Iowa Joins WebJunction
Libraries have access to free online courses

Iowa, along with several other states, has funded a customized version of WebJunction for Iowa library staff that contains links to a learning center, policies and practices, technology resources, a buying guide, and a community center.

Of particular interest is the Learning Center where librarians can take online technology courses at no charge. According to Sandy Dixon, State Library consultant and Iowa WebJunction coordinator, “In a recent survey of Iowa library staff, 72 percent said they were interested in taking online courses in the future.” The State Library will accept the attendance certificates issued by WebJunction.

There are several series of courses, including:

- **Using the Internet**
  Everything you need to know to get the most out of the Internet and the World Wide Web
- **Managing Public Access Computers**
  Designed to provide information and assistance for people responsible for managing public computers
- **Basic Computing**
  New to computers and the Internet? Start here in the Basic Computing Series and learn the fundamentals of using a computer
- **Applications Series**
  Contains courses on a wide variety of computer applications, including popular spreadsheets, word processing, and web development programs
- **Sustainability, Advocacy and Outreach**
  A series of courses on keeping the library’s public image bright and its financial future healthy. The first course in the series, Media Relations, gives you basic tools for engaging with print and broadcast media.

Librarians will also find free help with technical support, software and hardware reviews, policy and planning advice, in addition to the online courses...all at no charge.

WebJunction is a national web-based, public access computing community developed by OCLC with a three-year grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. WebJunction’s mission is to:

- Build an online community for public access computers
- Support front-line staff at libraries and other organizations
- Create a forum for collaborative knowledge and experience sharing
- Focus on information technology policy and practice

It’s simple and easy to register: Go to http://ia.webjunction.org/do/Home. The register button is in the top, right hand corner.
Reminder: Gates computer training set for September through November

Registration is limited

The State Library has scheduled Gates computer training for Iowa librarians in September, October and November. Each of the classes is limited to 25 people and initial registration is limited to one person per library. If room is available, a second person from the same library may attend.

There will be two days of classes in each Library Service Area. The first day will offer the same program (Teaching Computers to the Public) twice from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. The second day will provide a morning session (Troubleshooting Computers) from 9 a.m. to noon and an afternoon session (Computer Security) from 1 to 4 p.m.

Registration forms are available at http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/continuing-ed/cecat.htm#September.

Make plans to attend this year’s Town Meetings

The State Library and Library Service Areas are planning informative and fun-filled Town Meetings for Iowa librarians and trustees this September.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. At 9:30 a.m., State Librarian Mary Wegner, Library Service Area staff, and a representative from the Iowa Library Association will discuss the “State of Iowa Libraries.”

At 10 a.m., the State Library Players and Unsuspecting Others will compete in a quiz show that will feature current library topics.

Adequate library funding is a perennial issue, yet only 48 of over 900 Iowa cities have passed the special library levy. Learn more about this issue in the morning from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

After lunch, participants will have three breakout sessions to choose from:

- **In Service to Iowa: Public Library Measures of Quality**
  The Standards Advisory Task Force and the State Library have developed a 4th edition of In Service to Iowa: Public Library Measures of Quality. This session will highlight what’s new and will give you an opportunity to ask questions.

- **Library Legal Issues**
  In an interactive question and answer format, this session will cover frequently asked library legal questions such as the library ordinance, open meetings, confidentiality, etc.

- **Personal Safety in the Library**
  Public libraries are considered “safe” places in their communities, yet public library staff know there are safety issues. For the protection of library staff and customers, learn what you can do to prevent and address problem behavior in your library.

Registration forms are available at http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/continuing-ed/cecat.htm#September.
Clinton library director receives Citizen’s Award

Clinton Public Library Director Dan Horwath and the library’s board of trustees were presented the Citizen’s Award on June 28 at the first annual Clinton Police Department Awards Ceremony.

According to an article in the Clinton Herald, “After the Clinton Police Department purchased a criminal justice package to replace the outdated DOS-based system in February, the new software required extensive training in order for staff to understand and efficiently implement the new system.”

When approached about using the computer lab in the library’s basement, Horwath approached the board with the idea.

“It took some stroking of trustees and staff to get all to see the mutual benefit of county-wide training here at the library, but I viewed it as an opportunity to get really good advertising of the new Gates Computers,” said Horwarth.

Horwath’s actions saved the county and municipalities thousands of dollars and got good public relations for the library, while proving that the library provides an important service to the public.

Several Iowa libraries are accredited by State Library

The State Library of Iowa has announced that the Britt, Gladbrook, Stewart (Grinnell), LuVerne, Newhall and Tipton public libraries have met the conditions for state accreditation as outlined in In Service to Iowa: Public Library Measures of Quality.

Achieving accreditation requires a significant, ongoing local commitment to high quality library services. Of Iowa’s 543 public libraries, 266 are now accredited. The libraries have been recognized for their efforts in all areas of library administration including Governance and Funding; Staffing; Library Collection; Services; Public Relations; and Access and Facilities. The accreditation is valid through June 30, 2007.

Iowa’s accredited public libraries are recognized for being responsive to their communities and for exhibiting excellence in their provision of library services. Accredited libraries receive a higher rate of compensation through the State Library of Iowa’s Enrich Iowa/Direct State Aid program. They also receive an official Certificate of Accreditation signed by Governor Thomas Vilsack, State Librarian Mary Wegner, and Iowa Commission of Libraries Chairman Dale Ross.

Certification update

Congratulations to the following public library staff certified for the first time through the State Library’s Iowa Certification Program for Public Librarians.

Maribee Burnham, Linden
Joan Curbow, Alta
April Eckard, Rudd
Shay Favata, Earlham
Heather Hildreth, West Branch
Barbara Jorgensen, Schaller
Dorothy Lamb, Linden
Mary Logsdon, Ames
Barbara Miller, Cushing
Barbara Peterson, Council Bluffs
Suzanne Ring, Davenport
Susan Sissel, Scott County
Myra Spindler, Creston
Michele Thomas, Winfield
Donna Tisue, Sumner
Tonya Uhde, Meservey
The Jefferson Public Library is celebrating its centennial throughout 2004. In June, the library’s entry in the 25th annual Bell Tower Festival parade earned the first place award. The entry included a 1904 float with librarians dressed in Victorian costumes and a very colorful 2004 float. The Central Iowa Library Alliance Book Cart Brigade marched between the floats, as well as several cars carrying library dignitaries, including State Librarian Mary Wegner.

Kapoun tapped for Waldorf College position

Jim Kapoun has been hired as the new library director for Waldorf College. Kapoun holds a master’s degree in library science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a master’s degree in divinity from Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul. Kapoun was an instruction coordinator and reference librarian at Minnesota State University, Mankato. He has also served in libraries in Southwest State University, Marshall, MN; St. Mary’s College of Maryland; and Penn State, Erie.

State Library staffers Karon King, left, and Rinda Kramme, were recently recognized for celebrating significant anniversaries with state government. King was honored for 25 years and Kramme for 30. In addition to other duties, King runs the Patents and Trademarks unit at the State Library. Kramme is responsible for the many interlibrary loan requests the State Library receives. Congratulations!

Important Dates - 2004

**August**
- August 15 - Summer Library Program evaluations due at North Central Library Service Area
- August 31 - Enrich Iowa Letter of Agreement postmarked to State Library

**September**
- September 6 - Labor Day holiday (State Library closed)
- Weeks of September 13 and 20 - State Library/LSA Town Meetings
- September 18-25 - Banned Books Week
Information literacy conference well attended

Librarians from across the state met on June 22 at the Des Moines Area Community College, Boone, for a conference on “Information Literacy: 21st Century Skills for Iowa’s Future.” Dr. Patricia Senn Breivik was the guest speaker. Breivik is the dean of the University Library at San Jose State University where, in collaboration with the San Jose Public Library, a merged library was opened that serves as the Silicon Valley’s 21st century information hub. Dr. Jean Donham, college librarian, Cornell College, Mount Vernon, IA led a lunch program on information literacy best practices in Iowa. There were also small group discussions on Iowa best practices in information literacy. The event was sponsored by the Des Moines Area Community College under the guidance of Lisa Stock, director of Learning Resources, Des Moines Area Community College.

Don’t miss this opportunity to learn more about information literacy

“A Public Librarian’s Role in the Age of Information” will be the topic of an ICN session from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. September 8 over the ICN. The program will address the public library’s role in helping people find the most accurate, trustworthy information available. It is part of a Gates Training Program Grant received by the State Library to promote long-term sustainability of public access computing in public libraries and to assist the State Library in meeting the ongoing needs of public libraries for training in the use of information technology resources. Jean Donham, director of the Cole Library, Cornell College (which also serves as the public library) will lead the program. The State Library is sponsoring the program in an effort to persuade librarians of the need to embrace information literacy in their professions and become leaders in helping people find the information they need.

Registration information is available at http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/continuing-ed/cecat.htm#September.
Iowa Commission of Libraries - Minutes
June 1, 2004 - State Library of Iowa

Attending: Dale Ross, Pam Bradley, Monica Gohlinghorst, Paul Roberts, Pam Pfitzenmaier, Berta Van Ekeren, Eldon Huston, David Boyd
Staff: Mary Wegner, Annette Wetteland, Gerry Rowland, Sandy Dixon, Mary Cameron, Barbara Corson, Carol Simmons, Steve Cox
Visitors: Katherine Von Wald, coordinator, Iowa Center for the Book; Barb Shultz, administrator, North Central Library Service Area
The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

1.0 Set Agenda
No additions/changes to the agenda were presented.

2.0 Approve Minutes
Bradley moved to approve the minutes as presented; Gohlinghorst seconded; motion carried.

3.0 Financial Report
Cox distributed a handout that showed May expenses. He reported the State Library was on target with both the federal and state budgets. Wegner reported that the State Library is beginning a three-year technology replacement cycle. Cox reported that the new state accounting system would go into effect on June 1, 2004.

4.0 Communications
A. Special Reports
1. State Library Marketing Team - Barb Corson
Corson shared several public relations pieces used by the Marketing Team to promote the State Library to other agencies and the public. They included postcards of the State Library, a new brochure for the State Data Center, and a quarterly update sent via e-mail to state employees. The Marketing Team was instrumental in convincing the designers of the new State of Iowa web site to include an “Ask a Librarian” button at the top of the main web page, which links to the State Library’s reference desk. Corson also explained that staff will visit six state government buildings this summer to hand out State Library brochures to employees and answer questions about the State Library and its services. Corson said that this approach was successful last year and that Library Services staff plan to continue this promotion annually. She also reported that 186 people signed up for the classes the State Library offered during National Library Week. Gohlinghorst thanked the team for doing such a good job of marketing the State Library. Wegner listed team members, Barb Corson and Sandy Dixon, co-chairs, Linda Maurer, Helen Dagley, Annette Wetteland, Mary Cameron, Beth Henning and Mandy Kirchner.
B. Commission Reports
Roberts reported that Dubuque held a marketing session on April 29 for members of the Dubuque Area Library Consortium. He thanked Annette Wetteland for serving as one of the speakers.
Gohlinghorst said she recently attended a meeting of the Center for the Book Advisory Council. The development of a foundation and All Iowa Reads 2005 were discussed. The All Iowa Reads committee is currently reading several books to determine the selection for 2005.
Huston reported that the renovation of the old Perry Carnegie library into a museum is complete and he encouraged people to visit. A tour of the facility can be arranged and meeting rooms are available.
Boyd reported on the legal two cases that were provided to students and teachers over the ICN during national Law Week.
Pfitzenmaier said that Iowa Public Television is working to locate Iowa history on film. Film is not easy to preserve, so they would like to digitize it and catalog it if they can find a way to do so economically. Iowa State University houses most of the collection right now, but they are running out of space.
Van Ekeren reported on the status of the State Library’s Standards Task Force that she and Gohlinghorst are serving on. She said the final draft would be presented to the Commission at the August meeting.
Ross reported that he, Wegner, Pat Coffie and Kay Wiese attended the American Library Association’s Legislative Day in Washington, DC and he felt they were successful and well received.
C. State Librarian’s Report

Wegner noted that June 1 was Mary Cameron’s five year anniversary with the State Library and thanked her for her dedication and hard work as the Youth Services Librarian.

Wegner reported that the visit to Iowa of the five Bulgarian librarians was very successful. They came to the State Library for a two-day workshop on May 10 and 11, which focused on libraries as community information centers.

Wegner and Pfitzenmaier have been asked to participate in a group sponsored by Iowans for a Better Future, which is organizing to support the implementation of the Iowa 2010 goals regarding high speed Internet access for Iowans. There may be opportunities through this task force to highlight the role of libraries in educating Iowans to use high speed Internet and perhaps opportunities to advocate for funding of informational products (like EBSCOHost) to be made available to Iowans statewide via libraries using high speed Internet.

The Center for the Book Advisory Council met May 20. The council members are very pleased with the Center’s success in implementing the Letters about Literature program for Iowa students, for developing the literary calendar and in continuing the All Iowa Reads program. They are also positive about developing a foundation to support the work of the Center. Wegner thanked Katherine Von Wald for her excellent work as Center coordinator.

On June 9, the State Library is offering two, two-hour sessions on EBSCOHost databases. Barb Corson and Judy Jones will provide the training and more than 200 library staff members have registered.

The State Library hosted a meeting of the Iowa Special Libraries Association on Friday, May 21. Workshop sessions were held on the third floor and a tour of the building was offered with a closing reception held at the Law Library. A story about this meeting ran in the May 17 issue of the Des Moines Business Record. Mandy Kirchner handled all the State Library arrangements.

The State Library has purchased an ad in the RAGBRAI Participant’s Guide again this year on behalf of the public libraries on the RAGBRAI route. The ad encourages bikers to use free e-mail at the public libraries, and lists the hours each library on the route is open.

Since the April Commission meeting, Wegner has met with the Regents institutions’ library directors; community college librarians; the OCLC Users Group; the Iowa Library Association Leadership Task Force, which is planning the leadership institute; the Library Service Area Executive Council (made up of two trustees from each LSA); the AEA Media Directors’ group; the Center for the Book Advisory Council; and the state’s Information Technology Council. She has also toured libraries in Cherokee and Storm Lake and she and Cameron presented a workshop on the information literacy role for public libraries to about 50 librarians in northwest Iowa. The Des Moines Area Community College library is presenting a forum on information literacy on June 22, and she and Sandy Dixon were asked to assist in planning the event.

D. Library Service Areas Report - Barbara Shultz

Shultz reported that state budget cuts continue to affect the LSAs. Central Iowa Library Service Area (CILSA) is moving from its building to space in the Ankeny Public Library to save money. She also discussed that many small libraries are experiencing difficulties staying afloat with all the budget cuts. Hours are being cut and staff laid off. North Central LSA is hosting an evening trustee training session next week; Mary Wegner will make opening remarks and Gina Millsap, director of the Ames Public Library, will be the guest speaker.

5.0 Public Comment
None

6.0 Action Items

A. OCLC Group Services Task Force - approve formation and charge

Ross requested that an OCLC Task Force be implemented. The Task Force will assess the OCLC Group Services offer to provide unlimited access for Iowa libraries to OCLC cataloging, interlibrary loan, and the WorldCat union catalog and will assist the State Library in developing an equitable pricing strategy for these services if a recommendation to pursue negotiations with OCLC is made. Houston moved formation of the task force; Roberts seconded; motion carried. Ross asked Roberts to serve on the task force and he accepted.

B. Certification of election of public library trustee representatives to Library Service Area (LSA) boards

Roberts move to certify the election of the following Public Library Trustee Representatives to Library Service Area Boards: Central – Joseph (Hank) Zalatel, Jr., Trustee, Nevada Public Library (re-elected); East Central – Eileen

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Robinson, Trustee, Marion Public Library (re-elected); **North Central** – Patricia Ginapp, Trustee, Garner Public Library (new); **Northeast** – Richard Barnes, Trustee, Clermont Public Library (new); **Northwest** – Darrell G. DeBoom, Trustee, Primghar Public Library (re-elected); **Southeast** – Thomas P. Gardner, Trustee, Keokuk Public Library (re-elected); **Southwest** – Lillian Nichols, Fontanelle Public Library (re-elected).

Boyd seconded; motion carried.

C. **Appointment of library patron representatives to LSA boards**

Bradley moved that the Commission appoint the following Library Patron representatives to Library Service Area Boards: **Central** – Frank E. Ross, Newton (new appointment); **East Central** – Robert George, Anamosa (reappointment); **North Central** – Janet Adams (reappointment); **Northeast** – Timothy Jones, Waterloo (reappointment); **Northwest** – David Netz, Sioux Center (reappointment); **Southeast** – Nancy Simpson, Oskaloosa (reappointment); **Southwest** – James Mefferd, Chariton (reappointment).

Houston seconded; motion carried.

D. **Plan of Service approval**

Bradley moved to approve the Plan of Service FY05-06 for the State Library and LSAs; Roberts seconded; motion carried.

E. **Appointment of budget subcommittee**

Ross explained that the budget subcommittee will work on the 2006 budget. He asked the following people to serve on the subcommittee: Roberts, Boyd, and Van Ekeren. All accepted. Ross will also serve on this subcommittee.

F. **Appointment of nominating committee for Commission officers**

Ross requested that Bradley and Gohlinghorst serve on this committee. Both accepted.

G. **Approval of plan for development of Center for Book Foundation and selection of two Commission representatives to Foundation board**

Wegner explained that she is not quite ready to put the Foundation in place, but that two representatives from the Commission will be needed. Gohlinghorst and Ross were chosen to serve. Van Ekeren moved to accept both nominations; Houston seconded; motion carried.

7.0 **Special presentation on library services for small communities**

Sandy Dixon was asked by the League of Cities to be part of the program of their annual Small City Workshops, which are offered in nine locations around Iowa between May 6 and August 31. Her presentation covers library mission and funding. Dixon made the same presentation for Commissioners. She also asked the Commission to complete and return a survey about library roles that she is giving to the participants of the workshops. She will compile the statewide results and report back to the Commission.

8.0 **Adjournment**

Bradley moved to adjourn; Gohlinghorst seconded. Wegner reminded the Commission of the retreat on August 2 and the business meeting on August 3. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Retreat: August 2 and Commission Meeting: August 3, 2004

Location: Radisson Hotel, 6800 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, IA