

# NLLN Continuing Education Scholarship Reports for 2007/2008

**Jolene Seibel**  
**PLA National Convention**  
**March 26 – 28, 2008**

Wednesday-

\*Pre Conference- Who said Management Can't be Fun\*? - I really enjoyed this session. It was nice to talk to people who have many of the same responsibilities that I do. I one item that stuck with me is to hire on characteristics versus skills. Many of the technical tasks that we do at the library can be taught however personality traits can't be.

\*Opening Sessions with John Wood\* was a very interesting about presentation bringing books to children overseas. As a Peace Corps Volunteer I worked in many of them same situations he talked about. I was also able to work with World Book Aid. His presentation has made me want to delve deeper into international library ideas.

Thursday -

\*Homeschoolers \*- This was a table talk discussion which I really appreciated. I am going to try the best I can to obtain a grant to create discovery kits. These kits are much like a class in a bag. I have obtained the information others have used and hope to reproduce the results here.

\*Dewey or don't we\* - I am still considering making subject areas in our nonfiction. They talked about "neighborhoods" in the nonfiction section. This would bring a nonfiction topic together no matter what the Dewey number. Some rearranging of classifications is needed but not an extreme amount. We are continuing to look into the idea.

\*Weeders attract more readers\* - Much of this was information that I have already heard but it reinforced my belief in regular weeding. \*Creating Dynamic Library Atmospheres\* - We have done many of the ideas that they presented. I am adamant about making the library a fresh place. We are always making changes.

Friday

\*Community Surveys\* - I am going to wait on the surveys for a while but this was a wonderful refresher course. They really pushed getting a consultant but I know a non profit that maybe able to help us with the surveys when the time comes.

\*Building Buzz to Shake the Library Stereotype\* - Very cool. It was on the MSP library. They used people to spread the word. It is mostly about how to get talked about... When I need to campaign for the library I would look more closely at the concept. At the moment I will try to target community groups that tie in with our programs.

\*Young Adult Author Luncheon featuring Nancy Pearl\* - I love Nancy Pearl she is fabulous. It was fun to hear her talk about her experiences with libraries. She has the spirit of libraries in her core!

Overall I came home with many new ideas and a lot of enthusiasm. If you would like any more information or have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to ask.

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