

South Dakota Library Association  
Support Staff Section  
Annual Report 2008

The annual section meeting was held on October 18<sup>th</sup> at the 2007 SDLA conference held in Watertown. Twelve people were in attendance. The meeting was lead by Support Staff Chair, Susan Schleicher.

During the year, library paraprofessionals across the state attended the Soaring to Excellence teleconferences, celebrated Library Support Staff Day, attended the East River and West River Spring Forums and participated in Branch Out 2008.

- \* The Soaring to Excellence teleconference series was once again offered at various locations in South Dakota. Now in its 15th year, Soaring to Excellence continues to provide timely, relevant information for library staff and professionals alike. These teleconferences are broadcast from the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. More information can be found on their website <http://www.dupagepress.com/> The teleconferences are recorded by hosting libraries in the state and are readily available through interlibrary loan to all libraries and support staff in South Dakota.
- \* Library Support Staff Day was celebrated in Brookings and Sioux Falls in April 2008. The Brookings area libraries celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> annual Support Staff Day with a luncheon on April 14<sup>th</sup>. A total of 20 library staff from the Brookings Public Library and Briggs Library from SDSU attended the Brookings event. Other locations are encouraged to start their own Support Staff Day celebrations. This is typically held during National Library Week. Library Assistant's Day for 2009 will be April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- \* The 4<sup>th</sup> annual West River and East River Spring Forums were held in March at the Rapid City Public Library and the Brookings Public Library. The Spring Forums were coordinated by Susan Schleicher, Support Staff Section Chair, with programming input from the SDLA board members and assistance from the local arraignments committees. Both of the sessions were well attended, with 44 attending the East River Forum and 37 attending the West River Forum. Positive feedback and future programming ideas were received from both sites.
- \* Branch Out 2008 was held at the Briggs Library at SDSU with local arrangements handled by staff from Briggs Library and the Brookings Public Library. Approximately 70 people attended the conference. Great positive feedback was received and the next Branch Out will be held in the summer of 2010. Please consider hosting this wonderful event in your area!

The Library Support Staff of the Year Award was not awarded in 2007. The members are strongly encouraged to nominate someone for this award.

The incoming Support Staff Section Chair is Jennifer Meiners from Augustana College in Sioux Falls. [Jennifer.Meiners@augie.com](mailto:Jennifer.Meiners@augie.com) She will serve as chair for the next 2 years. The section is in need of a Secretary/Vice Chair. Please contact Susan or Jennifer if you would be willing serve the section in this capacity.

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