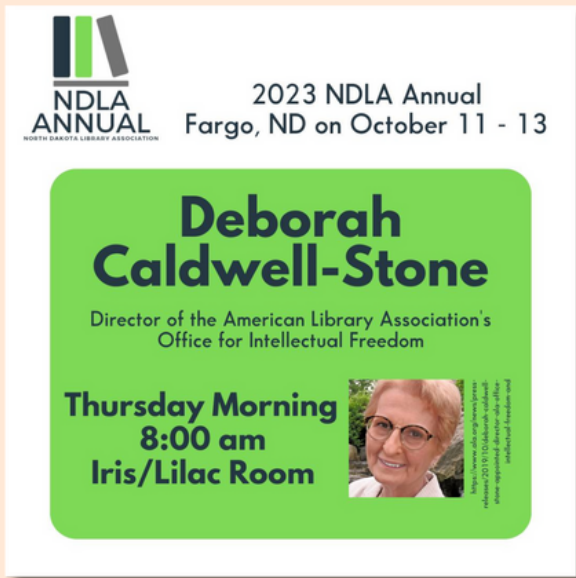


The Good Stuff

The official newsletter of the
North Dakota Library Association

September 2023



The Good Stuff is a quarterly publication produced by The Good Stuff Editorial Committee with contributions from NDLA members

Reminders for The Good Stuff Submission

December 2023 - Nov 1, 2023
March 2024 - Feb 1, 2024
June 2024 - May 1, 2024

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President's Message

DON'T
miss it!

Submitted by **Kerrianne Boetcher**, Ward County Public Library, NDLA President

Networking! Learning! Connecting with old friends! Making new friends! All of those are some of my favorite parts of NDLA Annual. This year, it will be held in **Fargo, October 11-13**. Session proposals were due on August 31st, and it sounds like we have some awesome proposals that have come in. The link for conference proposals is available on the NDLA website or [here is a direct link](#).

The Executive Board has been working hard this year on by-law changes, additions of committees, and surviving the North Dakota Legislative session! If you have ever thought of serving on the board, **please attend one of our meetings** and see what it is like. There are multiple ways to serve NDLA and I encourage all of you to see what is out there.

You may not be comfortable serving as a chair of a committee or a section or running for an office. That is OKAY! **We always need volunteers at conference or people to serve on committees**. If you are hesitant or have questions, reach out to a current board member. Contact information is listed at the end of the newsletter, but you can also reach me at president@ndla.info. Many people will tell you that I love to talk... so be prepared for loads of information and several side stories if I am the one that you ask.

We have some truly great people in our state and in our organization. I am proud to know librarians across the state and to call several of you my friends.

If you haven't met me, please come find me! If there are ribbons at conference, I will probably be the one hoarding some of them...

I can't wait for the conference and to see all of you.

2023 Conference Update

Submitted by **Kirsten Henagin**, West Fargo Public Library, **Conference Committee Co-Chair**



Pack your bags, the NDLA Conference is fast approaching!

NDLA will take place in Fargo at the Hilton Garden Inn from October 11th through 13th.

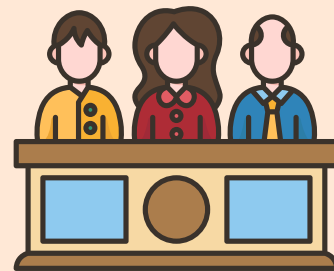
You can now register for the conference on the [NDLA website](#).

A special announcement for this year's conference: **the pre-conference is FREE!** The pre-conference will be a presentation and workshop dedicated to library policies hosted by the State Library. Bring your collection development policy, patron code of conduct, meeting room, or any policy you would like to have additional perspective from the State Library and other librarians from across the state. A special thank you to Mary Soucie and the State Library for hosting our pre-conference workshop this year. If you are looking to only attend the workshop, and not the entire conference, you can do so through this [registration form](#).

The Conference Committee has been working to create unique and fun ways for attendees to mingle and meet each other. There will be Dine Arounds on Wednesday night, plus the New Members Committee will host activities at the hotel from 7 to 9 pm before the conference gets started.

Curious what you might learn at the conference? There will be learning tracks for School, Public, and Academic libraries, plus topics for Leadership, Administration, Programming, Cataloging, Technology and more! If you haven't already, download the [Sched app](#). We will have the conference schedule, vendor information, and ways for you to engage with each other in the app as well. **Keep your eyes on the Conference page on NDLA's website for when Sched will go live.**

Committee Blotter



LGBTQ2S+ Committee

We are a new Committee that formed this past June... Happy Pride! **Our purpose is to sustain the ND library community's commitment to diverse LGBTQ2S+ collections and create inclusive and supportive environments for our patrons, as well as the library staff of North Dakota.**

Our goals are:

- To help **provide resources** to libraries, such as infographics and collection development tools
- Assist the library community** to organize positive LGBTQ+ programming, events, and speakers
- Create a safe space** for conversations and educational opportunities
- Be a visible/vocal presence** & source of support for LGBTQ2S+ patrons and staff

We are excited to get to work and have some really cool ideas for this fall!

If you would like to join our committee, please reach out to co-chairs [Mariah Ralston](#) and [Renee Newton](#).

Submission by [Mariah Ralston](#), LGBTQ2S+ Committee Member

Intellectual Freedom Committee

The NDLA Intellectual Freedom Committee has appointed a new chair: **Jackson Harper**. Jackson is currently the OER Librarian at the University of North Dakota, and he is prepared to try his hardest to support librarians around the state who are facing pressure from the legislature or community groups to censor their collections.

The committee will be meeting soon to discuss and plan future projects and activities. Among their potential projects, they intend to hold **check-in meetings** at which librarians facing intellectual freedom issues can connect with peers to find support and professional advice. Details will be forthcoming. If you have any comments on these proposed meetings, or have other feedback for the committee, please send them to the [Intellectual Freedom Committee](#).

Submission by [Jackson Harper](#), Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair

EDI Committee

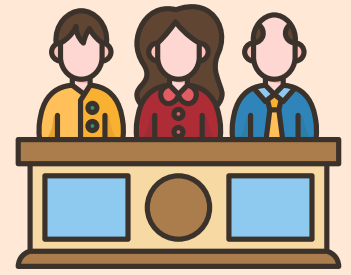
The EDI committee is happy to report **strong participation** in our first quarterly EDI discussion "Building Diverse Collections for Diverse Communities". Thank you to the participants for a fruitful conversation!

Session notes and resources are available on our [Previous EDI Discussions page](#) on the NDLA website. **Watch your inboxes** for the announcement of our next discussion topic!

We also invite you to **apply now for our new Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Grant!** Receive funds for EDI-related staff training, collection development, professional development, and more. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

Submission by [Zeineb Yousif](#), EDI Committee Chair

Committee Blotter



Membership Committee



NDLA MEMBERSHIP REPORT	
JULY 26, 2023	
Section participation	
Academic and Special Libraries	55
Health Science Information	15
Public Library Section	118
School Library and Youth Services	74
Types of Membership	
Individual	242
Retired and Friends	14
Institutional	6
Student	10
Trustees	2
Total Members	274

Membership report updated as of July 31, 2023

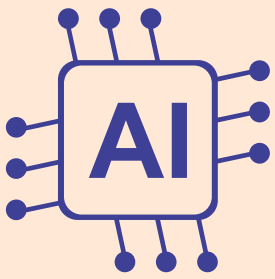
This quarter, the Committee **reviewed the policy handbook** and forwarded suggestions to the Bylaws and Constitution Committee. The Committee reviewed the Membership area of the website and asked Josh, the web editor, **to update the Membership details part of the website to make it ADA compliant.**

The Committee brought a motion to the Executive Board **proposing that the Institutional level of membership be eliminated**, and the Board approved. All motions pertaining to membership were **passed by a majority vote of NDLA members.**

The Executive Board asked the committee to develop criteria for the **Honorary Lifetime Membership.** We wrote up criteria and brought them to the board for approval. They are now online on [this page](#).

Finally, the Membership committee and the New Members committee discussed **merging the committees** as our goals and interests are aligned with one another.

Submission by **Liz Mason**, Membership Committee Chair



On the DOCKet

Submitted by **Brian Garrison**, UND Chester Fritz Library



What sorts of information does our government produce about artificial intelligence? What information do the various departments of the government publish about information technology and autonomous systems? **Technology and innovation frame so many of the issues** that produce government information that it's sometimes difficult to ignore whatever appears most prominently in the news.

As librarians know, whether you work in public services or cataloguing, artificial intelligence isn't the only thing going on in the world of science and technology. Patrons are curious about future technology, whether they are looking for entertainment or developing a career plan. You might have a patron who comes into the library curious about using drones in agriculture.

One issue that many folks worry about, and that librarians get questions about, is **cybercrime**. The Federal Bureau of Investigation developed a website called the Internet Crime Complaint Center. In addition to providing a place where people can register complaints about crime, they publish an annual internet crime report that summarizes information about the scale of the problem.

Artificial intelligence has sparked the imagination and fears of many in the last year. However, agencies began addressing artificial intelligence more broadly before the public introduction of large language models like **ChatGPT**. Most prominently, the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence wrote a 756 page report stating in its opening sentence, "Americans have not yet grappled with just how profoundly the artificial intelligence (AI) revolution will impact our economy, national security, and welfare." The NIH, Department of Energy, Department of Defense, CDC, Department of Commerce, and State Department have each begun to set policy and develop communications for integrating AI into their portfolio of issues.

Descending back to ground level and everyday, as the coming school year is right around the corner, the Department of Education's Office of Educational Technology released a report in May 2023 to help educators understand how artificial intelligence may impact education. Hopefully, their report can reframe the discussion as we continue to develop ways to help our patrons.

Lead the Way: Libraries at the Heart of Community Engagement Conference

Submitted by Janet Anderson, NW Clinical Campus Librarian, UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences

I was so excited to be awarded a Professional Development Grant from NDLA to attend the **Lead the Way conference in Madison, WI** at the end of April. I was awarded this grant during my time as the Library Director at the Minot Public Library, but in an interesting turn of events I accepted another job as a Clinical Campus Librarian with the UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences.

While attending this conference, I was new to the role as a medical librarian and still assisting part-time at the public library so I had a very unique perspective attending the various sessions. The conference began with a keynote presentation by Beck Tench, faculty at the Harvard Education Center for Digital Thriving and Board member on Of/By/ForAll. Beck's presentation, "All Roads Lead to Community: On the Importance of Restoring Library Workers," was **easily one of the best presentations I have had the privilege to attend**. It was both inspirational/motivational and practical, featuring real-world ways to create restorative environments.

Highlights from this presentation include:

- **All libraries participate in community engagement** which is both relational and emotional work – this is especially challenging for library workers who are at risk for secondary trauma and compassion fatigue
- Library workers should consider restorative things we can do right away and hold onto these ideas to help control reactions to situations
- Examples of how to focus on creating a restorative environment include slowing down and observing
 - Beck shared this exercise: select one thing to notice and record it (her example was stars – notice all the places you see stars)
- Libraries are expected to be "Dynamic & Responsive," but this essentially means "**never being done**" so workers must acknowledge the need to feel whole and grounded
 - Patience – observe inspiration and be present
 - Courage to share
 - Letting go of expectations to be everything
- Beck shared activities to help restore workers, including:
 - Drawing activities (Squiggle Birds, Zen of Seeing)
 - Listening activities (Comeback Circle)
 - Writing activities (Freewriting)
- Why do these things matter? Because it **encourages workers to slow down and let down their walls**
- Regarding communication: "Questions matter, but what matters more is the attention provided by listeners"

Lead the Way: Libraries at the Heart of Community Engagement Conference

Continued...

Finally, Beck encouraged participants to consider these tips when creating a restorative environment for themselves and others:

Be generous – flexible, thoughtful, and gentle

Hold space to create your presence in an open manner

Model care – personal greetings, personalized touches, trust that others are intelligent and caring individuals, help people connect

Approach and treat others with reverence

I highly recommend you visit and share [this website](#) for more tips useful information.

Next, I attended a session called “Give & Take” which was an **interactive session for connecting**. [Give & Take](#) community engagement was created by the Works Progress Studio in Minnesota as a structured way to connect people around their skills, talents, and gifts. Give & Take is “created from the things we know and the things we want to know; based on a belief that everything we need as a community is here in this room.” Presenters went through four different exercises with attendees; these and more can be found [here](#). These exercises could be applied in a variety of scenarios from **staff training** to **community programs** and **family dinners** to **focus groups**.

Following this session was “At the Table: A new methodology for engaging your community through the use of community dialogues.” I chose this session because, in my new role, I am the only librarian at a special library located in brand new building and have noticed that the most common response I received when telling people about this was “**Oh, I didn’t know they had a library!**” I foresee a lot of community conversations happening to help people learn about the services offered. While my conversations may not be as formalized as what was covered in this session, the presenters provided a lot of valuable information as summarized below:

- **A community dialogue** is a “loosely facilitated discussion that provides the opportunity for staff and community members to discuss common community-based challenges or aspirations”
- **Example topics** could include climate changes, serving underrepresented audiences, working with local industries, identifying local health concerns, and many more
- **When preparing, you should consider the following tips:**
 - Allow for a virtual option
 - Plan, Plan, Plan – WEEKS in advance
 - Create a group mentality ahead of time – provide an opportunity to “meet” and share information via a Facebook group, Google doc or other method

Lead the Way: Libraries at the Heart of Community Engagement Conference

Continued...

- **Lay out these rules for all participants:**
 - “Kitchen Table” approach – everyone participates, and no one dominates
 - There is no right answer – draw on personal experiences and views to share
 - Keep an open mind
 - Keep on track and avoid disruptions
 - It’s ok to disagree, but don’t be disagreeable – respond to others how you would want to be responded to
 - Have fun
- **Practices to consider for these conversations:**
 - Provide a tour (or tours), if applicable
 - Share the organization’s mission – tell the story
 - Facilitate dialogues that are actionable and lead to achievable outcomes
 - Think about: the next steps to continue the conversation AND to increase contribution from each stakeholder
- **Tips for reaching partners:**
 - Ask “power patrons” (frequent users) to recommend people
 - Ask existing participants to bring someone
 - Reach out to religious leaders
 - Reach out to business leaders
 - At the end of every conversation ask, “Who else should I invite?”

Following this session was lunch, **which often seems to be when conference attendees learn more and make better connections than in sessions!** During our lunch, I met librarians from Iowa and Wisconsin and learned about nerf battles in the library. We also discussed book challenges in our libraries.

After lunch was “With Open Arms: Library Programming Through Partnerships” presented by two librarians from Maine. The presenters both come from small libraries and shared **how they worked WITH their communities to create programs FOR their community.** They encouraged delegating and dividing work based on what people enjoy and are good at, not necessarily on what their job title is. They said **having staff responsible for tasks they enjoy helped encourage ownership of the program.** Further, the presenters said to listen to people at the service desks and note what the users are interested in. If there are a lot of requests for knitting books, or science fiction romance, or exercise DVDs, consider creating and hosting a space for them to enjoy these topics. However, they also noted that this space doesn’t have to be in the building, and they encourage thinking “outside the building.” The primary thesis of this presentation was that creating these partnerships creates advocates. “We are part of the community, but need to participate within the community,” said one of the presenters. **“The more partnerships we have and the more involved we are outside of the building, the more visible and needed we are in the community.”**

Lead the Way: Libraries at the Heart of Community Engagement Conference

Continued...

Finally, the presenters shared the following **tips to encourage partnerships**:

- Hire local people
- Support local business and they'll support you
- Talk to everyone and anyone about the library
- If someone asks if they can leave a donation box for blankets, pest supplies, diapers, etc., say YES
- If a patron suggests a program or an item for collection, do it/get it if you can

The final session I attended on this first day (“Libraries and Health Department Partnerships: Through Covid-19 and Beyond”), was not something I originally planned to attend when I was working at the public library. However, in my new position, I was excited to attend something with a health-related topic. Presenters from Franklin, Wisconsin discussed The 10 Essential Public Health Services which is a framework for ensuring equity in health services. **Libraries**, as places for everyone and a place for reliable information, **are a perfect place for people to obtain health information.**

Prior to Covid-19, the libraries had already worked with their local Health Department through senior health and wellness fairs, classes, and meetings. However, the libraries decided that they wanted to move beyond **ENGAGEMENT** (doing something TO a community) and into **INVOLVEMENT** (doing something WITH a community) and became actively involved with the local Public Health Department partnering for programming and education. An especially useful outcome of this partnership was data discovered about the community and their ability to then share the data through community dialogues (see earlier conference session); the presenters recommended collecting data everywhere and anywhere you can. I spoke to presenters following this session and discovered that they had not worked with local medical schools or even their local hospital, just the health department. **I left with the goal to reach out to my local health department and discuss possible partnerships.**

The second day of the Lead the Way conference was a much shorter day and I started by attending a session called “Sharing Resources: A Public Library and School District Partnership.” While the presenters discussed their experience with public libraries and public schools, the information was pertinent to any organization looking to form productive partnerships. I was especially impressed by their use of volunteers for projects and their ability to use the library as an incentive for students. Of special interest in my new job was their library’s success using **virtual programs and classes** to complement the school’s curriculum. However, I did note that this community is much smaller than the ones I have worked with and I believe that the size along with the proximity (the library shared physical space with part of the school) made collaboration much easier than what I have experienced in a larger community.

Lead the Way: Libraries at the Heart of Community Engagement Conference

Continued...

Finally, the ending keynote session was presented by Zander Miller and Brandon Morris from Kenosha, WI. Their presentation, titled “AFTER Community Engagement” discussed a community project they did following the very public shooting of Jacob Blake in Kenosha and the surrounding racial tensions and backlash. Their project, 60 for 30, consisted of 30-minute recorded interviews with diverse community members who were paid \$60 for their time. This keynote was the type of invigorating session where participants don’t take many notes and spend time interacting with the speakers and other participants. The overall take-away from this session was that **libraries can, and should, be central to both documenting a community’s history and assisting a community in moving forward.**

I am grateful to NDLA for allowing me the opportunity to attend this conference and believe that there are things I learned from each session I attended which I will use in my work as a librarian and my continued involvement with NDLA. I am happy to share more information with anyone who’d like to learn more about any of these sessions.

To learn more about the conference presenters and keynote speakers, check out media on the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s [page](#).



ALA Report

Submitted by **Mariah Ralston Deragon**, Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library, **ALA Chapter Councilor**

The ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition took place this past June 22-27 in Chicago, IL. I was able to attend the conference virtually through the Digital Experience option, which was very convenient! A total of **15,851 people** registered for the event, including **369 virtual attendees** for the Digital Experience.

Some of the featured speakers this year included Judy Blume, Amanda Gorman, Christian Robinson, Hialeimoana Wong-Kaluand, and Dr. Carla Hayden.

One thing I was not able to experience but heard wonderful things about was the kickoff event for the conference. ALA and Unite Against Book Bans hosted a **Rally for the Right to Read: Uniting for Libraries & Intellectual Freedom** at the Chicago Hilton. The program featured anti-censorship activists from around the nation, the 2023 recipients of ALA intellectual freedom awards and internationally renowned author and scholar Dr. Ibram X. Kendi.

There were three Council meetings that took place during the conference, which I also attended virtually.

The revamped ALA Constitution and Bylaws, which were adopted during the LibLearnX conference, had several action items for Council to consider. There were also changes requested by the ALA Committee on Diversity to review and approve the **2023 Edition of the American Library Association Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated and Detained**. This is the first update to the Standards for the Incarcerated or Detained since 1992.

ALA Council voted to **reaffirm ALA's position on the Freedom to Read**.

(The North Dakota Library Association likewise voted to reaffirm the Freedom to Read statement on its 70th anniversary at the last Executive board meeting held in July.)



ALA Report

Continued...

Several resolutions were passed at the Annual meeting, such as:

- A Resolution on Guaranteeing Virtual Participation in ALA Governance
- A Resolution on Maintaining Equitable In-Person Participation for All ALA Membership Meetings
- A Resolution Condemning Discrimination Against Library Workers and Supporting the LGBTQIA+ Community
- A Resolution to Investigate Changing Dates for Future Annual Conferences of ALA
- A Resolution on the Selection of Dubai as the location for the IFLA 2024 World Library and Information Congress (WLIC)

For further information about the Council meetings, you can access a detailed synopsis through American Libraries:

[Council I](#)

[Council II](#)

[Council III](#)



Next year's ALA Annual Conference will take place in San Diego, CA!

Check out my weekly ALA Connect Recap to stay in the loop on various happenings throughout library land. If anyone has any questions or feedback, please feel free to [contact me](#).

MPLA Report

Submission by **Randi Monley**, Minot Public Library, **MPLA Representative**

This year the Mountains Plains Library Association has been super active!

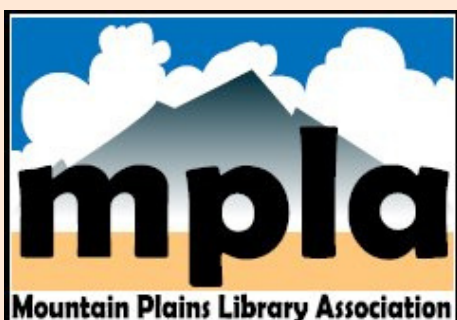
In Fall of 2022, the MPLA Communication Committee began their search for a **new logo**. Then MPLA President Brenda Hemmelman suggested freshening up the logo, and the committee agreed it was time. There was a call for artwork and the committee received several submissions. The committee critiqued the work and made recommendations to the MPLA Executive Board early in 2023.

At the joint conference, the Communication Committee shared the final designs with the Executive Board for final approval and feedback.

Congratulations to Kelly Thompson from Augustana University in South Dakota! Her design won the contest. As the winner, Kelly received a free registration for an MPLA Conference as compensation. Roy Degler, the MPLA Server Admin, converted the images to the necessary file formats for future use.

Kelly is an active member of the South Dakota Library Association and serves as the Book Marks Editor and Webmaster for the association. When creating the new MPLA logo, Kelly captured the mountains and plains that represent so many of the states participating in MPLA. While the colors remained the same, the new logo offers opportunities for new MPLA swag!

Original MPLA logo



New logo as of 2023



MPLA Report

Continued...



Then, **The MPLA Leadership Institute took place at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado, the week of May 8, 2023.** Maureen Sullivan facilitated the Institute along with mentors, Annie Epperson, Eileen Wright, Mickey Coalwell, and Tim Miller.

27 Fellows participated from 11 of the MPLA states. From North Dakota, **Joshua Pikka** (Circulation and Technology Librarian, Minot Public Library), **Andrea Placher** (Library Director, Williston Community Library), and **Rachel Kercher** (Youth Services Librarian, Leach Public Library) were selected for this institute. Maureen Sullivan reported that there was great rapport with the cohort and that it was an excellent teaching/learning experience.

MPLA's next conference will be in Salt Lake City, Utah from May 8-10, 2024 at the Salt Palace Convention Center.

Lastly, the Executive Board has recently started to focus on updating our Manual of Procedures. This is a big job, with all board members pitching in to help.

For more information about the Mountain Plains Library Association, please contact [Randi Monley](#).



EDI Corner

Submission from **Karlene Clark**, UND Chester Fritz Library, **NDLA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee Member**

Many times we have patrons that come in to the library and we see they're nervous or anxious about talking to us, but how do we handle that? There have been a number of studies done that report **as many as 1 in 4 report high anxiety when needing to gain information**, especially from someone they see as an authority figure. When it comes to listening, processing, and retaining what is heard, combined with the anxiety, this is something called **Receiver Apprehension**. It's defined as the fear of misinterpreting incoming messages that affect cognition and understanding, along with an inability to adjust psychologically to the messages being received. That means, if they're already worried about what they'll remember – or just the act of getting the nerve up to ask the question – this leads to further anxiety, which increases the inability to focus, which then leads to concern they won't remember what they're told. This is before they've even asked the question!

How does this relate to EDI? **Past traumas often intersect or may be the root cause of a person's anxiety**. This can come from race, class, gender, religion, being differently abled, not speaking the same first language, and many other areas. If they feel they won't be understood or the space they are coming from isn't honored, it makes it harder for them to take in information. They often resort to lack of eye contact, closed body language, and yes or no answers due to the effort they are putting into simply having the conversation. Instead of asking "did I answer that for you?" instead try open-ended questions such as **"would you like that explained differently?"**

There are different types of listeners, but this article will mention four that are typically seen in the library: those that are oriented to *people, action, content, or time*.

People are interested in the **connection** made with the person behind the desk. They want you to take time to talk to them. However, trauma could make them feel unworthy before the conversation even starts. If they don't think you are competent or haven't made a connection, they may respond with verbal aggression or shutting down. Speak to them with "I" statements such as, "I would try this first."

Action wants you to get to the point. If you seem disorganized to them, they can become overly critical or frustrated. Let them lead searches for answers; hand them the mouse! It will decrease their anxiety.



EDI Corner

Continued...

Content are the analytical folks. They may seem emotionally detached while talking to them, but they're busy thinking about questions and alternate paths. They want both sides of an argument, and may even want to speak to another librarian. Don't force this group to a decision before they're ready. They need wait time. A good way to ask them if you've answered their question, rather than using those words, would be to say "take a few seconds to review and see if there's anything we didn't cover."

Time just wants an answer and they don't want to spend a lot of time at the desk for it. This group is also very perceptive of nonverbal communication. Smile, use gestures, use eye contact, and most importantly: be patient with them!

If you think of them as a group on a car trip, you have people-oriented folks that want all the stories. Tell them about your own struggle or how you solved a related search. Action listeners want to drive. Think of it like "where's our destination? Okay, let's go, and I'll drive!" Let them take wrong roads. Content wants all the details: "What's our route? Who has the map? What's the weather like? Who has the snacks?" This group wants to know their subject librarian, the best and second best research guides... all of it. And Time can be summed up with "I can get this on Google Maps? Great. Bye." Others can worry about details.

Being aware of the diversity in the styles of listeners can help us model non-judgment, acceptance and compassion while meeting our patrons where they are. We already know how important this is in regards to demographics, yet thinking about inclusion when it comes to how information is processed is often overlooked. This is just one more great thing to put in our "toolbox" of skills!

Don't forget to check out the EDI Committee's [Resource List](#) for more information and helpful links. This is a living document, intended to be updated regularly, that provides openly available resources for developing understanding and empathy and serves as a starting point for learning and discussion about equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Good Stuff Around ND

EERC (University of North Dakota) Librarian Named SAA Fellow



Rosemary Pleva Flynn, Principal Librarian & Archivist at the EERC Library at the University of North Dakota, **has been named a Fellow to the Society of American Archivists (SAA)**. The distinction of Fellow is the highest honor bestowed on individuals by SAA and is awarded for outstanding contributions to the archives profession. Read the full press release [here](#).

Congratulations, Rosemary!

Lake Region Public Library

The Lake Region Public Library in Devils Lake implemented the **first-ever reading program for adults** in conjunction with CSLP's theme "All Together Now." Over 100 individuals registered for challenges, and together read over 222,000 minutes. The library hosted 13 programs specifically for adults or all ages and saw almost 600 participants. There have been lots of requests for another summer program and even winter reading challenges, as well!



Good Stuff Around ND

Williston Community Library

The Williston Community Library was **BUZZING** with excitement on June 15 when Oh Honey Apiary, a local beekeeping duo, visited us to share their knowledge of honey bees with our patrons. Of course they even brought a few friends to introduce us to as well. **We had an un"BEE"lievable turnout of over 110 patrons ages 0-100.** Fun Fact: Did you know North Dakota is the top honey producing state in the US? This special event was part of our "All Together Now" summer reading program. We have been partnering with local organizations and businesses to help promote community awareness.



Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library

Congratulations to staff at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library! **Library Director Christine Kujawa was elected to a two-year trustee term on the Freedom to Read Foundation Board.** They also have several recent graduates: Public Information Specialist **Kevin Tengesdal earned a master's degree in social work** from UND; Head of Technical Services **Alison Hiatt earned a master's degree in library and information science** from Emporia State University; and Circulation Associate **Katie Kuipers earned a master's degree in library and information Science** from San Jose State University.
Congratulations!

Good Stuff Around ND

Bottineau County Public Library

The Bottineau County Public Library held their **annual Summer Reading Kickoff Party** on June 7th at the Bottineau Forestry Park.

State Bank of Bottineau **grilled hot dogs**, The Bottineau County Road Department and Sheriff's Office were on hand to answer questions and **show off their equipment**, Kitter Krazy Animal Rescue had **various critters to interact with**, and the Bottineau Fire Department **cooled everyone down** on the 90 degree day with their fire hose sprinklers.

Everyone especially enjoyed bounce houses and LulaBelle's Ice Cream truck.

We had a great turnout once again!



Congratulations to the Recipients of NDDPI Funds for Summer Reading!

State School Superintendent Kirsten Baesler said that nine North Dakota community libraries will share \$360,000 in grants to reimburse their costs for providing summer reading and engagement activities and buying K-12 library materials.

Public libraries in **Beulah, Dickinson, Grand Forks** and **Mandan**, which is a joint operation with **Morton** County, will receive **\$50,000** each in grants, Baesler said. The **Carrington, New Town, Williston** and **Divide County** libraries are being awarded **\$35,000** each. The **Cando Community Library** will receive **\$20,000**.

“These libraries are among those across North Dakota that stepped up during the summer to serve their young people and their communities,” Baesler said. “It is heartening to see the variety of activities that were offered to promote literacy and community togetherness. These programs are so valuable, especially for young parents who are searching for wholesome, knowledge-building things for their children to do during the summertime.” Read the full release [here](#).

North Dakota in Print

By Marlene Anderson, Bismarck State College, Editorial Committee Member

Abandoned Eastern North Dakota: Pure Decay of the Peace Garden State

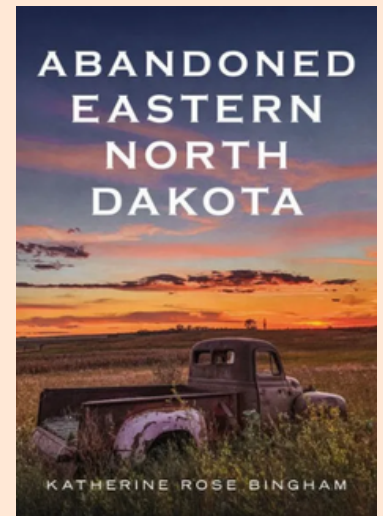
by **Katherine Rose Bingham**

(America through Time series). Mount Pleasant, SC: Arcadia Publishing, c2023 (Release date: August 28)
(\$24.99, 96 p., pbk.) ISBN: 9781634994774

Available online from [Amazon](#), [Arcadia Publishing](#), and [Barnes and Noble](#)

Abandoned buildings always make me feel a little sad. What happened to the people who used to live there? Why did they leave? What's the rest of the story? Author Katherine Rose Bingham has strong feelings about the past, too, and takes us into abandoned places to help us discover what once was through her book and evocative photos.

Bingham was born and raised in Manitoba, Canada, and moved to North Dakota as a newlywed in 2014. She lives and works on a farm near Minnewaukan that has been in her husband's family since 1938.

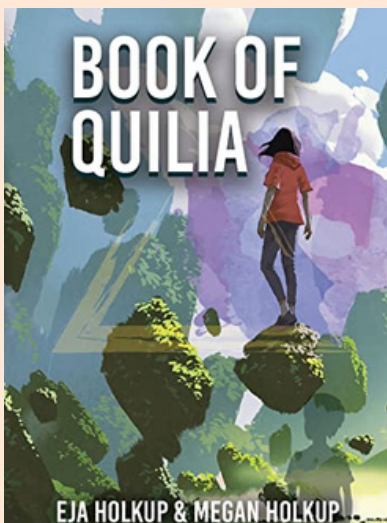


Book of Quilia by **Eja Holkup** and **Megan Holkup**

Mandan, ND: Lantern Media, LLC, c2022.

(\$16.99, 208 p., hardcover; \$9.99, pbk., \$2.99 ebook) ISBN: 9798218131456

Available in Bismarck at [Ferguson Books](#) and online at [Amazon](#) and [Barnes and Noble](#)



This book by a mother-daughter duo from Mandan started as a way for the two of them to spend time together doing a writing project. Mom Megan wrote text in a bland journal and daughter Eja would fill in the details. Eventually, they had a 400-page handwritten novel about Liz, a 13-year-old girl with a gift of memory. Liz remembers **everything**. She can describe people she's never met and even places she's never been. Are her memories real, or is it her imagination?

Eja and her mom are now working on a second book and hope to make *Book of Quilia* a trilogy.

See the [Lantern Media](#) Facebook page for more information.

North Dakota in Print

Continued ...

Buddy the Dog by **Gretchen Stenehjem**; illustrated by **Emily Hagen**

Maitland, FL: Liberty Hill Publishing, c2022.

(\$10.99, 42 p., pbk.) ISBN: 9781662859519

Available at [Ferguson Books](#) in Bismarck and online from [Amazon](#) and [Barnes & Noble](#)

The Stenehjem family found a lost puppy who was blind in one eye because of an accident. He soon wiggled his way into their lives to become a beloved family pet. Buddy also inspired this story about differences and being kind to everyone.

In the book, Buddy finds it hard to make friends with other dogs because he looks different, but once the other dogs learn why he looks the way he does, they overcome their fears, embrace their differences, and become friends.

Author Gretchen Stenehjem lives in Watford City and is a former elementary school teacher and preschool director. She plans to write more stories about Buddy and is also involved in the family's third generation family-owned bank, their restaurant chain, and other business interests. Proceeds from the sale of *Buddy the Dog* will be donated to the Anne Carlsen Center in Jamestown.



Please visit [Buddy the Dog's website](#) for more information.

Dancing with Welk: Music, Memory, and Prairie Troubadours by **Christopher Vondracek**

Pierre, SD: South Dakota Historical Press, 2022.

(\$24.95, 260 p., pbk.) ISBN: 9781941813416

Available from booksellers, including locally & online from [Barnes and Noble](#), and online from [Amazon](#), [GRHC Online Store](#), and [South Dakota Historical Society Press](#)



“In the early 2000s, the Brickhouse Boys, an indie-rock ensemble in Vermillion, South Dakota, tried to become famous from the middle of nowhere.” After all, Lawrence Welk of Strasburg, North Dakota, had managed the same feat over 50 years before with his accordion and his brand of “champagne music.”

In *Dancing with Welk*, Christopher Vondracek, who was the pianist and songwriter for the Brickhouse Boys, “blends memoir, travelogue, and cultural history to create a nuanced and often hilarious ode to the landscape and musical traditions of the Northern Great Plains.” The book “delves into family history, questions what it means to be a musician and ... offers “new insights into Welk’s life and career.”

--Excerpted from publisher's description

North Dakota in Print

Continued...

Game Changer: Our Fifty-Year Mission to Secure America's Energy Independence by **Harold Hamm**

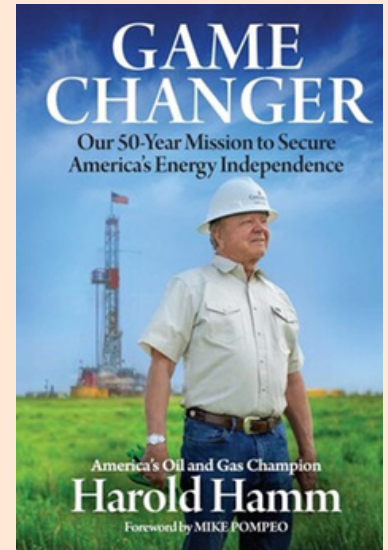
Nashville, TN: Forefront Books; New York: Distributed by Simon & Schuster, c2023.

(\$28, 352 p., hardcover; \$14.99, ebook) ISBN: 9781637631850

Available from bookstores and online from [Barnes & Noble](#) and [Amazon](#)

I learned about this book when I happened to be at the [Heritage Center](#) in Bismarck on August 10th. Staff were busy setting up for that evening's launch party for Harold Hamm's book, *Game Changer*.

Author Harold Hamm is well known in North Dakota. He is the founder and chairman of Continental Resources, based in Oklahoma City, and a champion of oil and gas development. Hamm pioneered the advancement and deployment of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing to extract shale oil resources, which, in part, sparked the Bakken oil boom. In *Game Changer*, Hamm writes about his own life, the history of Continental Resources, and his views on U.S. energy policy.



In Order That Justice May Be Done: The Legal Struggle of the Turtle Mountain Band of Pembina Chippewa, 1795-1905 by **John M. Shaw**

Fargo, ND: NDSU Press, c2023.

(\$38.95, 440 p., pbk.) ISBN: 9781946163561

Available from [NDSU Press](#)

"Tribal lands in tribal hands restrained the pursuit of profit. When the cultural identity of the Turtle Mountain Band of Pembina Chippewa was challenged by European Americans - who conceived of progress in terms of cultivated farmland - a tribal-federal conundrum occurred. Historian John M. Shaw untangles the culturally and legally contested concepts of land and its uses and ownership, providing a dynamic legal genesis of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa and their intentional action for change. Shaw presents a crucial analysis of federal policy and Native American resistance." [Source: NDSU Press]



Author John M. Shaw has an MA in American Indian Studies and a PhD in History from The University of Arizona. He has taught Native American and U.S. History courses at the University of Arizona, Minnesota State University Moorhead, and currently teaches at Portland (Oregon) Community College. His interest in the legal struggles of the Turtle Mountain Band began in graduate school.

North Dakota in Print

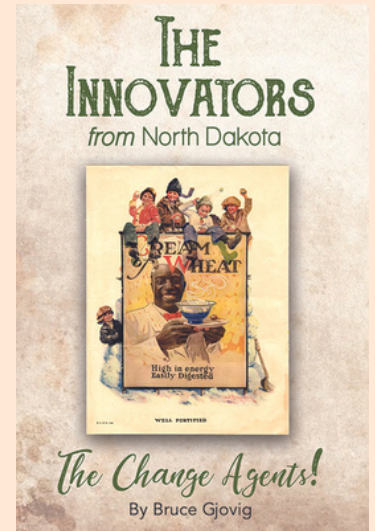
Continued...

The Innovators from North Dakota: The Change Agents! by **Bruce Gjovig**

Bismarck, ND: Smoky Wter Press, c2022.
(\$29.99: 370 p.; pbk.) ISBN: 9780982075265
Available from DakotaBookNet.com

"In his third volume of profiles of remarkable individuals who have called North Dakota home, author Bruce Gjovig writes about 36 innovators whose ideas and ingenuity have made a significant impact in their professions and in our lives today." The book includes a foreword written by North Dakota's U.S. Senator Kevin Cramer.

Author Bruce Gjovig, an entrepreneurial coach, leader, and student mentor, worked at UND for 35 years and launched UND's Center for Innovation (now the Center for Innovation and Foundation) in 1984. After retiring in 2017, Gjovig focused on writing. His other two books, also available from DakotaBookNet, are *Innovative Entrepreneurs of North Dakota* and *Northwest Minnesota: 150 Years of Impact!* (2019) and *Innovative Entrepreneurs from North Dakota: 125 Years of Impact!* (2020).

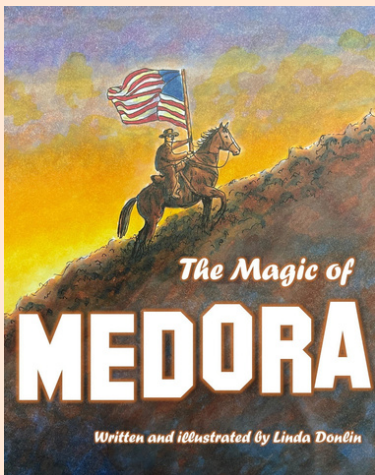


The Magic of Medora written and illustrated by **Linda Donlin**

(\$29.95, 47 p.) c2023. Available at stores in Medora, at Ferguson's in Bismarck and Grand Forks, and online at Medora Online Store

Linda Donlin of Bismarck and her nine grandchildren collaborated to create *The Magic of Medora*, a book project inspired by then eight-year-old Ava. Ava wanted to know more about the town and about historical figures like the Marquis de Mores, Theodore Roosevelt, and Harold Schafer. After looking for a book that would answer all of their questions, Donlin decided they needed to write that book themselves.

With the endorsement of Randy Hatzenbuehler, president of the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, Donna went to work and enlisted her grandkids to help. Everyone pitched in to read and do research; visit museums and historic sites; keep journals and take photos; interview experts, among them Rolf Sletten, Ed Schafer, Joe Wiegand, Emily Walter, and Bill Sorensen; and share their findings and ideas. Donlin put everything together and even did the illustrations. The end result is this book about one of North Dakota's treasured places.





North Dakota in Print

Continued...

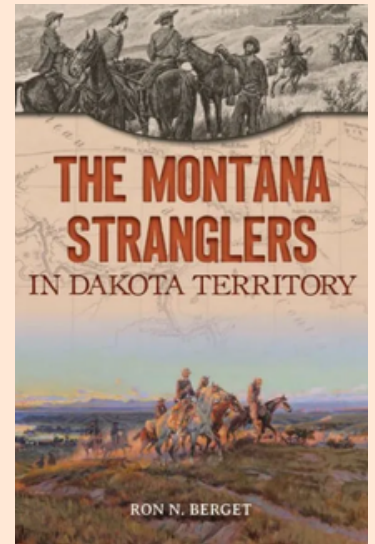
***The Montana Stranglers in Dakota Territory* by Ron N. Berget**

Charleston, SC: The History Press, c2022

(\$23.95, 176 p., pbk.) ISBN: 9781467149716

Available from local bookstores and online from [Amazon](#), [Arcadia Publishing](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), and [DakotaBookNet](#)

We tend to think of the romance of the Old West, but it was a time of violence and vigilantism. In the early 1880s, with the fur trade largely over, “desperate characters” terrorized the people of eastern Montana and northwestern Dakota Territory. They robbed arriving settlers and gangs of horse thieves roamed the countryside. In response, cattlemen and homesteaders formed vigilance committees. One of those groups was Granville Stuart’s Montana Stranglers, responsible for the violent deaths of at least 54 people (not all of them guilty) from September 1883 to December 1884. In this book, author Ron Berget shares the true story of the “Montana Stranglers’ bloody pursuits throughout the northern plains.”



Ron Berget grew up on a farm near Crooked Lake in McLean County, North Dakota. After earning a fish and wildlife management degree from the University of North Dakota, he worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Devils Lake and Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge in North Texas before changing careers. He graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary and served as a pastor in Minnesota for many years. He now serves as Asia director for a worldwide pastor training organization. [More details](#)

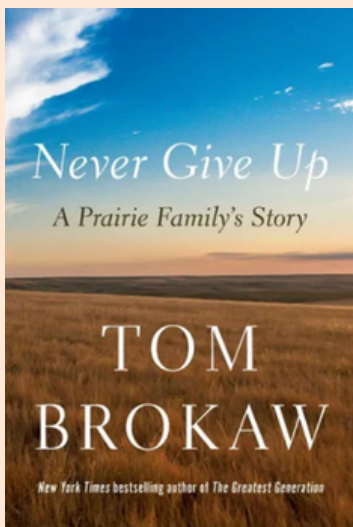
***Never Give Up: A Prairie Family's Story* by Tom Brokaw**

New York: Random House, c2023.

(\$28, 160 p., hardcover; \$13.99, ebook) ISBN: 9780593596371

Available from bookstores and online from [Barnes & Noble](#) and [Amazon](#)

Never Give Up is a “portrait of the resilience and respect for others at the heart of one American family’s story” by South Dakota’s Tom Brokaw, an internationally known journalist and author of *The Greatest Generation*. In the book, Brokaw chronicles the values and lessons he absorbed from his parents and others who built their lives on the prairie during the first half of the 20th century. The inspiration for *Never Give Up* was a recording that Brokaw’s father, Red, made about his memories of the hard times of his early life.



Library Events & Conferences

September 2023

- [Library Card Sign-Up Month](#)
- September 20-23 - 2023 [ARSL \(Association for Rural & Small Libraries\) Conference](#), Wichita, Kansas
- September 27-29 - [South Dakota Library Association Annual Conference](#), Rapid City



October 2023

- [TeenTober](#)
- October 1-7 - [Banned Books Week](#)
- October 4 - [Banned Websites Awareness Day](#)
- October 4-5 - [Minnesota Library Association Annual Conference](#), Saint Paul RiverCentre
- October 9-11 - [ABOS-Association of Bookmobile & Outreach Services Annual Conference](#) - Hershey, PA
- October 11-13 - [NDLA Annual](#), Fargo
- October 11-13 - [MWCMLA \(Midwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association\) Annual Conference](#), Virtual
- October 15-21 - [National Friends of Libraries Week](#)
- October 19-20 - [2023 MCMLA \(Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association\) Annual Meeting](#)



November 2023

- [International Games Month](#)
- [Picture Book Month](#)
- November 15-16 - [NDSA and Digital Preservation 2023](#) - St. Louis, Missouri





Treasurer's Report

Submission from Aaron Stefanich, Grand Forks Public, NDLA Treasurer

Treasurer's Report
As of June 30, 2023 (End of 2nd Quarter)
By Aaron Stefanich, NDLA Treasurer

CHECK BOOK 06/30/2023	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	End. Balance
NDLA Funds	\$64,148.65			
Annual Conference 2025	-\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$2,500.00
Annual Conference 2023	\$0.00	\$2,030.00	\$0.00	\$2,030.00
Book Sales	\$1,116.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,116.32
Dues		\$6,820.00		\$6,820.00
HSIS Partner Account	\$6,969.19			\$6,969.19
Investment Account Transfers		\$0.00	-\$527.93	
Other receipts/disbursements		\$553.03	-\$14,647.28	
NDLA Funds Subtotal		\$9,403.03	-\$15,175.21	-\$5,772.18

Check Book Balance 06/30/2023 \$58,376.47

MONEY MARKET & CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	End. Balance
NDLA Bank Money Market Ready Cash	\$12,334.39			
Interest		\$1.15		
Deposits		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$12,335.54
Professional Development Bank Money Market RC	\$11,217.06			
Interest		\$1.07		
Deposits		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$527.93	\$0.00	
				\$11,746.06
NDLA CD	\$21,843.53			
Interest		\$46.28		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$21,889.81
Professional Development CD	\$15,030.51			
Interest		\$0.64		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$15,031.15
TOTAL investment accounts	\$60,425.49			\$61,002.56

TOTAL EQUITY 06/30/2023 \$119,379.03

Cell: I13
 Comment: \$527.93 transferred to Professional Development account

Cell: H14
 Comment: \$553.03 (\$500.00 donation to Linda Albee Memorial Fund, \$28.03 donation to Professional Development, \$25.00 donation to NDLA)

Cell: H29
 Comment: \$527.93 transferred from Checking account

NDLA Executive Board

Voting

President: Kerrienne Boetcher
Ward County Public Library

President-Elect: Tammy Kruger
North Dakota State Library

Past President: Will Martin
Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota

Secretary: Tonya Palmer
Grand Forks Public Library

Treasurer: Aaron Stefanich
Grand Forks Public Library

ALA Councilor: Sara Westall
SMHS, University of North Dakota

MPLA Representative: Randi Monley
Minot Public Library

Academic & Special Library Section:
James Murphy
North Dakota State Library

Health Science Information Section:
Devon Olson
SMHS, University of North Dakota

Public Library Section: Morgan Keyser
Williston Public Library

School Library and Youth Services Section:
Jennifer Hess
Fargo Public Schools

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

Archivist: Trevor Martin
North Dakota State Library

Membership Committee Chair: Liz Mason
ODIN

State Librarian: Mary Soucie
North Dakota State Library

Thanks for reading!

Reminder: submissions for the December issue are due by November 1, 2023 to the Good Stuff Editorial committee