

Pinal County Library District Newsletter

November/December 2000

Director's Column

Staff members have been very busy lately just keeping up with daily tasks, but new projects are looming on the horizon.

By now, everyone should have received the LSTA grant application packet. The most noticeable change is in the timing of the grant cycle, which is a little later this year. The State Library has modified the application process to include a letter of intent. It is hoped that this will help libraries avoid time-consuming research on an ineligible application. Another notable change is that the process will be broken into two cycles. The first cycle, with a deadline of March 1, 2001, will be for applications in the categories of Technology, Digitization, and Retrospective Conversion. Collaboration, Conservation, and Literacy will have a deadline of October 1, 2001.

Ellen Fallon created and submitted a proposal to SIRLS to sponsor a cataloging internship. To our surprise and delight, a student is interested and has completed the paperwork. Andrew Kaplan will begin his internship in January 2001. Staff members will train him in basic library procedures, copy cataloging as well as original cataloging, database cleanup, electronic book ordering and interlibrary loan.

By the time this newsletter arrives, some of you will have already received the Gates Foundation order packet. Along with the packet will be an announcement of the training workshop for your library. A representative of NetCom will be working his way around the county installing additional data drops in advance of the Gates PC installations, probably in December. The following is the schedule set by the Gates Foundation for training workshops:

- Jan. 29-30 Maricopa and Stanfield (jointly)
- Feb. 1-2 Superior and PCLD (jointly)
- Feb. 5-6 Apache Junction
- Feb. 5-6 Kearny
- Feb. 8-9 Mammoth, Oracle, San Manuel (jointly)
- Feb. 8-9 Eloy
- Feb. 12-13 Arizona City
- Feb. 15-16 Casa Grande
- Feb. 19-20 Coolidge
- Feb. 22-23 Florence

Packets should arrive in the last week of November for the first six in this list. The last four on the list (Arizona City, Casa Grande, Coolidge, and Florence) will probably receive order packets 2-3 weeks later. If you are having difficulties with the order packet, please call. I'll be glad to help.

Denise Keller, Director

**AzLA Presentation by
Arthur Team**

On Thursday, November 16, I attended the superb presentation given at the annual AzLA conference at the Phoenix Civic Center by our "Arthur Team": Patty Freeman of the Florence Community Library, and Sandra Mendoza and Jan Custis of the Coolidge Public Library.

The team described the planning process for putting on a major children's presentation in all our county libraries with outreach to the children of parents utilizing the WIC program. They also discussed the problems encountered during the execution of the presentation and showed a video of their bloopers that they created from the videos of each performance. The panel gave an example of a time line for planning the event and emphasized the importance of rehearsals and back up plans in case of an emergency such as someone taken ill. The Arthur Team displayed the costumes they had made to support the stories they performed and to supplement the Arthur costume, which was on loan from WGBH in Boston.

The presentation was well attended and appreciated by the audience. The team gave just enough direction and specific information to help others hoping to put on a presentation of this magnitude.

Ellen Fallon

Cataloging Corner

Now that some of our libraries have been using our INNOPAC circulation system for a while, some of the patron library cards are beginning to expire. We have discovered that this could cause a problem that all circulation personnel should be aware of.

Recently, when a patron at one of our libraries checked out material on November 6, the system set the due date for only 3 days later. After much investigation we realized that the patron's card expired on November 9. Our system is set to limit the due date by the expiration date. When this happens, renewing the patron's card should solve the problem.

Ellen Fallon
Technical Services

News Around the County

APACHE JUNCTION

The Library is offering free classes in Microsoft Word, the Internet, and E-mail. They are for all ages and are designed for those with little or no computer experience.

December 8, Judy Mullen from the State Library's Genealogy Division will speak. As a genealogy research assistant, she has books and Internet information to share.

There will be a special Holiday Storytime for preschoolers on

Wednesday, November 29, from 10:00 until 10:30. Children will hear new stories of the season, as well as traditional ones.

The Library welcomes the newest American Girl, Kit, a girl from 1934. All readers who love the American Girls series may request a free "Kit" button at the Youth Services desk. There is also an American Girls display that you won't want to miss. View the dolls Kirsten (1854) and Samantha (1904) in the Youth Services area. This wonderful display is provided courtesy of Mary-Joy Zuik, library staff member.

The Teen Advisory Board will present a holiday play, *The Baker's Dozen*, on Thursday, December 21, at 1:00 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the program.

The Entertainment Inc. Barbershop Quartet will usher in the holiday season at the Library on Friday, December 1. They will sing a mixture of Christmas and barbershop favorites in two performances – 6:00 p.m. and again at 7:00 p.m. The Quartet is composed of members of the Phoenician Chorus. Merrill Hardy of Apache Junction will appear with fellow members Bill Kane, Dale Weatherford, and Stu Wilcox.

CASA GRANDE

For American Girls Who Love To Read: December 13, 3:30- 5:00. Girls in grades 3-6 are invited to enjoy the Scandinavian *Lucia* festival and celebrate with *Kirsten* the old and new customs on the frontier in

1854. Registration begins December 4.

"You Were There," a series about American wars for boys in grades 3-6, continues with the Spanish-American War, "Remember the Maine;" The Rough Riders; The war that lasted only 113 days. December 20, 3:30-5:00. Registration begins Dec. 11.

"Wednesday Night Out!" December 6, 7:00 features Jere Cook, Casa Grande's own cowboy poet.

T.A.B. (Teen Advisory Board) presents: "A Christmas Confection," a medley of holiday plays, "The Elves and the Shoemaker," "The Christmas Pie," and "The Baker's Dozen" plus some original entre-acte entertainment. Dec. 8, 7:00 - 8:30. Refreshments.

Humanities Book Discussion. *Frida: a Biography of Frida Kahlo* by Hayden Herrera. Dec. 19, 4:00-5:30. Copies of the book are available at the check out desk.

"Lunch Bunch Book Discussion." *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom. December 28, 11:00-12:30. Bring a sack lunch. Paperback copies of the book are available to purchase at the check out desk.

COOLIDGE

Read-To-Me Wednesdays from 10:00 - 10:30 am.

Once Upon a Time After school story time for children in grades K-3, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month from 3:30- 4:00 pm.

Computer Research Skills for Students Every Monday 6 pm.

Computer Research Skills for Adults Every Wednesday 6 pm.

Basic Microsoft Word Every 2nd Tuesday 6:30 pm.

Basic Internet Every 3rd Tuesday 6:30 pm.

How to use Email Every 4th Tuesday 6:30 pm.

Basic Internet with Safety Tips Every 3rd Saturday 10 am.

Food for Fines begins Nov. 6th

Raffle Sale Tickets for a 20lb. ham and a 15lb rib roast may be purchased at the library for \$1.00. Sponsored by Safeway for the Friends of the Library.

First Annual Gingerbread House Contest Entries will be accepted on Monday Dec. 6 only. Houses will be on display during the week and judged on Friday, Dec. 8. Winner will receive a Christmas Basket.

Christmas Giving Tree Children's holiday gift requests will be placed on a Christmas tree beginning November 27 in the library and Chamber of Commerce. Sponsored by the Coolidge Public Library, Coolidge Police Department and the Chamber of Commerce.

Annual Christmas Block Party

Join us for an evening of fun, songs, crafts, games and a visit with Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Thursday, Dec. 14, 5 -7 pm. Sponsored by Sonoran Family Practice, Coolidge Public

Library and Coolidge Police Department.

Homebound Services The Library offers homebound services to citizens restricted due to medical reasons. We have large print including fiction, mystery, western, science fiction and nonfiction. Our Audio collection contains more than 250 titles. As with all services from CPL, the Homebound Service is available to Coolidge, Valley Farms and Twilight Trails residents at no charge.

Staff News We would like to welcome back Jennifer Monreal. Jennifer is our new part-time Library Page. Jennifer worked with us this summer as a Library Aide and played a major role in the Summer Reading Program and getting those "On-the-Fly" records corrected.

KEARNY

We had a used book sale Oct. 27 and 28, selling the books at \$1.00 a bag in an effort to empty our storage space. Left over books went to the health care center in Globe, a shelter in Miami for battered women, and a mission in Mexico. The Spring Book Sale will have all "new" used books.

We ran a notice in our local paper, the Copper Basin News, stating we needed 10 new members and at our meeting Nov. 7th that is what we had! Eight volunteered to help when, on the morning of Nov. 8th, the second grades from Kearny Primary School were bused to the library for our Scholastic Book Sale. This sale continues until Nov. 20th.

The Friends are again selling See's Candy. Orders were taken in advance for special items. Five cartons of assorted candy bars were also ordered.

On Nov. 9th. a workshop "Crafts For The Holidays" was presented for adults. With the exception of December, we are planning to have an evening program once a month for adults. Last month we had "Flowers From Feathers."

With so many interested new members in the Friends, there were several suggestions for programs. The New Year should be rewarding in many ways.

ORACLE:

The Oracle Public Library will have new Junior Book shelving by Thanksgiving.

The two new Gates Computer will be at the Oracle Public Library the second week of February. The dates of the Open House to introduce the Gates Computer will be announced in the next news release.

A new Story Hour at the Oracle Public Library was started November 8th. Maggie Rush Miller is the storyteller and she has lots of plans for the Story Hour. The week of Thanksgiving, guitarist/ story teller Fred Terry will be at OPL. More announcements will be coming about the Story Hour, but in just two weeks the attendance doubled. The Library will soon be pushing out the walls with the Storytime.

MARICOPA

Over the past almost three years I have steadily worked at the bar-coding process. This past summer, being heavily involved in summer programming, Linda and Ellen helped finish up our biography section and audio collection. Then, facing weeks of clean up and re-organization, suddenly the library gained a volunteer, Marsha Buckendorf. Marsha works Thursday afternoons and is willing to take over fund raising. The first fundraiser, a walk-a-thon, will take place Thanksgiving Day between Harrah's Ak Chin Casino and the library. The walkers will have a brunch and then walk back to Harrah's. We also gained two highly motivated community service people who cleaned from top to bottom and re-organized shelves.

Each year Southwest Gas employees choose a worthy non-profit organization as their

project. This year our library was chosen. On October 14, employees began arriving at 6 am and in between coffee, muffins, rolls and doughnuts painted our outer building, cleaned up our landscaping, built doors for our furnace room, and did a minor repair on our roof. We had a tense few moments when the paint that was supposed to be "red wood" turned out to be "brick red" and *too* red. The color worked out, however, and is striking against the adobe pink of the building. Periodically we paused to marvel at the perfection of the day. Just right coolness outdoors, no clouds in sight and very blue skies. Southwest Gas employees have an enviable camaraderie and team spirit that is impressive to say the least.

Meanwhile a second new volunteer, Valerie Dutsun brought in her two teenage sons to switch two rooms of furniture around. The rains meant that a

community service person was able to devote time to complete odds and ends of projects. He was able to finish painting the steps and porch and moved our sign in the park up to the front of the building. Yet another teen community service person re-organized and moved our video collection to a new location to create room for the Gates computers. This released me to be able to place our first book order on schedule and process the new books for circulation in a timely manner.

Our bimonthly children's program began the first Saturday in October. However, many activities in town are being dropped because the children are into soccer and this is reflected in low program attendance. By January first we may drop the Saturday programs until summer.

Year 2000 has been a wonderful year for us. We wish to extend a Merry Christmas to all, and a Happy New Year 2001.

Calendar of Events

January 25 – Library Legislative Day

January 19 – Pinal County Library Federation Meeting, Casa Grande, 9:30 a.m.

January 19 – *Soaring to Excellence: Human Values in a Technological Age* with Michael Gorman, (teleconference) Casa Grande Public Library, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

January 26 – February 11 – "Wild Thing" Traveling Program

January / February - Gates Foundation Training Workshop

