present a program or project? Share news from your library!

Email: lisa.brunick@augie.edu

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check out. There is a wonderful group of people who donate new fiction titles (mostly hardcover) as soon as they’ve read them, so the library never lacks for new titles. The Friends of the Library provides funding for new teen and children’s fiction, so this little library is very full.

The library has an active outreach program. It participates in the Large Print Circuit and has begun working with the activities director of the assisted living center to bring small collections of large print books to their residents. The staff also collaborates with the Philip school library and the Midland Community Library to exchange duplicate titles or share items needed by other libraries. Story time is every Wednesday morning which is always great fun! The library will soon present to the Chamber of Commerce about what the library can provide and to help showcase what this community has to offer.

Our biggest change for 2009, is a new library building. The library project has been in the works since the fall of 2003 and hopefully 2009 is the year the construction will begin. There are dedicated groups of people on five different committees (Budget, Technology, Services, Building, and Fundraising) that are prepared to move on it as soon as final decisions are made on the location and the funding.
MEIR Taskforce Update

Your participation in the Minitex Electronic Information Resources (MEIR) database trials, which are described below, will impact the selection of statewide resources that will provide access to general and scholarly electronic information databases, with an emphasis on full text and images that cover a wide variety of type and format of materials and subject categories.

Currently, SDLN’s Infotrac and EBSCOhost and the SD State Library’s WorldCat resources are results of the 2004 MEIR Task Force.

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Attention libraries and schools in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota!

Trials Available for Proposed Statewide Resources!

The electronic resources listed at www.minitex.umn.edu/exclude/rfp were submitted in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by the University of Minnesota on behalf of Minitex for licensing statewide access to electronic resources for Minnesota (i.e., ELM), North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Although trial access to these resources will be available through at least April 3, 2009, the MEIR Task Force needs your feedback no later than March 29.

Information about trial access, names of products, and links to vendor/product information are available. A link to our feedback form can be found at the bottom of each vendor section.

School media centers and libraries in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota may open this trial access to users.

As per the guidelines of the RFP, Minitex staff and/or MEIR Task Force members cannot answer questions or discuss products/vendors under consideration. While vendors may have submitted resource "packages" for consideration, please be aware that contracts may be awarded for individual products or for complete packages as offered.

Your feedback is important, so please complete an evaluation form for each of the resources you examine during the trial period. The MEIR Task Force will consider your feedback during the evaluation process on March 30- April 1.

Your participation will impact the selection of statewide resources.

Thank you for contribution to this important process!

Mary Parker, Associate Director
MINITEX Library Information Network

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The South Dakota members of the MEIR Taskforce will be participating in the late March evaluation process that is mentioned below.

The RFP process does not allow us to answer questions or discuss products/vendors under consideration.

We urge you and your patrons to use the feedback forms provided on the trial webpage to provide input into this selection process. If possible, you may link to the trials from your webpage.

We look forward to seeing your comments!

Lisa Brunick, Augustana College
Lisa.brunick@augie.edu

Robert Russell, Northern State University
Robert.Russell@northern.edu

Julie Erickson, SD State Library
Julie.erickson@state.sd.us

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also been a public school teacher (in one of her "nine lives"—ah, careers!) "I worked in one large city public school system with a fabulous school media center with two media specialists at one middle school. That was back when the dinosaurs roamed the earth—the early 1970’s. Then we moved to rural Oklahoma, and I taught in a much poorer rural district. Its school library consisted of a large, unheated room full of old dusty books, no budget and no librarian. So I know from first-hand experience what a difference quality facilities, current resources and

top-notch librarians make in the lives of our kids." The past 15 years Daria was director of the Morningside College Library.

Stacia McGourty, Digital Librarian

New year, new town, new job! Stacia McGourty started 2009 with a bang by moving to Pierre and joining the State Library as the Digital Librarian.

Moving isn’t new to Stacia; her father was in the army for more than 20 years. She lived in Maryland, New Jersey, and Germany before moving to Sioux Falls in 1992.

Currently, she is a student at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Their distance education program means that Stacia can finish her MLIS while working in South Dakota. “Anyone who says school is easier online is lying. The workload is just as intense as an on campus program in some ways more so because you don’t have the opportunity for spontaneous interaction with your classmates and professors. I plan to graduate in the next year.” This is her first job in a library.

Brenda Hemmelman, Research/Government Publications Librarian

Brenda is no stranger to the SD Library community. She has served on the SDLA Executive Board since 1999. She has a bachelor’s degree from SDSU in math and Spanish, where she was also a proud member of the Pride of the Dakotas marching band, and a MA in Information Resources and Library Science from the University of Arizona in Tucson.

“Although I love the Black Hills, coming to the State Library in Pierre allows me the chance to get back into my favorite area of library work.”

State Library Updates continued
**Book Review**

*Afoot: A Tale of the Great Dakota Turkey Drive* by George Brandsberg

The Cedartip Company, 2006

www.cedartip.com

Brandsberg takes you to a place in the real Dakota Territories and into a life of a young boy who lost his parents in a tragic fire and is now escaping the abuse of his uncle to find his older sister.

Joshua's travels take him from Yankton to Ft. Pierre to Deadwood. He encounters bandits and befriends Indians and many historical people on his adventures of trailing 800 turkeys on a 200-mile trudge afoot. Brandsberg details the trail and life as it was in the late 1800's in this historical novel.

Experience the adventure, as Joshua keeps his word and fulfills his quest in finding his sister in this 173-page book.

*Afoot* is based on a true story of a young boy taking turkeys, without a horse or wagon, from Ft. Pierre to Deadwood.

I found the book very interesting and kept me wanting to read from the start. Both adults and teenagers will enjoy this historical novel.

Angela Ostrander, Faith Public/School Library

**Author Information**

George Brandsberg was born and raised in South Dakota. He loves stories about the Old West—including some about his grandfather, who was a buffalo hunter and provided meat for miners in the Black Hills Gold Rush of the 1870s.

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**Position Opening**

**Executive Secretary Treasurer (EST)** for the **South Dakota Library Association**

The South Dakota Library Association is currently seeking an individual to fill the position of Executive Secretary - Treasurer.

Duties include
- Maintenance of membership records
- Management of financial accounts & records
- Facilitation & support of Executive Board communication & meetings

For more information or to apply, contact Nancy Sabbe, President, SDLA nsabbe@sdln.net

OR

Kay Christensen, VP/Pres. Elect, SDLA kay.christensen@augie.edu

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**Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Endorses Dakota Conference**

The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, Washington, DC, has endorsed the Forty-first Annual Dakota Conference: Abraham Lincoln Looks West, April 24-25. In applying for the endorsement, Dakota Conference director Dr. Harry Thompson cited the conference’s long record of addressing current topics in their historical and cultural contexts. The commission is making available to conference attendees copies of a special Lincoln issue of the Journal of American History.

During his administration, President Lincoln brought fundamental change to the Northern Plains by appointing two Dakota Territory governors; encouraging settlement through the passage of the Homestead Act of 1862; pardoning hundreds of Dakota Sioux following the Dakota Conflict of 1862; and authorizing the transcontinental railroad in 1864. Each of these developments resulted in controversy and repercussions that affect both indigenous peoples and immigrant descendants to this day.

Among the 60 presenters will be Ed Bradley, an editor of The Papers of Abraham Lincoln; Elizabeth Cook-Lynn, who will examine Lincoln’s Native American policy; Timothy Good, author of The Lincoln-Douglas Debates and the Making of a President; and several amateur scholars, including Miles Browne, who will receive the Distinguished Contribution Award. Browne, who donated his large Lincoln book collection to the Center for Western Studies, will also debut his book *Abraham Lincoln: Then and Now*.

For conference details, call 605-274-4007, e-mail, or visit www.augie.edu/cws/dakotaconference.html
During the Legislative Day activities, SDLA hosted a round table discussion of library districts. In addition to SDLA members, Representatives Bolin of Canton and Mike Verchio of Hill City were welcomed to the discussion. “How will a library district help me?” and “How will a library district hurt me?” were the two defining questions.

First, however, the group learned that library districts are not currently allowed under SD Codified Law and that a Legislative Bill to allow them would be necessary. The good news is that language already exists in the South Dakota District Laws that could be adapted for library districts. It was emphasized that the formation of a public library district would be voluntary and be decided by a vote of the people in the areas involved. During the discussion it became clear that this concerned both proponents and opponents of districting.

Proponents of districting liked the fact that districting is voluntary. They pointed out that people who wanted a district could draw up district boundaries they felt were appropriate, gather petitions, and bring the issue to a vote of the people living within the district boundaries. The results of that vote would determine whether that particular library district would come into existence.

Once a library district is in place, the people of the district are taxed for support of a library. The State Legislature would set the mill levy and the library district could set its own mill levy as long as it did not exceed that set by the State. All of the tax money designated to the district would have to be spent on a library. It could never be diverted. Proponents feel this gives libraries stability.

Opponents worry that people who draw up library district boundaries could do so without regard for an existing library. For example, Potter County & Faulk County have county libraries. However, the towns of Tolstoy in Potter County and Seneca in Faulk County are each 25 miles from their respective county library, but just 9 miles from each other. Opponents of districting fear that the Tolstoy & Seneca areas could draw up a new library district that would take half of Potter County and half of Faulk County. What would then happen to the two existing libraries? Would the county commissioners continue to fund their county libraries adequately when half of each county had chosen to create a different library district?

While most of the group was in favor of the stability a library district offers, other questions popped up. Some asked if a library district could be voted out just as it had been voted in. Others wondered if a district’s boundaries were set in stone or if another group could come along and create a district that would take in an existing district.

Still others were concerned about who would be in charge of the district, the collection of the library tax, and the paperwork involved. Some even wondered if the entire State could become one library district.

In the end, time ran out before all the questions could be addressed. Greta Chapman of Rapid City suggested that a study group be formed during 2009.

Peg Williams
Chair, Library Issues committee
New SDLA Members

Brenda Bainbridge - Washington HS, Sioux Falls
Juliet Heltibridle - Hearst Library, Lead
Krislyn Carlson - Beresford PL Trustee
Amy Farley - Beresford PL Trustee
Pete Womack - Beresford PL Trustee
Deb Matthys - North Sioux City PL
Laura Allard - Sioux Falls