

ST-8

Al Peterson
North Dakota State Representative

The North Dakota State Library conducted another successful Spring Workshop. The 2008 Spring Workshop, *Back to Basics*, was held in Grand Forks March 31st to April 1st and Bismarck April 3rd and April 4th. RoseMary Honnold, the Young Adult Services Coordinator for the Coshocton Public Library in Coshocton, OH gave a presentation on providing library services and activities to teens. *North Dakota Reads: A Model Book Discussion Group* was presented by Brenna Dougherty from the North Dakota Humanities Council. The topic of this workshop explored book club possibilities libraries can have by applying for a grant to host one of the Humanities Council packaged book discussions. Other workshops were conducted by State Library staff.

The 2008 North Dakota Library Association annual conference will be in Mandan, ND, September 24th-26th. The theme for the conference is "Librarians under Construction: A Life of Continuous Education." A Continuing Education track for the school library media specialists has been arranged through Valley City State University.

The *Auto Repair Reference Center* database, from EBSCO, is a new addition to the collection of Online Library Resources with funding through the North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota library Coordinating Council. It was chosen based on a survey which asked librarians from across the state for suggestions about new additional databases. This resource will be available to schools and libraries throughout North Dakota after July 1st.

The 5th Annual Statewide Summer Reading Kick Off event will take place at the State Capitol Grounds on May 30th. To "kick" things off, the governor will proclaim May 30th as Statewide Summer Reading Program Kick Off Day. Some of the events include story time with the First lady, Secretary of State, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and others; face painting, craft projects, various bugs and insects on display from the Bismarck Zoo, live tarantulas at the State Library (in an aquarium, of course), and other fun things to do. This event is free to the public.