

Idaho Library Association

Trustees and Friends Division

Report

4/23/04

Boise, Idaho

Another newsletter has been penned and promulgated in which the main thrust was an exhortation to Trustees and Friends to attend the four regional conferences this spring. I have to say that I am really impressed with the quality of the programs being offered and how much of the material is pertinent to both Friends and Trustees. For the edification of this prospective audience we outlined the programs of interest and hope that we will see an increase in attendance as a result.

As usual we featured a library with an exemplary Friends group. This time it was West Bonner Library, a group with a definite mission. Just the before and after picture on the front of the newsletter says it all. This transformation would be the envy of any plastic surgeon.

Other topics we mentioned include the ILA Annual awards, the new ILA Website (and what a great new site it is, thanks to Michael Samuelson), Web Junction, LSTA Grants, and LiLi. We reminded people to make nominations for awards and encouraged libraries to apply for LSTA funds, and urged everyone to take advantage of the wonderful resource that LiLi represents. In my enthusiasm, I guess I exaggerated and reported that LiLi cost a million bucks a year. Anne Abrams called me on it, but we both agreed that it's worth a million bucks. Anyhow, that wasn't the first time I've embellished and embroidered. You should hear the stories I used to tell my kids.

Michael Greenlee, Chair of the Intellectual Freedom Division, submitted an insert mailed to every library with our newsletter. I applaud Michael on the effort he put into this informative and useful document titled "Intellectual Freedom and Censorship: A Primer for Trustees." I think it is useful to a wider audience than just trustees and therefore suggest a revision of the title to "Intellectual Freedom and Censorship: A Primer for Practically all Persons Political, Public and Palbable." ☺

As chair, I would like to project a goal of doubling the Trustee/Friends attendance at the next annual convention to 40. To this end we have scheduled an entire day of events on Friday for this group, which include a training session on LiLi, a primer on Wi-Fi, a forum on forming and maintaining a successful friends group, a session by Michael Greenlee on Intellectual Freedom for Trustees, plus the usual morning roundtable.

Our next newsletter scheduled for publication in September will focus on this goal. In addition, we may send out some reminder postcards just before the conference.

I would appreciate any items for discussion or insert into the next newsletter. If anyone wishes to follow the example of Michael Greenlee's insert, you would be welcome to do so. Please send them to me at chief@synergetics.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Timothy S. Hillebrand, Ph.D.

[WHEN SUMMITTED, IF SUMMITTED DURING A MEETING]