

# Northern Lights Library Network Newsletter

January-February 2005

## Happy New Year!

As we take off into a new year, it's time to look ahead at some of the changes we anticipate for our libraries, our communities and ourselves. Within Northern Lights Library Network, some of the changes to keep an eye on:

**NLLN Webpage:** The NLLN webpage will be moving from its current location (on the Lake Agassiz Regional Library servers—thank you, LARL, for hosting services this the past year) to a new location. A major re-design of the look and content of the webpage will be completed, giving us a more dynamic, up-to-date, versatile web presence. Additional content will be possible and we hope we will have significantly faster communication about timely events through the webpage. Suggestions, comments, ideas are all welcome!

**NLLN Newsletter:** You may have noticed some irregularity in the frequency of the Newsletter. As NLLN makes a major shift in how it communicates with its friends, colleagues, and member-library staff, the Newsletter will undergo major change. We anticipate having an attractive electronic newsletter that can be quickly and easily delivered to your email account. This will cut down on paper, printing, handling, and mail costs—and get it into your hands in a more timely fashion. The print version will continue to be produced but we hope you will soon have the choice of how you receive the Newsletter and in what format.

**North Star Library Consortium:** this ambitious project undertaken by Northern Lights Library Network in partnership with Region-I, Moorhead, is growing fast. The software is up and running, library catalogs are being added at a steady rate, training is taking place, staff development opportunities will address technology, information literacy, collaboration, and library management best practices. We anticipate adding 90 library sites to this virtual union catalog during the coming year and to make a web-based, online library management system available, and affordable, to any library in the NLLN region that is not currently a part of a shared catalog.

We look forward to seeing you at the Capitol in February, at Spotlight on Books and the NLLN Annual Meeting in April, at conferences and workshops, teleconferences and Friends events throughout the year.

When all is said and done, we know that opportunities to network, share, and learn with our colleagues throughout the region, and across the state, provide us with the tools and inspiration we need for the coming year!

~~ Ruth Solie, Director

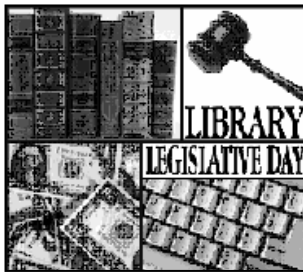
## Northern Lights Library Network

103 Graystone Plaza  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Tel: 218-847-2825  
800-450-1032  
Fax: 218-847-4161  
E-mail: [nloffice@nlln.org](mailto:nloffice@nlln.org)  
Web: [www.nlln.org](http://www.nlln.org)

**Ruth Solie**, Director  
[rsolie@nlln.org](mailto:rsolie@nlln.org)

**Debra Keena**,  
Admin Assistant  
[dkeena@nlln.org](mailto:dkeena@nlln.org)



## Library Legislative Day

Feb 24—at the Capitol

**Wednesday evening, February 23 & Thursday, February 24, 2005**

Legislators, librarians, trustees, media specialists, library friends and all Minnesotans supporting library services are invited. In order to make informed decisions, your legislator needs to learn about library concerns and you are the most qualified to present the case for libraries.

The **LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE DAY** program will bring you up to date on the latest library legislation issues.

### BRIEFINGS:

#### Wednesday, February 23

**Registration:** 5:00 - 6:00 p.m./**Briefing:** 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
The Commodore, 729 Western Avenue North, St. Paul, MN

#### Thursday, February 24

**Registration:** 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m./**Briefing:** 9:00-10:00am  
Minnesota Judicial Center, 25 Constitution Ave, Room 230  
St. Paul, MN

**\*Be sure to make appointments to visit legislators on Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.\***

**ON-SITE REGISTRATION FEE - \$30.00 after January 30<sup>th</sup>.** You can register on-site on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

Additional information is available at:

<http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/Legislative/Legislative%20Day/Legislative%20Day.htm>



## Voices for Children Advocacy Day — also on Feb 24th!

The 2005 Voices for Children Advocacy Day is scheduled for February 24th with opportunities to take action statewide. The main event is the rally at the Minnesota State Capitol, from 10:00-11:00 AM.

You can also make a difference by contacting your legislators on February 24th, asking them to support policies that get children 100% ready for kindergarten -- so that no child starts behind.

This is an opportunity for librarians, Friends of the Library, and library advocates to talk with everyone about the role of libraries across the state in supporting children, families, and caregivers in regard to kindergarten readiness and the overall well-being of young children. We need to add our voices to those of others in support of Minnesota's children.

More information can be found at: [www.ready4k.org](http://www.ready4k.org)

## Short Stories . . .

**Legislative Platform and Talking Points:** Included in this Newsletter is the MLA/MEMO Legislative platform. "Talking Points" - one page informational sheets about each of the platform planks—are available upon request from the NLLN Office ([rsolie@nlln.org](mailto:rsolie@nlln.org)/800-450-1032) or to print from the Minnesota Library Association webpage: <http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/Legislative.htm>. These documents are useful to understand the platform and to explain library issues to legislators and other elected officials.

**Minnesota State Plan for Libraries:** Watch for and be prepared to participate in the local town meetings and focus groups that will be scheduled throughout the state in March and April. The State Library Advisory Council has established a State Library Planning Taskforce, under the leadership of Garrison Hale, to move ahead with creating a state plan for libraries. Watch for more information as it becomes available and plan to be involved in this important work.

**Northern Lights Continuing Education Scholarships—additional opportunities available:** Information about the NLLN Continuing Education Scholarships is available on the NLLN webpage at <http://nlln.org/scholarship.pdf>. Please note that as a part of the North Star Library Consortium project, **school library media center staff are eligible to apply for multiple scholarship opportunities in 2005**. While these scholarships are generally limited to one per person in a fiscal year (July-June), this year we have funds which will allow us to assist any media center staff attend continuing education opportunities associated with the North Star Library Consortium. For more information, please call the NLLN Office at 800-450-1032 or check the calendar of events on the North Star webpage (<http://nlln.org/northstar>)

**3M Salute to Schools:** Middle and High School libraries in the US still have until March 1 to submit applications to receive a 3M Detection System for their school libraries. AASL will select 100 schools to receive these security products which have an average value of about \$15,000. Information/Applications are available at: <http://www.ala.org/aasl/awards/3msalute>.

**2005 Best Books for Young Adults announced:** ALA's Young Adult Library Services (YALSA) has posted their 2005 Best Books for Young Adults on their web site. (<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/bestbooksya/bestbooksyoung.htm>) You can see the top 10 titles, the list of 86 significant adult and young adult titles recommended for ages 12-18, as well as the full list (214 titles) nominated for consideration. This is a great list to use to keep your collection fresh and appealing. Lists from former years are also available at this site.

**Participation in the North Star Library Consortium:** Have you been thinking about participation in the North Star Library Consortium but have too many questions to know quite where to start? Give Ruth Solie a call at NLLN (800-450-1032) to have a demonstration of the software, to find out about costs, to ask questions about bar codes, retrospective conversion, MARC records, inter-library loan, scanners, timelines, other participants, advantages — whatever is on your mind. Most questions are readily addressed, many answers are available on the website ([nlln.org/northstar](http://nlln.org/northstar)) but don't hesitate to call with small or large questions, one or many questions. This might be the opportunity you have been waiting for but did not realize how it applied to your library. We will be adding 90 sites in 2005 on a first-come basis. After the initial 90 sites, additional sites will be added but grant funds will no longer be available to underwrite licensing, migration, training and support. Now is the time to act!

## **Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Opportunities at Your Library**

### **A national teleconference series**

Northern Lights Library Network, in partnership with Livingston Lord Library at Minnesota State University-Moorhead, is pleased to announce that we will be sponsoring the national teleconferences by Richard Dougherty from the College of DuPage on the Library Learning Network. This year's topics highlight library trends, and share the insights from libraries that are successful in the age of the Internet. Specific topics this year include:

- Promoting libraries and library services
- Recognizing and publicizing hidden jewels in the library
- Reinventing the library as an exciting destination
- Stimulating patrons to regard your library as a popular community or campus center
- Rejuvenating the image of the library as more than a place to hold books
- Remaining vibrant in the age of online information
- Exploring new technologies and facets of librarianship

**February 18, 2005**  
**Library Marketing: Tips & Techniques**

**March 18, 2005**  
**Library as Place: Where People Want to Be**

**April 29, 2005**  
**Library Hot Topics: Discussion and Interviews.**

All teleconferences will be from 11am—1 pm in Room 208 of Livingston Lord Library—MSUM. All teleconferences are free but registration is required. An online form may be found on the NLLN website at: <http://nlln.org/continuingeducation>.

Videos will be available after the teleconference for loan. In addition, NLLN will hold a special time in the Spring to view the first two teleconferences, share best practices, and allow for sharing and discussion on these topics.

For details about these sessions please go to: <http://www.dupage.edu/COD/index>.





**17th Annual**

## **Spotlight on Books**

**April 8-9, 2005**

**Sugar Lake Lodge**  
near Grand Rapids, MN

<http://nlln.org/spotlight>

On Saturday, the conference will feature award winning authors:

- **Eric Rohmann,**
- **Gwenyth Swain**
- **Pete Hautman**

As well as book sales, regional authors, book signing, and great food.

### **Don't miss Spotlight on Books!**

Complete information including conference schedules, registration, and lodging forms are now posted on the Spotlight on Books web-page (<http://nlln.org/spotlight>). Take a look to see what is in store!

#### **Friday Afternoon Workshop with Sue Klund: Empowering Readers for Success.**

In this 3 hour workshop, Sue will share the secrets that empower all readers to be successful. Based on solid research and years of experience working with Al Greenfield, with the Minnesota Reading Quality Teaching Network, in the classroom, and with her own grandchildren, Sue's passion for empowering successful readers will provide us with theory, research, and good practical strategies. Employing her "secrets" in our own situations will make the "fourth grade slump" — or any other reading slump — a thing of the past.

The **Friday evening miniworkshops** will include:

- Heidi Hoks on award books of 2004,
- an overview of the rich and diverse literacy programs available through the Minnesota Humanities Commission,
- The power of the Children's Literature Network,
- a look at the Reading Education Assistance Dog (R.E.A.D.) program that has successfully helped children increase their reading skills.

**Early bird registration is only \$75 (by March 11)** and the whole conference will take place at the beautiful Sugar Lake Lodge near Grand Rapids, MN.

Not only will there be something for everyone, there will be an abundance for teachers, librarians, media specialists, authors, illustrators, and readers of youth literature ! Plan to join us for a Conference filled with delight, literature, and good company.



**Eric Rohmann**



**Gwenyth Swain**



**Pete Hautman**

## ELM Quick Notes:

### The Governor supports ELM — so should you! Get your ELM stories in!

Excerpted from a message sent by Bill DeJohn, MINITEX:

Share your ELM story by February 15 at <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/cpers/elm/feedback.asp>

To support the availability of ELM resources for all Minnesotans and the Governor's recommendations, it is time to seek legislators' support for ELM. An important factor in winning support in 2003 was the more than 250 stories we received from teachers, parents, librarians, and others that illustrated the real benefit that ELM provides for Minnesotans. I would like to have at least 300 ELM stories this year to support our request for ELM funding! I know they are out there! Since my first request last spring, we have received fewer than 40 stories -- so we have a long way to go!

Stories are important and it is very helpful if your story contains something specific about how you are using ELM resources to help someone (student, teacher, general public, business person, faculty, undergraduate).

Please send in your ELM stories no later than February 15, 2005, so we can compile them and use them later in February to inform and educate administrators, legislators, and others about the importance of ELM resources for Minnesotans.



### Is your library or media center set-up to use the ELM databases?

Have you been meaning to set-up the links but just haven't gotten around to it?

Take advantage of this quick, 45-minute overview of how to get your library's access in place.

#### What will we cover?

In this brief session you will learn what you need to do to set up links to:

- Gale (8 databases)
- EBSCO (4 databases)
- OCLC WorldCat
- ProQuest Newsstand Complete
- NetLibrary eBooks

Note: We won't cover content or searching techniques in this session.

**Cost:** No charge

#### Dates & Times:

Tuesday, 2/15 from 3:30-4:15 PM

Thursday, 2/17 from 3:30-4:15 PM

Tuesday, 2/22 from 12noon-12:45 PM

**Register:** Space is limited, so please register at <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/train-conf/webinars/upcoming.asp#61>.

**For more information** on how to set-up access to the ELM databases, please visit <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/cpers/elm/access.asp>.

Please let me know if you have any **questions**.

Karen J. Docherty,  
 Electronic Resources Librarian  
 MINITEX Library Information Network  
 University of Minnesota  
 15 Andersen Library  
 222 21st Ave S  
 Minneapolis, MN 55455-0439

Phone: 612-624-2924  
 Toll Free: 800-462-5348  
 Fax: 612-625-3569  
 Email: [kdochert@umn.edu](mailto:kdochert@umn.edu)

## Calendar of Events

### January 2005

- Jan 4-5 Council of Cooperating Libraries, St Paul  
 Jan 14-19 ALA Midwinter Conference, Boston. [Http://www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)

### February

- Feb 6-7 MEMO Midwinter Conference, Alexandria (<http://www.memoweb.org>)  
 Feb 9 Addressing Affective Needs of Gifted and Talented Students through Counseling and Literature, MN Dept of Ed, Northern Inn Hotel, Bemidji  
 Feb 11 Addressing Affective Needs of Gifted and Talented Students through Counseling and Literature, MN Dept of Ed, Ramada Inn, Brainerd.  
 Feb 18 Library Marketing: Tips & Techniques—(Teleconference) MSUM-Lord Library  
 Feb 19 NLLN Governing Board Meeting, Detroit Lakes, 10am-noon  
 Feb 24 Library Legislative Day/Voices for Children, The Capitol, St Paul

### March

- Mar 4 MINITEX Advisory Council, Andersen Library, Minneapolis  
 Mar 7-9 PLA Spring Symposium, Chicago. [Http://www.pla.org](http://www.pla.org)  
 Mar 18 Library as Place: Where people want to be (Teleconference) - MSUM-Lord Library  
 Mar 29-31 MLA Leadership Institute, "Building the next generation of library leaders", College of St Catherine. [Http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org](http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org)

### April

- Apr 7-10 ACRL Conference, "Current and Convergence: Navigating the Rivers of Change", Minneapolis. <http://www.acrl.org/minneapolis>  
 April 8-9 Spotlight on Books Conference, Sugar Lake Lodge. [Http://nlln.org/spotlight](http://nlln.org/spotlight)  
 Apr 10-16 National Library Week @ your library  
 Apr 16 Minnesota Book Awards Celebration, St Paul  
 Apr 25 MnLINK Users Groups Meeting  
 Apr 26 University of Minnesota: Enhancing Quality Staff  
 Apr 29 Library Hot Topics (Teleconference) MSUM– Lord Library  
 Apr 29 Nuts and Bolts: Workshop for library media center management, presented by Connie Jones, Detroit Lakes,  
 Apr 30 NLLN Annual Membership Meeting, Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes

### May

- May 4 Collection Connection—Voluntary Certification. Detroit Lakes Campus of the Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Room C-101, 900 Hwy 34E.  
 May 16 MINITEX Collection Development Symposium: Institutional Memory & Repositories

### Other dates in 2005:

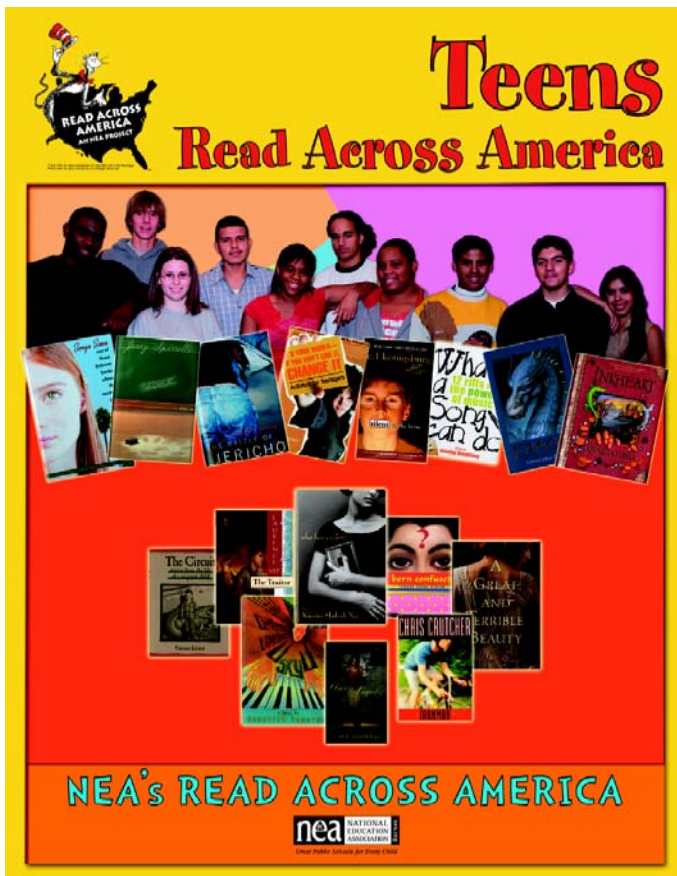
- July 20-22 MEMO Leadership Conference, St Paul  
 Aug 10-11 Branch Out!, U of M, Duluth. [Http://www.branchoutmn.org](http://www.branchoutmn.org)  
 Sept 13-15 MEMO Fall Conference, Mankato  
 Sept 21-23 MLA Annual Conference, The Minneapolis Depot



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Initially created as a one-day event to celebrate reading on Dr. Seuss' birthday, March 2, **Read Across America** has grown into a nationwide initiative that promotes reading every day.

Go to the NEA website for Read Across America to find resources, tool kits, reading guides, tip sheets, posters, logos — everything you need to celebrate reading.

<http://www.nea.org/readacross/index.html>

- Logos
- Posters
- Tool kits
- Event Planning
- Tip Sheets
- Booklists

