

April 12,2008

I attended the National PLA Conference in Minneapolis in March and was so impressed with everything I experienced there. Everything about the conference was so well organized and so easy to navigate. Not only did I learn so very much but had fun too. I came away from the conference with a renewed enthusiasm and excitement to try some of the ideas that were presented at the conference. The group I attended with decided that we would all attend different workshops so that we could cover as many as possible and then at night we sat around and shared what we'd learned. We shared ideas on how implement changes. We shared information that we'd picked up at the booths. We talked about what we thought would work for us and what wouldn't. We all agreed that the things we'd learned will help us gain new perspective.

I was thrilled to attend the Writer's Theater on Thursday morning. I thoroughly enjoyed watching such talented people perform. Nancy Pearl was one of the highlights for me. It was fun getting signed books from authors to take home to my library.

If I have one regret it's that there wasn't enough time in the three days I was at the conference to see all the booths talk to all the vendors about their products. There was so much to absorb. This was a way for us to see everything that's new and innovative in the library world. I listened to and shared ideas with librarians from all around the United States. It was interesting to see that no matter where we came from, we shared many of the same concerns and are all looking for ways to make our libraries what they need to be to serve our communities. This conference has helped us take steps toward doing just that.

Peggy Pearson  
Hallock Public Library  
Hallock Mn