

Northern Lights Library Network Newsletter

July/August 2006

Highlights of 2006 in NLLN

2006 was a busy year for libraries in the Northern Lights Library Network. The staff, trustees, Friends of the Library, and our community of users were involved in creating, providing, using, and sustaining library service in west central and northwest Minnesota.

Some of the highlights for NLLN included:

- ✧ Continued growth of the **North Star Library Consortium**, a joint project of the Northern Lights Library Network and Region 1 in Moorhead to provide an affordable, web-based, state of the art, library management system for the schools and special libraries of the region. The Consortium currently has 71 member libraries on a shared regional catalog.
- ✧ NLLN granted 45 **Continuing Education Scholarships** to staff members in all types of member libraries to enable participation in staff development and continuing education activities that will enhance their ability to perform their job. The CE events included national conferences as well as local and regional events of interest. Reports from each scholarship recipient is available on the NLLN webpage.
- ✧ Provided 28 **continuing education/staff development opportunities** that had over 500 participants. In content, these events ranged from the "Spotlight on Books Conference" to "Nuts & Bolts of Library Management" to "Information Literacy in the 21st Century"; and in format they included teleconferences, video streaming, hands-on training, workshops, and multi-day conferences.
- ✧ NLLN has supported work in the area of **libraries and early childhood** through the Director's participation in the Ready4K board of directors, participation in the planning and implementation of the Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Mn Library grant project (MLA/CYP); support and development of the Ready4K at Your Mn Library program; support of the Early Childhood Initiative communities in our region, and through a blog to highlight, and inform, the connections between early childhood, libraries and literacy.
- ✧ Worked with the **early childhood community on the White Earth Reservation** to create a print-rich environment for all the pre-school children living on the reservation and to provide support for the parents and care providers to ensure the school readiness for all children.

Throughout the year, NLLN maintains communication with our library community via the webpage (<http://nlln.org>), the listservs, the NLLN News, email, phone, and in-person visits.

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Heads up! — look for these changes coming in FY2007 . . .

Please note the following and contact NLLN if you have questions.

-  NLLN will continue to support the growth and development of the **North Star Library Consortium** by recruiting new members, providing training and staff development opportunities, working with Region 1 to provide upgrades and enhancement to the software, and will support sharing “best practices” in the use of the *Destiny* software. The Consortium is financially and organizationally independent of NLLN, though close ties will continue to link NLLN to the Consortium.
-  **Kitchigami Regional Library** has joined the MnLINK Gateway as of June 2006 — we’re glad to see them on the Gateway and now all 4 regional public library systems in the NLLN region are on MnLINK, as well as all our major academic libraries!
-  NLLN will continue to partner with the F-M Tri-College Libraries to present the Soaring to Excellence and other **teleconferences from the College of DuPage**. A satellite downlink site will be available in the Livingston Lord Library at MSU-M. These teleconferences are also available via webcast — that is, video directly available to your desktop! The webcast is available at the time of the conference and for a period of time afterwards. Registration and links to the webcast site are available on the NLLN webpage under “Registration”. If you view the webcast, please register on the NLLN site so we know what use is being made of this format. Also, NLLN has available the VHS tapes of each teleconference and is happy to loan them for personal viewing or for staff development use.
-  The **AIRS project** (Area Information and Reference Service) which allowed schools and special libraries to receive interlibrary loan (ILL) services via the ILL Department of Minnesota State University-Moorhead was discontinued as of July 1, 2006. The increased use of regional public library catalogs and the very large increase in use of the MnLINK “Get it” button has resulted in dramatically decreased use of the AIRS program services.
-  **Direct delivery** between Lake Agassiz Regional Library, Northwest Regional Library, and Viking Library System Headquarters, which was implemented to deliver materials requested by schools through the AIRS program, has become unnecessary with end of the AIRS program and will not be funded by NLLN in FY07. The many regional delivery systems already in place, as well as the MINITEX delivery systems, will continue to be the mechanism for delivery.
-  NLLN will be working in partnership with the regional public libraries, MINITEX, and the higher ed institutions in the region to strengthen their relationships with schools and special libraries. This will include **workshops** meant to benefit all users and will include training in the use of ELM resources, MINITEX services available directly to schools and special libraries, use of MnLINK, and use of regional public library catalogs.
-  **MINITEX** will continue to provide webinars on important topics and has begun to provide archived webcasts of conference presentations. Watch their website for notices of important informational and training resources available directly to you at your local site! <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/train-conf/>

New NLLN Member libraries —

NLLN would like to welcome the following new members to NLLN (and to the North Star Library Consortium):

White Earth Child Care Program whose library is the **White Earth Early Childhood Readmobile**. **Kim Lage** is the person in charge of this mobile unit, whose target audience includes all pre-school children living on the White Earth reservation as well as parents, caregivers, and early educators.

Nay-tah-waush Community Charter School. **Betsy LaVoy** will be the person in charge of this library that serves the K-8 students of this community. The school, which was formerly part of the Mahnomen School District, was established in 2005 and has a special emphasis on supporting native culture and practices.

Welcome!

Calendar of Events

July 2006

- July 4 NLLN Office closed for Independence Day
 July 11 MLA/MEMO Legislative Forum, Como Park. www.mnlibraryassociation.org
 July 24-26 MEMO Leadership Conference, Brooklyn Park. www.memoweb.org/

August 2006

- Aug 3 State Library Advisory Council Meeting
 Aug 4 Opening of "In Their Own Words" Veterans Museum, Perham
 CONGRATULATIONS! <http://www.itowmuseum.org/>
 Aug 9 Brain Development Conference, Mahanomen."Working together for Every
 Child" <http://www.whiteearthchildcare.com/conference.htm>
 Aug 19 **NLLN Governing Board Meeting**, 10am-1pm, Graystone Hotel, Detroit Lakes
 Aug 23-24 Destiny training for new members, 9:30am-4pm, Region I, Moorhead
 Aug 25 "Back to School Special—Destiny training", 9:30am-4pm, Detroit Lakes

September, 2006 Library Card Sign-up Month

- Sept 4 NLLN Office closed for Labor Day
 Sept 8 MINITEX Advisory Council, Andersen Library, UM, Minneapolis
 Sept 11 MnLINK Users Group meeting
 Sept 23-30 **Banned Book Week**
<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm>
 Sept 27-29 MLA Annual Conference: "Creativity & Collaboration: MN Libraries
 Lead the Way", St Cloud. www.mnlibraryassociation.org

October, 2006

- Oct 5 State Library Advisory Council, Mn Dept of Education
 Oct 12 Multitype Library Directors meeting, Bloomington
 Oct 12-14 MEMO Fall Conference: "To Teach and Inspire", Bloomington.
www.memoweb.org/htmlfiles/conference.html
 Oct 15-21 **Teen Read Week**
<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.htm>
 Oct 21 **NLLN Governing Board Meeting**, 10am-1pm, Graystone Hotel, Detroit Lakes
 Oct 22-28 **National Friends of Libraries Week**. www.folusa.com
 Oct 27 Soaring to Excellence teleconference: "Best New Technologies: Keeping
 Up with the Storm"

For the more information, please check the NLLN Online Calendar of events at:

<http://nlln.org/calendar.htm>

To register online for events sponsored by NLLN, go to: <http://nlln.org/registration.htm>

For additional trainings, webinars, tutorials, and webcasts, please check:

Minitex at: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/train-conf>

and

Webjunction at: <http://www.webjunction.org>



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Register for fall conferences:

Take advantage of "early bird" registrations for the up-coming Annual Conferences



**MLA
CONFERENCE**

2006 Annual Conference

*Creativity and Collaboration: Minnesota Libraries
Lead the Way*

September 27-29, 2006, St. Cloud

<http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/>



**MEMO
CONFERENCE**

2006 Fall Conference

To Teach & Inspire

October 12-14, 2006
Ramada Inn Airport and Thunderbird Confer-
ence Center, Bloomington, MN

<http://www.memoweb.org/htmlfiles/conference.html>