

THE Envoy

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Spotlight on ICFL Commissioners

Pete Black has served on the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) Board of Commissioners for over 12 years and is currently the board chair. He brings a wealth of relevant knowledge to ICFL—gleaned from experience in the classroom, the school library, and the Idaho Legislature.

From an early age, Black’s teachers were his mentors, so he knew someday he would educate other children and further the goals of education. This vision led him to a 34-year career in the Pocatello/

Chubbuck School District, where he served 31 years as a teacher and elementary school librarian, and later three years as a public information officer. He was also the district’s technology trainer, showing teachers how to use technology in their classrooms to improve time management, create electronic lesson plans, and use the Internet and email.

Ten years into his career with the Pocatello/Chubbuck School District, Black was elected to the Idaho House of Representatives where he served for 14 years, including 10 years as assistant minority leader and 10 years on the state budget committee.

Black’s experiences as teacher, librarian, and legislator inform and define his work as an ICFL Commissioner, giving him insights into budget, funding, technology, education, and literacy issues and opportunities.



ICFL Commissioner Pete Black was a teacher and school librarian for 31 years

Clearly, educating children is a topic still near and dear to his heart. He says it’s important to reach and impact children through school libraries because that’s where our future consumers are. Black believes it’s critical that school library staff members have access to the resources, tools, and training they need to provide their students with a library experience that encourages lifelong learning and a love of reading.

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**Idaho Commission
for Libraries**

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<http://libraries.idaho.gov>

Mission:

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

Commissioners:

Pete Black, John Held,
Bruce Noble, Sara Staub,
and Larry Weeks

State Librarian

Ann Joslin

Commission Contacts:

- Anne Abrams, advocacy and marketing consultant
- Betty Hoffman, support services supervisor
- Danna Angevine, state publications, cataloging, and acquisitions librarian
- Erin McCusker, southwestern Idaho library consultant
- Frank Nelson, southeastern Idaho library consultant
- Gina Persichini, networking consultant
- Jan Wall, northern Idaho library consultant
- Marjorie Hooper, associate state librarian
- Pam Bradshaw, program supervisor
- Peggy McClendon, reading programs coordinator
- Richard Wilson, associate state librarian
- Shirley Biladeau, continuing education consultant
- Sonja Hudson, grants/contracts officer
- Staci Shaw, reading programs coordinator
- Stephanie Bailey-White, reading programs coordinator
- Sue Walker, Talking Book Service consultant
- Teresa Lipus, public information specialist

2009 Overview from the State Librarian

Read to Me

A year-long evaluation of the FY2009 Read to Me program shows “stellar results.” Dr. Roger A. Stewart, Boise State University, conducted the evaluation.

Summer Reading: a 38 percent increase over 2008. Libraries served 63,300 children and reached 20,700 children through outreach programs. Statistics indicate that libraries are reaching more low income and underserved children than ever.

Mini-Grants: 30 libraries served over 17,000 children and more than 1,300 families.

Every Child Ready to Read

Family Workshops: 23 libraries served over 1,055 children in 691 families.

First Book: 25 libraries distributed 19,568 books to 2,174 children.

Jump Start: 61 libraries and 27 schools served 10,000 families.

STACKS digital repository

To date, 13,296 publications from state agency websites have been harvested, with nearly 10,000 uploaded to the permanent digital repository.

Talking Book Service (TBS)

TBS, which served nearly 2,600 patrons in FY2009, is now funded through the Library Services and Technology Act as a result of budget adjustments.

Continuing Education

School, public, and academic library staff completed 562 virtual courses offered through ICFL in FY2009. ICFL also offers professional development grants.

Teacher librarians and school library media centers

School library data: With support from Superintendent Luna, we completed the statistics pilot on Idaho school library services and resources. Beginning next year, the statistical survey will be annual.

Impact study: The results from a commissioned study to assess how Idaho students, teachers, and principals benefit from strong school libraries will be published by February 2010. The study will correlate the findings with ISAT and IRI scores.

Teacher librarian role: Through workshops and seminars, ICFL assists school librarians to increase their knowledge of 21st century teaching tools. Through community partnerships ICFL highlights the role that school libraries play in student achievement.

Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) Services

LiLI continues to provide all Idaho libraries the opportunity to offer a suite of basic electronic information services.

LiLI databases provide full-text content from trusted sources.

LiLI Unlimited, the statewide library catalog, is the foundation for resource-sharing among Idaho’s libraries.

LiLI eAudioBook Collection:

When the successful two-year demonstration project ended September 30, 2009, 13 library organizations were able to continue the eAudio service through a group subscription.



ICFL board tours libraries in Northern Idaho

The Idaho Board of Library Commissioners met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, September 11, 2009 at the Hayden Branch of the Kootenai-Shoshone Area Libraries (KSAL). The board took advantage of their northern Idaho visit to tour the Hayden Branch, and other libraries in the region.

Thursday morning the first stop was the KSAL–Rathdrum Branch. KSAL Library Director John Hartung warmly welcomed the board, told them about the KSAL district, lead a tour through the building, and gave everyone a turn to bounce on the recessed anti-fatigue mat behind the circulation desk.

Next was Hayden Meadows Elementary School Library, where librarian Kiersten Kerr described the school's library services and delighted the board with her enthusiasm and energetic interaction with her students. Youth Services librarian Karen Yother from KSAL Hayden Branch joined the tour to talk about the cooperation between the public and school libraries in Hayden.

In the afternoon, the board toured Coeur d'Alene Public Library. Director Bette Ammon and Public Library Foundation Executive Director Ruth Pratt captivated the board when they described the remarkable collaboration between the library, foundation, Friends of the Library, and others to build community partnerships and raise funds to construct and support the beautiful new facility.

From there the board went to the Kootenai Medical Center (KMC) library in Coeur d'Alene, where Beth Hill chronicled the history of the library and showed them the nearby location where the collection will be moved to accommodate the Medical Center's expansion into the library's current space.

Finally, the board visited North Idaho College (NIC). Management Team Members Denise Clark and Ann Johnston gave the board a tour of the library and an informative description of the campus and how they are managing with the increased enrollment this year.



The ICFL commissioners and librarians Karen Yother and Kiersten Kerr in the Reading Pit at Hayden Meadows Elementary School Library



ICFL board members break from the meeting at KSAL–Hayden to learn about WIMBA



The public often comes to the NIC library to view the student-created gargoyle displays

Will Idaho libraries be represented in national debate for funding?

They'll need your help.

The 2009-2010 Public Library Funding & Technology Access survey is open through **November 6, 2009** at www.plinternetsurvey.org.

Conducted by the American Library Association (ALA) and the Center for Library & Information Innovation at the University of Maryland and funded by the Bill

& Melinda Gates Foundation, the survey gathers important data regarding public library Internet connectivity, use, funding, and services. The findings of data-gathering surveys like this are used for advocacy efforts on behalf of libraries, decision making regarding critical resources, and support for the Library Services and Technology Act and other initiatives.

At the local level, the data can help you plan services, assess your library's needs, identify your library's contributions to your community, and educate your stakeholders and funders.

If your library has already completed the survey, thank you. If not, please make it a priority so Idaho libraries are represented in the national debate for funding.

Idaho at the National Book Festival

The 2009 National Book Festival was held on Saturday, September 26, 2009, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Marj Hooper and Pam Bradshaw from ICFL represented Idaho in the Pavilion of the States, promoting reading, sharing information about Idaho literacy and library programs, and answering questions about Idaho writers and libraries. They created additional teaching moments when they challenged visiting school children to locate Idaho on the map.

Hooper and Bradshaw traveled with Mudgy Moose and Millie Mouse, creations of author Susan Nipp and illustrator Charles Reasoner and part of a library fund-raising and public art project in Coeur d'Alene. Mudgy & Millie like to play hide and seek, but they remained at the Idaho booth

in the Pavilion of the States for the entire festival, greeting the many children who stopped by to learn about this and other Idaho books. To see photos of the trip, go to www.flickr.com/photos/icflphotos/sets/72157622488410008/.

Other featured pavilions at the festival displayed book genres ranging from history to mysteries, as well as books for families and young people.

The festival was sponsored by the Library of Congress, and the Pavilion of the States was sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Hooper and Bradshaw were able to attend the Festival through a grant from COSLA (Chief Officers of State Library Agencies). See more about the festival at www.loc.gov/bookfest.

FY2010 LSTA Grant Program

The FY2010 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Competitive Grant Program is underway. A timeline for this program is on page 1 of the 2010 LSTA *Grant Application Kit* at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/library-services-technology>. Draft Applications for competitive grants must be postmarked or hand delivered by 5:00 p.m. on **November 6, 2009**.

If you prefer to submit your application electronically, attach the application and supporting documentation to an e-mail and send it by 5:00 p.m. **November 4, 2009** to

sonja.hudson@libraries.idaho.gov. If you do not receive a return e-mail verifying receipt of your digital application, please contact Sonja Hudson by phone at 208-639-4136 for verification. Refer to *Submitting Your Grant Application*, page 45 in the *Grant Application Kit*, for more instructions.

The Board of Library Commissioners approved the addition of web presence to the Eligibility Requirements for FY2010 LSTA funds. These requirements can be found in the *Grant Application Kit* on pages



Idaho's table at the National Book Festival



Idaho's busy aisle at the National Book Festival

35–36 in Appendix A, section D. It states: The library maintains a website that provides current information about its services including the library name, address, phone number, e-mail address, hours of operation, names of board members, a link to the library's online catalog, and update or review date on each webpage.

Incomplete applications will be returned to the submitting library without evaluation.

Questions? Please contact your library consultant or Sonja Hudson.



2010 District library trustee election timeline



No later than the last day of **November 2009**, you should notify the county clerk of any election for your political subdivision to occur in calendar year 2010 so that your election may be included in the county election calendar. If you fail to do this, there are additional notification requirements for your election. [See Idaho Code 34-1405 (2)]. See the table at right for the timeline and applicable code for each activity.

Contact your library consultant with any questions.

Timetable for District Library Trustee Elections

Date	Activity	Code
March 5-12	Publish notice of petition availability and filing deadline	34-1405 34-704
March 19	Last day candidate nomination petitions accepted	34-1404 34-704
April 30	Last day to file as write-in candidate	33-2717A 34-1407
	First day to declare the election of a single candidate and the cancellation of the election	34-1407 33-2717
May 13	Last day to publish first notice of election	34-1406
May 18	Last day to declare the election of a single candidate and the cancellation of the election	33-2717
May 20	Last day to publish last notice of election	34-1406
May 24	Last day (up until 5:00 p.m.) to request "non-emergency" absentee ballots	34-1002 34-1408
May 25	Trustee Election Day (8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.)	34-106 34-1409

E-Rate—What’s your discount?

For the sake of your library’s budget, please take a look at the 2008-2009 NSLP spreadsheet on the ICFL website to see what your discount for telecommunications and/or Internet might be under the e-Rate program. Go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/determine-your-discount-or-reimbursement> and click on *YOUR School District's E-Rate Discount Rate*.

Discount/reimbursement rates are determined by the percentage of free and reduced lunches in your school district. Once determined, a “discount matrix” is applied to that percentage. The resulting percentage depends on whether your library is urban or rural. The only urban areas in Idaho are Ada and Canyon counties.

Look for your school district and then go to the far right-hand column of the spreadsheet to see what your rate would be. This percentage would be subtracted from your bills or reimbursed to you.

Disclaimer: your percentage may vary from that listed, especially if you have multiple branches within your library jurisdiction. In that case, it’s basically an average of the percentages, unless you have different vendors.

Questions? Contact Public Library e-Rate Coordinator Jan Wall at jan.wall@libraries.idaho.gov. For more about the e-Rate program see www.universalservice.org/sl/.



ILA Trustee of the Year

Congratulations to Don Johnson, who was named Idaho Library Association (ILA) Trustee of the Year. Johnson, chair of the Kuna Library District Board of Trustees, is also the ILA Trustees/Friends Division Chair.

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Resources for library trustees

Continuing Education for Trustees—FREE

By Shirley Biladeau

They're free and convenient!

Whether you are a new trustee or a seasoned veteran, several resources on WebJunction Idaho at <http://id.webjunction.org> will provide a wealth of information about your role as a public library trustee.

First, check out the *Guide to Library Board Resources* at <http://id.webjunction.org/trustees>.

Then, take the free online class *Become an Effective Trustee*. Sign up today—you have access to the course content for one year. To access this course do the following:

1. Create an account with WebJunction.

2. Affiliate with Idaho.
3. Access the ID Courses tab.
4. Click on Library Management.
5. Click on Friends & Trustees.
6. Click on Become an Effective Trustee (LE@D).
7. Check out the Course. (Add to cart.)
8. The course will then appear under your “My Courses” tab, where you can launch it!

Any questions? Contact shirley.biladeau@libraries.idaho.gov

Become an Effective Trustee is provided by the University of North Texas Lifelong Education @ Desktop (LE@D) and is a great review of the role of a public library trustee. So check it out today!

I challenge every library board member to take this course!

The following WebJunction Idaho courses from LibraryU, Illinois State Library may also be of interest to trustees:

- Keep It Simple: Developing a Marketing Plan for Your Library, provides tools to create a plan, prepare print materials, and develop partnerships that benefit the library.
- Master of Disaster: Developing a Disaster Plan covers three main areas of disaster preparedness.

To find these courses, go to <http://id.webjunction.org/catalog> and, under Featured Course Providers, click on LibraryU, Illinois State Library.