

NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY REPORT TO THE NORTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Doris Ott, State Librarian
SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2008
MANDAN, ND

This report is also available on the North Dakota State Library's web site at www.library.nd.gov.

The North Dakota State Library continues to do what it does best – coordinate and efficiently deliver information and library services to the citizens of North Dakota. The State Library staff is committed to providing information to meet the needs of North Dakota citizens by delivering information services directly; coordinating North Dakota's interlibrary loan system; administering and coordinating grants; providing specialized services such as services to persons with disabilities; partnering to provide online magazine, newspaper, and reference resources; and providing technical assistance to help other libraries develop and deliver their services.

2009 Legislative Session

The North Dakota State Library submitted its 2009-2011 biennial budget request to the Office of Management and Budget on July 3, 2008. Included in the supplemental request is a 25% increase in State Aid to Public Libraries, as recommended by the Public Library Section of NDLA, based on a survey. This \$300,000 increase would assist public libraries to better serve their communities and to provide updated public library computing services. The State Library also requested an additional \$200,000 for Online Library Resources that would be available to all citizens throughout the state. The base budget request that was submitted continues to include funding for services that are currently being offered. Services include resource sharing and Minitex, State Aid to Public Libraries at \$1.2 million, Library Vision 2010 grant funds, and training.

NDSL highlights of the past year

Ask a Librarian: The Reference Department staff at the State Library began a new e-mail based service titled "Ask a Librarian" which allows people to ask a reference librarian for information. A link has been added to the State Library web site at www.library.nd.gov.

Biennial Report: The State Library 2005-2007 Biennial Report was completed and distributed to Dr. Sanstead, public libraries, academic libraries, the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council, and the Executive Board of the North Dakota Library Association. It is available on the State Library website at www.library.nd.gov.

Booths and Outreach: Between September 2007 and September 2008, the State Library sponsored informational booths at eleven conferences and events throughout the state. Informational booths included: the Intertribal Summit Trade Fair; the North Dakota Library Association Annual Conference; the Fargo Entertainment Expo; the North Dakota Farm Bureau; Marketplace for Entrepreneurs; the North Dakota Homeschool Association Annual Conference; the Burleigh County Senior Fair; the Parents of the Visually Impaired; the ND Vision Services/Helen Keller Open House; the North Dakota Career and Technical Education conference; and the North Dakota State Fair.

CatExpress Contract: The CatExpress Contract was renewed with OCLC. The State Library negotiated the contract on behalf of forty-three (43) North Dakota libraries. CatExpress is a simplified OCLC program for smaller libraries and provides OCLC bibliographic records to be used by subscribing libraries.

Disability Services: The State Library continues to provide Talking Books and a radio reading service (Dakota Radio Information Service) to 2300 North Dakota citizens that are blind, physically handicapped, or learning disabled. Nearly 5000 Talking Books are circulated to patrons each month. The Talking Book Program is sponsored by the Library of Congress, National Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Dakota Radio Information Service (DRIS) provides broadcasts of local and national newspapers and magazines.

Gates Foundation: The Gates Foundation will provide grants to North Dakota public libraries in 2009/2010 for public library computing. Additional information will be sent to public libraries as it becomes available.

Library Connectivity: The State Library provides leadership, direction, and coordination in connecting public libraries to the state's electronic backbone. Public libraries have the opportunity to join STAGEnet, the North Dakota Statewide Technology Access for Government and Education network. STAGEnet is an Information Technology Department (ITD) managed program that connects libraries to the Internet using state funding. Twenty-three public libraries in North Dakota participate in STAGEnet Internet connectivity. Nine libraries are part of the state E-rate application via the North Dakota School Net consortium. In addition, the North Dakota State Library has provided technical assistance to three libraries who applied for E-rate funding on their own. For the 2008 funding year, the Universal Services Administrative Company has awarded North Dakota schools and public libraries \$3.5 million for Internet connectivity and telecommunication services.

Library Directory: The Library Directory, which contains information about academic, special, public, and school libraries, can be accessed through the State Library website at www.library.nd.gov. It is important to contact the State Library with your library's changes in order to keep the directory up-to-date. Please call 701-328-2492 or 1-800-472-2104.

Library Filters: The State Library continues to partner with the Information Technology Department to offer North Dakota public libraries a centralized filtering program. The program allows each library to set the degree to which the Internet is filtered based on the Child Internet Protection Act and their community standards. Each library has the ability to disable the filter if requested to do so by a patron. The filtering costs are supported by a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program.

Master of Library Science Training Grants: The North Dakota State Library continues to administer a training scholarship grant program to develop professional librarians in North Dakota. In an effort to encourage library professionals to live and work in North Dakota, awards are granted to North Dakota residents who complete an ALA/MLS degree and work full time in a library in the state for at least two years after completion of their degree. This year, a total of \$7,000 was awarded to three applicants who are completing their ALA/MLS and who have been accepted into an ALA/MLS graduate program. Since the inception of this State Library MLS grant program, twenty-nine (29) North Dakota students have received funds to use toward their library science education.

NACO: The North Dakota State Library participates in NACO, the Name Authority Cooperative Program of the Library of Congress. Participating libraries create and contribute name authority records which are official versions of authors' names, corporate body names, and geographic locations. These authorized records are available through WorldCat to allow catalogers to differentiate between two authors with the same name or to ensure that all works by an author are grouped together under an established, standardized form of the author's name. The North Dakota State Library's contributions include North Dakota authors and musicians, as well as new state agencies and agency name changes.

North Dakota Blue Book (2007-2009 edition): The State Library has helped create the index to the North Dakota Blue Book for many years. The Secretary of State's office coordinates the development of the book and staff members from the State Library create the index. For the 2007-2009 edition of the Blue Book, which was unveiled in Oct. 2007, the following State Library staff assisted with the index: Doris Ott, Stephanie Baltzer Kom, Stacey Goldade, Kristen Northrup, Steve Axtman, Sue Bicknell, Lacey Wahl and Stuart Harner.

North Dakota Library Coordinating Council Grants Awarded (LV2010 / LSTA): The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC) strengthened library and information services throughout the state in 2008 with three grant rounds. In August of 2007 five public and school libraries received a total of \$137,239 in Library Vision 2010 (LV2010) grants. The grants funded participation in the statewide online library catalog, created two laptop computer labs, and the purchase of public access computers that make Online Library Resources accessible to librarians and citizens. In February of 2008 three public and school libraries received LV2010 grants totaling \$100,280 to participate in WorldCat. In May of 2008

seven public and school libraries received a total of \$18,404 to purchase computers and printers to access Online Library Resources and the statewide online library catalog. Federal LSTA money was designated to cover the cost of the statewide WorldCat (First Search) access service and the EBSCO Auto Repair Reference Center.

Online Library Resources: North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota libraries continue to partner to purchase Online Library Resources. The Online Library Resources package consists of: six databases from EBSCOhost containing full-text magazine articles and reference resources including the new Auto Repair Reference Center; nine databases from Gale Group containing various resources for the K-12 level, a collection of resources for education and library professionals, and the Health and Wellness Resource Center; the educational databases eLibrary and eLibrary Elementary; WorldCat FirstSearch from OCLC (an international database of materials owned by libraries around the world); the genealogy database Ancestry Library Edition; and ProQuest's full-text newspaper database. The cost of the Online Library Resources is shared by North Dakota libraries that want to provide their patrons access to these resources.

Pavilion of States: The State Library, in partnership with the North Dakota Center for the Book, is sponsoring a booth at the Pavilion of States event which is a part of the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. The event will take place Saturday, September 27, 2008. Last year, a crowd of over 120,000 book lovers of all ages converged at the nation's Capitol. This is an annual event sponsored by the Library of Congress and hosted by First Lady Laura Bush. The annual event is an opportunity for people from all over the country to celebrate reading and books. In order for states to promote their libraries, authors, and literary heritage, the Festival hosts the Pavilion of States event.

Public Awareness: The main objective of the Public Awareness Program at the State Library is to promote the services of every library in the state as well as the services of the State Library. The major projects for the year included:

- Working to inform the general public about improved library service in the communities of public and school libraries that receive grants.
- Writing and producing the Flickertale Newsletter (the State Library newsletter) and the Discovery Newsletter (the State Library Disability Services newsletter).
- Designing brochures that are available for use by all libraries through the NDSL web site.
- Writing press releases and newspaper articles to promote events and services such as the Online Library Resources, Summer Reading events, and the State Library's training opportunities.
- Distributing information via the State Library's LIST and newsletters concerning programming available to North Dakota libraries.
- Working with librarians across the state to promote their library services.
- Distributing a summer reading manual and incentive forms to public libraries across North Dakota.
- Distributing legislative information via the State Library's LIST.

Public Library Statistics: The North Dakota Public Library Statistics report for Calendar Year 2006 was mailed to libraries. Library patron attendance was at 2,255,261; and the number of reference questions was at 370,189. Public Libraries spent \$1,894,361 on collections; and had total expenses of \$10,998,926, with an expense per capita of \$17.51. Income per capita was \$17.67, with a total income of \$11,163,111.

Spring Workshops: The North Dakota State Library conducted another year of successful Spring Workshops. The 2008 Spring Workshop, *Back to Basics*, was held in Grand Forks March 31 and April 1 and in Bismarck April 3 and 4. RoseMary Honnold, the Young Adult Services Coordinator for the Coshocton Public Library in Coshocton, Ohio, gave a presentation on providing library services and activities to teens. Attendees learned about different teen programming activities and participated in hands-on craft ideas, including mehndi. *North Dakota Reads: A Model Book Discussion Group* was presented by Brenna Daugherty from the North Dakota Humanities Council. Workshop attendees of this program not only received ideas about how to set up a book club, they also heard from discussion group moderators from the University of North Dakota and Bismarck State College. Numerous workshops were also conducted by State Library staff. Eric Stroshane presented an enlightening and humorous workshop about weeding entitled *De-selection: Reclaim Your Shelves, Revitalize Your Collection, Save Your Sanity*. Al Peterson gave an informative presentation on *E-Rate for Libraries*. Services provided by the North Dakota State Library were explored by Elizabeth Jacobs in *Discover Our Services*. Doris Ott, Cindy Larson, and Stacey Goldade focused on how to apply for grants offered by the State Library and the North Dakota Coordinating Council in a program titled, *Don't Sweat the Grant Stuff: Demystifying State Library Grants*. In Bismarck, professional trainers from Ebsco, Gale, ProQuest, and the ODIN office gave hands-on demonstrations of the ODIN catalog and the Online Library Resources.

The 2009 Spring Workshops are scheduled for March 23 and 24 in Fargo, and March 25 and 26 in Bismarck. Please e-mail Doris Ott at dott@nd.gov with suggestions on training that would benefit you and your library.

State Agency Services: The North Dakota State Library is always looking for ways to better serve state agencies. One department set up to meet this important need is Statewide Catalog Development. Many state agencies have their own libraries and resource centers housed within their departments. For those agencies that are willing to share their resources with the public, the State Library's Statewide Catalog Development Department provides cataloging services, training in using the Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN) and Online Library Resources, and consultation on a variety of library-related topics. The libraries of the following agencies are cataloged and holdings can be found in the ODIN catalog: Protection and Advocacy Project, North Dakota Geological Survey, Prevention Resource Center, North Dakota Water Commission, North Dakota Department of Transportation Materials Division, North Dakota Securities Department, and North Dakota Game and Fish Department. Materials located at these libraries are available for use by any North Dakota citizen.

State Aid to Public Libraries: The State Library distributed \$600,000 in State Aid to Public Libraries in April 2008. The State Library continues to work with public library

directors to achieve full funding by the legislature for this program. The legislative request for 2009/2011 is \$1.5 million for State Aid, an increase of 25% over the current biennium. The funds are used to purchase materials and pay for staff to deliver information services to their communities and support interlibrary loan services to citizens statewide. The program was initially funded during the 1979 legislature and began in fiscal year 1980.

State Documents: The State Library administers the North Dakota State Document Depository Program. This program ensures the permanent retention of documents published by North Dakota state agencies, and catalogs them for easy public access via the ODIN catalog. State documents include reports, newsletters, periodicals, brochures, and meeting minutes, as well as maps, videos, and sound recordings. State agencies are required by the North Dakota Century Code to submit eight copies of every publication to the State Library. Six of those copies are distributed to the other state document depositories – State Historical Society, University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, Minot State University, Valley City State University, and the Library of Congress. The remaining two copies are retained by the State Library, one for circulation and one for permanent retention. The State Library currently receives and disseminates an average of 200 titles per month from over 150 individual agencies. In addition, a rapidly-increasing number of documents are being published electronically, either as well as or instead of on paper. The State Library provides access to the electronic editions via ODIN as well. Monthly and quarterly listings of new publications are available on the State Library's web site at <http://ndsl.lib.state.nd.us/StateGovernment.html>.

Statewide Catalog Development: The Statewide Catalog Development Department provides cataloging services for 58 libraries across the state. Many of them have received grants to participate in ODIN. Since this department began in 2000, over 521,000 records have been cataloged on behalf of these libraries, as part of the retrospective conversion process. The department also continues to catalog the libraries' new titles and delete their withdrawn titles and is now focusing on adding libraries to WorldCat, which allows the libraries to choose the circulation system they want.

Summer Reading Program: Governor Hoeven proclaimed May 30, 2008, "Summer Reading Kick Off @ Your Library Day". Many libraries throughout the state hosted a "Catch the Reading Bug" kickoff event on that date. Most North Dakota libraries reported an increase in summer reading program participants. The North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Heritage Center were once again the location of the Bismarck/Mandan Summer Reading Kick Off on May 30th. Over 30 organizations partnered to make this event possible and nearly 4,000 people were in attendance. Hopefully, there will be even greater statewide participation on the next June 1 Summer Reading Kickoff annual event.

Training: New training programs are being offered by the North Dakota State Library. Available sessions include training for library staff as well as two presentations that librarians may host at their library for their patrons. The training presentations last about

an hour which includes time for questions. The training is available at no charge; the only requirements of the library are Internet access, a room big enough to hold a presentation, and a minimum of ten participants. To assist libraries with promotion, the State Library will provide a press release that can be submitted to the newspaper and flyers that can be posted on bulletin boards throughout the library and community. If you would like additional suggestions for promoting a training session, please contact Al Peterson, Head of Training Services at the State Library, at 1-800-472-2104.

Homework Help for Parents is a presentation for parents who want to help their children with reports and research papers, but struggle with finding reliable sources. By using the Online Library Resources, parents can now access the same type of research materials from home that they would traditionally find only in a library. This workshop focuses on content but also demonstrates searching techniques. The resources featured during this presentation contain full text articles from newspapers and magazines as well as transcripts from national news broadcasts, a wide variety of reference materials and maps, and a large collection of books online.

The *Ancestry Library Edition* presentation will focus not only on the content found in this genealogical resource, but will also demonstrate searching techniques. This training is perfect for people who are just starting out with genealogy research or are interested in discovering their family history. Since genealogy is a popular topic, pre-registration is strongly suggested. Additional sessions can be scheduled if demand is high.

Webinars: With the addition of the newest resource, Ebsco's Auto Repair Reference Center, the North Dakota State Library will also offer online training about this resource to librarians. Using webinar software, the training will demonstrate how to utilize this new Online Library Resource. A webinar is available on the basics of the Ancestry Library Edition database; the training will include some basic search techniques that demonstrate how you can assist your patrons with Ancestry Library Edition. Other webinars currently being developed include a Worldcat.org Overview and a State Library Services Overview that is designed for new librarians.

Conclusion:

The State Library's mission is to provide access to information for North Dakotans. The goals of the North Dakota State Library, as stated in its Long-Range Plan, are: serve as a leader in the library and information field, promote and advocate library awareness, provide and develop library and information services statewide, and achieve customer satisfaction. The State Library staff invites you to contact them for assistance at any time.