

THE Envoy

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ICFL Welcomes New Commissioner

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) welcomes new commissioner John Held to the Board of Library Commissioners. Held fills the vacancy left when board member Richard (Dick) Rognas passed away in December 2008. Rognas served on the Idaho State Library/Commission for Libraries Board for seven years.

The Board of Library Commissioners is the policy-making body for ICFL. Held and the other commissioners

support the agency's mission "to assist libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele." ICFL staff members actively work with libraries throughout the state to plan and deliver 21st Century library services.

With nearly 15 years of experience as a public library trustee, Held is eager to serve even more patrons and libraries as a commissioner on the ICFL board. He believes that it is vitally important to provide library services to the citizens of Idaho, and that libraries play a pivotal role in developing the love of reading that many people carry throughout their lives. He has witnessed astounding changes in his years as a public library trustee and wonders what advancements the next 15 years will bring.

Held looks forward to learning more about school libraries, and envisions increased collaboration between school libraries and public libraries. He would like



John Held is the newest member of the Idaho Board of Library Commissioners

to participate frequently in library conferences around the state.

Held lives in Payette with his wife, Suzanne, and their son, Eric, a high school sophomore. Daughter Jen is a sophomore at Boise State University and participates in a Work-Study program at the BSU library. Apparently the love of libraries runs in the family.

Held is open to hearing from library trustees throughout the state. You can contact him at: jheld@fmtc.com.

Inside this issue:

Libraries and employment help	2
ICFL and legislative activity	3
Judith Krug leaves a legacy	3
First Book applications	3
Wal-Mart grant recipients	4
LSTA grant approvals	5
Trustee resources and training	5-6
Library grand openings	6

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:

- Amy Vecchione, digital documents librarian
- Anne Abrams, advocacy and marketing consultant
- Betty Hoffman, support services supervisor
- Charlotte Fowles, electronic service librarian
- 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

Libraries to have CIS and IdahoWorks Access

by State Librarian Ann Joslin

The Idaho Workforce Development Council approved the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus proposal that includes funding for the Idaho Department of Labor (DOL) to provide all Idaho public libraries with access to the Career Information System (CIS) and IdahoWorks web-based workforce services. Training for library personnel by DOL staff is also included in the proposal.

DOL is currently compiling the contact information needed to set up accounts for all public library locations. Public library directors will hear more from the Department of Labor and ICFL as the details and timeline are worked out. Below is some background on the CIS and IdahoWorks services:

Career Information System For job seekers:

Since 1980, CIS has been providing career and educational planning solutions for people in Idaho. They gather information and data from hundreds of sources and format it so people can:

- Explore career opportunities
- Find educational programs, and the schools that offer them, related to those opportunities
- Make successful career decisions and educational plans
- Find work

To find out more about CIS, go to: <http://idcis.intocareers.org/>.

A password is required to enter the system, but the links are open to anyone. The pages *CIS Products*

and *What's New* will give you a lot of information about what CIS offers.

IdahoWorks Business Services System

Employers can use IdahoWorks to do the following:

- Write and edit Job Listings that are searchable by job seekers nationwide
- Manage Job Listings
- Access Job Listings 24 hours per day, 7 days per week
- Review lists of candidates who have inquired about the Job Listings
- Screen some applicant profiles and resumes

Job seekers and those utilizing unemployment benefits can use IdahoWorks as follows:

- Job seekers can
 - register/update registration
 - create and update resumes and/or profiles
 - find jobs
- Unemployment benefits users can
 - file new claims or reopen existing claims
 - file weekly continued claims
 - check benefit eligibility
 - review payment summary
 - review year end 1099
 - review eligibility online
 - direct deposit

Read more about IdahoWorks at: <http://www.idahoworks.org/> or <http://labor.idaho.gov/iw/>.



ICFL and legislative activity

by State Librarian Ann Joslin

Budget

As written, the Commission's FY2010 appropriations bill represents a 19.8% decrease from the original FY2009 state general fund appropriation.

In response to a request from the Governor's Office, the Commission submitted the following cuts in the general fund for FY2010:

- Funding for 1.25 vacant positions eliminated
- Transfer of the Talking Book Service to Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds
- Funding for the Professional Development Collection (PDS) eliminated

In addition, the bill includes:

- An additional 5% reduction in personnel funds

- A net decrease of \$14,000 in personnel benefit funds
- No one-time funding (Read to Me mini-grants, capital replacement, etc.)
- No inflationary increases

As of this writing, it appears that the House, Senate, and Governor have agreed on the 5% reduction in personnel costs, so the decreases noted above will likely be our appropriation.

Brighter news is that the FY2009 LSTA allotment for Idaho is a 14% increase over FY2008.

That increase will help offset the transfer of the Talking Book Service to LSTA funds.

Self-governing status

SB1013, a bill to provide that the Board of Library Commissioners

is within the department of self-governing agencies, passed. This means that, beginning July 1, 2009, ICFL will no longer be under the oversight of the State Board of Education (SBOE) and the following changes will occur:

- The Governor, rather than SBOE, will make appointments to our Board of Library Commissioners.
- Our strategic plan and budget requests will be submitted directly to the Division of Financial Management (instead of to the Office of the SBOE).

ICFL will continue to support and advocate for lifelong learning and will continue strengthening relationships and communication with the SBOE, the Department of Education, and the House and Senate Education Committees.

The library community loses a champion for intellectual freedom

Judith Fingeret Krug, 69, long-time director of the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Intellectual Freedom, executive director of the Freedom to Read Foundation, and founder of ALA's Banned Books week, died April 11, 2009 after a lengthy illness.

Through the years, Krug fought censorship on behalf of the nation's libraries, worked to guarantee the rights of individuals to express ideas without governmental interference, and advised countless librarians and trustees in dealing with challenges to library material.

Susannah Price, Boise Public Library, spoke for many in the library community when she said: "[Judith Krug] was and still is our Intellectual Freedom Leader. Her words and ideals will always be there for us."

First Book Applications Available

Libraries interested in becoming a First Book site for 2009–2010 can complete an application any time between now and May 29, 2009. Applications are found at: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/first-book>.

Read to Me First Book provides children from low-income families

the opportunity to read and own their first new books. The program provides a book a month, for nine months, for each participating child. First Book parents also receive a monthly newsletter, *The Bookworm*, which suggests tips and strategies to support early literacy skills at home.

In addition to providing children with books, a Read to Me program goal is to encourage contact between at-risk families and librarians, in order to promote local library services. Contact Stephanie Bailey-White, Staci Shaw, or Peggy McClendon at ICFL for more information.

Idaho libraries tap into grant funds

Wal-Mart Grant Awards

In November 2008, the Wal-Mart Foundation provided \$98,000 in one-time funds to support “Strengthening Library Services for Youth in Idaho.” This grant was the result of a collaborative effort between the Idaho Library Association, First Lady Lori Otter, the Idaho Community Foundation, and ICFL, with funds distributed through a competitive mini-grant process open to all Idaho publicly-funded public libraries.

Response was overwhelming: 53 proposals requesting a total of \$308,000 were submitted. With the available funding, ICFL was able to fund about 25% of the requests.

The following funded proposals presented new and creative services, articulated a community need based on demographic information and/or research, provided evidence of planning and details about project activities, demonstrated strong partnerships, had appropriate means of reaching their target audience, and demonstrated how the project could be continued.

- **Garden City Public Library:** Cognitive and Constructive Play—\$4,000 to target underserved, English Language Learners (ELL), refugee and low-income families.
- **Post Falls Public Library:** Early Learning: Puppets & More—\$7,000 to enhance outreach services to young children with a new, multifaceted program.
- **Boise Public Library:** Reaching Immigrant Families—\$10,000 for storytimes designed to promote English-language literacy to ELL preschoolers and parents.
- **Ada Community Library:** Learning Resources for Tweens and Teens—\$10,000 for a dedicated study area with online homework assistance, texting reference service, and tutoring.
- **Boundary Co. District Library:** Teen Services, Online Magazine and Writing Workshops—\$5,000 to involve youth in experiences that support academic achievement and workforce training.
- **Burley Public Library:** Video Gaming for Teens—\$5,000 to establish video gaming, linking it to academic achievement through partnership with area schools.
- **Coeur d’Alene Public Library:** Gaming Programs for Tweens and Teens—\$7,000 to create a series of 10 themed “Let the Games Begin” programs to strengthen 21st Century technology skills.
- **E. Owyhee County District Library:** New Programming for All Ages—\$10,000 to provide Little Learners, Learning Ever After, and Teen Supreme.
- **Kuna District Library:** Gaming Programs for Kids and Teens—\$4,000 to expand video gaming programs and integrate them with book collections.
- **Lewiston City Library:** New Teen Space and Publishing Workshop—\$10,000 to create a new Teen Center.
- **Nampa Public Library:** partial funding of \$2,000 to expand their Super Saturday Intergenerational Programs.
- **Oneida County District Library:** Reading and Technology for Teens—\$10,000 to introduce teens to best-selling young adult books through book reviews and integrating technology and reading.
- **E. Bonner Co. District Library, Sandpoint:** Juvenile Detention Center Outreach, Tweens and Teens—\$10,000 to work with the staff at the Detention Center to expose detained youth to reading materials and other library services.
- **Cambridge Community Library:** New Teen Space, Programs, and Paperback Collection—\$4,000 to work with local teens to enhance teen services and develop a teen space.

We are grateful to the Wal-Mart Foundation for funding this generous much-needed grant. Libraries that received funding for their proposals are excited for the opportunity to strengthen library services for their youth. As Mary DeWalt, Ada Community Library Director put it, they are “thrilled and honored to have been selected as a recipient...[and] cannot wait to get started on this.”



Grant funds, Continued from page 4

LSTA Grant Approvals

At its February 20, 2009 regular board meeting, the Idaho Board of Library Commissions approved the following FY2009 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) competitive grant applications. LSTA funding is provided through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS):

- **Library Consortium of Eastern Idaho:**
One catalog for all users
- **Cooperative Information Network (CIN):**
Add Priest Lake and West Bonner District to CIN—add authority control
- **Emmett Public Library:**
Emmett Public Library Connects—join LYNX Consortium

For more information on these grants, please see Board Document 09-34 at: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/boarddoc/bymeeting/2009-02-20>.

For more information on the LSTA funding process, go to: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/library-services-technology>.

Resources for library trustees

ICFL Consultants

ICFL assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele. Part of building capacity in Idaho's communities is having knowledgeable boards of trustees. Boards have access to Library Consultants at ICFL for just this purpose. Jan Wall (northern Idaho), Frank Nelson (southeastern Idaho), and Erin McCusker (southwestern Idaho) work with trustees in many ways, including the following:

- Providing orientation for new board members
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Authority of the five-member board
 - By-laws
 - Board education
- Running effective meetings
- Hiring and evaluation of directors
- Policy development
- Budgeting
- Funding
- Advocacy
- Community needs assessment
- Strategic planning processes

If you have questions, your regional

library consultant is always the best starting point. Call to set up a meeting. If you have questions about issues such as resource sharing, networking, library consortia, LiLI Unlimited, or LiLI databases, your library consultant can put you in touch with other ICFL staff that can help you.

WebJunction Idaho

WebJunction Idaho provides an in-depth pathfinder that enables you to access a wealth of information about being a library board member. Some of the topics include roles and responsibilities, orientation and training, advocacy, and partnership building.

Trustees can also join a group to communicate with other trustees to discover how to work effectively with their director and to develop relations within their community. Register today with WebJunction Idaho (<http://id.webjunction.org>) and check out the trustees section (<http://id.webjunction.org/trustees/resources/overview>).

The WebJunction Idaho online course "Become an Effective Trustee" provides a solid overview of a trustee's role and responsibilities, whether you are new to the role or a seasoned veteran. You can access this online, self-paced course for free once you have registered with WebJunction Idaho. It takes 2 to 3 hours to complete.

DVD Series

Another resource is "Trustee Trouble," a DVD series of short videos prepared by the Wyoming State Library. The videos can be accessed online at: www.wyominglibraries.org/trusteetrouble.html.

These video clips provide great conversation starters regarding issues that library boards may face.

Idaho Library Laws

Idaho Library Laws, published by the Idaho Commission for Libraries, contains Idaho code regarding public libraries, library districts, and trustees. You can find the entire manual at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/ibLws2006sh.pdf>.

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Continuing education opportunities for trustees

For information about continuing education for trustees, check out the following sources:

- the Bibliographical Center for Research (BCR) workshop page: www.bcr.org/training/schedule/
- the ICFL continuing education page: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/continuing-education>, particularly *WebJunction Pathfinders* and *Other Upcoming Free and Reduced Cost CE events*
- the ICFL Professional Development page at: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/professional-development-resources>.

Libraries celebrate grand openings

Meridian Library District celebrated the grand opening of its Silverstone Branch on Friday, March 27, 2009.

Library Board President Howard Little said that this dream has been eight years in the making, and he is thrilled about the location. Branch Manager Natalie Nation is also excited about extending library service to the south and southeast areas of the Meridian community. Both are pleased with the beautiful storefront facility

and agreed that the Silverstone Branch is a wonderful asset to the community.

Meridian Silverstone Branch



Branch Manager Natalie Nation, Board President Howard Little, and Meridian Library District Director Patty Younger cut the ribbon

Camas County District Library celebrated their new library with a grand opening on February 28.

Camas County District Library



Marypat Fields, Connie Reagan, Cecilia Porter, Director Marilyn Ballard, and Opal Davis celebrate at their grand opening