

**ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY
CONSULTANT'S REPORT
JANUARY 2008**

LSTA GRANTS

The next round of Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant offerings will be announced in the next few weeks. In anticipation of the announcement, the State Library strongly encourages libraries to look at and, if necessary, update information about your library at Every Library in ILLINET (ELI) <http://eliillinois.org/>.

SPRING CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

The State Library will offer a spring season round of Live and Learn Public Library Construction Grants, with awards ranging from \$2,500 to as high as \$125,000. The program assists public libraries with construction costs in their facilities. Priority this spring will be given to public libraries that have not received a Live and Learn Construction Grant Program grant since July 1, 2004. The first important date to remember is February 15th, when letters of intent are due. Complete information and applications can be found at:
http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/constructgrant.html.

SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARY PROGRAM GRANT

The grant application reviews have been completed. More news will be forthcoming.

PUBLIC LIBRARY PER CAPITA AND EQUALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

The grant application reviews are being finalized. More news will be forthcoming.

ILLINOIS PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT FY2008

The Illinois Public Library Annual Report form is being reviewed and finalized. Stay tuned!

ILLINET INTERLIBRARY LOAN CODE

The public comment phase has been completed. The ILLINET Interlibrary Loan Code Committee discussed the public comments and addressed appropriate revisions. Approval of the revised Code is on March 12, 2008 agenda for ISLAC (Illinois State Library Advisory Committee).

ISL STAFF REORGANIZATION

Effective Wednesday January 16, several ISL staff members are being reassigned. Bella Belogorsky and Cheryl Goza-Smith are moving from the Reference staff to the ISL Diversity Program in the Library Development Group. Jane Knipmeyer, Laura Large, and DeeAnn Powless are moving from the Technical Services staff to Reference. And Jim Shepard is moving from Reference to the Library Automation and Technology division.

ISL WI-FI

The State Library is now offers free "Wi-Fi" (wireless fidelity) high-speed Internet access to patrons, visitors and the general public.

INSTITUTES

Small Public Library Management Institute (SPLMI), The 15th annual SPLMI sponsored by the Illinois State Library and hosted by the University of Illinois at Springfield will be held June 1-6, 2008. Because this is an advanced SPLMI, attendance is restricted to only those public library directors who have attended a previous SPLMI. Applications must be received on or before Friday, March 21, 2008 by fax or mail. Attendees will be notified of their selection in early April. Find applications at http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/home.html

Institute for School and Public Librarians (ISPL): The 14th annual Institute for School and Public Librarians, sponsored by the Illinois State Library and hosted by Bradley University in Peoria will be held June 8-13, 2008. Applicants can be school or public library staff responsible for a variety of library duties including activities that focus on services to patrons/students. Application deadline is: March 20, 2008 via fax. Institute information and the application is available at http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/2008institute.html

ILLINOIS LIBRARY DAY

Illinois Library Day is scheduled in Springfield for Thursday, April 10, 2008. A legislative breakfast will kick-off the day's events. Stay tuned for more information.

WEB JUNCTION

Don't forget to visit the Blog category "New @ WJ-IL" for the most recent news on content, community and courses from WJ-IL:

<http://webjunctionworks.org/il/blog/index.php/category/new-wj-il/>.

You may also read the feed by clicking on the blue and green "What's New" icon on the homepage at <http://il.webjunction.org/>.

ASK?AWAY FREE TRIAL

Ask?Away Illinois can expand reference services to your community and patrons 24/7. Act now to take advantage of a FREE trial demonstration period from Jan 15 - May 15, 2008. Your patrons and you will both benefit from 24/7 access to a reference cooperative for all your questions. There is no staffing required during the trial period. Transcripts and follow up options allow you to expand your patron reference services. Contact Natalie Tagge, ntagge@ilsos.net, or log on to <http://www.askawayillinois.info> for more details.

LITERACY SPOTLIGHT

This week we shine the literacy spotlight on Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg. Recently, a Guatemalan couple with two children arrived in the central Illinois community of Bushnell to work on a dairy farm. They spoke almost no English and were unable to read English or Spanish. Because of the language barrier, this family had difficulty interacting in the community. But there was a solution. Their employer helped them enroll their children in the local schools. Then, he arranged for the parents to work with an adult volunteer literacy tutor from Carl Sandburg College. Because the parents spoke so little English, they avoided their children's school activities. But as their English skills improved, they began to participate in parent-teacher conferences and family nights. The Adult Volunteer Literacy program has helped this family become contributing members of the community.

Learn more about the ISL Literacy Office and the hundreds of literacy providers who receive grants at:
http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/who_we_are/literacy/home.html.

FORTHCOMING

Illinois State Library Advisory Committee (ISLAC), ISL	March 12, 2008
ILLINET Network Advisory Council (INAC), ISL	March 26, 2008
Illinois Library Day, Springfield	April 10, 2008
Empowering Library Staff to Meet the Needs of Spanish Speakers, North Suburban Library System http://www.islcleo.org	June 5, 2008
Small Public Library Management Institute, Springfield	June 1-6, 2008
Institute for School and Public Librarians, Peoria	June 8-13, 2008