

## Northern Lights Library Network Governing Board

### Director's Report Oct 18, 2008

#### Meetings/Activities

##### August 2008

[Aug 16 NLLN Governing Board Meeting – Rescheduled to Aug 23]  
Aug 19-20 Destiny training for new NSLC members, Sartell  
Aug 21 Workshop - Back To School Special: Building Community – Supporting Collaboration, Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria, MN  
Aug 23 NLLN Governing Board meeting, Detroit Lakes  
Aug 26-Sept 5 Vacation – trip to Montana for family visit

##### September

Sept 11 Nancy Pearl presentation, Detroit Lakes  
Sept 15 23 Things on a Stick – Round 2 completed; prizes mailed out to finishers  
Sept 18 OPAL Workshop on Retirement – Alliance Library System, IL originating site  
Sept 19 Casual Conversations: Michael Stephens, OPAL webconference  
Sept 23 Destiny Training for new staff, Region 1, Moorhead  
Sept 24-25 Destiny Training for new Consortium members, Moorhead  
Sept 27 TechnoFit Workshop, Thumper Pond, Ottertail, [re-scheduled from April 27,2008]  
Sept 29 Report of Expenditures and Results of Accomplishments submitted to State Library

##### October

Oct 2 Multitype Directors meeting, St Louis Park, MN  
Oct 3-4 MEMO Conference, St Louis Park  
Oct 3 Destiny Users Group meeting  
Oct 9 Electronic Library for MN workshop for Pomme de Terre ed district schools, Barrett, MN (Media Center staff/English teachers)  
Oct 9 Electronic Library for MN workshop in Douglas Co Library, Alexandria  
Oct 10 Electronic Library for MN workshop for Pomme de Terre ed district schools, Barrett, MN (Science/social teachers)  
Oct 14 North Star Library Consortium presentation in Willmar for SAMMIE schools  
Oct 15 Meeting with Lori Thompson for evaluation plan for E2T2 grant.  
Oct 16 Planning meeting for NSLC/E2T2 grant, Alexandria  
Oct 18 NLLN Governing Board Meeting, Detroit Lakes

#### Continuing Education

- **TechnoFit Workshop with Brenda Hough:** This was re-scheduled from April's snowed out annual meeting. The focus of this workshop was on managing your own individual learning and some tools to help you do it. It also included a panel (Erika Rux, Gay Galles, Janet Gerla) of those who completed the 23 Things on a Stick project and have begun incorporating those tools into their professional work. That was great. Bill DeJohn, the Director of MINITEX, spoke after lunch about the role of local libraries in the complex network of ILL, resource sharing, use of ELM, and supporting MN's citizens. Attendance was low (16) and setting was difficult, but it was a good workshop.

- **23 Things on a Stick:** Round 2 of this popular project began May 15 and ended Sept 15. We had 24 new or continuing participants in the NLLN region, and 388 statewide. A good response. We had 7 finishers in this round and each received a nifty flash drive. We are looking forward to promoting a brand new series
- **NLLN Scholarships:** Scholarships are coming in at a steady rate for the fall conferences of MEMO and MLA. It's time to do some promotion in this area, perhaps in conjunction with the new Professional Engagement Funds.
- **North Star Library Consortium (NSLC) Training:** We did 4 training sessions (Aug 14-15) for those members of the Consortium as of June 1, 2008. This was attended by 41 people – a great turn out. This training is to acquaint the Consortium members with the new functionality they have as a result of the re-configuration of the Destiny databases. 57 people are registered for these sessions.
- **Destiny training for new NSLC members:** We did two series of 2-day trainings for the 20 new sites that recently joined the NSLC. One took place in Sartell and one took place in Moorhead.
- **Destiny training for new staff in NSLC libraries:** we did a one-day training for 15 people who are in existing sites, but who are new to Destiny. This was very valuable to the participants and something we should consider offering twice a year. Refresher training is always useful after the main training has taken place, and is essential for new staff.
- **“Back to School Special Workshop: Building Community. Supporting Collaboration”:** took place Aug 21 at Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center in Alexandria. Registration was free and open to anyone in the state. The day included introduction of the new WebJunction Minnesota platform, new functionality with EBSCO-Host (an ELM resource), what's new in Destiny ver 8.5, best practices in the media center, and a lot of networking and interaction among media center staff in the NLLN and CMLE region. This staff development event is part of the E2T2 grant. The 41 registered participants each received an MP3 player.
- **CE Planning:** Work continues on planning for the Spotlight on Books conference to be held April 3-4, 2009, at Sugar Lake Lodge. Promotional flyers were distributed at the MEMO Conference. Also planning for teleconferences, a major staff development workshop in January as part of the E2T2 grant, the MLA Conference in Nov, and More 23 Things on a Stick to launch in January.

## Resource Sharing

- ❖ **North Star Library Consortium (NSLC):** We are now up to 111 member libraries in the Consortium and plan another round of new members coming on in Dec/Jan. See the attached history/update on the Consortium. It is growing like Topsy!
- ❖ I did a presentation in Willmar for the schools in the SAMMIE region. Although these schools are not now eligible to join the Consortium, that area of the state will be the next focus as the project expands. There was considerable interest and that region is much like NLLN in that it has many small districts, limited financial and technical resources, and isolated library workers in need of networking and support.

- ❖ We promoted the NSLC at the recent MEMO Conference and participated in a Destiny users group meeting. We hope to stimulate more activity on a statewide basis.
- ❖ Patricia Post and I have been developing a Destiny users group on the Minnesota WebJunction page.

**Communication:** This continues to transcend everything we do. Most of it is electronic – and thank goodness for that ability – but recently we have had a lot of important face-to-face meetings throughout the region on various topics and that has been rewarding. Although the reason for meeting may be one thing, the amount of additional networking and collaboration has been very rewarding. It helps me to know the people of our region and for them to put a face on NLLN. It is also the best way for us to link people to services.

**Ruth Solie**  
**Oct 18, 2008**