

Book Marks

South Dakota Library Association

Serving South Dakota since 1904

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 1
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2005

Jim Oliver wins national award

Jim Oliver, Children's Librarian at Siouxland Libraries, has received a national award for excellence in library service from *The New York Times*. One of 27 winners from 14 states, Oliver is being recognized for his outstanding public service for the children, families and caregivers, of Sioux Falls and Minnehaha County.

Sioux Falls resident Greg Boris nominated Oliver for this award, one of 1,500 nominations submitted from 47 states. "Mr. Oliver has improved the quality of my children's lives by encouraging them to read through and introducing them to the fun books and plays that are aimed at children" wrote Boris in his nomination. In addition to working with children, Mr. Oliver has served as a mentor to adults in the library business.

A native of Virginia, Oliver has worked for the City of Sioux Falls for 19 years. "The City of Sioux Falls is proud and honored to have an employee the caliber of Jim Oliver," said Sioux Falls Mayor Dave Munson. "He has dedicated himself to helping the children and families of our City for the last nineteen years. I am delighted that he is being recognized with this prestigious national award."

Siouxland Libraries hosted a reception in honor of Jim on December 3rd. Greg Boris and Mayor Munson spoke at the event.

The New York Times held a reception on December 15 in honor of the award winners. Winners were presented with \$2500 and a commemorative plaque. Each library will also

receive a plaque. "We are very happy to have the opportunity to celebrate public librarians from across the country, whose enormous contributions sometimes go unrecognized," said Alyse Myers, vice president, marketing services, *The New York Times*. "This program demonstrates, year after year, how crucial libraries and librarians are to people in every part of the nation. From big cities to small towns, people look to their local libraries for information, education, entertainment, culture and community, and the librarians are there to help them find it all. The Times is proud to honor the work of these librarians who bring people together over books around the common belief that access to information is part of the bedrock of our society."



Jim Oliver and Greg Boris

"This does not just affect my family, but families across the system as evidenced by the capacity audiences at the story times and puppet shows. Children from across the community of all demographic classifications partake of the services he provides"

Greg Boris

State Library will seek funding to support school library media program

The State Library will request legislative funding for 2 school library media consultants.

Two FTE for these positions were included in the State Library's annual budget request, but were not included in the Governor's budget.

Dorothy Liegl, State Librarian, points to research by Dr. Keith Curry Lance and his associates which support the contention that information

literacy skills are essential for success (see Fact Sheet on pg.8 for research links).

In his address to the White House Conference on School Libraries (2002), Dr. Keith Curry Lance stated "School libraries are a powerful force in the lives of America's children. The school library is one of the few factors whose contribution to academic achievement has been documented

empirically, and it is a contribution that cannot be explained away by other powerful influences on student performance."

Securing funding for these positions will be the focus of the SDLA Library Issues committee for the 2005 Legislative Session. Greta Chapman, Library Issues chair and

(continued on page 6)

SDLA Legislative Day Wed., January 26, 2005
"Knowledge, Research and Creativity@your library"
SDLA Board Meeting 10am-1pm, State Library
School Library Standards – Ann Smith 2:00pm-2:30pm Cultural Heritage Center
Adopting Policies Eric Abrahamson 3:00pm-4:30pm Cultural Heritage Center
Legislative Reception 5:30pm-7:30pm, State Library

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January/February 2005

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This newsletter is printed on permanent, recycled paper. If you have questions, comments or suggestions concerning the editorial content of *Book Marks*, contact the editor.

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DEADLINES

January/February issue	Dec. 1
March/April issue	Feb. 1
May/June issue	April 1
July/August issue	June 1
September/October issue	August 1
November/December issue	October 1

ADVERTISING RATES

Full page	\$200.00
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Quarter-page, single issue	\$50.00
Column inch	\$9.50
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From the President... Deb Hagemeyer

Have you ever been embarrassed about being a librarian? No, no, not because of the stereotypes we all try to dispel. I am talking about being embarrassed by the grateful patron who gushes over that special favor or extra attention. You know, the times when you felt like you were just doing your job and it was really what any librarian with your experience could do without breaking a sweat?

To some people, lots of people, librarians really are heroes or magicians who can unlock the mysteries of the universe! Before we get too carried away, the point is that librarians do make a difference in lives of people every day. We

are too often embarrassed, or modest, or shy about telling our stories of success. The result is that people, including people who make significant decisions, do not know our stories.

The SDLA Legislative Day is an opportunity for you to make a difference in how libraries and librarians are viewed in South Dakota. On January 26, 2005 (see details on page 1), our annual Legislative Reception will be held at the State Library in Pierre. Legislators from all around the state come to the reception and, hopefully, are greeted warmly by familiar faces from their own district as well as many new faces.

They have come to hear about libraries and librarians. You are invited to come and share your stories. The evening is pleasurable, with delicious food, delighted smiles, and a warm glow of fine hospitality and good company. Come help support our legislative agenda. Your presence will make a difference to all of us.



News from the SDLA sections...

SDACT will again be sponsoring a media festival at the TIE Convention in Rapid City in April of 2005. A registration form will soon be going out to all school librarians in the state via email, and it will include the format, rules, and other necessary information concerning the entries for our 14th annual Media Festival. This registration form will also be available on the SDLA website and the TIE website.

This festival gives us the opportunity to display materials from students in grades kindergarten through grade 12, and last year over 200 students submitted entries. We have always been impressed with the quality of workman-

ship and creativity of our students. Entries must be post-marked by early March and all entries will be on display at the SDACT booth on the exhibit floor during the conference.

Be sure to stop by and view the materials and congratulate the winners who will be invited to attend the convention and receive their awards.

School Library Section

Lila Morris, Elementary Librarian & Media Center Director for the Aberdeen School District, is working on a doctorate in Curriculum & Instruction/Reading Specialist. She has sent out surveys

to schools across the state to study the impact of libraries in schools of all sizes. She says, "I am a firm believer in what librarians can do and the impact they have with teachers and students. In doing my research, I have come across other research that does show the impact of certified media specialists and how having someone in the library who knows what to do and how to help students does raise student test scores."

Any schools who have received the surveys should return them to her as soon as possible so that she can begin to compile her results.

SDLN Connection...

Steve Marquardt

SDLN Advisory Council Chair

Baseball analogies peppered my previous column. What now comes to mind is “delay of game.” Even more unfortunately, SDLN is being penalized by more than just five yards. It wouldn’t be so bad if, as some in our member libraries wish, we could also “replay the down.”

Displeasure is understandable, considering that the December 21, 2001, Ex Libris response to our RFP said that “two SDLN system librarians” could operate their proposed SDLN system, but in their letter of December 14, 2004, it is suggested that to run the system on an ongoing basis a “seven members [sic] professional team at SDLN is on light side but doable ...” Today SDLN has six FTE to operate the online system plus other functions within SDLN. The 2001 Ex Libris proposal stated that Aleph 500 is “a complete library management system ‘ready-to-go off the shelf.’” This has not been the SDLN experience.

Nevertheless, the costs of throwing in the towel and seeking another vendor at this time would be far worse than forfeiting a game. A whole “season” or very likely two would be lost in the process of signing on with another vendor’s team. Therefore the intent of the Executive Committee is to follow through in a good faith effort to make Ex Libris work and work well for the Network.

The international CEO of Ex Libris Group and the President of Ex Libris USA are visiting SDLN and the Executive Committee in Spearfish on January 12. Responding to our December 6 letter that informed Ex Libris USA that SDLN declined to accept the system as contracted 90 working days after initial acceptance of software, the company is investing significantly more personnel time on site in South Dakota in an effort to bring the system up to the performance proposed and expected.

How long our relationship lasts with this team is another question. All efforts right now are focused on solving problems and making the remaining modules function and function well. Once ILL and the OCLC and Marcive loaders are operational and SFX and MetaLib are installed and working as expected, then there will be time to consider how well the system as a whole operates, how able the SDLN office is to support the ongoing operations, and how SDLN can afford the ongoing operation.

One relationship that the SDLN leadership absolutely wants to keep strong is the relationship among all our members. SDLN was the first multitype and multifunctional online library network consortium in the nation. Its cooperative operation and “bang for the buck” have been points of pride for all its members and a great service for South Dakotans. We ask your patience and perseverance as we move forward.

SDLA Treasurer’s Report as of December 14, 2004

Bank Accounts	Investment Accounts	Total Assets																
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Wells Fargo</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">\$5561.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>US Bank</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$7643.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post Office</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 239.59</td> </tr> </table>	Wells Fargo	\$5561.54	US Bank	\$7643.80	Post Office	\$ 239.59	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">American Express</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">\$97,265.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Security Bank</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$24,290.56</td> </tr> </table>	American Express	\$97,265.08	Security Bank	\$24,290.56	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Bank Accounts</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">\$ 13,444.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Investment Accounts</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$121,555.64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$135,000.57</td> </tr> </table>	Bank Accounts	\$ 13,444.93	Investment Accounts	\$121,555.64	TOTAL:	\$135,000.57
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Brookings Public Library awarded "Human Rights Video Project" grant

The Brookings Public Library is pleased to report that it has received a grant that funds the purchase of twelve videos from "The Human Rights Video Project." The Library is one of 50 libraries nationwide selected to participate in the program organized by National Video Resources in partnership with the American Library Association (ALA).

The project is supported by a major grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur

Foundation and the Ford Foundation, and locally by Brookings Human Rights Committee and Amnesty International USA Group 631.

"The Human Rights Video Project" aims to increase the public's understanding of the meaning of human rights on an international as well as local level. "We are pleased to have been chosen as one of the libraries for this unique program, which allows community members to use in-

depth information from documentaries to explore the human rights issues" stated Elvita Landau, library director.

The Brookings Human Rights Committee and the Library will be conducting public screenings and discussions during 2005 which will further develop viewers understanding of various human rights issues.

Title information may be found at <http://www.humanrightsproject.org/>

South Dakota libraries may request these videos via Interlibrary Loan for use by the library or its patrons.

For further information, contact Elvita Landau at the Brookings Public Library phone 692-9407

Call for Proposals *The Changing Black Hills*

The Thirty-seventh Annual

DAKOTA CONFERENCE

on Northern Plains History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology

AUGUSTANA COLLEGE, SIOUX FALLS, SD

APRIL 22-23, 2005

Conference Theme: Many voices speak on behalf of the Black Hills, the geologic upthrust on the Northern Plains that the Lakota Sioux call Paha Sapa. Imbued with spiritual significance by some and with economic promise by others, the Black Hills have undergone significant cultural and environmental changes. As the third and final program in a series examining the major geographic and cultural identities that define the Dakotas and a large portion of the Northern Plains, the 2005 Dakota Conference invites proposals for papers and sessions examining issues of ownership, natural resource use, and cultural identity with respect to the Black Hills. As always, paper and session proposals on all aspects of the Dakotas and Northern Plains are also welcome.

Submission Requirements: Send one-page paper or session proposal with title, brief description, and biographical sketch, along with presenter name, address, phone number, and e-mail address to Dr. Harry F. Thompson, Dakota Conference Director, Center for Western Studies, Box 727, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD 57197 (harry_thompson@augie.edu)

Proposals are due on or before January 21, 2005.

Augustana Library receives gift from the estate of Barbara Westby

The Augustana College library hosted a reception on Friday, November 5, 2005 to celebrate the gift from the estate of Barbara Westby to the Mikelsen Library endowment.

An only child, Barbara Westby's father died when she was nine years old. She and her mother moved from the Luverne, Minnesota area to Sioux Falls so that her mother could find a job to support them both. Barbara began Augustana in the late 1930s, but after one year could not afford to return. When President Granskou learned of her situation he offered her a job in the library to pay for tuition. Barbara's acceptance of

the library position at Augustana would change her life.

After graduating, Barbara went to Library School at the University of Denver. Her career as a librarian took her from the Detroit Public Library, to libraries in Norway and Sweden, and concluded as Chief, Catalog Management Division of the Library of Congress. In the library profession, Barbara was well-known and respected as the editor of four editions of the *Sear's List of Subject Headings*.

Barbara was passionate about her Norwegian heritage. She traveled to Norway whenever she could, keeping family ties alive by visiting aunts, uncles,

and cousins.

Barbara moved back to Sioux Falls after her 80th birthday. She was honored by Augustana College in 2002 with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Barbara told Ronelle Thompson, while she was hospitalized the last time, "I have lived well, but I have been careful. I should be able to leave you [Augustana library] a goodly amount." On July 19, 2004, at 84 years of age, she died in her sleep.

Barbara's estate left generous gifts to both the Augustana library and the Versterheim in Decorah, Iowa.

Barbara's belief in the importance of libraries and her enthusiasm for the Norwegian culture were well known to her friends. We are humbled by the trust she has placed in us and indeed thankful for her life



Barbara Westby received the Distinguished Alumni award from Augustana College in 2002.

and legacy.

Ronelle Thompson
Director
Augustana College Library

SDLA Board Highlights

The Executive Board met on Dec. 4 at Cedar Shore. The Board has decided to proceed with the implementation of the MemberClicks.com online directory for 2005.

In addition, the Board has started putting together program ideas for the Pierre con-

ference and selected the theme "South Dakota Libraries: A Story Worth Telling." The approved minutes are posted on the SDLA web page.

The next Board meeting will be held on Legislative Day at the State Library.

New SDLA Members

Byron Township Library
Byron Center, MI

Arleen Litka, Souderton, PA

Brookhaven Free Library
Brookhaven, NY

SD School for the Deaf
Sioux Falls, SD

Carolyn Corbin
Yellow Springs, OH

Wessington Springs
Carnegie Library
Wessington Springs, SD

Sharon Lebrun
Dell Rapids, SD

Beresford H.S. Library celebrates One Book South Dakota

Beresford High School Library participated in the One Book South Dakota program for the second year. This program was made possible with a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Last year the Advanced Placement English Class read and discussed *Peace Like a River* by

Leif Enger. This year the book discussion was open to all students in grades nine through twelve. Students read the book, *The Art of Mending* by Elizabeth Berg, and at-



Professor Ivan Fuller leads a discussion on *The Art of Mending* by Elizabeth Berg.

tended two lunchtime discussions in the library. Students also participated in a discussion with Professor Ivan Fuller from Augustana Col-

lege. Over 70 students attended the final book discussion.

Because of the number of books needed, the discussion was delayed until the public libraries around the state finished their discussion groups. The South Dakota Humanities Council then shipped us 75 books. The program was a great success, and even with such a large group, the discussion was strong and instructive.

Lee Babb, K-12 Librarian

Several community libraries involved in building projects

The **Allen Community Library** broke ground for a new library in September. The community of 1,500 hopes to complete the \$1.2 million construction project by spring of 2005. The library will serve the entire Pine Ridge reservation.

The **Woonsocket Community Library's** construction project has been completed. The library hosted an open house walk-through in December and plans on a dedication, probably in January. The library connects the high school to the National Guard

Armory/elementary school. Pat Larson will be the full-time staff at the community library. The library features a children's and adults' sections as well as a lounge area. Twelve computers will be available to provide Internet access.

Sturgis City Library begins construction on a new library and renovation of the adjacent city hall. The \$3.4 million project will be completed in three phases and will take approximately two and a half years. The new construction will allow the library to expand services, especially for children.

SOUTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SOUTH DAKOTA LIBRARIES: A STORY WORTH TELLING

OCTOBER 5-7, 2005

PIERRE, SD

State Library seeks funding to support school library media program

(continued from page 1)


Dennis Duncan, SDLA lobbyist are currently working with legislative contact volunteers to identify sponsors for the proposed legislation. "Personal contact with our legislators will be the key to our success," stated Chapman. Members wishing to serve as contacts for their local legislators should contact Lisa

Brunick. The committee's goal is to have a contact for each legislator.

Ann Smith, Library Media Coordinator for the Sioux Falls School District, points to Google's partnership with the New York Public Library, and the libraries at Harvard, Stanford, the University of Michigan, and Oxford to illustrate just how dramatically the in-

formation landscape is changing. "Classroom demands, extracurricular duties, and keeping up with research-based strategies leave little time for teachers to master the changes the Internet brings about. If school librarians are going to be prepared to guide students, teachers, and administrators through this changing information landscape, they need ongoing

training and support from professional colleagues," states Smith. "This funding will facilitate and support the needed training. And if schools are going to prepare students to be effective users of current ideas and information, they need school librarians working in partnership with classroom teachers," added Smith.



Book Reviewers Needed!

If you are interested in reviewing books for Book Marks, please contact
Lisa Brunick
lisa_brunick@augie.edu
605-274-4921

Library community remembers Elaine Meyer

Elaine Meyer, 89, retired Professor of Library Science at the University of South Dakota passed away Friday, December 3, 2004.

She earned her MA degree in Library Science from the University of Denver. She worked as a school librarian in Los Alamos, NM and Lead, SD. Miss Meyer then became a Reference Librarian and Pro-

fessor of Library Media at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.

Miss Meyer was the first recipient of the Friend of the School Library/Media Center award in 1985. In 2000, she the American Library Association placed her on the National Honor Roll of Librarians whose work strengthened library services in the 20th century.

2005 SDLA Legislative Issue

School Library Media Consultants

Bill Sponsor: State Library (included in annual budget request)

Recommendation: 2 positions to support the adoption of the South Dakota School Library Standards.

Need: The positions would provide support to reestablish voluntary standards that we removed in the 1980's. Our students need to have excellent information literacy skills that will give them a better chance of finding success. Recent research has shown there is a direct correlation between the provision of school library media services and an increase in scores on standardized tests. (see School Libraries Work (2004) <http://www.scholasticlibrary.com/download/slw_04.pdf>) Employing qualified school librarians can work to ensure that no child is left behind. Many school districts are without certified school librarians. In addition, a percentage of the currently certified school library media coordinators are retirement age. The need for school librarians to provide information literacy skills is related to the continued increase of information and navigation to accurate answers. (see White House Conference on School Libraries (2002) <<http://www.imls.gov/pubs/whitehouse0602/whitehouse.htm>>)

The two proposed employees would perform the following functions based upon the approval of the School Library Media Standards:

- § Provide professional development for librarians and teachers incorporating information literacy skills to make student learning more relevant for the 21st century
- § Assist library staff in developing library collections and services to support the curriculum
- § Assist library staff with the selection of automation systems to make resources easier to find and manage
- § Select and disseminate information regarding current and evolving issues in school library management and instructional practice
- § Provide training for new and changing online resources
- § Provide guidance in evaluating library programs and services to successfully achieve School Library Media Standards

Fiscal Impact: State \$72,000 plus benefits (pay grade 16)

\$ 8,000 travel, supplies, etc.



South Dakota Library Association

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