

THE Envoy

Vol. 7, No. 3, Summer 2015



ICfL Update

Trustee Resources

Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) gathered some valuable resources for public library trustees and posted them at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/dltrustees>. These include tools that will be helpful in your decision-making role, as well as information on topics that impact your library and community.

One resource on this page for which ICfL would especially appreciate feedback is State Librarian Ann Joslin’s presentation on the “State of the State’s Libraries–2015 Overview.” This

17-minute video describes ICfL’s support of Idaho publicly funded libraries in 2014 and gives an overview of some of the valuable work that Idaho libraries are doing. Your director will soon receive a letter from the Commission with a link to the video and a survey requesting comments on the presentation. We look forward to hearing your thoughts about the Overview and what other topics you might want covered in the future.

Let’s Talk About It

Since 1985, Let’s Talk About It (LTAI) has been bringing adult reading discussion groups together with humanities scholars in Idaho’s public libraries to discuss fine literature. These readings and discussions explore American values, history, culture, aging, classics, and more. See more about LTAI and what this year’s participating libraries chose for themes at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/lets-talk-about-it>.

Microsoft IT Academy Pilot

ICfL is working closely with the Idaho State Department

of Education (SDE) on the implementation process for providing Microsoft IT Academy to Idaho public libraries and public high schools. Funding for the statewide program will come from the SDE budget, and the online programs will be free to libraries and high schools. To opt in as providers of Microsoft IT Academy services, libraries and schools can go to Google Forms (Microsoft IT Academy) at <https://goo.gl/BNOqqo>. A training timeline for librarians and teachers is in the works and information will be sent out via the LibIdaho listserv as it is available.

Make It At the Library

Idaho’s “Make It at the Library” project continues to garner national attention. Erica Compton, ICfL project coordinator and co-developer of the initiative, was one of about 30 invited experts at the June 11 Capitol Hill Maker Faire. She also showcased Idaho’s maker movement during the National Maker Faire at the University of the District of Columbia June

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**Idaho Commission
for Libraries**

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Boise, ID 83702-6055
208-334-2150
800-458-3271
<http://libraries.idaho.gov>

Mission:

The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele.

Commissioners:

John Held, Dave Mecham,
Pat Raffee, and Sara Staub

State Librarian

Ann Joslin

Commission Contacts:

- Ben Bibikov, web designer
- Danna Angevine, state publications, cataloging, and acquisitions librarian
- Dian Scott, office services supervisor
- Edgar Correa, web developer
- Erica Compton, reading programs coordinator
- Gina Persichini, technology and access services consultant
- Jan Wall, northern Idaho library consultant
- Jeannie Standal, school library consultant
- Kevin Tomlinson, southwest/south central Idaho library consultant
- Kristina Taylor, grants/contracts officer
- Marjorie Hooper, associate state librarian
- Pam Bradshaw, program supervisor
- Patrick Bodily, eastern Idaho library consultant
- Roger Dubois, administrative services manager
- Shirley Biladeau, continuing education consultant
- Staci Shaw, reading programs coordinator
- Stephanie Bailey-White, reading programs coordinator
- Sue Walker, Talking Book Service consultant
- Teresa Lipus, public information specialist

The Envoy is mailed quarterly to all public library directors and trustees listed in the ICfL online library directory. PDFs are available at: libraries.idaho.gov/publications/trustee-news.

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12–13. Idaho libraries are doing amazing things all over the state. Check them out at www.facebook.com/MakeItIdaho.

Read to Me Program Receives ICIRA Award

The Idaho Council of the International Reading Association (ICIRA) recently honored ICfL’s Read to Me program for advancing early literacy statewide. ICIRA officers presented ICfL staff with a check for \$500 that was used to purchase books for Literacy in the Park and other Summer Reading outreach efforts. See more at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/read-to-me-program-receives-icira-award>.

Libraries Building Community Summit

Six public library teams, consisting of staff and community partners, convened in Boise in April for training on community building and project management. Each team identified a target audience and created a plan for next steps in providing library services to that defined audience. Pat Wagner of Pattern Research, Inc. facilitated the two-day process. The library teams from Caldwell, Eagle, East Bonner County, Hailey, Lewiston, and Meridian public libraries will spend the next few months working on their projects. In November, each library will showcase their project via a webinar, highlighting their successes, challenges, and opportunities.

Summer Reading Partnership with State Parks and Recreation

Through an exciting new partnership with Idaho State Parks and Recreation, ICfL is offering free state park passes to Idaho public libraries that are hosting summer reading programs. The Youth Explorer Passes waive the entry fee for one vehicle for one day to any Idaho state park. The passes have been used for summer reading in a variety of ways. Over 100 libraries have requested more than 32,000 passes.

Literacy in the Park and Summer Learning

Literacy in the Park, a summer learning initiative ICfL introduced in 2013, runs through August 7, offering kids storytime, activities, and books to borrow from traveling lending libraries. Piggybacking on the Idaho Foodbank’s Picnic in the Park initiative and the Idaho State Department of Education’s Summer Food Service Program, ICfL and participating area libraries stage Literacy in the Park events weekly at numerous summer-feeding locations throughout the Treasure Valley. A third of the public libraries in Idaho planned similar outreach efforts this summer at feeding sites, along with visits to daycares, migrant and seasonal Head Start programs, and summer school programs. ICfL provided over 10,000 paperbacks for public libraries to use in these efforts.



ICfL Board Seeks Applicants from SW or South Central Idaho by August 7

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) Board of Library Commissioners is seeking applicants for a term on the Board running through June 30, 2019. A resident of southwest or south central Idaho is being sought.

Deadline for application is August 7, 2015.

About the Board

The Board of Library Commissioners is the policy making body for the Idaho Commission for Libraries (See libraries.idaho.gov/landing/about-us). The Board promulgates rules for the Commission, administers the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) in Idaho, and supports the Commission in delivering statewide library programs and services. Idaho Code 33-2503 lists the powers and duties of the Board of Library Commissioners.

Requirements for Serving

Service on the Board requires that a

member be available for meetings approximately ten days each year. The meetings are both face-to-face and telephone conference calls. The majority of the face-to-face meetings are in Boise. Members receive an honorarium, travel, lodging, and per diem expenses when conducting Commission business.

Qualifications include:

- Residency in Idaho (this Board position is to be a resident of southwest or south central Idaho, which includes Ada, Adams, Blaine, Boise, Camas, Canyon, Cassia, Elmore, Gem, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Owyhee, Payette, Twin Falls, Valley, and Washington counties)
- Being 18 years of age or older
- Having an interest in libraries
- Familiarity with the Idaho library community and experience serving on a governing board or holding a public office are desirable.

Candidate Selection

Idaho Code specifies that the Board shall nominate to the Governor qualified candidates to fill any Board vacancy. The Commissioners intend to send a list to the Governor after conducting interviews in a special September 2015 meeting.

Applying

Applicants should submit a letter of interest accompanied by a brief resume **by August 7** to:

Ann Joslin, State Librarian
Idaho Commission for Libraries
325 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702

Or submit via email to:
ann.joslin@libraries.idaho.gov.

Questions or requests for further information may also be directed to the State Librarian at the above address or by calling 208.334.2150 or 800.458.3271.

Idaho Library Snapshot Day 2015 Results

In April 2015 during National Library Week, Idaho libraries from around the state tracked their activities with statistics and photos, creating a snapshot of a day in the life of Idaho libraries and capturing the impact they have on their communities.

53 libraries participated, submitting statistics and/or photos:

- 32 public library locations
- 5 academic libraries
- 14 school libraries
- 2 special libraries

In one day in these Idaho libraries:

- 26,225 people visited the library.
- 33,555 items were circulated.
- 3,015 reference questions were answered.
- 72 job seekers were helped (résumé, job search, etc.).
- 1,900 students were helped (homework).
- 3,383 people used the public access computer (Internet/word processing/games, etc.)
- 1,473 student computer users
- 2,672 people used the Internet with their own devices.

- 590 volunteer hours were worked at libraries.
- 604 people were taught computer/device/Internet skills.
- 220 library cards were issued/borrowers were registered.

See a 4-minute video with photos at: <http://youtu.be/E59CeicOUdk>.

View complete results including participating libraries, example reference questions, and library user comments at: libraries.idaho.gov/IdahoSnapshot.

“Outside the Lines” Week

Outside the Lines is a weeklong celebration, September 13-19, 2015, demonstrating the creativity and innovation in libraries. Whether your organization is large or small, you can participate by hosting at least one event or campaign that:

- gets people thinking and talking about libraries in a different way.
- showcases the library out in the community.

- highlights how your library is relevant in people’s lives.
- represents your local community.
- gets people engaged.
- is unexpected and fun!

Outside the Lines is an initiative by Colorado library marketers and directors to show communities how important libraries are and how they’ve changed. This celebration takes many of the concepts

discussed at R-Squared—The Risk & Reward Conference—such as customer curiosity, culture, community, and creative spaces, and puts them into action in our local communities.

Find more information at getoutsidethelines.org/ and see which Idaho libraries have already signed up!

Increasing Library Broadband through 4G

Our broadband access survey documented that many Idaho public libraries, both small and large, don’t have adequate, affordable, or reliable broadband. Their challenges are likely to increase as more online resources are offered (such as Microsoft IT academy) and as more people bring their own devices to use the library’s Wi-Fi. Earlier this summer, in the interest of finding solutions, two public libraries participated in a pilot project to test 4G as an affordable and adequate broadband option. Ada Community Library’s Lake Hazel Branch and Community Library Network’s Athol Branch worked with Cradlepoint, a Boise-based company, to enhance their wireless capabilities.

Cradlepoint, a provider of cloud-managed 4G networking solutions, offers a router, plus a modem that functions with a chip from the wireless carrier and works off the signal from a cell tower. Using the cell tower signal provides additional broadband for primary service or for a backup/redundancy system. Cradlepoint supplies the hardware, and the wireless carrier provides the

SIM card and data plan. If libraries request it, Cradlepoint can provide “one stop shopping” and facilitate the contract with the wireless carrier.

For the pilot, Ada Community Library moved their wireless devices to 4G broadband. This worked fairly well, but didn’t provide quite enough capacity in one router for their wireless demand so the library is now pursuing a 100MB offer from a different carrier. Ada Community recently moved the pilot equipment from their Lake Hazel branch to their Hidden Springs Branch to test it there, as they discovered wireless was running very slowly on their current connection. The library found the project easy to implement and inexpensive. They had a positive experience with Cradlepoint and would recommend the company to others.

Community Library Network initially had trouble getting filtering to work through the 4G service, but eventually that was resolved and their pilot was successful. The result was that

they purchased the Cradlepoint hardware and services for four locations: Athol, Harrison, Spirit Lake, and Rathdrum.

Idaho Digital Learning Academy also had success with Cradlepoint’s 4G service, and is using it for backup/redundancy.

To find out more about the project from the pilot libraries, you can contact Dylan Baker, IT Division Coordinator at Ada Community Library, or Mark Foster, IT Coordinator at Community Library Network. Both would be happy to answer questions from other libraries about the 4G project.

To talk to someone at Cradlepoint about the possibility of increasing your library’s broadband through 4G, contact Mark Messer, State and Higher Education-West Account Manager, at mmesser@cradlepoint.com or 208.908.4616.

If you try 4G broadband, Idaho Commission for Libraries would be interested in hearing about your experience.



Nominations for Best Small Library in America Award

If your public library demonstrates outstanding service to a population of 25,000 or less, Library Journal and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation want to hear from you. Library Journal's annual award for the Best Small Library in America was founded 10 years ago to encourage and showcase the exemplary work of small libraries.

Prizes: The winning library will receive a \$20,000 cash award; a feature story in the February 2016 Library Journal; and conference costs for two library representatives to attend the Public Library Association Biannual Conference in 2016 and a gala reception at the conference. Two finalist libraries will be awarded a \$10,000 cash

award as well as conference costs for two library representatives.

Process: Tell your story in two pages, share key statistics, and add two letters of support from other library professionals who know your library's impact. Nominations will be judged based on key factors such as innovation, technology use, partnerships, and the library's role as a community center.

Guidelines, judging, and eligibility requirements: Visit lj.libraryjournal.com/awards/best-small-library-in-america-award-nomination-guidelines/

Postmark deadline:
September 9, 2015

Emmett Receives Capital Improvement Award
Emmett was recently recognized by the Association of Idaho Cities with the "City Achievement Capitol Improvement Award" for the expansion of the Emmett Public Library. The library added the Dale Cooper Memorial Wing, which houses a nonfiction section, a research and study area, and a small conference room and office. Director Alyce Kelley said the expansion is "a vested partnership-grassroots project funded completely with donations, grants, and in-kind efforts, giving a vital community facility an update that will allow growth for a prospering city, enriching the lives of its people for generations to come."

Publications Available from Office of Attorney General

The Office of the Attorney General recently published several manuals of interest to public libraries:

Idaho Open Meeting Law Manual at www.ag.idaho.gov/publications/legalManuals/OpenMeeting.pdf:

The Idaho Open Meeting Law was designed to ensure transparency of the legislative and administrative processes within state and local governments. It codifies a simple, but fundamental, Idaho value that "the public's business ought to be done in public."

Idaho Ethics in Government Manual at www.ag.idaho.gov/publications/legalManuals/EthicsInGovernment.pdf:

This manual includes Idaho's three primary statutes governing ethics in government: the Bribery and Corrupt Influence Act; the Prohibition Against Contracts with Officers Act; and the Ethics in Government Act.

Idaho Public Records Law Manual at www.ag.idaho.gov/publications/legalManuals/PublicRecordsLaw.pdf:

In 2015, the Legislature re-codified the public records law to provide one place for citizens to find laws relating to government transparency. Those changes are incorporated in this new edition of the Idaho Public Records Law Manual.

To request a hardcopy of these publications, go to the Office of the Attorney General's online contact form at www.ag.idaho.gov/onlineForms/contactAG.htm.

ILA Annual Conference September 30–October 2

The Idaho Library Association (ILA) 2015 Annual Conference, "Libraries Leading the Way," will be held in Boise, at Boise State University. There are

three preconference choices on September 30; over 40 conference sessions October 1–2; and a keynote address by Phil Eastman II from Leadership Advisors Group.

Early Bird registration ends September 9. Regular registration ends October 2. Register at idaholibraries.org/conferences/ila-annual-conference/.



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**This project is made possible in part by the
Institute of Museum and Library Services.**

Upcoming Leadership Development Opportunities

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is pleased to announce two leadership development opportunities for staff working in publicly-funded libraries in Idaho. These are part of the Library Leadership Advisory Committee (LiLAC) initiative that developed after the April 2014 Leadership Training Needs Assessment Summit. Registration for both of these events will be on a first-come, first-served basis. A waiting list will be maintained to fill cancellations.

Opportunity #1: Accelerated Leadership Workshop

The Idaho Library Association and the Idaho Commission for Libraries will host the “Accelerated Leadership

Workshop” on September 30 at Boise State University in Boise. Registration for this event is via the Idaho Library Association website at <http://idaholibraries.org/conferences/ila-annual-conference/>. There is no registration fee for the workshop. However, in order to attend, some participant expectations will need to be met, both before and after the event. For more information go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/leadership>.

Deadline for registration is August 14, 2015.

Opportunity #2: Lead the Change Workshop

Library Journal’s “Lead the Change – What Great Library Leaders Know and Do” workshop

has been scheduled for November 10, 2015 at Boise Public Library in Boise, Idaho. Sixty seats have been reserved for Idaho library staff working in publicly-funded Idaho libraries. For more information regarding participant expectations go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/leadership>. All requests for registration will be handled by the Idaho Commission for Libraries. If you and/or your staff wish to participate in this event, each individual must complete the registration request form found at surveymonkey.com/s/LJIdaho. All travel and lodging costs are the responsibility of the attendee.

Deadline for requesting registration is September 15, 2015.