



# SHORTGRASS CLIPPINGS

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*A BIG THANKS from Trapper Dan for all the support he received from the libraries throughout southeastern Alberta. It was a pleasure to see the dedication of the young leaders to their job at making the summer reading program a success. The children were a great audience and I had a wonderful time. The "Quiet One" and "Bob" also send their thanks and wish everyone the best in the future. TRAPPER DAN*

## Summer at Shortgrass

First of all, I hope that everyone had a great summer and that everyone had a chance to get away for a while, relax and refresh themselves, only to return to work with tales of adventures from their travels, and that all are ready to get back to work after a well deserved break.

Summer time has been a very busy time here at SLS headquarters with the start and near completion of the recon project for the first 5 schools within the Prairie Rose Regional School Division. Prairie Rose signed a contract with SLS in June to have their school library items entered for 5 schools (Senator Gershaw (Bow Island), Bow Island Elementary, Burdett School, Foremost School and Manyberries School) onto the Dynix system. The Seven Persons and Redcliff schools will be next.

Thank you to everyone, SLS headquarters staff and Prairie Rose School Division staff, for their hard work on this ongoing project.

Welcome and thank you to the trustees and staff of Prairie Rose School Division for asking the SLS staff to take care of their school library cataloguing and circulation.

SLS extends congratulations to the Yellowhead Regional Library System for their System Completion Celebration with Devon joining YRL.

From the desk of Harold Storlien, CEO

## Searching for information on the internet

The internet network gives you access to all sorts of information and some of it is even indexed for you by tools like Google.

Our internet catalogue is called IPAC—you can use it to search our libraries shelves and place holds on items. There are many tabs across the top that point you to other tools—new items received, online databases, TALONLINE (search all Alberta libraries), and the community information calendar. Use this internet address: <http://www.shortgrasslibrary.ca>

Online resources give you a way to find information in resources not in our libraries. Search over 6,000 magazines and newspapers for information. Besides indexing the articles, they provide the full text direct to your PC.

Remember, you do need a membership in your local Shortgrass member library. You also need to be a resident in supporting municipalities for access to the online resources.

From the desk of Bob Batchelder, Assistant Director



**Just a reminder that the SLS Headquarters board room can be booked for your meetings.** Contact Linda at SLS headquarters for details.

*"I cannot live without books."* Thomas Jefferson

*"Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time we fall."* Confucius

## **AROUND THE SYSTEM**

### **Alcoma Community Library**

The Shortgrass Library System would like to welcome Janice Christensen as the new Library Manager of the Alcoma Library. Janice took over the Library Managerial duties in June. Joyce Aasen, who retired after serving the Alcoma Library for 19 years will be missed, but we wish her and Ken many happy travels in their retirement years. Thanks Joyce for all your endeavors at the Alcoma Library and welcome Janice to Shortgrass Library System family.

### **Bassano Memorial Library** -- Bonnie Bennett, Library Manager

Two exciting things have happened at the Bassano Library in the month of June. They have to do with free internet access.

One day there was a gentleman who had come all the way from Chile. He was on a trip that had been his dream. He had gone from Chile to Alaska and was on his way back home. He used the internet to keep in touch with his family as well as to post a daily diary.

Another day, 3 young men from Germany, who had started out on their bicycles from Manhattan, New York, have for the last 2 ½ months bicycled across Canada and were now on their way to Vancouver and then down to Los Angeles.

When, just think of the fact, that just a few years ago we may never have met these people or shared their experiences without the free public access to the internet that we now have.

### **Medicine Hat Public Library** -- Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins, Chief Librarian

MHPL has a new look on the web. The beginning of August saw the launch of the library's new website at [www.mhpl.info](http://www.mhpl.info). Cleaner, crisper, easier to navigate, the new site aims at reducing the number of 'clicks' needed to access any library information. Now, from the homepage, you can go directly to the catalogue, your account information, information on the Friends of the Library, Ask a Question, as well as many other specific library information areas. Check it out...

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**NetSpeed 2004** Oct 21-23, Calgary. For info, visit <http://www.thealbertalibrary.ab.ca>

**AB Library Week** Oct 24-30. For info, visit [http://www.visityourlibrary.net/library\\_week.html](http://www.visityourlibrary.net/library_week.html)

**Saskatchewan Library Association Conference** April 21-23, 2005, Saskatoon. For information, visit <http://www.lib.sk.ca/sla/>

**AB Library Conference '05** April 28-May 1, 2005 "Alberta Libraries: Celebrating our Past, Embracing Our Future". Jasper. For Info, visit <http://freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/alconf/>

**AB Association of Library Technicians Conference** Canmore. May13-15, 2005. More information at a later date.

**Canadian Library Association Conference** June 15-18, 2005, Calgary. For information, visit <http://www.cla.ca/conference/conf.htm>

Serving Southeastern Alberta residents through public libraries  
in the following member supporting municipalities:  
Bassano, Bow Island, Brooks, County of Forty Mile, County of Newell, Foremost,  
Medicine Hat, Redcliff, Rainier (Alcoma) & Rolling Hills

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