

YSS NEWSLETTER

Iowa Library Association

Volume 8, Issue 2

June 2010

From the YSS Chair...

Our dedicated YSS newsletter editor is chomping at the bit for my June newsletter article and I am hyperventilating because it is June 1! We are quickly counting to summer reading in Des Moines. Our kick-off our events begin on June 14. I am still receiving our materials and prizes, which then need to be counted out and distributed to our six locations. This is my crazy time, making sure everyone has what they need to make the programs successfully at their branches. The branches crazy time will really heat up the first day of sign ups!

One of the hardest things for us here is that while we are all still preparing for summer reading, our deadline for August and September programs is June 21. We enter everything onto an online calendar, which then has to be transferred to an Excel spreadsheet, and then to a graphics format to be designed as our What's Happening newsletter that we print bimonthly! What usually happens is that we are so busy with summer reading that we have a fairly quiet August and September as we regroup and start planning for Teen Read Week and all of the fun fall activities.

While we are frantically planning for summer reading, Karen Randleman is going through her files and preparing for a new fun time in her life – retirement. Karen has begun planning Kids First though so if you haven't heard the dates yet – please get them on your calendar for April 25 and 26. This is a don't miss conference for youth services staff at all levels. While I am going to miss Karen at the State Library, I am very excited for the new adventures she will have now that she is retiring. My best wishes to her as she takes her first steps into this new phase of her life.

This does leave the chair-elect position vacant in YSS. The YSS officers can appoint someone to take over this position so if there is anyone interested in taking over this role, please let me know. For this year, you will need to help at with the YSS sponsored programs at ILA. As Chair, the most challenging thing so far has been getting newsletter articles in to Natalie! I don't mind writing them, it is more just finding the time to do them!

Speaking of the ILA conference, taking place in Coralville October 13-15, YSS has some great programs planned so be sure to look over the schedule when it is published. You don't want to miss out on these programs – guaranteed to inspire you and rejuvenate you! Also, stay tuned for the Summer Reading 2011 workshops and a special event YSS is planning for next February.

Hope you make some waves and get plenty of time to splash around this summer!

Audrey Jones, YSS Chair
Des Moines Public Library

Inside this issue:

From the Chair	1
I Survived the Waukee Library Game...	2
E-Books and School Libraries	3
Toddler Time at Grundy Center	4
Sneak Peek at New Books	5-6
Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social	6
YSS Awards	7
Teen Craft Group	8
Smoothie Contest	9



I Survived the Waukee Public Library Game Show

This teen event was one of my most popular events of the year. We had 38 teens participating, split into six teams with 5-7 teens on each, and another 15 as our "audience". It was really a pretty easy event to plan and to orchestrate. I was the host and score keeper. Each team (to start) got a small jar of face paint. (this was left over from face painting last summer). They had to mark their faces so I would know who was on each team. Some went with the traditional baseball player style (one line under each eye) and some went with full brave-heart face paint. This part took about 5 minutes to get through.

I had planned 10 rounds of challenges but due to time I had to cut back to 6. Each round was worth 1 point. In between rounds I asked book related trivia questions each worth one point. The teams had to "buzz" in for the trivia questions using a specific animal sound. For each challenge the teams had to send ONE team member up.

Round 1-Belly down baby-food: each contestant had to lay on the floor (on their belly) and eat a container of green baby food with no hands. The first one done got the point.



Round 2- Balloon butt popping: I blew up several balloons in advance. Each team had 5 balloons. One team member had to pop all the balloons (with no help) using only their derriere.



Round 3- Pantyhose and oven mitts: This was very entertaining (especially when it was the GUYS who had to do it!) Each team was given a pair of oven mitts and a pair of pantyhose. They had to put on the pantyhose (over their clothes) while wearing the oven mitts.

Round 4- blindfolded twister: Twister while wearing a blind fold. Pretty simple but harder than you would think.

Round 5- Newspaper and Duct tape couture: 2 minutes on the clock. Each team had to create clothes for ALL of the team members. The clothes had to cover all the "important" parts.

Round 6- Frozen t-shirts: One member of each team had to get a t-shirt and put it on. Sounds simple right? Except that I had soaked each shirt in water and put it in my deep freeze at home for 2 days. It took some time (and it was exceptionally cold!) but they eventually got the t-shirts unfolded and put on!

The winning team got a box full of junk food. I put in 2 bottles of store brand soda, 3 bags of chips and some candy.

All in all the program cost around \$25. All I had to purchase was the Prize, baby food, and a few pair of clearance pantyhose. It was one of the most successful programs I have ever done for teens, and I have been repeatedly asked "when are we going to do another game show."

Erin McDonough
Youth Services Coordinator
Waukee Public Library

E-Books and School Libraries

As we wrap up our school years, many teacher librarians are also finalizing decisions about purchases for next year. A recent query on SLIK-12, a teacher librarian listserv monitored by UNI, asked about plans to incorporate e-books into school library collections. The responses indicate that most of us are taking a wait and see approach. As technology barrels forward and we adapt our services to prepare our students for their futures, questions like this will become more pressing, and teacher librarians will have to act.

Since my district expects to go 1:1 in the 2011 – 2012 school year, the Ed-Co Jr/Sr High School IMC advisory committee has recommended that I begin purchasing e-books for our secondary students. Part of my summer will be spent learning about how this resource can be incorporated into our collection. I have a few questions. Maybe some of you can help me with them.

First, will I be able to move my e-book content from one reader to another as students move from class to class? I can't afford to purchase 300 *To Kill a Mockingbird* electronic books, but I expect to be able to purchase 25 – 30 of them and move them from one reader to another as my students use them.

Second, as technology changes, will an e-book I buy this summer become obsolete in five years? True, the paperback I would otherwise have purchased would wear out, but can I justify the \$12.00 e-book for five years, plus the cost of the reader, when a \$7.00 paperback might have lasted just as long?

Finally, I learned a few years ago that Follett stores its e-books on their servers, and downloaded them onto individual readers as they were checked out. One glitch in their system was that if a child checked a book out for two weeks at 9:00 a.m. and returned it at 9:30 that day, it stayed checked out to her for those two weeks. They've probably fixed that snafu; I'll have to find out. Still, I didn't choose Destiny as my new circ/cat software. Will I still be able to purchase e-books from them?

I see a busy summer ahead.

Marsha Hauser, K-12 Teacher Librarian
Edgewood-Colesburg, CSD

We want to take this opportunity to wish Karen Randleman the best of luck with her retirement.

You've done a lot for Iowa libraries during your career, and we will miss your contribution.

Congratulations and good luck with your retirement!

Toddler Time in Grundy Center

About 4 years ago, we were approached by a young mother in our community about having a toddler time at our library. She volunteered to do it all and it has taken off. The group meets every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. They all had name tags to begin with and now everyone knows everyone else. They begin with a short play time for the children to become acquainted, and then have a story time. The day always has a theme and the group has covered the weather, letters of the alphabet, numbers, animals and birds, and other items of interest to youngsters.

After the story time, the children play amongst themselves and the moms, dads, grandparents or caregivers have a time where they discuss items of interest in child care, parenting programs available in the community, and sometimes just “mom” info. The group has grown from six or seven parents to 15 adults and 26-30 children. They have a wonderful time and the parents often gather as a group themselves. They especially love celebrating birthdays and the holidays. We have a large number of moms and dads that stay at home now and this is a great way for them to socialize.



In the summer the group has chosen to meet at the various parks in Grundy Center for mainly play. There is a schedule of where they will be meeting and at what park. It has been a definite addition to the library and Grundy Center.

The Kling Memorial Library did purchase a large carpet for the toddlers with fish on it along with numbers and letters of the alphabet; a variety of plastic foods and animals; a parachute; a large crawl-through bug; and other supplies. One of the mothers took large liter bottles and added items that are suspended in oil – stars, glitter, and other shiny objects.



Another item of interest that we begin in Grundy Center is an Outreach Story Time. This has been in action for 10 years. We take story time to the daycare providers in town. We read three or four stories and always have a color sheet that goes with the theme of the books. We feel we reach upward towards 25-50 children each week who do not have the opportunity to come to the library for story time – so we take it to them. I love being recognized around town as the “Story Lady” or “Library Lady”.

Sneak Peak

New Books For The Summer

Compiled by DANIELLE DAY, YOUTH SERVICES MANAGER
 CARNEGIE-TOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY, DUBUQUE, IA

How Rocket Learned to Read by Tad Hills. ISBN: 0375858997. 7/2010

This sweet picture book starring an irresistible dog named Rocket and his teacher, a little yellow bird, is perfect for back-to-school! Follow along as Rocket masters the alphabet, sounds out words, and finally . . . learns to read all on his own.



Mockingjay by Suzanne Collins. ISBN: 9780439023511. 8/2010

Against all odds, Katniss Everdeen has survived the Hunger Games twice. But now that she's made it out of the bloody arena alive, she's still not safe. The Capitol is angry. The Capitol wants revenge. Who do they think should pay for the unrest? Katniss. And what's worse, President Snow has made it clear that no one else is safe either. Not Katniss's family, not her friends, not the people of District 12. Powerful and haunting, this thrilling final installment of Suzanne Collins's groundbreaking *The Hunger Games* trilogy promises to be one of the most talked about books of the year.



Scumble by Ingrid Law. ISBN: 9780803733077. 8/2010

Mibs's cousin Ledge is disappointed to discover that his "savvy"--the magical power unique to each member of their family--is to make things fall apart, which endangers his uncle Autry's ranch and reveals the family secret to future reporter Sarah.



Linger by Maggie Stiefvater. ISBN: 9780545123280. 7/2010

In Maggie Stiefvater's *Shiver*, Grace and Sam found each other. Now, in *Linger*, they must fight to be together. For Grace, this means defying her parents and keeping a very dangerous secret about her own well-being. For Sam, this means grappling with his werewolf past . . . and figuring out a way to survive into the future. Add into the mix a new wolf named Cole, whose own past has the potential to destroy the whole pack. And Isabelle, who already lost her brother to the wolves . . . and is nonetheless drawn to Cole.



Demons and Druids (Daniel X) by James Patterson and Adam Sadler. ISBN: 9780316036986. 7/2010

Daniel X's hunt to eliminate each and every intergalactic criminal on Earth is always relentless, but this time, it's getting personal. Number Three on the List of Alien Outlaws takes the form of raging, soul-possessing fire. And fire transports Daniel back to the most traumatic event of his life--the death of his parents.



Amelia Bedelia's First Apple by Herman Parish. ISBN: 9780061964091. 7/2010

While visiting her grandparents, literal-minded Amelia Bedelia finally learns, despite some mishaps, how to bake an apple pie.



Sneak Peak con't.

Lots of Spots by Lois Ehlert. ISBN: 9781442402898. 6/2010

Lois Ehlert is at her best in this lively collection of poems about animal camouflage and adornment. Birds and beasts from all walks of the animal kingdom are gathered here, beautifully illustrated in Lois's signature bold and bright collage style. Complete with an Author's Note about the how-and-why of animal spots-and-stripes.



The Cow Loves Cookies by Karma Wilson. ISBN: 9781416942061. 7/2010



The horse loves hay, the chickens need feed, the geese munch on corn, the hogs devour slop, the dog eats treats, but THE COW LOVES COOKIES? A twist on the ordinary barnyard picture book, the latest read-aloud from bestselling author Karma Wilson is a clever entry into an curious incident on the farm. As the farmer makes his rounds each day, most of the animals chew on the foods a young reader would expect. But when it's time to feed the cow, she feasts on a special treat! Wilson's signature style and Marcellus Hall's spirited watercolors will delight children on and off the farm--because when it comes down to it, who doesn't love milk and cookies?

Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social at Norelius Community Library

We had an old fashioned ice cream social at our library last fall and the kids had a blast. We read *The Sunday Scoop* by Stuart J. Murphy and *From Milk To Ice Cream* by Kristen Keller Thoennes before starting all our activities.

The children were split into pairs before we showed them how to make ice cream in a tin can. We used the recipe out of *From Milk To Ice Cream*. We did put the plastic bags inside a 2# coffee can which made it easier to shake and less chance of the bag breaking open. The recipe makes enough for at least 2 ice cream cones so the children took turns shaking the cans. It also gives their little arms a break. It takes about 7-10 minutes to make the ice cream firm. After the ice cream was done, we made a hole in the baggie and squeezed the ice cream into a cone and let them pick what toppings they wanted on it.

Once the children were finished eating, we took them outside to play some old fashioned games—wheel barrow, Red Rover, potato sack races, TAG, parachute, and ring toss. We used 2 liters of pop and rings for ring toss. If they won individual races they got a piece of candy. After the games were done we went back inside and played charades until it was time for them to go home. The items we used for charades were: Milking a cow, eating an ice cream cone, waking up, reading a book, jumping rope, computer, hopscotch, playing baseball, playing basketball, playing soccer, holding a baby, spilling milk, cat, dog, rabbit, and fish.

I hope you try this, it was a lot of fun!

Mary
Norelius Community Library
denlibchild@frontier.com

2010 Youth Services Subdivision Awards

It is once again time for a call for nominees for the Youth Services Subdivision awards. These awards are a great opportunity for youth service librarians. They offer added financial support for state conference attendance (which can really help during the difficult economy.) And they're also a way to recognize and honor individuals who significantly influence young people and libraries in our state.

The first award is the Mr. Anderson Award which is a \$200.00 award given to help with the cost of the ILA conference. This is a random drawing of all nominees that are sent to the YSS Awards Chair. The nominee must be currently working in Youth Services in an Iowa Library. All nominees must be submitted to the awards chair by August 15. The winner will be notified by September 1st.

The second award is the YSS Quality Time Award. This award is given to someone who has influenced, initiated or/and cooperated with persons and organizations in the planning or presentation of programs services for young people that have benefited Iowa libraries; the nominee has performed service to the library profession through active participation in a professional organization at the regional, state, or national levels that may include work in: the education or training of others; publishing; children's and teen literature; child and family advocacy, etc. The nominee has also made an outstanding contribution to library services for young people on a regional, statewide or national level. The YSS Quality Time Award will be announced at the ILA annual conference luncheon on Thursday. Nominees must be submitted by September 1st to the YSS Awards Chair. The nomination needs to include the nominee's name, address, email address, and phone number; name of library or place of business; brief letter including description of nominee's contributions and accomplishments. Please send nominations to:

Debb P. Green, YSS Awards Chair
Iowa City Public Library
123 South Linn St.
Iowa City, IA 52240
or
debgreen@icpl.org

Please note: due to financial concerns and few applications, YSS has suspended the former YSS Conference Grant for National Conferences.

Feel free to contact me with any questions. And be sure to apply and/or nominate another deserving youth advocate!

The Teen Craft Group at the McGregor Public Library

We have an ongoing program every Wednesday night at 7p.m. for teens called "The Teen Craft Group." Teens are invited to bring projects they are working on, or they can work on the group project with supplies provided. The kids meet, chat, and work on creative pursuits. Teens made altered books (into hidden treasure boxes and scrapbooks with themes of their choosing), decorated plain book bags, modge-podged rocks, and have learned to knit and crochet (and have made themselves hats and scarves during group).

Now the Teen Group is making a granny square afghan. We put out the word in a press release and on posters that the library was accepting yarn donations. Patrons donated a lot of yarn in a variety of colors. The teens are now using this yarn to make granny squares. The resulting blanket is going to be called an "Afghan of Many Colors." Over two hundred squares have been made at this point. The teens' goal is to put the afghan together before the McGregor Public Library's "Book and Basket Auction" -- and to auction it off as a fundraiser. The library auction will be held the weekend before Thanksgiving (also a Library Holiday Open House). Teens may work on other projects this summer -- as they probably need a break from all the squares they've been making!

Our Teen Craft Group has met every Wednesday for the past year and a half. The teens choose what they are working on, and although the Childrens' Librarian is at each group meeting, it is more of a time to get-together for conversation and crafts, than any sort of librarian-designated projects or programming. It has worked well for us.

Michelle Pettit
Library Director
McGregor Public Library

We want articles from you!

**Share with the YSS community the programs or events
you're having or have had in your library!**

**All I need is an article 500-1000 words (1/2 to 1 page), and
pictures, if you have any.**

Send your programs or events into me at any time!

**Natalie Struecker
YSS Newsletter Editor
natalie.struecker@gmail.com**

Smoothie Contest at the Franklin Ave Des Moines Public Library

I hosted a “Smoothest Smoothie” contest a few weeks ago and the kids had a great time—it was even featured in our local paper!

Program setup involved buying several types of fruit and berries, both fresh and frozen, along with ice cream, milk, yogurt and juices. Staff lent blenders or smoothie makers for the teens to use.

Before beginning I passed out a sheet with basic smoothie ingredients listed along with how they affect the texture and flavors of smoothies. Books were also on hand to give teens ideas for recipes. Then the group went through the fruits mixing and tasting until they made a smoothie they were happy with and entered that smoothie into the contest to be judged by a local college student who volunteers each week to assist with teen programming.



The winner received a personal smoothie maker and runner up received an aluminum water bottle. All participants could choose from a book of their liking at the end of the program. Everyone had a great time!

Ashley Ansah
Teen Specialist
Forest Avenue Library

