

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
October 2010

Leadership Retreats

Library leadership spent the entire day on September 17 reviewing strategic business plan initiatives, especially ones that need completion during Fiscal Year 2011 and developing plans to implement these initiatives. We applied principles we've learned from the book, *Innovation* by Curtis Carlson and William Wilmot to create plans to implement advances in the self-checkout system, public presentations, and improvements in customer service.

The Management Team attended Boise City's Leadership Summit to review competency training needs and performance metrics for city operations. The Management Team will be reviewing performance metrics for library operations and present suggestions to the Board of Trustees for adoption in November or December 2010.

LYNX! Consortium Agreement Revision

The revised Agreement is ready for Trustee review and approval. I've enjoyed working with the LYNX! libraries and legal advisor Kelley Fleming to craft a better agreement and one that establishes equity for Open Access libraries including Boise Public Library. The directors will meet on October 1 to review follow up steps for the Agreement's adoption.

Staff In-Service Day

All library locations will be closed on Monday, October 11 for the annual staff in-service day. This year's workshops include sessions on communication, collection development, customer service, and an overview of the Library's Fiscal Year 2010 accomplishments and future goals. The staff thanks the Board of Trustees for approving the in-service day, a valuable training tool for library employees.

Fall Book Sale

The Friends of the Library have scheduled its Fall Holiday Book Sale on October 28-31 in the Hayes Auditorium at the Main Library. This book sale features newer items for shoppers who may be looking for holiday gifts. Sunday is half-price day. Please join the fun and help support the Friends efforts.

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT:

Good Neighbor Day

Staff at the Library! at Collister celebrated Good Neighbor Day on September 28. The program involved volunteers from the Boise Police Department (with McGruff the Police mascot) coming to fingerprint and photograph kids from the neighborhood to create records for emergency use. Local businesses offering donations for a prize drawing included Thriftway Hardware, Baskin-Robbins, 20th Century Lanes, Once Upon a Time Antiques, Nam King, and Flying Pie. Staff at the Library! at Hillcrest also celebrated Good Neighbor Day, hosting an open house for neighborhood and homeowners associations from the bench area.

Chris Crutcher

Staff at the Main Library hosted a visit by young adult author Chris Crutcher on September 12 to kickoff a series of writing workshops for teens. Mr. Crutcher gave a group of 25 teens practical advice on how to become an author. Staff also arranged for the author to speak at an all-school assembly at South Jr. High and in front of a group of students at Frank Church High School.

Teacher's Night Out

As a member of the Cultural Network, Boise Public Library was one of several organizations responsible for planning, coordinating and conducting the sixth annual Teachers' Night Out event. Approximately 350 teachers attended this year's event, held at the Old Idaho Penitentiary on September 16. Teachers' Night Out is a free teacher-appreciation event featuring food, beverages, live entertainment, prizes and information. Teachers network with each other, meet staff members from local nonprofit organizations and learn about free curriculum, field trip and classroom resources. A variety of local business help fund the event. Joanne Hinkel is our representative on the Cultural Network; Jody Vestal and Jennifer Wills represented the Library at our information table that evening.

Banned Books Program at the Library! at Cole & Ustick

The Cole and Ustick branch staff hosted a presentation by Monika Hopkins, Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Idaho, about banned books and intellectual freedom on September 29. The presentation drew 16 attendees and was followed by a lengthy question and answer period.

Borah: The Lion of Idaho

Board President Marc C. Johnson gave a presentation on William Borah to an audience of 35 at the Main Library on September 8. Staff took the opportunity to provide attendees with information about the Idaho collection and the Idaho Statesman Historical Database. Mr. Johnson will also speak at the Library! at Cole & Ustick on October 5, giving a timely presentation on Franklin D. Roosevelt's controversial 1937 plan for modernizing and enlarging the Supreme Court.