

**Executive Director's Report**  
**Kathy B. Enger**  
**August 19, 2017**

**Travel to libraries throughout the NLLN region:**

July 16, 2017: Wadena, Lina Belar read from her book of poems at Green Island.  
July 17, 2017: Minneapolis, meeting with Minitex staff to discuss getting Ebooks Minnesota and Electronic Library of Minnesota (ELM) into school libraries in the region.  
July 17 & 18: Moorhead, quarterly multi-type library director meeting.  
July 24: Moorhead, meeting with media specialists to discuss ebooks and school libraries.  
July 25: St. Paul, Minnesota Department of Education, "Library Cards for All".  
July 26 & 27: Moorhead, meetings on campus to learn about using Adobe Connect for virtual meetings (Bob Schieffer, Kevin Zepper, and Lin Enger).  
July 31: Moorhead, meeting with Bob Wheeler, Region I, to discuss how to get Ebooks Minnesota and Electronic Library of Minnesota into school libraries in the region.  
August 3: Bloomington, presented media specialist research at the Minnesota eLearning Summit: *Student Success in the Electronic Era: Why Schools Need Media Specialists Now More Than Ever*.  
August 19: Moorhead, NLLN Governing Board meeting.

**John Wallace Ingersoll Memorial Fund**

The John Wallace Ingersoll Memorial Fund was established December, 2016, in memory of NLLN President Wayne Ingersoll's brother, John Wallace Ingersoll, in order to honor current and past NLLN Governing Board members and to honor current and past NLLN members. Funds will be used to support the programming of Northern Lights Library Network. Donations will recognize those honored with a memorial biography in a memorial directory and special recognition when the funds are dispersed in support of programming at Northern Lights Library Network. The fund continues to grow and was added to Summer, 2017, when a memorial was held in the Comstock Memorial Union on the campus of Minnesota State University Moorhead.

**Professor Alan Davis, Senior Editor Emeritus, New Rivers Press and Professor of English Emeritus, MSUM, to visit Area Libraries in September to Conduct and Lead Seminars at the following libraries:**

- International Falls Public Library
- Two Harbors Public Library
- Marshall-Lyon County Library
- Detroit Lakes Public Library
- Battle Lake Public School
- Roseau Public Library
- Fertile Public Library
- Pequot Lakes Public School
- White Earth Community Library

## **Seminars Dr. Davis is Presenting:**

### **Reading, Publishing, and Performing Fiction**

I'll read from my own published fiction (and from work-in-progress) and lead a Q and A session about writing, publishing, and performing our work. Feel free to bring your own work to read. Besides the nuts-and-bolts of writing, we'll talk about the ecology and spirituality of writing and how writing that's shared can create communities to bring us together. Since writing is rewriting, we will also provide (if you want it) feedback so that you can take home some ideas for developing a story.

### **Writing Flash or Sudden Fiction**

Flash fiction (also known as sudden fiction or short shorts) is fiction up to 2,000 words. (It can be much shorter.) We'll analyze and talk about flash fictions from the perspective of the Freitag pyramid (initial conflict, complication, climax), the slice-of-life pattern (one thing happens after another, the last thing the most significant), the monolog, and the prose poem fiction. We will also consider whether some techniques associated with poetry might be applicable to short prose forms. You will have plenty of time to write your own flash fictions.

### **Using “Sparkplug” Characters to Energize Fiction**

Fiction sometimes suffers from a lack of dramatic conflict. In this seminar, we'll explore using sparkplug characters to energize such narratives. “Stories often require sparkplug characters—radically unpleasant types—as focusing agents,” Charles Baxter writes in *The Art of Subtext*. Using Baxter's insights, we'll examine stories where sparkplug characters create drama. We will use exercises to introduce such characters into our own work to help us make something happen.

### **Dos and Don'ts of Book Reviewing**

The seminar is a practicum for writers who want to publish book reviews. We'll consider the dos and don'ts of reviewing, the diverse audiences for reviews, the short versus longer review, and the publications—local, regional, and national—that assign book reviews. Please bring a one-page review of one of your favorites to share, and be prepared to write the introductory paragraph of a review.

### **Introduction to Publishing**

In this seminar, we'll discuss the publishing business. How do you get published? How do agents and editors choose books to publish? Can you make money publishing a book in today's publishing climate? I'll provide examples from my 35 years in publishing and writing. We'll also divide into small groups to simulate the process whereby a publisher acquires a manuscript.

**Conduct research of the skills media specialists impart to students through a comprehensive review and analysis of the literature and interviews of library media personnel in the region; transcribe and analyze the interviews; report results through presentations and publication. Increase awareness of the importance of and need for library media centers and address concerns about the loss of certified teacher librarians managing library media centers.**

Executive Director Kathy Enger presented research at the University of Minnesota eLearning Summit on August 3, 2017, that was added to the Creative Commons: *Student Success in the Electronic Era: Why Schools Need Media Specialists Now More Than Ever*. See:

<http://pubs.lib.umn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1183&context=minnesota-elearning-summit>

**Continuing education** for NLLN Executive Director.

Executive Director Kathy Enger is taking an online metadata course that began August 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Ongoing library administrative and technical support for the White Earth Child Care/Early Childhood Program (WECC/ECP) and support of the Tribal College Libraries.**

Denise Lajimodiere's broadside, *Birch Bark Biting*, was framed and given to White Earth for their Autism Foundation silent auction.

**Online Destiny Training now has 87 participants.**

Gina Drellack, Media Specialist and Education Services Coordinator with Northwest Service Cooperative in Thief River Falls developed an online Destiny Training program that library staff in the region can take online for continuing education credits through Schoology.

To participate,

- Go to <https://www.schoology.com>
- Sign up
- Or login if you already have a Schoology account
- Go to "Courses"
- "Join"
- Join the Destiny Training course by entering the course number: C37RB-M8TGX

Once you access the Destiny Training course, you will have online Destiny training for:

Circulating Library Materials

Adding Patrons

Building Your Catalog

Configuring Library Manager for Your School

Managing Library Fines

Conducting an Inventory

Updating the Calendar, Setting the Calendar for the School Year, Updating Homerooms and Grade Levels, Adding Kindergarteners, Deleting Seniors

Destiny Training CEU Certificate.pdf

An added benefit of the course are the .pdf instructions you can print following each module and the CEU Certificate.

Return to the course at any time!

**SOLO Librarian Resources** for academic, public, school, and special libraries from your Minnesota multitype systems: <http://mnmultitypes.wixsite.com/mysite>

**Ebooks Minnesota and Electronic Library of Minnesota in Area Schools**

NLLN will be working with area schools, Region I, and Minitex throughout Fiscal Year 2018 to get Ebooks Minnesota and the Electronic Library of Minnesota into school libraries in the region.