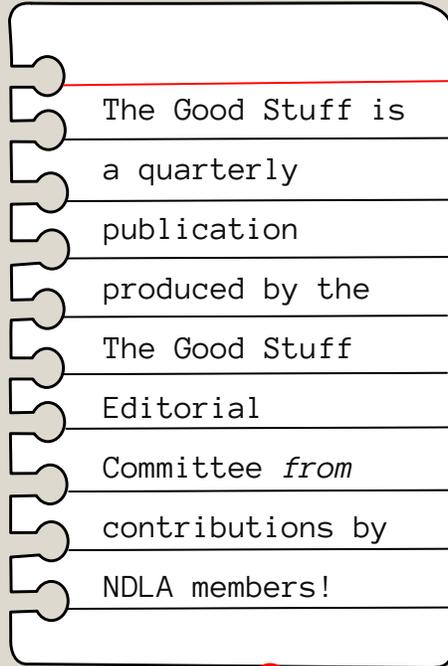


THE GOOD STUFF

The official newsletter of the North Dakota Library Association

Spring Issue 2022



For More Information

- On the [Good Stuff Committee](#)
- On the [Newsletter](#)

The North Dakota Library Association has had some big changes this quarter! Check out what's new in this issue:

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Reminders

Contribution deadlines:

June 2022	Apr 30
Aug 2022	Jul 3
Dec 2022	Oct 29
March 2023	Feb 1



President's Message

It's been an eventful start to 2022!

First up, we updated NDLA's web site, moving from StarChapter to Wild Apricot. The new design is up and running and looking good, but as with any site migration there are probably glitches – broken links, content that got overlooked, and so on. If you happen to notice anything that needs fixing, please let our [website committee](#) know!

On a less positive note, our membership chair Nicole Eckroth suffered some unanticipated health issues. She is going to be okay, but it may take some time for her to recover fully. We sincerely hope she recovers quickly and well. In the meantime, the membership committee has been doing a fine job of handling membership tasks while she's been unavailable. However, we could definitely use a hand with that as Laurie McHenry has announced her intention to step down from the committee after many years of unstinting service. If you think you could help with the important work of maintaining NDLA's membership records, please [contact me](#).

Finally, we have officially filled the vacant President-Elect position. We had two candidates in the special election, Kerriane Boetcher and Paul Amberg. With just over 70% of the votes, Kerriane has won the position. Congratulations, Kerriane! And many thanks to Paul Amberg for running.

I would close by telling you all to stay frosty, but Mother Nature seems to have taken care of that part for us this year. So instead, I'll just close by thanking you for all that you do for your libraries and your patrons. Hang in there - spring cannot be far!

Will Martin

NDLA President



March 2022

- March – [National Reading Month](#)
- March 2 – [Read Across America Day](#)
Dr. Seuss' birthday
- March 16 - [Freedom of Information Day](#) Observance held annually on or around this date



April 2022

- April - [School Library Month](#)
- April 3-9 – [National Library Week](#)
- April 5 – [National Library Workers Day](#)
- April 6 – [National Library Outreach Day](#)
- April 1-17 – [Money Smart Week](#)®
- April 24-30 – [Preservation Week](#)
- April 30 - [Children's Day](#)
 - Also known as Book Day

May 2022

- May 31 – Deadline for [NDLA Award Nominations](#)
 - [Librarian of the Year](#)
 - [Library Champion Award](#)
 - [Major Benefactor Award](#)
 - [School Library Benefactor of the Year](#)
 - [Youth Excellence Program of the Year](#)

June 2022

- June – [Rainbow Book Month](#)
- June 23-28 – [ALA Annual](#) (Washington, D.C.)



In December, the [Bylaws & Policies Committee](#) ran the first of two training sessions for NDLA Leadership. The first one was live and included several members who have been involved with the Executive Board for some time, and we really appreciated their advice and support. Our committee then recorded a presentation separately in January and it went well! If you want to see a recording contact [Kristen Borysewicz](#).

Coming soon...

We will be asking Executive Board members and Committee Chairs to look at the policy manual and suggest any revisions to make that document more exact.

The [EDI \(Equity Diversity Inclusion\) Committee](#) is looking at developing a resource list and best ways to share it with NDLA. We are also looking at what to present at NDLA and who will be involved in that. We continue to do brief writeups for Good Stuff addressing EDI issues. For more information or if you have questions, check out our new [EDI Committee webpage](#)

The [Finance Committee](#) has nothing to report.

The [Good Stuff Editorial Committee](#) has uploaded the standard elements of the newsletter on the new NDLA website in an effort to provide a quicker and simpler newsletter release. A PDF version will be made available shortly afterwards and will be kept in the website archive for posterity. [Check out the changes here](#).

We are also seeking new committee members! Can you copy/paste and add a few stylish touches to a preset Canva template? Do you like to edit? Do you have maybe one or two hours to give per quarter? We have a spot for you! The more we have on board, the lighter the workload. Interested? [Contact Shannon Yarbrough](#)

COMMITTEE BLOTTER CONTINUED... *

Recalled to life!

The **Intellectual Freedom Committee** works to promote and protect Intellectual Freedom in North Dakota. Its members provide resources and expertise related to Intellectual Freedom and give support to librarians and libraries in the event of a challenge. We are looking for two volunteers to join us and especially interested in recruiting librarians from K-12 schools, tribal colleges, and community colleges. The monthly meetings take place virtually.

Contact committee chair Emily Wros at emily.wros@und.edu if you are interested in volunteering, or if you have any questions

The **Legislative Committee** has no current business to report.

The **Membership Committee** is **actively seeking volunteers** - specifically, an Interim Chair!!

If interested, contact william.d.martin@und.edu

The **New Members' Committee** is working on the Grassroots grant and preparing for the best ways to promote and do outreach for it. Next meeting will be on April 4th. Sign up is on the NDLA [New Members webpage](#) for anyone wishing to join.

We have a President-Elect for the 2021-2022 year!

Now, the **Nominations, Elections, and Voting Committee** is looking for...

- Candidates to run for the 2022-2023 President-Elect position.
 - This position is a three-year commitment that begins at the 2022 Conference as President-Elect, becomes President starting at the 2023 Conference, and Past-President at the 2024 Conference.
- NDLA Sections are also looking for candidates for the Chair-Elect positions.



COMMITTEE

BLOTTER CONTINUED . . *

- These position are a two-year commitment that begin at the 2022 Conference as Chair-Elect and become Chair of section starting at the 2023 Conference.

If you are interested in getting your name on the ballot, or have any questions, please [contact BreAnne Meier](#) or the current section chair of the section you are inquiring after. Information about the roles and responsibilities of these positions can also be found [here](#).

The [Professional Development Committee](#) has no current business to report.

The [Tech Services/Gov Docs Committee](#) has no current business to report.

Our new website went live in January! Since the move was approved in December, the [Website Committee](#) has transitioned content, as well as membership functionality. President Martin used the platform to email everyone about a special election for President-Elect position, calls for volunteers, and we ran a successful vote using it. Members are also renewing their membership on the new site.

If you are experiencing any of difficulties, here is our advice:

- **Not receiving emails sent to all members?** Check your Spam Filter and make sure mail from this address is not blocked:
NDLA44@wildapricot.org
- **Membership questions?** Contact the [Membership Committee](#)
- **Notice “dead links” or inaccuracies?** Notify the [Website Committee](#)

We are just at the beginning of making this website really highlight what is happening around NDLA and the many ways to get involved. Those are the leadership’s top two goals for the page!! Look forward to many updates this year.



Universal Design

by Karlene Clark, Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota
EDI Committee Chair

Accessibility is a large part of diversity and is part of the attitude of service provided by libraries. Many locations have accessible bathrooms and elevators, but now it's time to consider other design needs. Universal Design takes us from making as-needed accessibility adjustments, to thinking proactively on what can be done in spaces to better serve how people negotiate life with a disability. Moving from reactive to proactive planning will make it easier for everyone to utilize a space!

A few design point that your library could consider:

- Visual distractors - Create a space with little visual stimulation. This can be as simple as not having to see multiple people walking by. Consider mobile whiteboards, if a more permanent setup is not an option.
- Auditory dampening – If private study rooms are not available, noise cancelling headphones or “tulip” chairs are a few ways to help those that need a quieter space.
- Tech assistance - Screen reader software is one example
- Often overlooked mobility needs - Sit-to-stand and/or wheelchair workstations

The goal of Universal Design is inclusivity of all people in the same space with access and ability to use the same items with equitable ease. A nice summary of how Universal Design works can be seen at [“Meet the Normals”](#).

Keeping Up With What To Keep

By Susanne Caro, North Dakota State University
TECHSERT/GODORT Committee Chair

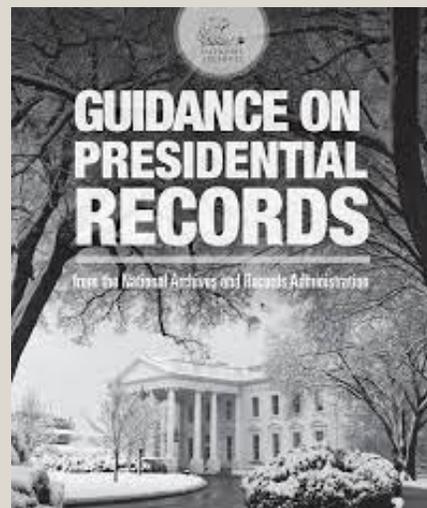
We love when government documents are in the news! It provides an opportunity to provide more information on subjects that may raise questions such as

RECORDS & What belongs to someone holding a government office...



In North Dakota, records are defined as a “document, book, paper, photograph, sound recording or other material, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received pursuant to law or in connection with the transaction of official business.” Some are of historic value, while others are not and there are rules on what is archived, recycled, or shredded and recycled. Knowing if a record is saved and for how long can be helpful when researching an agency or event. For example, communications with the Governor's office are retained by that office for four years before transferal to the North Dakota State Historical Society and the State Archivist. Each level of government should have a guide that instructs agencies on how to handle their records.

At the Federal level, there is the General Records Schedule that provides information for agencies about what must be maintained and for how long and the applicable laws and issues like declassification. Presidential Papers fall into two categories: publications for the public and records. Public papers include memoranda, notices, determinations, letters, messages, and orders which since 1957 have been published in the [Federal Register](#).



archives.org

The main law regarding presidential records is [The Presidential Records Act](#) (PRA) of 1978 which changed the legal ownership of the official records of the President from private to public and the management of those records to the National Archives. Presidential records are defined as “documentary materials, or any reasonably segregable portion thereof, created or received by the President, the President’s immediate staff, or a unit or individual of the Executive Office of the President whose function is to advise and assist the President, in the course of conducting activities which relate to or have an effect upon the carrying out of the constitutional, statutory, or other official or ceremonial duties of the President.” [44 U.S.C. § 2201(2)].”

- You can see which North Dakota materials must be kept in the [Record Series](#).
- The North Dakota law on Records Management is [Chapter 54-46 of the Century Code](#).
- The Federal Government has the [General Records Schedule](#)
- To see what information a White House staffer would receive: [Guidance on Presidential Records](#)

Giving and receiving diplomatic gifts has been a long tradition. It even has its own special department - the Diplomatic Gifts Unit of the Department of State receives all diplomatic gifts on behalf of White House. Department of State officials keep records of the items which are sent to the National Archives or housed in a specific department (unless they are consumable). This department also assists in the selection of gifts to other countries. Lists of items received and their value can be found in the [Federal Register](#). If interested in recent-ish gifts... 2019 included a bench carved in the shape of a jaguar, pearl earrings, Rolex watches, and a gift card. There is an option for individuals to reimburse the government if there is a gift they wish to keep, but otherwise these items are property of the government. The President and Vice President may keep items valued under \$350 dollars.

Gifts can also cause some confusion when it is unclear if the gift is to the governor personally or to the state. Moon rocks are a great example of what can happen if items are not tracked!! In 1976, President Nixon gifted a moon rock to each state. In Arkansas, the rock was packed up with other items from then Governor Clinton's office and was not found and returned to the state until 2011. For many years, former Colorado Governor John Vanderhoof had the state's moonrock in his home and in West Virginia, one ended up in the dental office of the brother of a former business partner of Governor Arch A. Moore, Jr.



nd.gov

After reading that, you may worry about North Dakota's Moon rocks - Don't! According to the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum, "Until 1982, North Dakota's lunar gifts were displayed in the Governor's office before being transferred to the State Historical Society of North Dakota." They may not be currently on display, but at least we know where they are!

Greetings from your American Library Association (ALA) Chapter Councilor!

I have been sending out weekly updates to membership and I hope that those are helpful. A lot of things are happening throughout ALA and so I try to make sure that I get the most pertinent information out to everyone. I do plan to continue the weekly updates and eventually these updates will also be available as a blog on NDLA's new website.

This year was ALA's first LibLearnx! The conference took the place of ALA's Midwinter and offered learning, as well as networking, opportunities in a variety of formats. During LibLearnx, the Council had three meetings in which reports were reviewed by committees and roundtables. Resolutions that have been brought forth are also voted on in these meetings. However, the Council ran out of time to properly discuss and vote on several resolutions. There will be another meeting in March to discuss and finalize the vote on resolutions that were not able to be voted on during LibLearnx.

For now, I wanted to share a few more ALA resources with you:

- [ALA toolkits](#) and other useful resources - challenge support, community relationships, and many others
- ALA also has a variety of [awards, grants, and scholarships](#).
- And last, there are [eight divisions of ALA](#) that you can join when you become a member. Check them out!

If you have any questions on any of the content that I have shared, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sara Westall

ALA Chapter Councilor

P.S. If you attended LibLearnx, I would like to hear more about your overall experience to share with the ALA Council.

3 Reasons why *now* is the BEST time to RENEW your Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Membership

By Randi Monley, Minot Public Library
MPLA Representative



1. 2022 Tri-Conference

- The Montana Library Association, Pacific Northwest Library Association, and the Mountain Plains Library Association are having a Tri-Conference, Building Bridges/ Renewing Community in Missoula, Montana on August 3-6, 2022. This is going to be a BIG and informative conference for all three groups. As Missoula, MT is semi-close to North Dakota, this will be a great opportunity to expand your librarian network and learn about some new ideas.

2. MPLA Chew & Chats

- This is another great opportunity to learn from librarians all over the region. These informal discussions are led by Jake Rundle from Colorado and Mary Soucie (I'm sure you know her). They take place on the 4th Wednesday of each month. If you want to try one out before you renew your membership, [shoot me an email](#)

3. MPLA Newsletter

- This newsletter is chock-full of information from around the MPLA region. Not only do I highlight what is going on in North Dakota, every representative from the 12 state region highlights cool programs that libraries are doing. I get so many great ideas from this part of the newsletter.

Now is the time to renew your MPLA membership
OR *Get your first membership*

- Did I mention your first year is half price?!

[Follow this link for more membership details](#)

North Dakota in Print

By Marlene Anderson, University of Mary

Angels Over the Rooftop by Bill Kraft (\$12, 9 p., softcover)

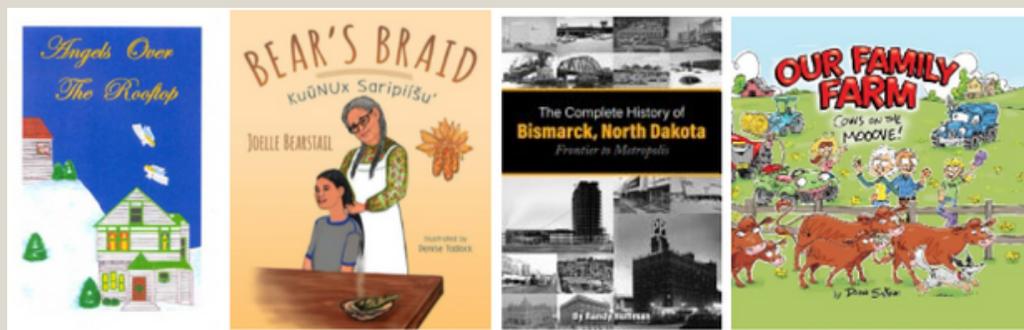
Bill Kraft grew up in the Germans from Russia community of Strasburg in south central North Dakota in the 1940s and 1950s. In *Angels Over the Rooftop*, he shares his childhood memories of Christmas Eve, including mass at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, and traditions such as the Belzanickle (a fur-clad Christmas gift giver). Laura Kraft illustrated the book. *Angels Over the Rooftop* is available from the GRHC Library Marketplace.

Bear's Braid (KuūNUx Saripiíšu) by Joelle Bearstail (\$14.95, 38 p., hardcover)

Bear's Braid blends “discussions of modern indigeneity and universal experiences of bullying and resilience.” For Bear and his friend Ben, the braids they wear are an expression of their native heritage and a crucial part of their identities, but it’s hard to take the mocking jibes and bullying they get from some of their schoolmates. Bear confides in his grandma, and, with her help, he and Ben come up with a plan to “strengthen their connection to their roots while also bridging the gap between their schoolmates and their families.” First-time author Joelle Bearstail (Hidatsa name Bullberry Woman) is Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara from the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. *Bear's Braid* was illustrated by Denise Tadlock and is available from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and ImagiNative.

The Complete History of Bismarck, North Dakota: Frontier to Metropolis by Randy Hoffman (317 p., \$22.95, hardcover; \$18.95, softcover).

The Complete History of Bismarck, North Dakota: Frontier to Metropolis is organized chronologically and includes many B & W photographs that will bring back memories for Bismarck residents. Author Randy Hoffman has a passion for history and his roots in Bismarck run deep. He is a fifth-generation Bismarck resident, and his family has been in the city since the 1890s. Hoffman is also the author of *The Bismarck-Mandan Encyclopedia* (2020). For more information, visit <https://hoffmancreations.com/>. *The Complete History of Bismarck* is available from Amazon.



Our Family Farm: Cows on the Mooooove! by Dana Sullivan (\$16.95, hardcover)

The third book in the Our Family Farm series from the North Dakota Farmers Union is now available. *Cows on the Mooooove!* (\$16.95, hardcover) by Dana Sullivan tells a tale of Daisy and her calf. Toward the end of calving season when it's time to move the herd, they run into unexpected danger. Will Daisy be able to protect her calf and join the herd? You will have to order the book to find out! *Cows on the Mooooove!* and the other books in the series, *Everyone Works on a Family Farm* and *The Early Snow*, are available online from Union Farmer | North Dakota Farmers Union (ndfu.org).

Dakota Datebook: North Dakota Stories from Prairie Public, Vol. 2 (\$24.95, softcover)

North Dakota history comes alive with “366 memorable stories” ... “as heard on Prairie Public’s Dakota Datebook radio series.” You will delight in the photos and the stories of “sensational heroes, entertaining characters, extraordinary animals, noteworthy events and delightful destinations that represent the spirit of our state.” The book is available from Prairie Public.

The Fargo Fire of 1893 by Danielle Teigen (\$21.99, 139 p., paperback; \$11.49, Nook; \$12.99, Kindle)

This book tells the story of the devastating fire that consumed more than 30 blocks of the city on a Wednesday afternoon in June 1893. Author and journalist Danielle Teigen digs deep and shares the details of how the fire started, how the landscape of the city was drastically changed, and how the residents of Fargo responded with resilience as they undertook the effort to rebuild and recover. Teigen is also the author of *Hidden History of Fargo* (2017). *The Fargo Fire of 1893* is available from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and [DakotaBookNet](http://DakotaBookNet.com).

I'm a Spinosaurus, Bigger than a T-Rex by Katherine Pendergast and Carter Pendergast (\$16.95, hardcover)

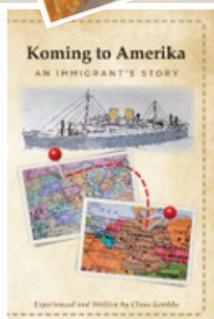
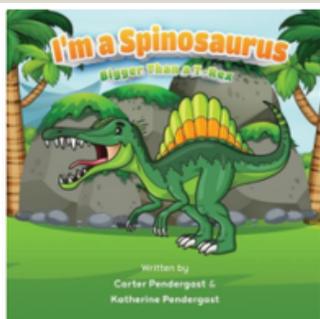
Bismarck’s Katherine Pendergast and her six-year-old son, Carter Pendergast, turned his love of dinosaurs and dreams of becoming a paleontologist into a children’s book. *I’m a Spinosaurus, Bigger than a T-Rex* is filled with fun facts and wonderful full-color illustrations of the “Spine Lizard.” Katherine Pendergast is also the author of the *Pickles the Dog* series and *Babies of the Badlands*. Her books are available from katssocks.com, Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

Koming to Amerika: An Immigrant's Story by Claus Lembke (275 p., softcover \$20)

Over the years, many people told Claus Lembke, "You ought to write a book!" Now he has done just that. Claus Lembke was 22 when he immigrated to America in 1965 to farm with his uncle near Wolverton, Minnesota. "Born in Nazi-occupied Poland, his mother had Danish heritage and he grew up farming with his father in West Germany. After finishing a degree in agriculture and serving in the German Army under the NATO Command, he boarded a ship and sailed across the ocean to a new life." In his book, Lembke writes about his childhood, his military service, farming in Minnesota, moving to Fargo to begin a career in real estate, moving to Bismarck to become the CEO of the North Dakota Association of Realtors, raising a family, and his family's involvement in community and political activities. *Koming to Amerika*, with a foreword by former North Dakota Governor Jack Dalrymple, is available from DakotaBookNet.com

The Nineties: A Book by Chuck Klosterman (\$24, hardcover; \$14.99, Nook)

North Dakota native Chuck Klosterman writes about pop culture and has a talent for "cultural observation and historical clue gathering." His new book, *The Nineties*, is hot off the press (release date: February 8, 2022). In a starred review (Dec. 1, 2021), *Booklist* said: "Wonderfully researched, compellingly written, and often very funny, this is a superb reassessment of an underappreciated decade from a stupendously gifted essayist." Klosterman's first book, *Fargo Rock City: A Heavy Metal Odyssey in Rural North Dakota*, was published in 2001. Since then, he has penned several others pieces for popular publications on various media platforms. *The Nineties* is widely available in bookstores and online from Amazon and Barnes and Noble.



North Dakota's Polar Pilot: The Heroic Story of Carl Ben Eielson from Hatton by Paulette Bullinger and Kevin Kremer (\$19.95, 220 p., softcover)

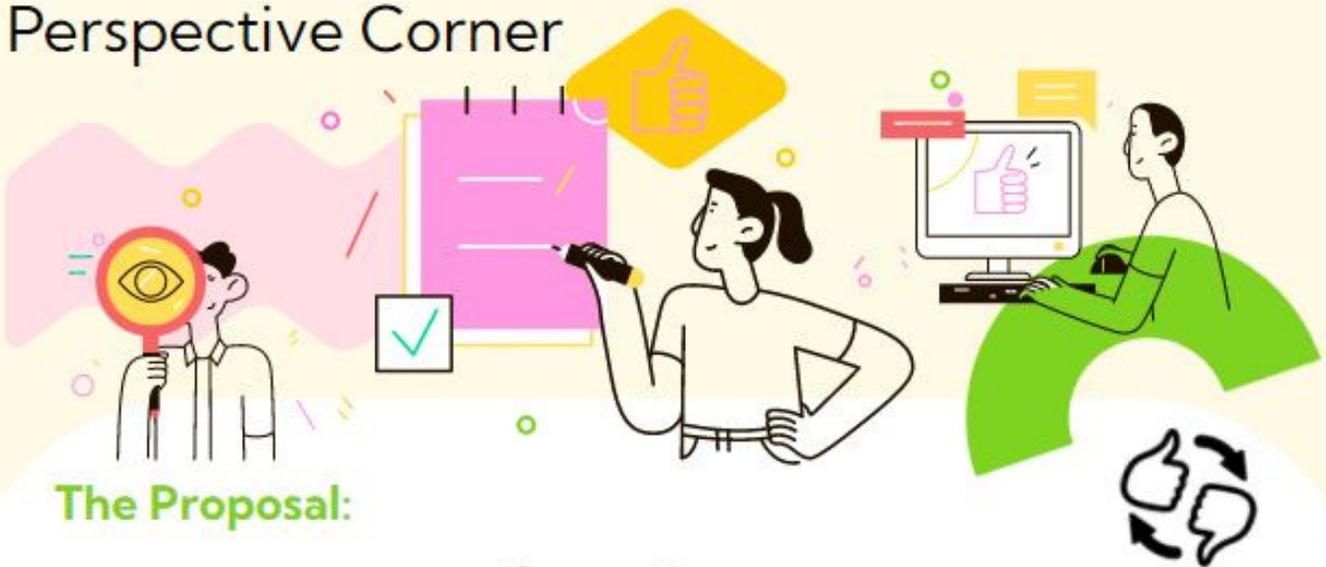
This read-aloud chapter book may be written for young readers but is sure to inspire readers of all ages. North Dakota's Polar Pilot tells the story of North Dakota native Carl Ben Eielson and his journey to become known as the Father of Alaskan Aviation. Born in 1897, Eielson became a world-famous pilot and a promoter of early aviation in Alaska. The book includes many photos of Eielson, his boyhood home in Hatton (now a museum), and his aviation exploits. North Dakota's Polar Pilot is available from DakotaBookNet.com - Home.

Prairie Princess by Jessie Veeder (\$20, 28 p., hardcover)

North Dakota musician and writer Jessie Veeder's latest book was inspired by her own childhood on her family's ranch near Watford City in northwestern North Dakota. The book, illustrated by North Dakota artist Daphne Johnson Clark, features a little girl who "celebrates the prairie and why she calls it home ... and reminds us of what it's like to be captivated and responsible for a place." To order *Prairie Princess* as well as Veeder's first book, *Coming Home* (2017), and her music, visit [Jessie Veeder \(jessieveedermusic.com\)](http://JessieVeederMusic.com) or DakotaBookNet.com - Home.



Perspective Corner

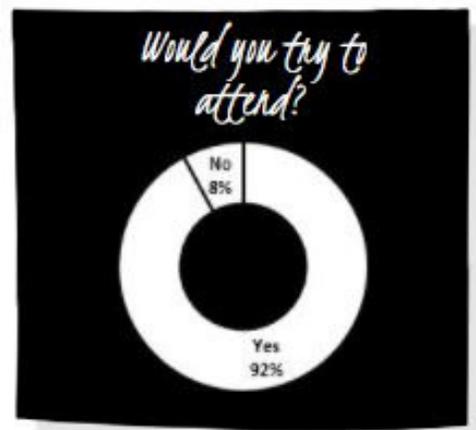


The Proposal:

Lunch & Learn

Purpose: To identify areas of NDIA member interest for NDIA-organized Professional Development opportunities

When asked
What topics would draw your attention?
You responded...

An illustration of a woman with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing a yellow shirt, pointing towards a light blue screen.

Advancing Equity, Diversity & Inclusion



Community Partnerships

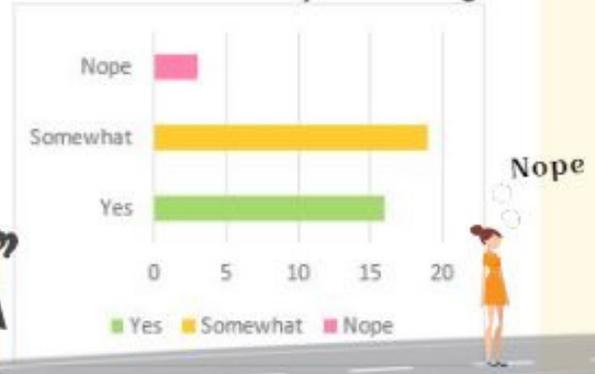


Favorites

Supervision & Management Concerns



Media Tools & Library Marketing



Tech Tools



Library Assessment Methods & Tools



Dealing with Burnout



This is a great start!

Lesson Exchange

School libraries

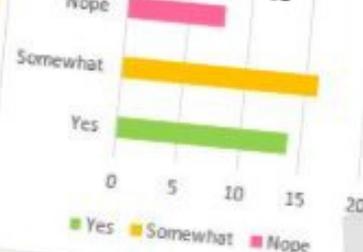
Current Trends

Middling Responses

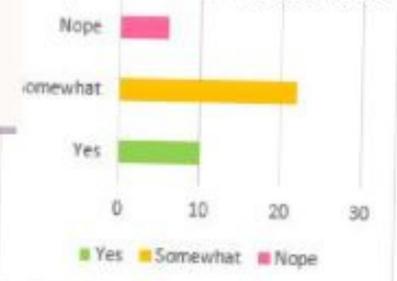
Programming Round Table



Issues in Ethics



Topics in Customer Service



The Biggest NOPEs

Funding Sources

Cataloging & Collection Maintenance

Reference Fundamentals

Beginner Health Resources

Creating Public Surveys OR Having Difficult Conversations

Teen topics
3D Printing
Escape Rooms
Storytimes



GOOD STUFF

FROM AROUND THE STATE

"The [Bottineau County Public Library](#) hosted "Blind date with a book" where people can walk into the library, choose a wrapped book, and have a blind date with a book. The project was started by the North Dakota State Library a number of years ago and numerous libraries in the state have started the project. Charlotte Bedlion of the Bottineau County Public Library started the project for the county's library. The local library has it set up so when a person reads the first three chapters of a book by March 4th, they can return the bookmark so the library can see if the person liked the book or not. When the bookmark comes back, it will be placed in a drawing and one person will win a Valentine's Day gift."

-as reported in the Bottineau Courant newspaper by Scott Wagar



A First Lego League Team called LEGOburg sponsored by the Friends of the [Minot Public Library](#) and coached by Pam Carswell and Jess Bingham, Teen Librarian and Teen Assistant, (in their spare time, no less) won the Judges Choice Award at State Competition on February 12th in Grand Forks at UND (University of North Dakota). The team is comprised of 9 young people 9-14 from 5 different schools who meet at the library every Saturday morning from September onwards. This LIBRARY team is pretty special! They must solve a real-world problem, present their research, findings, and solution, and explain their robot design, demonstrate excellent core values of discovery, innovation, impact, inclusion, teamwork, fun and compete in robot games. We are so proud of our team.





New Programming Ideas From the DPL
By Paul Amberg, Outreach Librarian
[Dickinson Area Public Library](#)

To better serve our adult and late teen patrons, the DPL is trying some new programming starting in March. The first of which, Crime Club, has already started and was received well. Crime Club is promoted with the hook, "WANTED! True crime junkies who think they could help solve a crime or would just like to talk about them with like-minded people. Each month will center on a specific crime or criminal. Read up on or research the topic and come for the discussion." The idea is to put your fascination with true crime to work. Who knows what someone might think of. Examples: March is the Zodiac and April the Black Dahlia.

Another new program for adults and teens is Based on the Book. With Based on the Book, participants will discuss both the book and the movie or TV adaptation of the book. Some clips of the adaptation will be shown to help the discussion along. Participants do not have to have read or seen either but reading or seeing one of the versions will probably help. A popcorn bar will be set up as well. The idea is that people may not come to a book club because they have only seen the film or skip a showing of a film because they prefer the book as it is. This gives a chance for people to not have to have done one or the other but still get to talk about the work.

Finally, the DPL is taking a program not just out of the library but to another small local community. The DPL has been successful with our Books & Brew program, which is hosted at the De Porres House of Barbing, Lounge & Coffeehouse. This event has been successful enough that we have added another morning version at the same location for the coffee crowd. Now we will be hosting a chapter of Books & Brew at the Cup and Cake coffee shop in Belfield, ND. Each month Books & Brew participants will discuss a book while enjoying a coffee, or tea. We will meet one Saturday a month at Cup and Cake and copies of the book will be available to checkout at Cup and Cake. Even if participants have not read the book, you are still invited. If this chapter goes well, we will look at hosting events in other small local communities in the area.

Women's History Month Panel / [Grand Forks Public Library](#)

Five local women leaders will share what they're passionate about and involved with in our community.

This event will take place Saturday March 19, 2-3 p.m.



Grand Forks Public Friends announces "Retuning YOU in 2022" Friends Focus

Volunteer organization to support year of music, art, and wellness programming at Grand Forks Public

Grand Forks, ND – Grand Forks Public wants to help its library patrons sing, create, and find balance in the new year with some help from the Grand Forks Public Friends. The annual Friends Focus is "Retuning YOU in 2022," a goal to support restorative wellness initiatives and music-based programming that will leave participants feeling "retuned."

To start out the year of lyrics and levity, the Friends provided matching funds to supplement an AARP grant the library received to help sponsor an interactive and accessible music playground. The nature-inspired playset will be installed outside of the library this spring, ready for families to enjoy once the region turns the page on winter. The Friends board chose the retuning theme to inspire people to shake off the "quiet, please" identity of a public library and to encourage them to use the facility to bring vibrancy and fun back into their lives.

"I think our community can agree that the past couple of years have been a challenge, and times continue to be tough for many of our friends and neighbors," said Friends President Debbie McLennan. "We want to help people find their beat again, perhaps through a few fun events and classes at their local library."

Grand Forks Public Friends board members and volunteers will work with library staff throughout the year to organize music and wellness opportunities for all ages. The library will post the events on Facebook and its website as they are planned.

The Friends board chooses a "Friends Focus" every year, to which it dedicates a portion of its fundraising dollars and volunteer hours. Past Focuses have included "Art in the Library" and "Diversity." If you would like more information about this year's Focus or Grand Forks Friends, please contact Debbie with the media information above.

About Grand Forks Public Friends

The Grand Forks Public Friends (formerly the Friends of the Grand Forks Public Library) are a group of community members that help to expand, enhance and promote the offerings of the library. The Friends raise funds that are used to supplement the library budget for programming, staff enrichment and other activities that engage people who value the library.



Red River Valley Kids Read Project Happening in April

by Melisa Duncan, [Fargo Public Library](#)

This spring, in partnership with several other regional libraries along the Red River – both on the North Dakota side and the Minnesota side – the Fargo Public Library is offering an inaugural project of a new literature-based program for kids that includes author visits at all participating libraries, along with book giveaways. Five libraries are partnering together for the first time on a project to tie our communities together, up, and down the Red River Valley, through storytelling and quality literature for children. North Dakota partner libraries include the Fargo Public, Grand Forks Public, Leach (Wahpeton) Public, and West Fargo Public. The Moorhead Public Library in Minnesota is our fifth partner.

The project is titled Red River Valley Kids Read, and we hope to build a sense of place and belonging in our diverse communities by remembering a disastrous event that brought neighbors, friends, families, and strangers together 25 years ago.

The historic Red River Valley Flood took place in 1997 and deeply affected the towns in which all our partner libraries reside. Throughout the ordeal, acts of selflessness, generosity, bravery, determination, and kindness helped keep people from giving up the flood fight that ultimately destroyed so much. It brought out the good in people in so many ways, as the hard work solidified a purpose and brought communities together in a mission to save as much as possible. In these days of division, our project will remind people what can be accomplished when we all work together.

The Red River Valley Kids Read project will focus on author Elizabeth Raum's new middle grade novel *Storm Warning*, a novel which takes place in Ada, MN during the 1997 flood. It's the story of a 12-year-old boy who is left at home with his little sister when disaster hits. He must summon his wits and courage to save not only her, but their great-grandmother as well. This story is beautifully written and includes many references to area institutions, organizations, and media personalities. Raum lived in Fargo during the time of the 1997 flood.

All library partners are promoting the reading of this book and have planned several events related to the story and to the remembrance of the 1997 Red River flood. In addition, each library is also hosting in-person author visits with Elizabeth Raum. Related events such as book discussions, photo exhibits, panel discussions, and activity/online reading challenges are planned as part of the event series.

The communities of Fargo, Grand Forks, Wahpeton and West Fargo, ND, and the community of Moorhead, MN are all beneficiaries of this project. This activity is primarily directed toward child participants in these communities, but teens and adults will also be served by viewing or participating in some of the scheduled all ages activities related to the book.

This project is supported in part by a grant from the North Dakota Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Red River Valley Kids Read project highlights the cooperative nature of our regional public libraries, and truly creates a movement to foster community through reading.

Please consider contributing *YOUR* Good Stuff in the next issue of the NDLA newsletter!

Treasurer's Report
As of December 31, 2021 (End of 4th Quarter)
By Aaron Stefanich, NDLA Treasurer

CHECK BOOK 12/31/2021	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	End. Balance
NDLA Funds	\$37,699.11			
Annual Conference 2021	-\$2,400.00	\$36,920.00	-\$28,067.89	\$8,852.11
Annual Conference 2020	-\$5,709.37	\$50.00	\$0.00	-\$5,659.37
Book Sales	\$1,116.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,116.32
Dues		\$11,781.25	\$0.00	\$11,781.25
HSIS Partner Account	\$6,969.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,969.19
Investment Account Transfers		\$0.00	-\$116.09	
Other receipts/disbursements		\$3,930.77	-\$6,759.70	
NDLA Funds Subtotal		\$52,682.02	-\$34,943.68	\$17,738.34
Check Book Balance 12/31/2021				<u>\$55,437.45</u>

MONEY MARKET & CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	End. Balance
NDLA Bank Money Market Ready Cash	\$12,332.05			
Interest		\$1.16		
Deposits		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$12,333.21
Professional Development Bank Money Market RC	\$11,572.12			
Interest		\$1.11		
Deposits		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$116.09	\$0.00	
				\$11,689.32
NDLA CD	\$21,791.53			
Interest		\$32.71		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$21,824.24
Professional Development CD	\$15,007.52			
Interest		\$15.60		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$15,023.12
TOTAL investment accounts	\$60,703.22			\$60,869.89
TOTAL EQUITY 12/31/2021				<u>\$116,307.34</u>

Cell: I13

Comment: \$116.09 transferred to Professional Development account

Cell: H14

Comment: \$3920.73 (\$3763.00 auction income, \$51.68 t-shirt sales income, \$116.09 donation to Professional Development)

Cell: H29

Comment: \$116.09 transferred from Checking account

Executive Board Members

Voting

President: [Will Martin](#)

Chester Fritz Library,
University of North Dakota

Past President: [Rita Ennen](#)

Dickinson Area Public Library

President-Elect: [Kerrienne Boetcher](#)

Ward County Public Library

Secretary: [Abby Ebach](#)

North Dakota State Library

Treasurer: [Aaron Stefanich](#)

Grand Forks Public Library

ALA Councilor: [Sara Westall](#)

School of Medicine and Health Sciences,
University of North Dakota

MPLA Representative: [Randi Monley](#)

Minot Public Library

Academic & Special Library Section:

[Brittany Fischer](#)

Chester Fritz Library,
University of North Dakota

Health Science Information Section:

[Erika Johnson](#)

School of Medicine and Health Sciences,
University of North Dakota

Public Library Section:

[Andrea Placher](#)

Williston Community Library

School Library and Youth Services Section:

[Shari Mosser](#)

North Dakota State Library

Non-voting

Bylaws and Policy Committee

Co-chairs:

[Virginia Bjorness](#)

North Dakota State Historical Society

[Kristen Borysewicz](#)

Chester Fritz Library,
University of North Dakota

Nomination, Voting, and Election

Committee Chair:

[BreAnne Meier](#)

North Dakota State Library

Finance Committee Chair:

[James Murphy](#)

North Dakota State Library

Membership Committee Chair:

Interim Chair Pending

State Librarian:

[Mary Soucie](#)

North Dakota State Library