

# CHaPTeRS

Deschutes Public Library Newsletter

Volume 1 | Issue 1

## Message from the Director

### Library Ambassadors Needed!

This is the first issue of the online version of the Deschutes Public Library newsletter. The electronic newsletter provides us with a low-cost method to communicate with thousands of library card holders who have a current email address. Why is this important?

The feedback that we get from our "power users" and Library Advisory Council members is that the branch libraries and the bookmobile provide an excellent level of service. The collection of books and other materials is good and getting better, the full-text magazine articles that are available on our WEB site provide convenient home access to a valuable reference source, and the Library's children's services rate as one of the top public library programs in Oregon. The Library now provides online reference services, an outreach program to teens, and an expanded audio-visual collection, including titles on DVD.

The problem identified by our Advisory Councils is that many local residents aren't aware of the scope and depth of library services. Getting the word out to 125,000 local residents is a real challenge. That's why we need an electronic newsletter, and that's where we could use your help.

With this first newsletter, we would like to appoint you all to the unofficial position of ambassador for the Deschutes Public Library. We ask that you forward this newsletter to your friends and neighbors who might have an interest in the Library. Feel free to excerpt articles for your church or nonprofit newsletter. Most importantly, talk about your local branch library whenever the opportunity presents itself.

This year, the Deschutes Public Library will mark its fifth anniversary by circulating more than 1.5 million items to the residents of Deschutes County. That's twice as much as when the Library District was formed in 1998. We want to see that number climb to more than 2 million items by 2008.

Please help us to achieve our goal of opening the door to learning and knowledge by encouraging every child and adult to be active readers.

Michael Gaston  
District Library Director

Spring 2004

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**R**eference Librarian Julie Connoley was selected to participate in the Horner Library Exchange with China's Fujian Province. She shares with us her experience in China.

As you may imagine, there were quite a few differences between the libraries but at the core both U.S. and Chinese libraries strive to provide desired resources to their communities. We both offer similar types of materials: books, periodicals, visual medium, Internet access, databases, reference services, and classes. As one might expect, the focus of the collection often differs. In the libraries I visited, the most popular collections revolved around



computer programming, business management, and learning the English language.

The atmosphere of the Chinese libraries was also quite different. Here we have a great sense of community, a place where the entire family can come in one stop and fulfill both the recreational reading needs, as well as the information needs of both kids

and adults. In China, since the children's library was actually in a separate building, the main library exuded a more academic air.

The libraries I visited also had a much more archival approach to their collection. What does this mean? Basically the library wants to ensure materials both current and ancient are around for future generations to enjoy. Considering China's history is well over 5,000 years old and some library materials are more than 1,000 years old this dedication makes a lot of sense.

Keep a heads up to learn more about China and its libraries as we plan to host two visitors from China later this summer.

## TeCHNoLoGY: Express Checkout comes to Bend!



Two Express Checkout self-service stations are now available in the Bend Branch.

The stations were successfully tested in the Redmond Branch before the installation in Bend.

Patrons find these Express Checkout stations easy to use and faster than waiting in line.

Give the Express Checkout stations a try during your next visit!

## Were You Aware?

You can reserve items online and pick them up at the holds desk of any branch library.

Current Board Members include: President Mary-Beth Pearl-Gent; Ann Evensen; Vice-President Patricia Lawrence; George Riser; and Ray Miao.

# D

Discovering stories, music and traditions from continents around the world is the focus of the 2004 summer reading program at the Deschutes Public Libraries. All children from birth through 5th grade are invited to participate and earn a free book, as well as the chance to win a puppet and attend free programs that feature creative activities based on literature.

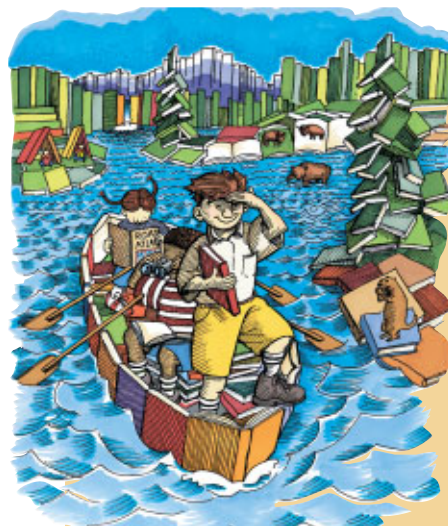
"Discover New Trails @ Your Library" is the theme of the program and it runs June 5-August 14. Each child who reads or listens to books for three hours fills out a coupon from the library and receives a free book. More coupons can be turned in for each additional three hours, and each coupon means a chance at winning one of the Folkmanis puppets on display at the libraries.

All of the libraries will also offer free programs each week. Children ages 0-5 can attend story times, and children ages 6-11 are invited to Weekly Wanders, a weekly creative program that offers stories, crafts, and other activities from a particular country. Each of the libraries will also have three family concerts during the summer. Anne-Louise Sterry will perform "Simply Song and Story," a storytelling program that invites participation and laughter from all ages. "Around the World in Music" will be an amazing performance by Todd Green as he introduces and plays many instruments from many countries. "Jugglemania: Improbable Juggling, Unique Comedy, and Amazing Acrobatics" will feature the hilarious antics of Rhys Thomas.

Newspapers that explain all the details of "Discover New Trails @ Your Library," as well as the dates of all the programs and concerts, will be available at the public libraries in Bend, La Pine, Redmond, Sisters and Sunriver, and the Book Buggy in mid-May. "Studies show that children who remain involved with books all summer long begin school in the fall with a definite advantage," stated Heather McNeil, Youth Services Manager.

For more information contact Heather McNeil at 617-7099, or your local branch library.

*(Heather McNeil - Bend Libray Co-manager)*



## Did You Know in 2003...

550,995 items were circulated from the children's collection



867,549 items were circulated from the adult collection



12,794 new library cards were issued



38,122 new books, videos, or other materials were added to the collection



Volunteers contributed 11,461 hours



Attendance at children's programs in a branch library was 30,782



Attendance at children's presentations at schools and other locations was 24,414

**A**s the baby boom bubble races through U.S. industries and services, many professional organizations are calling on their members to grow their own. Our professional library associations are no different. In the coming years, there will be a shortage of Masters of Library Science (MLS) degreed professionals to fill the shoes of retiring librarians. The library district has met this challenge with a couple of successful programs.

Five years ago, we initiated a tuition assistance program available to any library employee who was interested in pursuing a MLS degree. We are proud to say that library staff person Linda Olson has successfully completed a Masters of Library Science degree from Emporia State's MLS extension program.

This last July, we initiated an internship program that provides interested employees with valuable experience in upper-level positions. Linda Olson, Redmond library assistant, has worked as a librarian intern in the Bend Reference department this current fiscal year. This has been an incredible opportunity for her to gain first hand experience in her profession of choice.

These programs, and others like it, are a win-win for the district. Linda Olson has proven to be a very talented and skilled librarian. Without these opportunities, we may never have been able to see Linda's potential realized. Hats off to Linda and the district's "grow your own" philosophy. *(Kevin Barclay - Bend Library Co-manager)*

### LA PINE

The La Pine Library has several interesting programs planned for spring:

Call for artists for a judged exhibit entitled "Storms" showing May 2 - July 10. Artwork should be delivered on Saturday, May 1, Noon - 4:00 pm.

Book-a-Lunch Book Club, 2nd Thursday of each month, Noon - 1:00 pm: Bring your lunch and discuss a delicious book with other book gourmets. April's title is "The River Why" by David James Duncan.

*(Carla Hopkins - La Pine Library Manager)*

### OUTREACH

We Deliver, Deschutes Public Library's homebound program, provides free mail delivery of most library materials to homebound Deschutes County residents.

We Deliver patrons complete a reader's profile of their reading interests. Books are then mailed directly to We Deliver patrons free of charge. Return mail postage is also included in this service. Additionally, library materials are delivered monthly to several assisted living facilities around Deschutes County, as well as the Bend Senior Center.

A great group of volunteers assist Deschutes Public Library staff with this program. Joan Smith-Anable has been coordinating for the We Deliver program for 20 years.

Joan's excellent customer service and her willingness to go that extra mile has made her extremely valued by all our We Deliver patrons and volunteers.

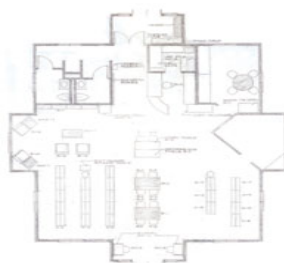
For more information, please contact Joan at 617-7042.

*(Jo Caisse - Outreach Manager)*

### SISTERS

This is an exciting time for the Sisters community as a new Sisters Public Library is underway. The \$1.6 million dollar project will provide a community centerpiece with a beautiful and functional building, room for improved and expanded services, enriched programs for patrons, and more books and materials. The 8,200 sq. ft. building is approximately three times larger than the current library. A wrap around porch adds the western flair for which Sisters is famous. The interior design features vaulted ceilings and a gas fireplace. A community gathering room will seat up to 60 people for public meetings and social events. Shelving capacity will increase up to 300 percent. Architect Rich Turi has designed this beautiful new library that is slated to open in the fall of 2005.

*(Peg Bermel - Sisters Library Manager)*



*Footprint of new Sisters Library*

### REDMOND

There is always something for everyone at the Redmond Library!

Storytimes for Toddlers and Preschoolers are ongoing. We have added a new program for infants aged 0 to 18 months! Contact the Redmond library for details.

Saturday, May 22 at 1pm. Lindy Gravelle a local musician with several music CD's to her credit, will share with young adults and other interested parties methods of breaking into the music business.

New! Summer Reading Programs for all ages. Along with children's and young adult summer reading programs, the Redmond library is piloting a Summer Reading Program for Adults! Prizes include drawings for meals at the Brand Restaurant, coffee mugs, and free books!

*(Todd Dunkelberg - Redmond Library Manager)*

### SUNRIVER

The Sunriver Area Library has experienced many changes in the last six months.

The Library has a new Branch Manager and two new Library Assistants. We are happily planning new and innovative experiences for our patrons. This spring we will be adding two new classes to our computer class line-up and continue to provide interesting adult and children's programs.

This year we have enjoyed working with many students and teachers from Three Rivers Elementary School. We have class visits at the library on a weekly basis and many teachers bring their classes down as a group to conduct research.

We continue to have lovely art displays and are presently showing wood carvings by Scott Powers and paintings by Rebecca Sharky.

Come and visit us in beautiful Sunriver!

*(Chandra vanEijnsbergen - Sunriver Library Manager)*



**T**he Deschutes Public Library has planned the largest book club of its kind in Deschutes County. "A Novel Idea... Read Together" is a countywide reading and discussion program that encourages Deschutes County residents to read the same book at the same time to create a countywide book club. *The River Why* by David James Duncan is the book for this year's A Novel Idea program.

Library staff created criteria to select the book and weighed it against the broad community input solicited in the summer of 2003. *The River Why* was selected for its richness in story and relevancy to Central Oregon and the Deschutes River. This coming of age, humorous novel discusses four major themes throughout the book, including: quest for self, family ties, relationship with the natural world, and love.

"All community members are encouraged to join their neighbors and friends for book discussions and special events from Monday, April 19 – Thursday, May 6," said Community Relations Manager Chantal Strobel. "We've planned interesting programs that tie-in perfectly with the Riverfest activities such as fly fishing demos and fish painting. We also encourage all to join in at the local discussion groups during the week of May 5 to share thoughts about the book."



"A Novel Idea... Read Together" begins during National Library Week at which time books and reading guides will be distributed at each of the local public libraries in Bend, La Pine, Redmond, Sisters, and Sunriver Area. The three-week program culminates on Thursday, May 6 when David James Duncan will discuss his book at the Tower Theatre from 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. A book signing will follow the discussion at 8:30 in the lobby of the Tower. This special evening is free to the public but attendees must pick up tickets at their local library for entry. Seating is limited. There is a two ticket limit per patron.

For more information, please call Chantal Strobel at (541) 312-1031. All programs are free and open to the public. Community members can also find discussion guides and background information about "A Novel Idea... Read Together" online at [www.dpls.us](http://www.dpls.us) or at all library branches.

"A Novel Idea... The Deschutes Public Library, the Deschutes Public Library Foundation, and the Source Weekly present Read Together". Other partners include: The Book Barn, Ryder Graphics, Riverfest, and Mt. Bachelor Village.

## Scheduled Events:

**Sunday, April 25:** Fly Fishing Demo 2:00 p.m. - Drake Park, Bend

**Wednesday, April 28:** Fish Painting Class, 6:00 - Bend Public Library

**Saturday, May 1:** Water In The West, presented by Joe Whitworth of Oregon Trout, 2:00 p.m. – Library Admin Conference Room, Bend

**Sunday, May 2:** Fish Painting Class, 2:00 p.m. – Sunriver Area Public Library

**Tuesday, May 4:** Book Discussion group, 6:30 p.m. - Sunriver Area Public Library

**Tuesday, May 4:** Book Discussion group, 6:30 p.m. - Sisters Athletic Club

**Wednesday, May 5:** Book Discussion group, noon, - Bend Public Library

**Wednesday, May 5:** Book Discussion group, noon, - La Pine Public Library

**Wednesday, May 5:** Author reading and discussion, 5:30 - C.O.C.C. (C.O.C.C. students, faculty and staff only)

**Wednesday, May 5:** Book Discussion group, 6:00 p.m. - Redmond Public Library

**Thursday, May 6:** Author reading 7:30 p.m. - Tower Theater in Bend

**Free tickets will be available at branch libraries beginning April 19 (limit two per patron).**

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*Library Director Michael Gaston presents the Library's current challenges and opportunities.*

There have been remarkable improvements in the quantity, quality, and variety of services provided by the Deschutes Public Library since the Library District was formed in late 1998. The adequate, stable funding local residents provided by supporting the establishment of a countywide library district, has enabled the library staff to remain focused upon upgrading library services. The Oregon State Library now considers Deschutes one of the top public library programs in Oregon.

The District Board and I are proud that the only unfulfilled campaign promise from 1998 is the construction of the new Sisters Library, which will be completed within the next year. With the fulfillment of these commitments, the Library District can now focus on the following four priorities:

1. Maintain and enhance the quality of library service while library usage continues to increase at a rapid rate.
2. Provide WEB access to library services using the latest technology.
3. Increase services to teens, with a special focus upon supplementing the school libraries which have been devastated by the current school funding crisis.
4. Establish one or more branch libraries to serve the growing population in east Bend and in the area between Bend and Redmond.

The Library District is being challenged by its own success. Doubling library usage has had an impact, both in terms of clerical functions as well as reference services. Over the next year, you will notice that the District will move to provide express stations where patrons can check-out their own materials. This has already been tested in Redmond, where more than 80% of the books are now checked out on self-check machines. The Express Stations will free staff to handle incoming materials as well as provide assistance to patrons looking for information.

If you haven't taken a look at the Library's WEB site, I would recommend that you take the time to explore the many services that are available online. You can now search full-text magazine articles or submit reference questions from your home. There are also electronic reference tools on our WEB site. We will be updating our catalog searching features over the next year. One exciting feature on the horizon will be the ability to request that you be alerted whenever a title by your favorite author or on a selected topic is added to the catalog.

Perhaps the most ambitious initiatives to be undertaken over the next five years will be the introduction of public library circulation stations in area schools. The concept is to build upon the existing staff in school libraries, providing training to use the public library electronic resources and online catalog. Material will be delivered to the schools for check-out by the staff of the school media center. This labor-intensive service will be tested over the next two years with three area schools. Additional schools will be added to the service as resources allow. This program has the potential of serving over 25,000 students in the 38 public school libraries in Deschutes County.

Planning has just begun on establishing one or more additional branch libraries to serve the growing populations in east Bend. The Library will spend the next year mapping demographics in order to identify likely locations. This will be an exciting project which we hope to see completed within five years.

The Library has a number of challenges and opportunities ahead. While we are very proud of the accomplishments that were achieved over the past five years, we are just as excited about the future.