

# Speaker BIOS & Presentation Summaries

## In alphabetical order

### Presenter

[Mary Bushing](#)

### Program Title

Smile When You Say "Meeting"

### Program Summary

More often than not those of us who work in libraries, are less than enthused about our need to attend yet another meeting in the workplace. Regardless of our power in the organization, there are things we can do to help make meetings productive, rewarding, and even fun. Together we will explore the latest business advice about meetings, the high costs of mediocre and/or unproductive meetings, and the simple, inexpensive things we can do to change the meeting culture in our organizations no matter how large or small they may be. By improving the meeting culture we can improve productivity, give everyone more time to actually do their work, and smiles on the faces of our colleagues. How great is that?

### Presenter Biography

Dr. Mary C. Bushing is a library consultant and educator who has written about and presented on many library-related topics including collection development & evaluation, administration, continuing education, project management, marketing, policy writing, public relations & customer service, public services, and change in libraries. She is particularly interested in communication, leadership and professionalism in libraries today.

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### Presenter

David Castelli

### Program Title

Library 2.0: Getting There from Here

### Program Summary

In the fast-paced online world, learn how to use the tools that put you in touch with people who may never physically visit your library. This program will review the Library 2.0 concept, staff training and offer tips on implementing these new technologies. Once your staff has mastered the basics, learn how these tools can be used to better serve your community and extend the reach of the library.

### Presenter Biography

David Castelli has been the Reference & Training Librarian at the Rapid City Public Library in Rapid City, SD since October 2006. After earning his MLS from Emporia State in 2002, he worked as a software trainer and consultant for SirsiDynix in Provo, UT. Before getting the library bug, David worked in the telecommunications business with AT&T and Lucent Technologies.

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### Presenter

Patricia Bezzant Castelli

### Program Title

Children's and Teen Books with Laughter Guarantee

### Program Summary

From picture books, such as *My Cat, the Silliest Cat in the World* by Gilles Bachelet, to the teen novel by David LaRochelle *Absolutely, Positively Not*, literature for young people contains gems of humor that will keep kids reading with smiles. Come and hear about a hundred of the best books that will make you laugh, even if some also make you cry.

### Presenter Biography

Since 1999 Patricia Bezzant Castelli has been presenting variations of the popular "100 Best Books in an Hour" to conferences at Utah Valley State College, Brigham Young University, and other literature forums. She has presented an academic paper "The Evolution of the Picture Book" at Utah Valley State College's Children's Literature Conference, and she has an article on early science fiction and fantasy for children pending publication with Greenwood's Encyclopedia on Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy. Her novel, *Angie* by Pat Bezzant, was published by Fawcett Juniper in 1993. It was nominated for Utah's Children's Choice Award and won the YA Literature Prize for Mormon Letters. She reads hundreds of books for young readers each year and loves to share her favorites! She has a BA in Economics from George Mason University and an MLS from Emporia State University. While in the Emporia program, she met David Castelli, and thus obtained an Mrs. as well as an MLS as part of her graduate school experience. Guess which was the most fun.

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#### **Presenter**

[Sneed Collard](#)

#### **Program Title**

The Reality of Writing Children's Books (Appropriate for ALL Audiences)

#### **Presentation Summary**

Winner of the Flicker Tale Award and the 2006 Washington Post—Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award, author Sneed B. Collard III shares how real-life experiences and education have shaped the fifty-plus books he's written, from *Animal Dads* and *Animals Asleep* to *One Night in the Coral Sea* and *A Platypus, Probably*. He'll especially focus on his newer books *The Prairie Builders*, *Shep*, *Dog Sense*, and *Flash Point* to explore how reality often shapes books and vice versa.

#### **Presenter Biography**

Sneed B. Collard III has written more than fifty acclaimed books for young people including *A Platypus Probably*, *Shep—Our Most Loyal Dog*, *One Night in the Coral Sea*, *Leaving Home*, and *The Prairie Builders*, which was awarded the AAAS/Subaru Science Books & Films prize for the best middle grade science book of 2005. Before beginning his writing career, Sneed graduated with honors in biology from the University of California at Berkeley. To research and write his nonfiction books, Sneed has traveled to Australia, Costa Rica, Southeast Asia, and the deep-sea floor. He has also written two novels: *Dog Sense*, winner of the Flicker Tale Award and the 2006 ASPCA Henry Bergh Award; and *Flash Point*, winner of the 2007 Green Earth Book Award and a Henry Bergh Honor Book. Sneed lives in Missoula, Montana and was the 2006 recipient of the prestigious Washington Post—Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award for his writing achievements.

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#### **Presenter**

[Janet Stevens](#)

#### **Presenter Biography**

Janet Stevens is a nationally known, award-winning illustrator. She explains, "When I was a child I was not particularly good at art, but I liked it. The more drawing I did, the better I got. When you like to do something, you practice more – and you usually improve. Now I draw almost every day in my studio and I'm still working at trying to make my art better."

The youngest of three children, Janet was born in Dallas, Texas. Her father was in the Navy, and she moved many times as a child. Now she lives in Colorado with her husband, two dogs and two cats; her two children, Lindsey and Blake, are grown -- Lindsey is in her 2nd year at veterinary school, and Blake is an actor in New York City.

Janet loves drawing animals in human situations. In *From Pictures to Words: A Book About Making a Book*, she uses animal characters to describe the creative process of making books from a collection of ideas. It is an excellent guide for those interested in creating stories and a favorite of young and old(er) alike who make books.

Janet is particularly proud of her awards voted on by children, "her" audience. Her books have won many state children's book awards, including Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, South Dakota, Texas, Tennessee, Utah and Washington. Lately, she has been creating books with her sister, Susan Stevens Crummel, a former math teacher. These include *My Big Dog*, *Cook-A-Doodle-Do*, *The Dish Ran Away With the Spoon*, *Jackalope*, *Plaidypus Lost*, *The Great Fuzz Frenzy*, and the soon-to-be-published *Help me, Mr. Mutt*. Her books have won numerous awards. And *The Dish Ran Away With The Spoon* was an ALA Notable Book, a NY Public Library 100 Best Books for Reading and Sharing, Child Magazine's Best Books for 2001, and a Children's Book of the Month Selection. *To Market, To Market* was an ALA Notable Book, a Golden Kite Honor Book, and an American Bookseller's Book of the Year Honor Book. This story, which

takes place in a local Boulder, Colorado market and in Janet's kitchen, turns the traditional rhyme into a chaotic series of shopping experiences for a frazzled shopper.

**Program Title**

Reading, Acting, Drawing, Teaching, Laughing—How Much Fun Can You Cram into One Session?

**Program Summary**

Sisters Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel read their newest book, perform skits, draw, and share ideas on using picture books in the classroom. Wear spandex or you will pop your buttons with laughter.

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**Presenter**

[Bill DeJohn](#)

**Program Title**

State of the MINITEX Region - A Review by Bill DeJohn

**Program Summary**

Bill will cover, from his perspective as MINITEX Director, the impact of new automated systems in the region and what's occurring with interlibrary loan, delivery, and other services MINITEX provides to the region. Though funding remains tight in all quarters, the basic foundation of resource sharing and communication across state borders provides opportunities for both libraries and their users in the future.

**Presenter Biography**

Bill DeJohn, Director MINITEX Library Information Network Bill DeJohn has been the Director of the MINITEX Library Information Network - which serves academic, public, state agency, and other special libraries in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota - since 1984. Prior to coming to MINITEX, he served as the director of Resource Sharing, University of Washington, the Director of the Pacific Northwest Bibliographic Center (PNBC), and Multitype Library Consultant, Illinois State Library. He received his Masters in Library Science in 1967 from the University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences.

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**Presenter**

[Ann Dolence](#)

**Program Title**

Humor That Stress

**Program Summary**

"There can be a lot of stress in the workplace so let's laugh and see, feel, and hear how humor remedies that stress. As long as we can laugh with the every day situations we face than we'll have our daily dose of wellness because..." "Laughter is the best medicine."

**Presenter Biography**

Ann Dolence, Fargo, ND, provided Recreation Therapy services in the area of Psychiatric care for 12 years before becoming owner of The Leisure Connection Motivational Speaking and Training Service for the past 17 years. Ann presents nationally and internationally that creativity, laughter, and celebrations of life are nature's way of re-energizing and revitalizing ourselves.

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**Presenter**

[Terry Fleck](#)

**Program Title**

Banquet Keynote: The Attitude Virus

**Program Summary**

Attitudes are contagious...is yours worth catching? High job performance is directly attributed to positive attitude. Terry will help you discover if your attitude is worth catching. If it needs adjusting, he has an action plan for you! Learn how to create a positive impact on attitudes, diagnose the cause of a negative attitude, clarify goals, get rid of clutter in your job, create new strategies, cure negative attitudes collaboratively and prevent them.

**Presenter Biography**

Terry A. Fleck is a native North Dakotan who spent thirty years in the radio and television industry. Until recently, Terry was the General Sales Manager and partner with Pro Radio and the Director of Sales for Clear Channel Radio in Bismarck-Mandan. Terry has retired from broadcasting to pursue a public speaking and consulting career. He has been conducting seminars and training sessions for over ten years, working throughout the United States and Canada. Terry is a Rotarian and Toastmaster whose hobbies include singing in the church choir, hunting and fishing.

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**Presenter**

Al Peterson

**Program Title**

New Opportunities, New Possibilities: Online Training offered through the North Dakota State Library

**Program Summary**

This program will present to the audience the North Dakota State Library's online training opportunities using Team2Team Web Conferencing software. A demonstration of the training session will be presented followed by a question and discussion period. Participants will be part of a live training session given in real time.

**Presenter Biography**

Al Peterson is the Training Coordinator at the North Dakota State Library. He is responsible for designing and implementing of training programs provided by the North Dakota State Library. Al has been employed with the North Dakota State Library since July 2000. He is a graduate of the Mountain Plains Leadership Institute and is active in the North Dakota Library Association. Al is originally from Moon Township, PA, a suburb outside of the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has a Bachelors of Science in Political Science from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Masters of Science in Library Science from Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

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**Presenter**

Cyndi Phillip, *AASL Past President*

**Program Title**

AASL: National Trends In School Libraries

**Program Summary**

The mission of the American Association of School Librarians is to advocate excellence, facilitate change, and develop leaders in the school library field. Along with updating participants on AASL's latest initiatives, AASL past-president Cyndi Phillip shares best practices from school libraries across the country. This program is sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians

**Presenter Biography**

Cyndi is the immediate Past-President of AASL and has twenty years experience as Elementary School Librarian at Grand Haven Area Public Schools in Grand Haven, MI.

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**Presenter**

Beth Postema

**Program Title**

Some Have Leadership Thrust Upon Them . . .

**Program Summary**

Having completed the MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute, Beth was all set to further develop her leadership skills where she was--in a middle management role. But then, stuff happened. Hear how leadership theory and concepts play out in real life when a director leaves, a building project has to go on, one has to figure out how to be a fundraiser and learn political skills on the fly, and in general, how does one copes when "leadership is thrust upon them" unexpectedly.

**Presenter Biography**

Beth Postema is a graduate of the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science. She has been with the Fargo Public Library since 1989 in gradually increasing roles of responsibility. In

October of 2005, she was supported by the NDLA Jaugstetter Leadership Fund and was a fellow at the MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute.

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**Presenter**

Sara Ring

**Program Title**

All Things OCLC

**Program Summary**

Come hear the latest and greatest news about products, enhancements and research projects from OCLC. On all sides – cataloging, resource sharing, reference – OCLC is working hard to help you streamline your workflow, improve access to your collections, and enhance the experience of the user. There is something for everyone in this session: directors, technical services folk, ILL staff, reference desk people, selectors, and even trustees.

**Presenter Biography**

Sara Ring is a Coordinator within the Bibliographic and Technical Services unit at the MINITEX Library Information Network. For the past two years she has provided training, support and consultation related to the use of OCLC services to libraries throughout the Dakotas and Minnesota.

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**Presenter**

Keith Van Cleave

**Program Title**

Overview of U.S. Geological Survey and Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center Libraries and Publishing

**Program Summary**

This presentation will cover the library and information activities associated with Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, a federal research center conducting studies on the ecology of the Great Plains. Program contents include a brief history of the Center and tour of the NPWRC website, overview of USGS Library system and NPWRC Library, and information about the USGS Publishing Network.

**Presenter Biography**

Keith is a librarian with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center (NPWRC), in Jamestown, ND. Prior to moving to North Dakota in 1997, he worked as a library technician with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Bloomington, MN. Keith received his MLS from the University of Iowa in 1991 and completed a Masters in Computer Information Technologies from Regis University, Denver, CO in 2005.

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**Presenter**

Mark Wilhelmi

**Program Title**

Cataloging Options . . . When Full-Level Records Are Too Much

**Program Summary**

Sometimes new items in your collection require original cataloging, but you don't have the time or the training to create full-level records for all of them. This presentation will discuss two less than full-level cataloging options--minimal-level records and core records--that will make it easier to provide access to these items in a timely manner.

**Presenter Biography**

Mark Wilhelmi is a Coordinator in the Bibliographic and Technical Services unit at the MINITEX Library Information Network. For over two years he has provided training, support and consultation related to the use of OCLC services in libraries throughout the Dakotas and Minnesota.

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**Presenters**

[Celeste Ertelt](#), [Donna James](#), [Johanna McClay](#) & [Laurie McHenry](#)

**Program Title**

Ghost Ranch Roundup

**Program Summary**

These four North Dakota library professionals will share their experiences at the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Leadership Institute held at Ghost Ranch near Sante Fe, New Mexico last year. The corporate-supported conference encourages librarians from the 12-state area to meet and learn about leadership, advocacy and ??????. The North Dakota librarians received financial support from NDLA professional development grants. More information at: <http://www.mpla.us/leadership/index.html>

**Presenter Biographies**

**Celeste Ertelt** is the Director of Library Services at Lake Region State College in Devils Lake, ND. Aside from her usual library activities, Celeste is hosting a Memoir Writing Workshop in conjunction with the ND Humanities Council. Another project Celeste is working on is the development of an online information literacy program for LRSC students. Celeste has served as secretary of the North Dakota Library Association. She is currently a candidate for President -Elect of the NDLA.

**Donna James**, Library Director at Valley City State University, is currently spearheading the university's effort to establish a library education graduate program in North Dakota. The effort received national recognition and support through a recently-awarded \$573,909.00 Institute of Museum and Library Services grant. Donna, also active in state and regional library organizations, is President-Elect of NDLA.

**Johanna McClay**, who recently returned from presenting at an international library conference in South Africa, has worked for Bismarck State College Library as the Reference Librarian since August 2001. She graduated from the University of North Texas in Dec. 2000 and looked for work back in the great Midwest. She spends her free time hiking with her dogs and boyfriend, snuggling her cat, swimming, and enjoying the frigid windy North Dakota winters.

**Laurie McHenry** is the Acquisitions Manager and a Catalog Librarian at the University of North Dakota. Her leadership roles include ODIN Acquisitions Work Group Manager and Secretary of NDLA. Laurie is also active in ALA as co-chair of the NMRT Orientation Committee, ALA-NMRT liaison to NDLA, and as a member of the ALCTS AS Policy and Planning Committee.

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**Presenters:**

Char Feldman & Laurie Whitehead

**Program Title**

Lighten Up

**Presentation Summary**

Char & Laurie will present a light hearted and insightful look into the demands and pressures we all face in our personal and professional lives. Their goal: give you practical examples and share personal stories on how they have learned to "lighten up". Your goal: sit back, relax, enjoy and take home an idea or two for your busy life. This breakout session is sponsored by HSIS.

**Presenter Biographies**

Char Feldman is a Registered Nurse, and obtained her degree from MSUM, Moorhead. She has worked at the VA for 31 years. For the last 17 years Char's job has been to implement the electronic medical record.

Laurie Whitehead received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. She has been employed by the VA for 28 years. Currently she is the medical staff coordinator where she does the credentialing and privileging of the medical staff.

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**Presenters**

Suzanne Morrison, U.S. Courts Librarian & Gretchen Ehlen, U.S. Courts Library Technician

**Program Title**

Designing Divas: Eye-popping Displays

**Presentation Summary**

Discover the secrets of attention-grabbing displays that can market you and your library.

**Presenter Biographies**

Suzanne and Gretchen work together as part of the Fargo U.S. Courts Library team. With the changing and evolving library world, they discovered that creating displays filled an empty niche in their courthouse. Through trial and error, a large dose of creativity and outside inspiration, this dynamic duo uses depth and color to draw the audience into their displays.

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**Presenter**

Brian Risse

**Program Title**

Reference is Alive and Kicking

**Presentation Summary**

Reference isn't dead, it's just been mistreated. Your libraries customers request access to quality information now more than ever. And they expect you to have it. Come see how libraries of all types across the country have re-invigorated their reference collections and in-turn better served their clients needs. You can do it too.

**Presenter Biographies**

Brian Risse is Sales Director for Gale Virtual Reference Library.

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