

ST-8

Al Peterson

North Dakota State Representative

2009 North Dakota Library Association Annual Conference Wrap Up

The 2009 North Dakota Library Association Annual Conference was held from September 23 to 26 in Dickinson. The theme this year was “Evolution of the Library.” Approximately 190 attendees descended on the Days Inn for three days of workshops and networking.

Once again, NDLA was able to provide credit through Valley City State University to school media specialists for attending the conference as part of their continuing education. To earn one credit, school librarians had the option of choosing one of the following attendance options: attend the half-day pre-conference and one full day of the conference, attend the half-day post-conference and one full day of the conference or attend two full days of the conference.

Participants are required to write a reflective paper on what they learned at the conference. By offering continuing education credit, NDLA has increased the number of school librarians to the conference.

Our keynote speaker for this conference was John Berendt, author of *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* and *The City of Fallen Angels*. *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* was the subject of a book challenge at Beulah High School in 2009. Mr. Berendt spoke about the challenge, the courage of the school librarian and the students who spoke out against the challenge and the dangers of the PATRIOT Act. He also served on an intellectual freedom panel discussion along with Dickinson State University biology professor, Dr. Michael J. Shaughnessy Jr; Beulah Public High School librarian and IF Committee member, Kathy Jo Cline; and UND School of Law Library Director and Assistant Professor of Law, Dr. Rhonda Schwartz.

Four members were recognized for 20 years of membership, Joan Erickson, Jeanne Narum, Janet Rex, and Konnie Wightman. Jennifer B Jones, Cynthia Larson, Donna Maston, and Paulette Nelson were recognized for 30 years of membership and Iris Swedland was recognized for 40 years of NDLA membership. Jan Wysocki, the former Director of the MSU-Bottineau Library was given Librarian of the Year award for 22 years of service as library director of the MSU-Bottineau library and the Bottineau County Library. The Major Benefactor of the year award was given to Mike and Kaye Kelley for 30 years of support to the work, mission, and remodel of Dickinson Area Public Library.

The 2009-2010 Flickertale Awards were handed out during Friday’s luncheon. The Flickertale Award winners are chosen by kids in North Dakota. Winner in the non-fiction category was Nic Bishop for his book, *Frogs*. Brian Selznick won juvenile fiction award for *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*. The winner of the Intermediate Book award was *Trolls, Go Home*. Winner in the category of Picture Book was David Slonim for his book, *He Came with the Couch*. David Slonim was able to accept his award in person and gave a very amusing presentation during the luncheon.

2009-2010 NDLA Board Members

PRESIDENT- Laurie L. McHenry *#
PRESIDENT-ELECT- Rita Ennen
PAST PRESIDENT- Phyllis Ann K. Bratton *
SECRETARY- Chandra Hirning *
TREASURER- Michael Safratowich
ALA COUNCILOR- Shelby E. Harken *
MPLA REPRESENTATIVE- Yours Truly *#
ACADEMIC & SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION- Victor Lieberman
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ROUNDTABLE- Naomi Frantes
HEALTH SCIENCES INFORMATION SECTION- Travis Schulz
NEW MEMBERS ROUNDTABLE- Sarah Devereaux
PUBLIC LIBRARY SECTION- Toni Vonasek
SCHOOL LIBRARY & YOUTH SERVICES SECTION- Beth Greff
TECHNICAL SERVICES ROUNDTABLE- Elizabeth Jacobs
CONSTITUTION BYLAWS & POLICIES- Kirsten Baesler
FINANCE- Bonnie Krenz
INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM- Christine Kujawa
LEGISLATIVE- Kelly M. Steckler
NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS- Sandi L. Bates
MEMBERSHIP- Kathryn Thomas
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT- Lori K. West *#
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE- Cathy A. Langemo
THE GOOD STUFF EDITORIAL COMMITTEE- Marlene Anderson *
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-Cathy A. Langemo
ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN- Rachel White #
STATE LIBRARIAN- Doris A. Ott
WEB EDITOR- Theresa Norton

*- Current MPLA Member

#- Leadership Institute Graduate

BCR and North Dakota State Library

BCR (Bibliographical Center for Research) is partnering with the North Dakota State Library to administer the third and final round of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Opportunity Online Hardware Grants program. The grant program will help eligible public libraries in the state upgrade and add public computer workstations for patrons in communities with high concentrations of poverty and where a library's public computers are at risk of becoming outdated with limited capacity for users. BCR is administering the grant funds for the State Library. In its role as administrator, BCR will work with 26 public libraries in the state and help them secure sustained local funding for computer replacements and upgrades. The foundation has awarded grants to libraries in 32 states. The remaining 18 states were not eligible due to their participation in the foundation's Public Access Computing Hardware Upgrade Grant program in 2006.