

#11-New Members Round Table Annual Report September 2008

Fall 2007:

After attending the 2007 NMRT business meeting, I gleaned many great ideas for the coming year, which included:

- Have a NDLA representative at the next annual meeting, perhaps NDLA president or member of the Professional Development Committee
- Make sure New Members (and other NDLA members) are aware of the grant monies available
- Review the wording/requirements for the Grassroots Award
- Have the NMRT annual meeting on the first day of the conference (if possible) in order to award the Friendliest Booth Award at the banquet or the Friday noon luncheon (the engraving of the plaque takes time and coordination)
- Offer a mixer for New Members at the annual NDLA conference to promote networking and perhaps mentoring opportunities
- Have the chair receive email notification when an NDLA member joins NMRT

Winter 2008:

- Emails out to several New Members regarding appointment to the nomination committee
- Email out to NMRT listserv soliciting ideas for programs at the annual conference
- Tentative readers advisory program for the annual conference—presented by Heidi Selzler-Echola and myself from Fargo Public Library

Spring 2008:

- Forwarded list of candidates for the NMRT and their information to the Nominations and Elections Committee
President: Sarah Devereaux
Secretary: Kathy Jo Cline
Secretary: Heidi Selzler-Echola
- Advertised the Grassroots Grant with an article in the *Good Stuff* and a poster emailed out to the NDLA listserv
- Soliciting committee members for the Grassroots Grant Committee

- Submitted two program proposals for the 2008 annual conference—both were approved

Taking Your NDLA Membership to the Next Level:

This presentation is for new members to the North Dakota Library Association and/or any members interested in learning more about what NDLA can do for them, and of course, what they can do for NDLA. Topics to be covered will include: grants that are available for continuing education opportunities and conference attendance, running for office in the organization and what exactly that entails, how to contribute to the Good Stuff newsletter and more....

Connecting Books and Readers: Readers' Advisory Tips:

This presentation will cover various online and print tools that will help your library improve its readers' advisory service. We will explore ways you can reach readers who normally find reading material on their own or have run out of "good" books. We will also discuss ways to promote readers' advisory service and your library's collection.

Summer 2008:

- Arranging a special breakfast table on Thursday morning of the conference for New Members to sit at and get to know one another before our business meeting at 9:15 am
- Offering the conference program: *Taking Your NDLA Membership to the Next Level* with Beth Postema and Mark Holman
- Appointed Grassroots Grant Committee of Sandi Bates, Sarah Devereaux (and myself) to review applicants
- Winners of the 2008 Grassroots Grants are:

Aubrey Madler is an information specialist at the Rural Assistance Center with UND's Center for Rural Health. She is currently enrolled in a MLS program through Texas Women's University.

Harmony Higbie is the director of the Underwood Public Library, which is a part of the McLean-Mercer Regional Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori K. West
9-16-08