Message From The ILA President

2015 is fast drawing to an end, and with it my time as President of the Iowa Library Association. Being president has been terrifying, challenging, and rewarding. However, ILA has survived my tenure and the Executive Board has begun the process of re-envisioning our association. Helping lead ILA has been a challenge, there were many decisions to make, trial balloons to send up, and my own mistakes to overcome. I could not have done any of that without the dedicated help of Past President Sarah Willeford, incoming President Alison Ames Galstad, and all of the excellent members of the Executive Board, and, of course, the thoughtful and very professional assistance from Melissa Primus.

I believe our activities and meetings have been consequential—Legislative Day is always a treat seeing ILA members telling their stories to members of the legislature. We had some great sessions and interesting speakers at the conference, and also took note of the desire for more children/young adult sessions, and outside-the-box thinking about presentations for our next conference. The budget process for 2016 is underway, and Planning Day brought a number of different groups together to talk about joint programming.

We are experimenting with Executive Board members as Committee Chairs; our hope is that this will better integrate association goals with the activity of individual Committees. Fundamentally, the board wants to make sure each Committee has a clear mandate, active members, and the freedom to pursue association goals in a way that they think is most successful. Some members have been concerned that the Board is taking away Committee Chair opportunities from individual members, but I envision Board Members as sparkplugs, organizers, and conduits to and from the Executive Board. I also foresee that ILA will need more activists, new members, and Subdivision involvement as we go forward, so I believe we are opening new opportunities for people who want to get involved. I was fortunate to be president of ILA at an exciting time—we are celebrating 125 years of service, and working to reshape the Iowa Library Association for the next chapter.

Thank you all for helping to make ILA a dynamic and influential professional organization.

Duncan Stewart
ILA President
I am excited to serve as ILA’s President in 2016—a sincere thanks to Duncan Stewart for his leadership in 2015. It has been a pleasure to serve with him this past year, and I am glad he will be there in his role as Immediate Past President as we continue with the visioning work for ILA in 2016. I also want to thank the Executive Board for their ongoing work and Melissa and the staff at DMS. There are so many moving parts to ILA and the Executive Board is really focusing on shoring up communication and organization to make sure we are being responsive to membership priorities, and efficient in facilitating the work of the Committees and Subdivisions.

I want to thank everyone who attended the conference in Des Moines. We are just sorting through the comments, and I am heartened to read so many positive reflections about the sessions and the professional networking. The ILA conference is such a great opportunity for us to connect with colleagues across the state.

We had a good turnout for Annual Planning Day in November, and ideas are pouring in for the 2016 conference in Dubuque. The Dubuque “Grand River Center” event venue is a wonderful facility, and we always receive a warm and hospitable welcome in that community, so be sure to mark your calendars for October 12-14, 2016!

Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time for ILA. And a special thanks to the ILA Foundation for their enthusiastic development work and their commitment to supporting the professional development activities that ILA provides for our members. I am looking forward to the year ahead!

Alison Ames Galstad
Incoming ILA President

Renew Your Membership Now!

Watch your email for the ILA 2016 Dues Renewal Notice in December. You can print and mail or fax your membership form with payment, or you can renew and pay online on ILA’s website. No need to log-in!

If ILA does not have your email address, you will receive your first notice via postal mail. Please add your email address to your form so we can communicate electronically going forward. Memberships are for the calendar year.

The Iowa Library Association advocates for quality library services for all Iowans and provides leadership, education, and support for its members. The benefits of membership in this organization are well worth the costs.

Please renew! And recruit a new member to join with you!
Get To Know Rebecca Funke  
2016 ILA Vice President/President Elect

Rebecca Funke is a native of Iowa and received her MLS from the University of Iowa. She began her library career as a Library Assistant I at ISU’s Parks Library. While working full-time as a Library Assistant IV she began her graduate studies at Iowa in 2000. Her first professional job as a librarian was at the Boone campus of Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC), where she worked for three years. In 2007, she became Director of Library Services and is located in Ankeny.

The opportunity to work with a variety of libraries and librarians has been an important part of her professional work. Rebecca has served on the Nevada Public Library Board of Trustees since 2005 and was Board President during the expansion and remodel of the library which was completed in 2013. Additionally, Rebecca served on the Central Iowa Library Service Area Board of Trustees and as a member of the Library Service Area Executive Council. Currently, Rebecca is a member of the Iowa Library Services Advisory Board as well as the Enrich Iowa Taskforce. In January 2015, Rebecca gladly said “yes”, when asked to fill a one year vacancy on the ILA Executive Board.

Work with academic libraries is where much of her focus has been since she entered the library world. Since 2004, Rebecca has worked with the ILA/ACRL in several capacities including as a member of the Mentoring Committee and the Spring Conference Committee, and as Treasurer and President. Last fall, along with several other directors, Rebecca participated in a new state-wide collaboration initiative for academic library directors in Iowa. In October 2014, the first Iowa Academic Library Summit on Collaboration was held at DMACC’s Ankeny campus with about 40 academic library directors in attendance. The initiative remains ongoing with a third summit planned for October 2015.

Her work at DMACC is busy and varied which keeps her engaged and constantly learning. She loves the opportunity to work both with technology and people. Her work extends beyond the typical work as a director. Without a systems librarian, she has learned more about SSL certificates than she ever wanted to know and will be wading into the deep waters as DMACC Libraries move to a new ILS during the 2015-16 academic year. Each semester, Rebecca teaches two sections (face-to-face and online) of the one credit library course offered at DMACC, and does many one-shot instruction sessions as well. One of the initiatives she is most proud of is the establishment of the One Book One College One Community program at DMACC. Currently in its eighth year, the program has put over 14,000 books in the hands of DMACC students and brought national authors to central Iowa.

Rebecca lives in Nevada with her husband, Brian, and their two children, Michaela (20) and Matt (18). Their home wouldn’t be complete without their two dogs, Ginger, a Border Collie, and Beau, a Great Pyrenees.

Calendar Of Events

**December**
- December 11 – ILA Board Meeting
- December 24-25 – ILA Office Closed
- December 31 – ILA Office Closed

**January**
- January 1 – ILA Office Closed
- January 1 – 2016 Membership Year Begins
- January 8-12 – ALA Mid-Winter Meeting, Boston, MA
- January 11 – Catalyst deadline for February issue

**February**
- February 17 – Lobby From Home Day

2016 Lobbying Days

Lobby From Home Day – February 17, 2016
ILA Legislative Day – March 16, 2016
The Foundation Board Thanks Members And Friends For Their Support

The ILA Foundation Board members want to extend a big thanks to all of our supporters this year. To celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Iowa Library Association, members purchased $990 worth of candles for our giant birthday cake! Including your generous donations to the silent auction, your bids for the auction items, and your purchases of raffle tickets, we were able to raise more than $10,000 to add to our funds.

We congratulate our own Board member, Ken Jones, for receiving the ILA Citation of Merit Award this year. It is an honor well deserved; Ken is a strong supporter of the library community.

ILAF funds are used for scholarships, continuing education, the ILA Leadership Institute, excellent speakers at the annual conference, and to support the ILA office and staff.

If you weren’t able to attend the conference, you can still contribute to your Association’s Foundation by going to our website. Thanks!!
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ILA Leadership Transitions

**Incoming**

Congratulations to Rebecca Funke, Director of Library Resources at Des Moines Area Community College, who was elected to the position of Vice President/President Elect of ILA. Rebecca has been very involved in ILA/ACRL, where she held several positions. She has also served on local and state-wide library boards. Said Rebecca, “I would like to see ILA continue the wonderful work that has been done for so many years, while at the same time challenge members to connect in a more real way, reinvigorating the membership.”

Congratulations to Brianna Glenn, Director and Youth Services Librarian at DeSoto Public Library, and Debbie Stanton, Director of the Washington Public Library, who were each elected to three year terms on the ILA Executive Board.

**Outgoing**

ILA thanks outgoing Executive Board member Jill Sanders, Director of the Bondurant Public Library, and outgoing Past President, Sarah Willeford, Director of the Iowa Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, for their service.

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**Governmental Affairs Committee Report**

The 2015 legislative session was unusually uneventful, as well as very long. The ILA Governmental Affairs Committee Chair, Christine Sturgeon, worked with our lobbyists, Craig Patterson and Amy Campbell, to advance ILA’s legislative goals: more financial support for the State Library and its resource sharing programs, ongoing support for the Learning Express Database, and reminding legislators of the importance teacher librarians as part of the instructional staff in our schools.

Legislative Day was fun; we fed the legislative pages, buttonholed our legislators, and made ILA’s significant presence felt at the state capitol. We were honored to have Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds open our annual Conference, and ILA discussed the importance of the next Librarian of Congress actually being a librarian with Senator Ernst’s office.

Michael Scott, State Librarian; Alison Ames Galstad, ILA Vice President/President Elect; and Mary Heinzman, ILA/ACRL government liaison, represented Iowa at National Library Legislative Day in May and spoke with most of our members of Congress. Lastly, with the assistance of Barb Corson of the Iowa Library Services, we had Governor Branstad recognize ILA’s 125th anniversary with an Official Proclamation.

**Lobby from Home Day will be February 17, 2016 and ILA Legislative Day at the Capitol will be on March 16, 2016,** starting with a briefing by our lobbyists at the State Library at 2:30 p.m. and then our reception for legislators in the stunning State Law Library from 4-6 p.m. State support for libraries and working with the Department of Education to identify teacher librarians as instructional staff will be two of our legislative goals next year, and ILA will be working with the State Historical Society of Iowa to support the ongoing mission of their research libraries in Des Moines and Iowa City.

*Mark your calendars and get ready to lobby!*

Duncan Stewart
ILA President
My goal as ILA President at the conference was to make sure nothing exploded, and I believe that I succeeded in that. We had several well attended pre-conferences, including a tour of historical sites in Des Moines; Active Teaching, and Learning; and a session on alternative medicine.

As President I spoke with nearly all of our vendors and thanked them for support for ILA. They told me that ILA has one of the best state conferences, and that they especially appreciated the lunch we provide for them as they set up their displays. As usual, I was only able to poke my head into a number of sessions, though I did stay for all of State Archivist Tony Jahn’s report on the State Historical Society. All three of our keynote speakers earned their speaking fees, in my estimation. As a former history major, I was most touched by Robin Oliveira’s talk about writing her book, My Name is Mary Sutter.

And I have to admit that the Trivia Contest, enlivened by a cash bar, was a big hit for me, and it appeared that the 200 some folks who attended, agreed, based on the raucous cheering and the good time had by all.

As usual the Conference Planning and Local Arrangements Committees did great work preparing for conference. And thank you, of course, to all the Committees and Subdivisions who proposed and organized our sessions, and to those who presented at the conference. I very much look forward to our 2016 conference in Dubuque; rumor has it that the local brewery may create a library themed beverage similar to their eponymous Dubuque Carnegie-Stout Library stout.

Duncan Stewart
ILA President

Robin Oliveira with Iowa Center for the Book Coordinator, Robin Martin

Members very engaged in a conference session

Trivia Night: Can you answer the question? Celebrity Host, Dan Wardell, made the night fun

Teams working hard to win at Trivia Night

Congratulations to the Trivia Night winning team for a hard fought contest!
Conference Highlights

Wednesday’s Grand Opening of the exhibit hall and the silent auction.

Emily Bainter at Iowa Library Services’ booth in the exhibit hall.

State Librarian Michael Scott and the Director of the Decorah Public Library, Lorraine Bonowski.

ILA attendees take the opportunity to chat with vendors.

Des Moines Mayor Frank Cownie addresses the opening session with ILA President Duncan Stewart.

Thursday’s keynote speaker Jamie LaRue spoke about the next library workforce.
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Awards, Awards, And More Awards!

This year at the 2015 ILA Annual Conference several awards were given to deserving members. Those awards included the following:

**Member of the Year:**
This award recognizes outstanding service to the Iowa library community. The winner this year was Dale Vande Haar, District Library Coordinator of Des Moines Public Schools. Dale has served on many ILA Subdivisions and Committees, including the Iowa Association of School Librarians, as well as on the Iowa Education Media Association, the Re-organization Committee of Iowa Library Services, the Iowa Commission of Libraries, ILA Conference Planning, and the Boards of Drake University Cowles Library, Des Moines Public Library, and the Mitchellville Public Library Foundation. He served as President of the Iowa Library Association for two years, when he had to unexpectedly step into the role a year early due to the sudden resignation of the elected President.

**Citation of Merit:**
This award is conferred upon individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions to quality library services, or who have advanced the principles of quality library service to the community. This year the award was presented to both an individual and to a group. The Citation was presented to the Board of Trustees of the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust. The Carver Charitable Trust Board of Trustees has provided numerous grants to Iowa libraries, either as construction or renovation grants, totaling over $10.4 million since 1995. They are currently providing support for technology in Iowa libraries. The impact of the Carver Charitable Trust on the continued growth of Iowa’s libraries is even more significant than that of Andrew Carnegie’s generosity in the formation of some of Iowa’s libraries.

The individual award went to Ken Jones, CEO of Jones Library Sales. Ken has been a friend of Iowa’s libraries for many years, providing support for the Annual Conference with an exhibit booth and monetary support of the annual fund, serving on the Iowa Library Association Foundation Board, donating numerous items over the years to the silent auctions, and serving as the ILAF Scholarship Chair.

**Quality Time Award:**
This award is presented for outstanding service to the youth of Iowa libraries, and is presented by the Youth Services Subdivision. This year the winner was Danielle Day of the Carnegie-Stout Public Library in Dubuque. Danielle was chosen for the award because she initiated the Bridge to Reading Picture Book Award, which gives Iowa's youngest citizens a voice in choosing their favorite book on an annual, state-wide basis.

**Jack E. Tillson Scholarship:**
This is an education grant of $1,500 given to a University of Iowa library student and is provided by the late Jack E. Tillson, former Executive Assistant of the Iowa Library Association. It is presented by the Iowa Library Association Foundation. The winner this year was Katheryn Lawson.

**ILA Foundation Scholarship:**
This is an education grant of $1,500 given to a University of Northern Iowa library student, and is presented by the Iowa Library Association Foundation. The winner this year was Tricia Carty.

**Lifetime Membership Award:**
This award is given to ILA members of twenty-five years or more upon their retirement. This year two retirees were honored:
Cindy Buffington, retired from Winfield-Mt. Union Community School District
Ann Newbury, retired from Winterset Public Library

Congratulations to our award winners and thank you so much for all that you do for ILA!!
Dale Vande Haar Is The 2015 ILA Member Of The Year

Dr. Dale A. Vande Haar, the District Library Coordinator for the Des Moines Public School District, was named ILA Member of the Year at this year’s conference. He is the 26th ILA member to receive this award.

Dale began his library career in 1992 at Des Moines’ Hoyt Middle School, after teaching high school English for 18 years at SE Polk High School, his alma mater. He worked at Hoyt for five years, and during that time he wrote a proposal for adding advanced technology to the school and library, which was accepted by the school district. Dale headed a committee that added IBM computers with business-grade wiring throughout the building to network the computers, including the new lab in the library. He also automated the collection; added then cutting-edge technology: weekly magazine CD-ROM discs for students to use for research; and added a closed-circuit television system, complete with a fully functioning studio, for students use in daily news broadcasts and media presentations.

From there he moved to East High School, where he redesigned the library to include two large computer labs, and integrated information literacy skills into the English and social studies curricula. In 1999, Dale was named the DMPS District Library Coordinator and immediately set about finishing up the automation of the district’s library collections to create a union catalog. The DMPS District has the state’s largest library system with 38 libraries.

Dale joined ILA just prior to the dissolution of the former Iowa Educational Media Association, of which he was the last President. He worked with a dedicated group of fellow teacher-librarians to bring interested school library people into ILA, and then served as the first President of the ILA Subdivision Iowa Association of School Librarians (IASL). He was the first IASL member to be elected to the ILA Executive Board and then be elected ILA Vice President/President Elect. With the unexpected resignation of the ILA President in February of 2010, Dale became President of the Association, and was immediately confronted with the merger of the Iowa Library Service Areas and the State Library of Iowa, and the reorganization of the operating structure of ILA. These two challenges took all of his time and energy during his two years as ILA President, but the results have proved successful.

When asked about receiving the ILA Member of the Year award, Dale responded, “I want to thank ILA and the members who nominated me for this award: Pam Rees, Iowa Library Services, who organized the nomination; Roy Kenagy, retired Central Iowa Library Service Area Administrator; and John Lerdal, Pleasant Hill Public Library Director. It was very kind of them to take the time to write letters of support on my behalf, and I am deeply honored. I was unable to attend the ILA Conference this year due to prior work commitments, so I will simply say thank you one more time to everyone for this wonderful honor. It means a great deal to me.”

Dale will be retiring in late June of 2016. He is currently a member of the Iowa Commission of Libraries.

*Congratulations to Dale Vande Haar for being named the Iowa Library Association’s 2015 Member of the Year.*
Finance Committee 2015 Annual Report

In 2014, the dues increase that was approved at the 2013 Annual Conference went into effect, which resulted in a trend of increased membership income in 2014 and 2015. ILA also realized a small increase in corporate membership income in 2015 following the actions of an ad hoc committee to print corporate membership materials and make presentations in 2014. This work should be continued, and the coordination may be done by the Membership Committee.

This year the Finance Committee continued to seek ways to spend less money, while maintaining quality member services, in order to conduct ILA activities without impacting the savings of the Association. The ILA President recommended that the duties of ILA Treasurer be expanded to include Chairmanship of the Finance Committee, and the current Treasurer agreed to serve as Chair.

The Finance Committee met to create the 2016 budget on November 4, 2015. ILA financial reports were reviewed, and the budget for 2016 was prepared. The budget will be ready for the consideration of the Executive Board at its regular meeting on December 11, 2015.

ILA Finance Committee

Nancy Trask, Chair
Paula Brown
Tom Kessler
Jeffrey Kushkowski
Sarah Willeford

LJ Names 11 Star Libraries In Iowa

Congratulations to 11 Iowa libraries designated as Star Libraries earlier this month by Library Journal (LJ). 2015 marks the 8th year of LJ's Star Libraries project, co-sponsored by Baker&Taylor’s Bibliostat. Of a total 261 Star Libraries, 54 are new to the list this year. And yes, Eleven Stars are right here in Iowa! They are:

- Bancroft Public Library
- Boyden Public Library
- Churdan Public Library
- DeSoto Public Library
- Dyersville Public Library
- Elgin Public Library
- Hubbard Public Library
- Readlynn Public Library
- Sioux Center Public Library
- Stuart Public Library
- Swea City Public Library

The LJ Index is a measurement tool that compares U.S. public libraries with their spending peers based on four output measures: circulation, on-site visits, programming attendance, and public Internet use. Data was culled from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for FY2013. Scores are produced by measuring the relationships between each library’s statistics and the averages for its expenditure category.

More from the LJ article: “…Each year, the constellation of Star Libraries changes with the data reported (and not reported), the movement of public libraries from one spending peer group to another, the relative fortunes of libraries in the same peer group, and the actual fortunes of individual institutions…”

Read more about LJ’s 2015 Star Libraries.

Bonnie McKewon
Northwest District Consultant
Iowa Library Services

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