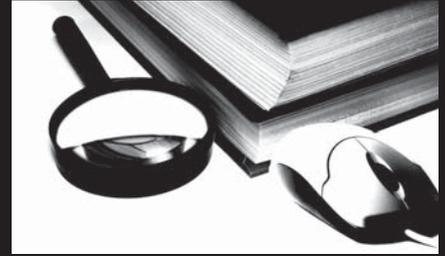


ICFL News

The Idaho Commission for Libraries Newsletter



LiLI eAudioBooks Project Continues

In May the Idaho Commission for Libraries announced that the successful LiLI eAudioBooks Collection (LiLIABC) will continue through August 2009. With LiLIABC Idaho citizens can download over 2,000 audiobooks on to their computer or mp3 player.

During the first six months of the demonstration project, Idahoans checked out 21,492 books through LiLIABC. Individual library usage can be found in NetLibrary's Library Resource Center at <http://extranet.netlibrary.com/ResourceCenter/> by logging in with the library's administrative login. Experts suggest a four-part strategy for seeing success with eAudioBooks.

1. Add the MARC records for the titles to the local catalog. All the MARC records for the titles available through LiLI ABC are available at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/marcdownload>. It includes the 2,126 records from the initial set, plus monthly updates of between 30-80 titles.

2. Provide access from outside the library. LiLI has taken care of statewide access. By pointing your users to www.lili.org, they will be

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Digging In. Helping break ground were (left to right) Rob Bousfield, Boise City Public Works; Troy Ainsworth, Fletcher Farr Ayotte, Inc., Architects; Denise McNeley, Boise Public Library; Jim Thompson, Boise Public Library Board of Trustees; David Eberle, Boise City Council; Mayor David Bieter; Kevin Booe, Boise Public Library Director; Stephen Loop, Kara Deverall, West Bench Neighborhood Association; Bonnie Longstreth, Friends of Boise Public Library; Martie Brennan, Boise Public Library Board of Trustees; Bill Mattox, Friends of Boise Public Library.

Boise Public breaks ground on new branch

Mayor David Bieter and the Boise Public Library Board of Trustees hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for Boise's new branch library in West Boise on June 17.

The building design will incorporate sustainable features for efficient use of energy and water and use recycled and local materials. The City of Boise is aiming for a gold LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The full-service library is expected to open in late 2009. The 15,000 square-foot space will include two AV-equipped meeting rooms, 40-50 pub-

lic computers, a collection of 40,000-50,000 books and materials, and spaces for children's programs, reading, and studying.

Earlier this year, the library opened two smaller, full-service branch libraries in neighborhood shopping centers. In April, the first full month of operation for the two facilities, over 20,000 people visited them, checking out over 25,000 items.

A fourth library branch is expected to open in 2010. The library is also investigating building a new main library in downtown Boise.

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.

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- Gina Persichini, Networking Consultant
- Stephanie Bailey-White, Projects Coordinator, Newsletter Editor
- Sue Walker, Talking Book Services Coordinator



Libraries invite community members to read outside the box

A participant in a recent library reading and discussion program summed up why he enjoyed the programs by saying, “Hearing others’ perspectives—they challenged me to think outside my ‘box.’”

For 23 years, Let’s Talk About It has been introducing new books and authors to readers and providing food for thought for those who love to learn.

A record number of libraries applied to sponsor a Let’s Talk About It reading and discussion series for the coming program year—September 2008 through May 2009. Fifteen libraries were selected from 23 applications. Project director Peggy McClendon commented, “It is exciting to see how popular this program is after 23 years!” McClendon attributes the strong interest to the addition of four new themes that challenge Idahoans to pick up a book they might not otherwise read.

Seven libraries will host fall programs:

- Bear Lake County District Library, Montpelier / We Are What We Eat
- Collister and Hillcrest Branches of Boise Public Library / We Are What We Eat
- Eagle Public Library / We Are What We Eat
- East Bonner County District Library, Sandpoint / We Are What We Eat
- Hailey Public Library / Our Earth, Our Ethics

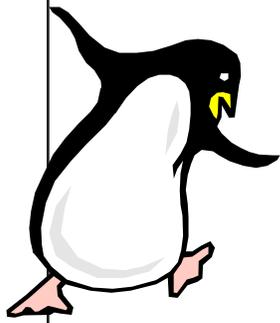
- Twin Falls Public Library / Living in the Modern Rural West
- West Bonner County District Library, Priest River / Living in the Modern Rural West

Winter programs will be hosted by:

- Star Branch, Ada Community Library / We Are What We Eat
- American Falls District Library / Living in the Modern Rural West
- Blackfoot Public Library / We Are What We Eat
- Clearwater Memorial Library, Orofino / Living in the Modern Rural West
- Hansen Community Library & Kimberly Community Library / Living in the Modern Rural West
- Larsen-Sant Public Library, Preston / Living in the Modern Rural West
- Kamiah Branch, Prairie River District Library / Growing Older, Growing Wiser
- Salmon Public Library / Living in the Modern Rural West

The program schedule will be available on the Commission website in August. For more information about Let’s Talk About It, contact Peggy McClendon at the Commission.

New professional books from ICFL



The Idaho Commission for Libraries Professional Development Service (PDS) provides access to numerous titles in the field of library and information sciences. Free shipping to and from your library is provided!

See <http://libraries.idaho.gov/pds> for more information. The following are a few of the recent additions.

Google Analytics 2.0, by Jerri L. Ledford and Mary E. Tyler (2007). This new edition provides an overview of the earlier edition plus all the updates. If you want (or need) to have your web statistics working for you and providing the information you need, this book will take you through the process. [ICFL 658.8 Ledford]

Library Services to the Sandwich Generation and Serial Caregivers, Linda Lucas Walling, compiler (2001). This guide includes resource information based on statistical data on how to better serve those groups of adults in late middle age (sandwich generation) who are just about to retire, but may find themselves caring for elderly, impaired parents and may also have adult children returning home for economic or other reasons. These two groups often have special resource needs that may not be currently met by their public library. This guide will be helpful as it introduces these users, their needs, and a variety of resources that can be useful to them. [ICFL 027.6 Sandwic]

Graphic Novels: A Genre Guide to Comic Books, Manga, and More, by Michael Pawuk (2007). This guide is intended to help you start selecting graphic novels for your collection. It covers more than 2,400 titles including content information and tie-ins to gaming, film, anime, and television. For grades 6 to adult. [ICFL 025.2 Pawuk]

The e-learning Handbook: Past Promises, Present Challenges, Saul Carliner and Patti Shank, editors (2008). This handbook explores a wide range of topics including evaluation, instructional design, and implements standards. [ICFL 371.3 Carline]

The Teen-centered Book Club: Readers into Leaders, by Bonnie Kunzel and Constance Hardesty (2006). This is an easy to follow guide for setting up book clubs for teens. This guide includes planning, set up, marketing, troubleshooting, evaluation, resources, and much more. [ICFL 027.62 Kunzel]

Forces for Good: The Six Practices of High-Impact Nonprofits, by Leslie R. Crutchfield and Heather McLeod Grant (2008). The authors investigate twelve high-impact nonprofits and how they move, integrate, change, and work with other nonprofits and for-profits to improve their own services and products. [ICFL 658 Crutchf]

Everything is Miscellaneous: The Power of the New Digital Disorder, by David Weinberger (2007). The author explains the rise of the miscellaneous from the organizational methods used for centuries (e.g. Dewey Decimal System) to the information included in Google Earth and how all this information is transforming the way we organize, find, and use it. [ICFL 302.2 Weinber]

Presentation Zen: Simple Ideas on Presentation Design and Delivery, by Garr Reynolds (2008). This book will change the way you think about making presentations with PowerPoint. Think differently, be more creative, and be more effective in the process. [ICFL 658.45 Reynold]

Build Your Customer Strategy: A Guide to Creating Profitable Customer Relationships, by James G. Barnes (2006). This book shows you how to create profitable and lasting customer relationships. [ICFL 658.8 Barnes]

Practical Research Methods for Librarians and Information Professionals, by Susan E. Beck and Kate Manuel (2008). This guide provides an introduction to the skills library school students and other beginner researchers will need in their careers, but it will also be a benefit to those more experienced researchers by introducing new methodologies to their toolkit. [ICFL 020 Beck]

Lost Among the Stacks or . . .

The Extraordinary True Story of Madness, Desperation, and Intrigue, as Two Librarians Struggle Against All Odds to Find the Best Nonfiction Books That Are Actually Readable (Yes, Readable)*

by Jennifer Hills & Beth Twitchell

[Editor's Note: Jennifer Hills & Beth Twitchell presented a great session on Reader's Advisory and Nonfiction at two of the ILA Regional Conferences last year and we asked them to write up some of the information from those sessions. This is the second part of the article. Jennifer and Beth are reference librarians at the Twin Falls Public Library.]

[*Author's Note: We've found that any nonfiction book worth its salt has a short, almost meaningless title, but a long hyperbolic subtitle. We're just continuing the trend.]

In our last piece, we spent time talking about how nonfiction, the Charlotte Lucas of the library, was seldom regarded as one of the jewels in the Readers' Advisory crown. However, when we started to compare it to the ways in which we evaluate fiction, we found that there is great readable nonfiction out there waiting to be discovered. So far, we have looked at appeal factors and narrative, two of the three considerations that could be regarded when blazing a trail through the nonfiction area. Now, we'll shine a spotlight on the third.

The third consideration is genre. Yes, we know that labeling is often a four-letter word for librarians; however, we are not endorsing an entire overhaul of the nonfiction section.

Anyone who's been asked, "Where's your self-help books?" can attest to the fact that it can be difficult to browse nonfiction without a little guidance. Besides, showcasing books from around the collection by providing a display centered on a genre can help patrons find hidden gems. After all, Charlotte Lucas may have depths to her personality that her outward appearance does not allude to (take that Lizzie!). Cribbing from Saricks and others, we've put together an adapted list of twelve nonfiction genres below, along with a couple of examples.

1. Adventure, Exploration, Survival, and Disaster – This genre offers stories of people in dangerous, exciting and/or suspenseful situations. Examples include *The Endurance* by Caroline Alexander and *Undaunted Courage* by Stephen E. Ambrose.

2. Animals, Nature, and Natural History – Books in this genre focus on mankind's relationship with nature. Michael Pollan's *The Botany of Desire* and James Herriot's *All Creatures Great and Small* would fit in here.

3. Crime and Justice – A closer look at trials, crimes, and the psychology and pathos of criminals defines this genre. Examples here are *Green River, Running Red* by Ann Rule or *Museum of the Missing* by Simon Houpt.

4. Current Issues & Hot Topics – This genre can consist of almost anything that is in the news or offers a discussion of "now" topics. In our library that includes *A Child Called It*

by Dave Pelzer and *Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner.

5. History and Microhistory – Books in this genre take a closer look at the causes and effects of specific events, or at one trend over the scale of human history. John Bailey's *The Lost German Slave Girl* and Adam Hochschild's *King Leopold's Ghost* work well here.

6. Humor – Although books in other categories can also be humorous, we place books in this genre if their main purpose is to entertain. We like *The Night the Bear Ate Goombaw* by Patrick F. McManus and *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim* by David Sedaris.

7. Memoirs & Biography – This genre basically recounts, often in chronological order, a person's life or a major event in that person's life. Examples here could include *Rocket Boys* by Homer Hickam and *The Language of Baklava* by Diana Abu-Jaber.

8. Pop Culture – Many books can fall into this category, as long as they focus on "leisure" activities or entertainment and are not too serious. Keith Olbermann's *The Worst Person in the World* and Lynn Snowden's *Nine Lives* are just a couple of examples.

9. Science & Medicine – Books in this genre usually explain how and why things work (especially the human body), and who figured it out. Some good books in this category

Continued on page 5

Now that you're on the board ...

Editor's Note: The Idaho library community welcomed many new trustees after the district library trustee elections on May 27th. Be sure to contact the Commission with any trustee changes so we can update our database. We thought this article, reprinted from the Utah State Library, was timely.

Now That I'm on the Board, What Do I Do?

- Use the library. Visit the library, the library's web site, and attend its programs.
- Attend board meetings and contribute to the discussions.
- Monitor and review policies, contracts and plans.
- Plan and evaluate library goals and objectives, annually.
- Advocate and communicate the value of library service.
- Support and encourage library staff in their daily work.
- Know your community. Represent their wishes and needs.

How Not to Begin Your Board Career

- Talk too much and listen too little.
- Publicly criticize a board decision you did not support.
- Ignore advice from fellow board members.
- Show that you have all the answers for every question.
- Refuse to change your mind on any issue no matter what the evidence.
- Refuse to compromise.
- Leak information from a closed board session.
- Fail to prepare for meetings.
- Ridicule board decisions made before you came to the board.
- Fail to attend meetings regularly and complete work assigned to you.

Lost Among the Stacks

Continued from page 4

are *Stiff* by Mary Roach and *The Great Starvation Experiment* by Todd Tucker.

10. Self-Help & Inspirational – Although uplifting and motivational, this genre does not necessarily have to focus on religious works. Two of our choices for this genre would be *A Hand to Guide Me* by Denzel Washington and *How to Talk to Practically Anybody About Practically Anything* by Barbara Walters.

11. Sports – This genre focuses on the stories of athletes and teams or their inspiring stories of triumph, especially if they are considered “underdogs”. Ben Mezrich’s *Busting Vegas* and Larry Colton’s *Counting Coup* are two good sports reads.

12. Travel – Although it may include additional details, the books in this genre are mostly about getting from Point A to Point B. Two of our favorites are Bill Bryson’s *A Walk in the Woods* and Roff Smith’s *Cold Beer and Crocodiles*.

Of course, some of these genres and the choices we’ve made are subjective. What we recommend is that Readers’ Advisors sort through their own collections and create a workable system for themselves when it comes to nonfiction. This requires a commitment to read more nonfiction, an increased knowledge of the titles in the present collection, and an awareness of intriguing new titles. While Charlotte Lucas may not completely replace Lizzie in our sentiments, at least we’ll offer her a chance for happiness in her own right.

Subscribe to LIBIDAHO

To join LIBIDAHO, a free online discussion forum about libraries in Idaho send a message to sympa@ala.org with the message “subscribe libidaho” in the body. Learn timely news, hear about free book offers, and share questions!



Schools interested in Summer Reading stats

by Anne Abrams

One thing I learned while putting together a pilot study on reading retention over the summer is that schools pay attention to statistics. The pilot is ICFL's first chance to see if we can find a correlation between completing summer reading programs and maintaining or increasing reading levels when students go back to school in the fall.

With help of librarians Meg Lojek (McCall Public Library) and Karen Yother (Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries), I met with two school principals to ask for their help. Jim Foudy, the research-savvy principal of McCall and Donnelly Elementary Schools, said that teachers will pay attention to summer reading if it is linked to data. He and Meg met with Peggy McClendon and me to fine-tune the pilot study.

We came up with a very simple one-page model for elementary (k-3) students. The public librarian will provide the principal with the names of students who completed summer reading at the beginning of the school year. After administering the Idaho Reading Indicator test in the fall, the principal will run the results for all the students minus the summer reading kids' scores. He or she will then run the results of the summer readers. Jim said the school must have at least 130 k-3 students and at least 34 children must have completed the summer reading program for the information

to meet the State Department of Education guidelines.

Tracking the names and schools of summer reading participants was something already in place, Karen assured me when I visited her in Hayden. We met with her partner Atlas Elementary School Principal Scott Freeby. In less than 30 minutes, he signed on. Just like Jim, he is very interested in compiling the information. Having worked with evaluation measures for summer school sessions in the past, Scott said that it is difficult to capture all the variables that influence children to read over the summer. The pilot study will only be an indicator of the effect summer reading programs have on children's reading retention, but it is streamlined and uses information already in place. Scott also suggested that a reading teacher would make a good school contact for the study.

The findings will help educate Idaho citizens about the value of summer reading programs. I hope to have a number of libraries participate and I will share the cumulative findings with participating schools and libraries. Take a look at the pilot (<http://icfl.idaho.gov/page/summer-reading-evaluation-pilot>), and if you want to join in, let me know!

[Contact Anne Abrams at 1-800-458-3271 or by e-mail at anne.abrams@libraries.idaho.gov.]

Staci Shaw joins ICFL's Read to Me program team

The Commission for Libraries is pleased to announce the newest addition to its staff. Staci Shaw was hired as a Projects Coordinator in June and will be working with Read to Me Coordinators Peggy McClendon and Stephanie Bailey-White to expand the program.



Staci has been a Treasure Valley educator for 14 years. She taught in elementary education classrooms, coordinated a service-learning program, served as an instructional guide in Boise and in Emmett schools, and worked individually with learning disabled students. She earned a BA in Elementary Education and a MA in Education, Curriculum and Instruction, and holds both an Idaho teaching certificate and a National Board of Professional Teaching Standards certificate. She is a founder of ANSER Charter School in Boise, where she taught for six years.

Staci is an avid reader and lifelong library patron. She and her husband spend much time reading to and with their 4½ year-old son. They are having fun with this summer's reading theme, crossing off bugs with each new reading adventure! Staci and her family also enjoy biking, camping, hiking, gardening and rafting.

"I look forward to getting out into Idaho's libraries in order to experience, firsthand, the creative ways in which our librarians are promoting literacy," Staci said.



Library news from around the state

Local elected officials, community leaders, and library board members were invited to participate in a think tank summit on digital natives and libraries in June. **Ada Community Library** and the public libraries in **Boise, Caldwell, Garden City, Kuna, Meridian and Nampa** hosted the event as a means of informing key decision makers about the role of the 21st century library and about public library services in the digital native context. Keynote speaker Ben Quintana opened the summit. Quintana manages the Boise Young Professionals (BYP), an offshoot of the Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce. BYP provides local young professionals with opportunities for professional and leadership development, community and civic involvement, and social activities. Summit attendees watched short video presentations. The first, "Shift Happens," started a conversation on globalization in the information age; the second captured a conversation on libraries by an Idaho digital native focus group. Each video was followed by discussion moderated by Marc C. Johnson, a frequent moderator for the City Club and a Boise Public Library trustee. The summit was funded by an Institute for Museum and Library Services grant, administered by the Idaho Commission on Libraries.

Many Twin Falls residents have seen some of photographer Clarence Bisbee's historic photographs of the "early" days of the area. But the **Twin Falls Public Library** wants to fill in some more recent gaps - for their historical materials in their Idaho Room. "We're looking for more printed materials or historical photographs of the region that we can add to our collection. And we started this by writing about 50 letters to the businesses downtown," Library Director Susan Ash said. Ash says they're also looking at historic neighborhoods in Twin Falls and not just the downtown area. It's part of an effort to 'Preserve The Past - To Enrich The Future.' Idaho Room Committee Member Judy Robinson said, "We have one of Tom's Cafe. Does anyone know who Tom was? Do they have some more photographs that we could add to our historical collection?" Ash says there will be a 100th birthday party early next year, along with behind the scenes tours of the library, as well as the library's history, including its previous locations. They're also going to use historical photos for brochures and displays, as well as promoting the latest services the public library offers. "But also, in our collections, we feel like we still need histories from the 1950s up to the present, which, of course, will become history later on." (Source: KMVT-TV Channel 11)

The Nampa City Council approved the purchase of land for a new **Nampa Public Library** and public safety building using the city's reserve funds in May. The council voted 3-1 in favor of the proposal. About half the block for the new library and other facilities will cost the city \$1,645 million. The rest of the purchase has not been negotiated. Almost 80 people attended the City Council meeting and public hearing. Many spoke about the current library facility, which has long been considered inadequate for a city the size of Nampa. (Idaho Press Tribune)

LiLI eAudioBooks

Continued from page 1

able to create an account that ties their usage to your library. The technology takes place behind the scenes so neither library staff nor the user has extra steps.

3. Promote the service. Libraries can get a supply of bookmarks with step-by-step instructions for first-time users from the Idaho Commission for Libraries. In addition, NetLibrary has posters, brochures, and other promotional items available at no charge to Idaho libraries. To get the NetLibrary supplies, just call 800-848-5800 (Option 7) and request promotional materials.

4. Listen to a book. Nothing makes a service more successful than when library staff can honestly say they have tried it themselves. Libraries with staff who have downloaded and listened to audiobooks themselves will see a high level of usage among patrons.

For library staff who have not had the opportunity to download a book or for those who would like a refresher, training will be offered in five locations in August 2008. Training includes hands-on practice downloading a book and transferring it to an mp3 player. Workshops will be held August 12 in Blackfoot, August 13 in Shoshone, August 14 in Nampa, August 25 in Lewiston, and August 26 in Post Falls. For more information about the workshops and to register, go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/node/4738>.

Idaho Commission for Libraries

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Read to Me program award 30 grants to support best practices

As part of the Read to Me expansion, the Idaho Legislature allocated \$150,000 as one-time funding from the Idaho Legislature for a mini-grant program that will increase the number of libraries utilizing best practices in early literacy. Forty libraries submitted applications making the grant round very competitive. In June, 30 libraries received word that their grants of \$5,000 each were accepted.

The Commission will request an increase of \$350,000 as part of its fiscal year 2010 budget in ongoing funds to provide 70 mini-grants annually.

The following libraries were awarded mini-grants:

- Ada Community Library - Star Branch
- American Falls District Library

- Armorial Tuttle Public - New Plymouth
- Bear Lake Co. District Library - Montpelier
- Boise Basin District Library - Idaho City
- Boise Public Library
- Burley Public Library
- Caldwell Public Library
- Clearwater Co. District Library - Weippe
- Jefferson County District Library - Menan-Annis Branch
- Jerome Public Library
- Kellogg Public Library
- Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries - Hayden Branch
- Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries - Mobile Branch
- Kuna District Library
- Larsen-Sant Public Library - Preston

- Lemhi Co. Library District - Salmon and Leadore
- Lewiston City Library
- Marshall Public Library - Pocatello
- Nampa Public Library
- North Bingham Co. District Library - Shelley
- Patricia Romanko Public Library - Parma
- Payette Public Library
- Portneuf District Library - Chubbuck
- Prairie River Library District - Kooskia and Kamiah Branches
- Rigby City Library
- Ririe City Library
- Snake River School/Community Library - Blackfoot
- Soda Springs Public Library
- South Bannock Co. District Library - Downey and Lava