

# Consultants' Report

## For June 2004

*Lincoln Trail Libraries System*  
*July 19, 2004*

### Small Public Library Management Institute

Pat Boze served on the planning committee of the Small Public Library Management Institute conference held at the University of Illinois campus in Springfield June 6-11, 2004. Six LTLS librarians attended this weeklong training event: Holly Thompson, Rantoul Public Library; Wanda Thompson, Central Citizens' Library District; Rick Balsamello, Westville Public Library District; Jennie Cisna, Mattoon Public Library; and Elaine Bagwell, Sidney Community Library. This marked the first year that library consultants were invited to attend. The focus of the institute was to provide beginning library directors with management information on many library topics. The librarians were also treated to an evening with Illinois State Library Director Jean Wilkins. Jean discussed how she became a librarian, the positions she has held over the years, how she relaxes, and the pros and cons about being the Director of the State Library.

### ALA Annual Conference

LTLS consultants Pat Boze, Donna Schaal, Amy Weber, and Joe Sciacca attended the American Library Association Conference in Atlanta, GA. Over the five days of the conference, they met with many vendors, participated in meetings, heard interesting sessions on diverse topics, and met with representatives from Dynix. Program topics included community outreach, adult literacy skills when reading to a child, the impact of technological changes in the classroom and regarding curriculum, pedagogy and the online environment, racial equity, and the difficulties of balancing privacy and security in a post 9/11 environment.

### Committee Work

Amy Weber continues work on a book fair project, "Book Market on the Square," with a number of library partners. The official web site for the project is now available at <http://www.lincolntrail.info/bookmarket>. The event will take place at Lincoln Square Mall on Saturday, August 28, 2004. There will be used book sales and a variety of programming.

### My Librarian Update

My librarian, a recently released virtual reference project from LTLS, has had an exciting first month. There have been a number of questions from the LTLS service area and a number referred from the OCLC global network. Many have been directed to the Water Survey, Waste Management, Fire Service, and Medical libraries. The service is available at <http://www.mylibrarian.info>.

### ICN Regional Meeting

Joe Sciacca attended an ICN Regional Meeting with updates on ICN services, new initiatives, and network infrastructure developments. Among the topics discussed were plans to expand the backbone circuits to make the network more robust for the future, the upcoming introduction of video-over-ip service, the merger of ICN with CMS, the ICN Internet filtering service, and other services.

### Library U

Joe Sciacca completed work on a Library U module on "Weeding the Library Collection."