ILA Annual Conference 2012

Pre-Conference - Wednesday, October 10
Sponsored by ISLA and Public Library Forum

Running Into The Roar: Doing What It Takes To Thrive As A Team!

Personal and Professional Success Coach Heather Woody, of Coralville, will present this pre-conference on constructing and maintaining a dynamic team. How individuals respond to the challenges of being a part of any team or situation is imperative! Participants will come to learn how to be a strong contributor to their teams, navigate crucial situations, and build a high impact team in their library and community.

Heather is an energetic and enthusiastic presenter who specializes in working with individuals and teams who are ready to achieve goals and stretch themselves! Heather has worked with teams and leadership in a variety of settings in both nonprofit organizations and all types of businesses. Administrators and support staff alike will find the information presented in this day-long pre-conference invaluable. Attendees will leave feeling ready to take action.

Concurrent sessions sponsored by ISLA

Walk the Line: Managing In A Small Town - Thursday, Oct. 11

Managing any team is both a great honor and a great challenge. Throw in the fact that in small communities relationships are even closer, and you get a unique dynamic. Personal and Professional Success Coach, Heather Woody, will talk to participants about the balancing act many administrators play in their professional lives, when they are both manager and friend to the people they work with each day.

In a small community, managers find themselves leading a team of people which includes friends, neighbors and even family. How do they balance being flexible with following the rules? In this session, participants will learn how to honor their important role as manager while successfully navigating relationships with staff and community members.
Why Go Wireless?

Two Tin Cans, Without the Wire: Wi-Fi in the Library - Friday, Oct. 12

Chances are good you already offer wireless Internet at your library. Perhaps you are still waffling, or perhaps the whole thing baffles you. Louise Alcorn, Reference Technology Librarian, West Des Moines PL, will discuss why wireless networks can be a terrific boon to library services in terms of marketing, value-added services and increased accessibility to the Internet for patrons. She will cover ‘things to think about’ related to libraries and wireless, including planning, marketing and policy, and will help you shape your questions more clearly so you can find the solutions you need.

Louise Alcorn has been the Reference Technology Librarian and webmistress at the West Des Moines Public Library since 1996. Louise earned her MILS at the University of Michigan’s School of Information. She also has a B.A. in American Studies from Grinnell College. This year she completes her final year on the ILA Executive Board. Louise’s second book, *Wireless Networking: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians*, was published in May of 2006. Since then she has done a number of statewide and national presentations on wireless in libraries.

How to join ISLA:

Joining ISLA costs only $5, in addition to your ILA membership (that amount is based on salary for those currently working in a library). To join ISLA, go to [www.iowalibraryassociation.org](http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org) and click the “Membership” tab across the top menu. Scroll to “Join ILA/ Renew your membership” Click on Event - ILA Membership. Fill out the information as requested. Under ILA Subdivisions, please check the box stating that you would like to join the Iowa Small Library Association for an additional $5. The dues will need to be paid online using a credit card or Pay Pal.

Please note: Anyone is welcome to join ISLA. Even if your library is not-so-small, you can show your support for the organization and its mission to “empower Iowa’s small libraries” with your membership.
AGENDA
ISLA FALL MEETING
At Iowa Library Association Conference
October 11, 2012  5:15-6:00 p.m.

Welcome
Minutes from Spring, April 2012, meeting
Treasurer’s report
Committee reports
  Nominating- election results-Jennie Garner
  Programming- thoughts and ideas for spring – Karen Burkett-Pederson
  Membership- Anne Skaden
NEW BUSINESS
  By-laws revisions –a discussion about voting
  Book exchange next year’s ILA
  Fund Raising-appoint committee
  Budget Proposal
OLD BUSINESS
  ARSL in Omaha/Council Bluffs  2013-Tena Hanson
  Farm Progress Show, Boone 2014- Paula Brown

Spring Meeting to be held in April, 2013 Exact date TBA

Our Mission:
The Iowa Small Library Association is an active networking organization that strengthens and advocates for public libraries with a population under 10,000.
MINUTES
ISLA SPRING MEETING
April 27, 2012 10:01 a.m.
The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by President, Sue Kroesche.
Welcome
Report from the State Library Services made by Bonnie McKewon on the current status of funding for
the next fiscal year, Enrich Iowa funding, possibility of funding for Learning Express Database, EB-
SCO will continue through 2013 and if additional databases are interested they should contact Jay Peters-
on at the State Library Services, a new Strategic plan is being worked on, and continuing education was
updated.
Motion was made by Val Haverhals from Hawarden PL, seconded by Linda Adams Fayette/Arlington
PL to approve the agenda as presented. All sites were polled and the motion was approved.
As part of the welcome noteworthy events at our libraries for National Library Week were reported from
each of the ICN sites.
Minutes from the Fall meeting were read by Secretary Jill Sanders, motion to approve was made by
Dee Crowner North Liberty PL, seconded by Mary Jo Ruppert from Cherokee PL. All sites were polled
and the motion was approved.
Budget Report was given by Shirley Vonderhaar James Kennedy PL/Dyersville. See attached. Balance
of $2639.35 was reported. Motion by Terri Tesch, Paullina to accept the report, Mary Frisby, Joice PL.
All sites were polled and the motion was approved.
Committee Reports
Nominating - No report was given.
Programming- Karen Burkett-Pederson reported that Heather Woody will be the doing a preconference
session and a breakout session about the challenges of managing the small public library with your
friends and co workers. ISLA is sponsoring this sessions and a breakout session on having Wi-Fi in
your library (how to set up, advantages, etc). Also Val Haverhals from Hawarden PL will be presenting
this afternoon about Library advocacy.
Membership Committee-
Committee Reports
ARCL Committee-
Tena Hanson, Milford PL reported that this conference was approved at last fall's meeting and that she
and Becky Heil have been appointed to serve as co-chairs. A local planning committee will be needed, if
anyone is interested in helping. Sub-divisions should be encouraged to plan scholarships for the confer-
ence and have them added to their budget. The venue for this conference will be announced this fall at
the meeting in Raleigh, NC. The MOU was read by Tena. Motion by Linda Adams, Fayette/Arlington
PL to approve the MOU, seconded by Toni Johnson, Lake Mills PL. All sites were polled and the motion
was approved.
New Business:
By-laws revisions-
The by-laws proposed changes were read by Sue Kroesche, LeMars PL. Karen Burkett-Pederson mo-
tioned to approve the changes as presented, seconded by Shirley Vonderhaar, James Kennedy PL-
Dyersville. All sites were polled and the was approved.
The fall meeting will be held at the ILA Conference in Dubuque. President Kroesche hopes to see every-
one there.
Old Business:
Awards-
ILA Conference Awards were drawn. There were two awards of $150.00 each going to Linda Adams/
Arlington PL for A & B size libraries. And Val Haverhals from Hawarden representing Size C, D, and
E Libraries.
An award for $100 for Summer Reading Program was awarded to Frankie Hannan, Missouri Valley PL.
Congratulations to all.
Motion was made by Dee Crowner, North Liberty PL to adjourn at 11:15 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Jill Sanders, Secretary Iowa Small Library Association
A Division of Iowa Library Association
**Vice-President/President-Elect**  
Connie Mataloni – Sibley Public Library

Connie Mataloni has been the Director of the Sibley Public Library since 1980 and is a graduate of the University of Northern Iowa. What started out as a part-time job that she only intended to keep until a teaching job opened up in the area has become a lifetime career. She was instrumental in many improvements in her library including the passage of a bond issue for a new library addition, passage of the .27 levy for additional funding and most recently updating and redecorating the library with new furnishings and equipment. However, she credits her Library Board, staff and community for all of the support they have shown to her in making the library what it is today. Connie attended the 2010 ILA Leadership Institute and feels it is time to give back to the organization that has so willingly given to her of their time and talents over the years. She has been a member of ILA for over 30 years and is also a member of ISLA. She has been actively involved in her community, church, served as President of her PEO chapter and was also the Fund-Raising Chairman of the S-O Band Boosters. Connie and her husband Dick have been married 33 years, have three grown daughters and have just recently added a son-in-law to the family!

**Marilyn Ralls, Gibson Memorial Library**

Marilyn Ralls has worked at the Gibson Memorial Library, Creston for almost ten years in the position of director. Prior to that, she was the school librarian for Interstate 35 Schools, Truro, IA and Christ the King School, Des Moines; and library assistant at Dowling High School, West Des Moines. She attended the first ILA Leadership Institute, has been a member of ILA and ISLA for ten years. Marilyn has a degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from the University of Northern Iowa and a Master’s degree in School Library Media Studies, also from UNI.

**Secretary**  
Jenny Bledsoe, Toledo Public Library

Jenny Bledsoe has been fortunate to be the library director for the Toledo Public Library the last five years and the executive director for the library foundation. Her library services career began at the Gladbrook Library in 2000 where she learned a great deal about library service. Before coming into the library world, she owned a house cleaning business and she was secretary to the Foundation Director at the Marshalltown Community College. Her membership in ILA and ISLA is fairly new and when asked to serve on a committee and then as an officer, she was honored. She feels this is an excellent opportunity to learn, to be more aware, to be more involved, and be an active contributor to represent small libraries and the librarians that operate them. Being a librarian has been the absolute best career for Jenny. She is a person who enjoys variety. She says: “Where else can I wear so many different hats?” Jenny values her spare time and loves to spend it with husband, Andy. They will celebrate their 30th anniversary in October and yes, they do still like each other! They live in Gladbrook on a small acreage where they have the best time working on projects and doing lots of mowing! Jenny is also mother of two very amazing grown children and has recently become a grandma to baby Ezra.
Secretary

Denise Levenhagen, J.C. Clegg Public Library

Denise Levenhagen has worked in public libraries for 22 years. She has served as the Library Director of the J.C. Clegg Public Library in Central City for 16 years. While that may sound glamorous, that means that she is actually, the children’s librarian, teen librarian, adult librarian, reference librarian, etc. You all know how that goes. She received a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Iowa in 2001. She has been a member of the Linn County Library Association, serving as Secretary for the past 10 years. While in Central City, she has been involved in the local Main Street organization as a member of the Board (as secretary), as well as a volunteer for various committees. She also volunteers for the Central City United Church of Christ as Treasurer, and the Central City Music Boosters as Secretary.

Treasurer

Sandy Long, Whittemore Public Library

Sandy Long began her library career in June 1986 when she was hired as a substitute clerk at the Whittemore Library. In February 1988, she became the Assistant Director and in October 2000, she was hired as the Director when the previous Director retired. Sandy attended the Leadership Institute in August 2010 and was a member of the Reorganization Committee from June 2010 through August 2011. She is now serving on the State Advisory Panel and the ILA Leadership Development Committee. Sandy is also the Secretary/Treasurer of the Kossuth County Library Association. Sandy was a member of ISLA in her early years and has rejoined again since the group has become active. Sandy says: “I believe strongly in the future of our small libraries as the cornerstones of our towns in Iowa. Our libraries are needed to keep our small communities active and to attract families to our towns.”

THE VOTES ARE IN…. The results will be announced during the ISLA Fall Meeting at ILA Conference in Dubuque. Thank you to all candidates for accepting the nomination to fill these positions.

Thank You!
What’s been happening in Iowa’s Small Libraries?

Toledo Public Library

Local author and publisher Mike Chapman visited the Toledo Library April 12th. Mike is the author of 22 books; 14 of them on wrestling and he is the publisher of the Iowa History Journal magazine. Mike was full of great information, history and stories and is a real joy to listen to. Mike and his wife Bev live in Newton. Pictured are Mike Chapman and Rebecca Chyma.

This group of kids created Dot Art at a Crafty Wednesday program at the Toledo Library. The Crafty Wednesday art program is held each Wednesday in June with a different project each day.

The library also held Duct Tape crafts every Tuesday in June which was a huge success. The kids made beads, pencil toppers, zippered pencil cases and purses. This is a great teen program!

Iowa Author Event: Mary Kay Shanley, author of Our Iowa State Fair visited our library on Thursday, August 16th at 6:30 and will presented Our Iowa State Fair is a Great State Fair, but You Already Knew That! This presentation was funded by Humanities Iowa, a private, non-profit state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

A call to all Iowa Small Libraries: Please send us your news, items of interest, programs, and anything else our readers might be interested in hearing about. The next issue will contain some of these submissions and others will appear in future editions. Send your stories to Terri Tesch, Paullina Public Library, Box 60, Paullina. Iowa 51046 or email them to: terrritesch@paullina.lib.ia.us
The Three C’s of Iowa Small Libraries

Here, in my opinion, are the basic tenets of being a librarian in a small library. You have to know how to get ‘free stuff’ – from help to advice to just stuff. You must be able to share ideas with other librarians. (You can never tell who’s going to have a great idea) You need to know the City Clerk by name, and knowing his/her family doesn’t hurt either. So we pretty much know we can’t do this job effectively by ourselves. While this is all well and good and our understanding of this principal has a long history in Iowa’s libraries, I still want to talk about the thing I’m going to call the three C’s of being a librarian.

First C: Cooperate. We are brilliant, well sort of, at this. If we just cooperate with each other, we still can maintain some semblance of control and get a lot done. We have authority over what we might use or not, or whether we even see a project through to the end. The authority is ours. I control how a project I’m cooperating on might turn out. And believe me, I like to be in control. We really don’t have to risk too much and all we need to do is communicate with those other “co-operatees”. You know, just share an idea about what kind of funding we might ask the county supervisors for, or cooperate with the local school to provide a certain amount of library books every week. Cooperation makes all involved look good.

The second C is Coordination. That probably looks a bit like sharing - I’ll take that SRP performer on this day if you want him on that day. Or we might agree not to have a story time on a Wednesday so kids can participate in church night. Coordinate. We work with each other so our efforts are in harmony. We do both of these pretty well. Cooperate and Coordinate. But we get a bit confused when we actually talk about collaboration.

So let’s look at the highly valued, and much talked about third C: Collaborate. A collaborative relationship can be between libraries of any size and can also include outside entities such as the school as long as the goals of said cooperative groups are similar. There’s a sense of commitment to a particular mission, responsibility is shared, and ownership of a project is balanced, (i.e., not just one person is working on aforementioned project). Collaboration requires some self-sacrifice (who gets credit here? The circulation in my library might go up and yours stays the same), and not everyone has to agree about everything in a project all the time. In fact, discussion about opposing views can be quite healthy. Looking at all sides has its benefits. But it’s through collaboration with other like-minded institutions that we strengthen our public standing, better meet needs in the larger community and improve our overall programs and services.

ISLA: If we want to see small libraries and medium sized libraries succeed in this rapidly changing 21st century we must have cooperation, coordination and a whole lot more collaboration. Let’s talk.

To paraphrase Golda Meir: I never did anything alone. Whatever was accomplished in this LIBRARY (or community) was accomplished collectively. —Golda Meir

Sue Kroesche, ISLA President