

Idaho Library Association  
October 4, 2006  
President's Annual Report

Idaho Library Association (ILA) continues to serve librarians throughout the state of Idaho, offering opportunities in professional development and continuing education creating strength within our organization.

Our 2005 annual conference was held in Pocatello, offering a variety of programs, attracting attendees from throughout the state with speakers like Nancy Pearl and Carol Brey-Casiano.

The ILA Legislative Breakfast was held in January, attended by both legislators and library supporters. Information packets were distributed, and library issues were discussed with the legislators. There was a significant increase in legislative activity at the state level this year, keeping our state legislative committee co-chairs: Erin Hasler and Cheri Rendler along with our lobbyist John Watts, quite busy. Our legislative committee with the support of our membership succeeded in receiving legislative support for LiLI-U, our statewide catalog resulting in JFAC approval of \$300,000 as continued funding in the Education budget. In addition, Erin Hasler and Ann Joslin attended the National Library Legislative Day in Washington DC in May. Erin and Ann represented Idaho Librarians in congratulating Senator Craig and Ohio Senator Richard Durbin in receipt of the 2006 Public Service Awards for their work regarding the privacy rights and the Patriot Act.

In the spring of 2006 regional conferences were held in four of the six regions. Providing opportunities for professional development, continuing education and valuable networking for librarians within their home regions.

Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) Conference attracted twenty-six attendees from Idaho. The PNLA Leadership Conference, in October will have six attendees: Kathy Watson, Renee Hawkey, Terese Borgerding, Cheri Rendler, Jody Vestal, Marcia Courtney along with mentor Steve Poppino and coordinator, Mary DeWalt.

Cathy Gray, 2006 conference chair and local arrangements committee co-chairs: Barbara Greever and Ruth Funabiki have prepared a great conference for us in Moscow, offering much variety. Conference opportunities include two pre-conferences; jazz; Stephen Abram as keynote speaker; workshops appealing to school, public, academic and special librarians; lunch with a poet; and our annual Intellectual Freedom Auction. We look forward to our 2007 conference in Nampa, October 3-6.

Advocacy and Public Relations committee members continue to develop ideas, program information, and share stories with fellow librarians. Provided workshops at two of the three regional conferences.

Our membership committee has worked very hard at developing and promoting changes to make ILA membership more appealing.

Idaho Library Association is a volunteer organization, which works very hard to provide librarian support and the professional growth of its members. I would like to

thank all board members, committee chairs and committee members for their devotion and endless hours spent to provide this valuable service. I encourage all ILA members to become more involved by volunteering to serve on a committee, thanking your legislators for their continued support, attending conferences or writing articles for the Idaho Librarian. Your expertise and skills provides the necessary growth of our organization.

It has been a great honor and pleasure to serve as president this past year. I feel that all of our executive board members, committee chairs and committee members have done an excellent job. I would like to thank Barbara Greever, Lynne Bidwell, and many others who provided wisdom and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Val Fenske