

Northern Lights Library Network

Director's Report February 21, 2015

Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN) is a cooperative network of members in academic, public, school, and special libraries in 23 counties of North-central, North-west and West-central Minnesota. We work at the grassroots level to bring together all types of libraries and collections in the region to discover, enhance, and share resources through administrative, technological, and educational support.

Northern Lights Library Network is funded by the Minnesota State Legislature through the Minnesota Department of Education

Interlibrary loan support for library systems in the region. Interlibrary loan support of \$5,000 provided for Viking Library System.

Travel to libraries throughout the NLLN region, attend local, regional, and statewide meetings.:

December 22: Moorhead, Meeting with Glenn Heineke to continue working on media specialist research.

January 6: MSUM catering to plan February 21 *Library Luncheon with Legislators*.

January 12: St. Paul, Kay Sexton Award committee meeting at the Friends of the St. Paul Library, St. Paul Public Library; MDE meeting.

January 20: White Earth at Townsite to pick-up furniture donated from MSUM to the Maamigin Achigaazo for a community library at White Earth. MSUM furniture moved to White Earth.

January 21: Minneapolis, Minitex lunch meeting with Valerie Horton, director.

January 22: St. Paul, Minnesota Department of Education, multi-type directors meeting.

January 23: St. Paul, Multi-type directors quarterly meeting, Metronet.

January 29: Fargo, Sons of Norway, first planning meeting of the River Cities Literary Arts Center of Fargo Moorhead.

January 30: Moorhead, meeting with Moorhead Public Library librarian, Megan Krueger to determine if the library can use what is remaining of the donated library furniture from MSUM.

February 2: Fergus Falls, books donated from St. Joes Library, Moorhead, dropped off at Viking Library System in Fergus Falls for delivery to the Browns Valley School Library.

February 3: Minneapolis, signed copies of Vinz books of poems, *Long Distance*, given to Minitex for distribution.

February 5: Moorhead, NLLN office move from 104 Townsite, to the Faculty Development Department of the Livingston Lord Library at Minnesota State University Moorhead.

February 12: Fargo, second planning meeting of the River Cities Literary Arts Center of Fargo Moorhead.

February 21: MSUM, Governing Board meeting and *Library Luncheon with Legislators*.

Support library advocacy activities with second annual *Library Luncheon with Legislators* held in Room 101 at MSUM on February 21, 2015, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Librarians from the region briefly describe their work to legislators in order to prepare them for Minnesota Library Legislative Day in March, 2015. 34 invitations went to legislators in the region and 28 invitations to librarians. 11 librarians speaking: Duane Arnold, Moorhead Public Schools; Hannah Budkland, Leech Lake Tribal College Library; Gloria Collyard, Red Lake Middle School; Terri Darco, White Earth Early Childhood Development; Gina Drellack, Bagley Public Schools; Kristi Hanson, Northwest Regional Library; Liz Lynch, Lake Agassiz Regional Library; Laura Probst, Concordia College Carl B. Ylvisaker Library; Larry Schwartz, Minnesota State University Moorhead; Peg Werner, Viking Library System; Perry Werner, Minnesota State Community and Technical College and 3 legislators are speaking: Senator Kent Eken, Representative Ben Lien, Representative Bud Nornes. 28 people altogether in attendance. Sent appreciation notes at the beginning of the legislative session to all legislators in the region from board president, Wayne Ingersoll and Kathy Enger.

Develop activities that bring all libraries together. Provide ongoing internships for graduates and undergraduates interested in careers in Library and Information Science

Jordan Schroeer, Communication Specialist Intern, completed his fall internship. Jordan created NLLN's first Facebook page, wrote press releases, and promoted NLLN. Media advisories have been written and submitted to newspapers and media outlets. Jordan completed the *Directory of Legislators in the NLLN Region* that is hosted via Omeka on the NLLN website (nlln.org).

Katelyn Ostby is working as an intern with NLLN from January 2015 through June 2015, and applying to graduate schools of Library and Information Science. She is assuming duties of the Communication Specialist, along with completing the data collection for comparing reading scores with schools that have media specialists in the region. Katelyn may also assist Campbell-Tintah Schools as they automate their card catalog to Destiny. Katelyn completed her undergraduate degree in English, with honors, from NDSU, December 2014.

Conduct research. Kathy conducted qualitative, grounded theory research to determine what multitype library systems do. *The Function, Responsibilities, and Duties of Multicounty, Multitype Library Systems in Minnesota* research is completed and currently in use by the multi-type systems in Minnesota as an infographic to ask for increased funding from the legislature.

The Function, Responsibilities, and Duties of Multicounty, Multitype Library Systems in Minnesota

The seven multicounty, multitype library systems in Minnesota function as intermediary between all types of libraries, ensuring that resources are shared and cooperation occurs among all library types, including academic libraries, public libraries, school libraries, and special libraries. Through library cooperation and resource sharing, Minnesotans receive the best library service possible, in the most efficient manner. Each multicounty, multitype system is as unique as the libraries they serve. The multicounty, multitype library systems in Minnesota are Arrowhead; Central Minnesota Library Exchange (CMLE); Metronet; Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN); Southwest Area Multicounty, Multitype Interlibrary Exchange (SAMMIE); Southeast Library System (SELS); Traverse de Sioux Library Cooperative (TdS). The multicounty, multitype systems are mandated by Minnesota Statute 134.351.

During 2014 and 2015, a qualitative grounded theory study of the responsibilities and function of the multicounty, multitype library systems in Minnesota was conducted by Northern Lights Library Network and reviewed by the multitype system directors. The study used as data fourteen quarterly reports from 2009 to 2014 submitted to Minitex recorded in the multitype system wiki. Each line from each report was coded, categorized, and analyzed for themes. It was determined from the reports that multicounty, multitype library systems in Minnesota perform the following duties:

BUILD AND SUSTAIN RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN AND AMONG LIBRARIANS

Communicate between and among libraries through electronic communication systems and printed literature.

Visit local libraries and sustain relationships with librarians.

Discover and communicate needs at the grassroots level.

DEVELOP LIBRARIANS PROFESSIONALLY

Administer continuing education grants for library staff.

Teach librarians about new library resources.

Teach new technologies.

IMPROVE LOCAL LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Support interlibrary loan services.
Support union catalogs
Find cost-effective eBook solutions.

SPONSOR AND SUPPORT FUNDING FOR LIBRARIES

Write and receive grants that support libraries.
Raise funds for libraries.
Share library resources.

CHAMPION FOR LIBRARIES

Meet with library stakeholders.
Meet with legislators on behalf of libraries.
Publicly promote libraries.

CREATE, DEVELOP, AND MAINTAIN PROGRAMS THAT ENRICH THE LIVES OF MINNESOTANS

Sponsor literacy initiatives through programs, conferences, and workshops.
Facilitate improved library services.

MOVE THE DISCIPLINE OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE FORWARD

Provide leadership in library organizations and associations.
Present at conferences and publish articles in the library literature.
Collect and analyze library data.

LEAD AND ADMINISTER AGENCY

Manage human resources.
Design and implement strategic plans.

Participate in the library advocacy activities. Meetings of the Libraries and Service Delivery Consultant Group have concluded with the following recommendations:

Recommendation – State funds for an incentive or grant program that supports partnerships between public libraries and school districts that are focused on enhancing early learning opportunities, reducing summer learning loss, bolstering college/career readiness and achieving other goals of the World’s Best Workforce

Recommendation – Funds for a statewide collection of e-books, administered by State Library Services, that supports school curricula, academic standards and K-12 literacy.

Recommendation – New state appropriations to fully fund the Minnesota Braille and Talking Book Library² and interlibrary loan and delivery through Minitex³ so that federal Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) funds are available for local and statewide projects that address key priorities.

Recommendation – That the Minnesota Department of Education works with key stakeholders to establish a “Plan for Better Libraries,” a framework in line with the Governor’s “Seven-Point Plan: Better Schools for a Better Minnesota.”

Recommendation – Formation of a task force (with representation from all funding and program-level stakeholders) charged with identifying unique challenges to service delivery and recommend structural changes or changes to Minnesota Statutes 134 that will ensure equitable and cost-effective services for all Minnesotans

Recommendation – Support from the Minnesota Department of Education for statewide efforts to ensure that all Minnesota schools, libraries, households and businesses have access to high speed broadband.

Career development, professional engagement scholarships, and library service funding for staff and library board member participation in continuing education programs. 18 scholarships are committed for attendance at MLA and ITEM conferences; the Association of Rural and Small Library meeting; online courses, including *Explore the World* and *Teaching with Technology*; Lifetime Arts: Library Training; MnPALs User Group Meeting; TIES 2014; Spotlight on Books:

NLLN FY15					
LIBRARY	EVENT	AMT. PD	DATE PD	DATE SENT	
Concordia College - Moorhead	Inaugural European Conf-July				
Bemidji Schools	Explore the World .. 4/14 to 8/14	\$190.00	09/09/14	09/11/14	
Brainerd Public Library	MLA Annual Conf - Oct 2014	\$500.00	11/18/14	11/21/14	
Mahnomen Public Library	Assoc. of Rural & Small Lib Conf	\$999.79	09/16/14	09/17/14	
Brainerd Public Library	MLA Annual Conf - Oct 2014	\$500.00	10/28/14	10/29/14	
Bagley Schools	ITEM Fall Conf Oct 2014	\$500.00	10/21/14	10/23/14	
Brainerd Schools	ITEM Fall Conf Oct 2014	\$275.00	10/21/14	10/23/14	
NW Regional Lib - Warren	MLA 2014 Conf Oct 2014	\$201.61	10/21/14	10/23/14	
NLLN Gov Board Member	MEMO-ITEM Conf Oct 2014				
Elbow Lake Public Library	Lifetime Arts: Lib Training 9-14	\$271.73	10/14/14	10/14/14	
LARL - Detroit Lakes	MLA 2014 Conf Oct 2014	\$288.54	12/18/14	12/19/14	
Hallock Public Library	MLA 2014 Conf Oct 2014	\$269.12	10/21/14	10/23/14	
Warroad Public Library	MLA 2014 Conf Oct 2014	\$175.82	11/18/14	11/21/14	
MSUM Library	MnPals User Group Mtg 10/2014	\$129.24	10/28/14	10/29/14	
Bemidji Schools	Teaching with Technology - online	\$190.00	11/18/14	11/21/14	
Thief River Falls Schools	TIES 2014	\$500.00	12/18/14	12/19/14	
Thief River Falls Schools	TIES 2014	\$500.00	12/18/14	12/19/14	
Pelican Rapids schools	Spotlight on Books 2015 Total:	\$5,490.85			
Viking Lib System - Alexandria	ALA Annual Conf-June 2015				
LARL - Moorhead	Lib Technology Conf- March 2015				
Concordia College - Moorhead	Spotlight on Books 2015				
LARL - Ada	Spotlight on Books 2015				
MSUM Library	Spotlight on Books 2015				
Moorhead Schools	Spotlight on Books 2015				

Ongoing library administrative and technical support for the White Earth Child Care/Early Childhood Program (WECC/ECP) as they prepare a new community library and design a Smart Play Spot. The online catalog is reactivated and White Earth is in the process of acquiring materials and books described in the \$121,000 IMLS grant. White Earth moved the donated MSUM library furniture from Townsite in Moorhead to White Earth in January, 2015.

Poets Across Minnesota encourages the love of reading, literature, and the spoken word by sponsoring poetry readings and events for regional poets in and through libraries in the region. 35 broadsides each of poets in the NLLN region, Belar, Bennett, Lajimoidiere, Vinz, and Zepper have been created by Patrick Vincent, professor of visual arts at MSUM and will be for sale at \$25/each to raise funds for NLLN's scholarship fund.

Broadsides

At the Library

Lina Belar

All summer long, my sister and I
read books that take us places we have
never been and likely will never see.

I am to the T's in the
adult fiction section of the public library
a faded Victorian house filled with books
tended by two maiden women
who sort and clean donated books
catalogue them, honor Dewey.

I read everything by Erich Maria
Remarque, acquire a stunning
grasp of the vernacular that I expect
to keep well hidden.

My sister, two years younger,
is reading things like "The Bobbsey Twins"
and Nancy Drew mysteries.
"Is that a good one," I ask her one day.
"Oh yes," she answers, "I'm almost done.
But there's another book in the series."

We breathe a sigh of relief knowing
there are more worlds left to travel
than the ones that await us in this quiet town.

Carnegie Libraries

Ken Bennett

Temples they were.
Domes.
Stone steps.
Ancient rites of purification.
Prim priestesses
guarding pristine pages.

O Andrew.

I didn't mean to
stain your steps
with pink rain from
Woolworth's
soda fountain.

Birch Bark Biting

Denise K. Lajimodiere

I study the spring peeled
bark, gathered when leaves
unfolded. Thunderbirds,
wings spread wide, gaze
back at me. I peel the amber
bark into thin layers, careful
not to tear claw marks.
I place the folded bark in my
mouth, biting down with eye
teeth, closed eyes see designs.
I unfold a flower, turtle,
or dragonfly, hold
it to the light, feathery bite
marks glow through
transparent wings.

North of North

by Mark Vinz

Today with no surprise
the windchill sinks to 50 below.
The mailman slouches up the walk,
head down, the way we all learn how
to walk on this far edge.
Friends write to say how cold it must be here,
and thank whatever gods they have
this weather's north of them, far north.

But we say it too--
it's always colder somewhere else.
We praise our plows and furnaces,
fall back again on what we know:
there are no last words,
and what we speak of
is neither storm nor chill,
but what would happen if all letters stopped –
that other winter, directionless,
colder than ice, deeper than snow.

Used Poetry by Kevin Zepper

After many long miles, my poem finally gave out. What can you expect of a poem after fifteen years of hard driving? Not to say that I overworked the poem or anything. I didn't try to rod on it, peel out with it. I filled it with premium metaphors, never settling for less, changed the punctuation every couple of thousand miles. No different from the next poet.

It served me well but its time had come. It took too long getting started in the morning. On several occasions this past winter I had to jump start it with cables attached to another poem. Sometimes the battery in the poem was so far gone I had to plug it into an anthology overnight just to get it to spark the next morning.

Guess the real trouble started about two years ago, after the accident. My poem got rear ended by a drunk guy with a rock song lyric. Yeah, he had a beater of lyric too: no insurance, nothing. Here I am with a poem all smashed in the rear end, and a bent frame to boot. It took an English professor to pull out all the dents. He did the best he could with it. You know how it is with a poem wreck, though; once you've had an accident with your poem, it never reads the same again.

So here I am, reading through the used poetry section of the paper. I can't really afford to get a new one. I just hope I find a sonnet owned by a little old blue-haired lady. Someone like that would really know how to take care of a poem, always reading it slow and only on Sundays, taking it for regular grammar and simile maintenance, putting in the right metaphors to keep the engine from punning. Whether I find a good used poem or not, it's always tough trading in a poem you've reliably read for so long.

Technology training for librarians in the region to assist them in keeping up with rapidly changing technology. An apps. workshop was planned at Century School in Park Rapids for February 7th, supported by NLLN's trainers and available to librarians from all types of libraries from the region. The February 7 training was canceled, due to lack of interest. NLLN is working with Campbell-Tintah Schools to move their paper card catalog to the Destiny online system. \$1,000 is committed to the transition, along with the opportunity for NLLN's intern, Katelyn Ostby to assist in the transition one day a week. A core group of librarians from the Train-the-Trainers team is visiting the Laporte School Library to assist with reorganizing the library. It may be possible to secure an architect from North Dakota State University to assist with the reorganization. Furniture remaining from MSUM/White Earth may possibly go to Laporte. The largest gift remaining is metal shelving.



Hands-on Apps. Workshop Saturday, February 7, 2015

Park Rapids Century Middle School
501 Helten Avenue
Park Rapids, Minnesota
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

*Lunch and snacks will be provided.
There is no charge for this workshop.*

To attend,
send an email to Kathy Enger at Kathy.Enger@nlln.org

8:15 a.m.

Bring your iPad or electronic device and Apple Store and Google login and account information so we can work with apps. and Google. We'll start the day working one-on-one, making sure we have access to apps.

9 a.m. Introductions and Morning Refreshments

9:15 a.m.

- *Open your account for downloading and using apps.*
 - *How to Download Apps. 101*
 - *Download scanner*
- *QR Codes, how to use them, where to find them*

Laurie Conzemius
Technology Integrationist, Park Rapids Public Schools
lconzemius@parkrapids.k12.mn.us

10:15 a.m.

- *Dropbox, Skype, Nearpod, One Note, Virtual Notebook, Apps. for Learning Safety on the Internet*

Megan Peterson
Technology Integration Coordinator
Lakes Country Service Cooperative
mpeterson@lsc.org

11:30 a.m.

- *AppSmashing*
(AppSmashing is the art of using multiple apps. in conjunction with one another to complete a task or project.)

Mary Mehsikomer
Technology Integration Development and Outreach Facilitator
TIES
mary.mehsikomer@ties.k12.mn.us

12:30 p.m.

Working Lunch

- *Sharing Google Docs.*
- *Google Calendar*

Laurie Conzemius
Technology Integrationist, Park Rapids Public Schools
lconzemius@parkrapids.k12.mn.us

1:30 p.m.

- *Twitter Session*
Application -- download and usage, hashtags, etc.
Develop your own Personal Learning Network (PLN)

Donna Ohlgren
Library Media Specialist
Rush Creek Elementary

OhlgrenD@district279.org

3 p.m. Wrap-up

This program is sponsored by Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN). NLLN is funded by the Minnesota Legislature through the Minnesota Department of Education.

Support *Spotlight on Books* conference for people interested in youth literature from around Minnesota. The 27th Annual Spotlight on Books Conference will be held at Chase on the Lake in Walker, Minnesota on April 10 and 11, 2015.

Conduct planning meetings with rural librarians to determine needs and to discover ways to make rural libraries a focus of NLLN's efforts. Investigate many more and more convenient technological methods for disseminating information. NLLN's *Life Achievement Award* given to Barbara "Babs" Larson, Warroad Librarian, who retires April 2015, after 35 years of service.

Ongoing public relations efforts based on a SMART public relations plan through public service.

Northern Lights Library Network Press Release

Electronic Library of Minnesota: Finding Answers for Busy Minnesotans

Minnesotans have free access to reliable information through Electronic Library of Minnesota (ELM) at: www.elm4you.org.

Whether you're looking for a new job, studying for college entrance exams, or want to improve your computer skills, Electronic Library of Minnesota (ELM) is your free go-to website at www.elm4you.org.

ELM gathers information from reputable sources. This means no more wondering if you can believe what you read. If it's on ELM, it's something you can trust.

Nearly every topic imaginable is covered by www.elm4you.org: The Arts; Business & Economics; Computer Skills; Consumer Information; Education; General Reference; Health & Medicine; History & Social Studies; Job & Career; Language Arts & Literature; Minnesota; News & Current Events; Science & Math; Social Science; Spanish Language.

ELM offers free access to databases that link you to reliable and credible articles, including Encyclopedia Britannica, Consumer Health Complete, Medline, eBook collections, digital collections of art work from museums around the world (CAMIO), Science Reference Center, catalogs of government documents (GPO), and access to library collections from all over the world.

www.elm4you.org also gives you free access to newspapers, including the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, St. Paul Pioneer Press, Star Tribune, USA Today, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post.

www.elm4you.org contains an advanced job search engine where you can select specific careers that interest you, manage your search, receive job statistics and take career placement exams to determine what may interest you. With so many resources available, it's difficult to convey them all – check it out for yourself:

www.elm4you.org. "Making life better for busy Minnesotans is ELM's goal. We hope you take advantage of it. Remember, elm4you.org," Kathy B. Enger, Executive Director, Northern Lights Library Network.

ELM is brought to you with state appropriations from Minitex (Minnesota's information and resource sharing network), the Minnesota Department of Education,