

# The Good Stuff

The official newsletter of the  
North Dakota Library Association

March 2023



The Good Stuff is a quarterly publication produced by The Good Stuff Editorial Committee with contributions from NDLA members.

For more information, visit the [Good Stuff Editorial Committee webpage](#).

Reminders for  
Submission

June 2023 - May 3

September 2023 - Aug 1

December 2023 - Nov 1

March 2024 - Feb 1

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# President's Message

**Submission by Kerrienne Boetcher, Ward County Public Library, NDLA President**

Hello Fellow Bookaroos! I saw something online the other week where a girl couldn't remember the word for library and called it a book ranch. Her boyfriend found it funny and tried to come up with different names for librarians including; cowbook, readcher, and finally bookaroo. I decided bookaroo was the best and I needed to use it in this message.



That concludes the funny part of this message and we can move on to the more serious part of the message.

As most of you (hopefully!) know, the North Dakota Legislative Session started on January 3rd. It has been a busy one so far with session set to end on April 28th. Thank you to everyone who has submitted testimony, sent letters to their legislators, or otherwise answered our pleas for help. As session ends, there is still time to contact your legislators. Forming relationships with them can help beyond just when we need their support on particular bills.

I am so proud of North Dakota Libraries and how we come together to help each other out and to learn from each other.

With that in mind and looking ahead to the annual conference, please consider submitting a proposal for a session. We welcome all sorts of ideas, even if you think no one would want to learn about it. I know that it can seem overwhelming or terrifying to think of doing something. However, ask yourself....if not me then who?



“You want weapons? We're in a library. Books are the best weapon in the world. This room's the greatest arsenal we could have. Arm yourself!” – Dr. Who (Season 2, Episode 2)

“The real heroes are the librarians and teachers who at no small risk to themselves refuse to lie down and play dead for censors” – Bruce Coville



# Committee Blotter

## Membership Committee

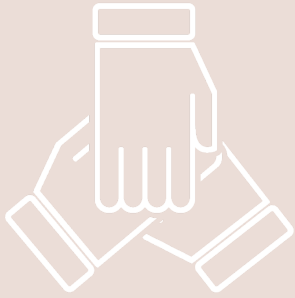
NDLA Membership Committee did not meet this quarter.

<b>NDLA Membership Report – Jan. 30, 2023</b>	
Submitted by Liz Mason, Membership Chair	
<b>Sections</b>	
Academic and Special Libraries	72
Health Science Information	15
Public Library Section	130
School Library and Youth Services	76
<b>Types of Membership</b>	
Individual	238
Retired and Friends	13
Institutional	6
Student	10
Trustees	2
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>269</b>

## EDI Committee



The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (EDI) has committed to meeting on the first Monday of every month. We are currently working on creating a discussion series centered on educational EDI content and drafting a grant to fund EDI-related professional development. If you have any suggestions or would like to be involved, please feel free to reach out to us at [diversity@ndla.info](mailto:diversity@ndla.info).



# Committee Blotter

## New Members Committee



Join your fellow NDLA members for monthly Happy Lunches! These virtual “happy hours” will take place at noon on the 2nd Friday of each month, beginning in March. Co-hosted by the New Members Committee and other NDLA committees, sections, and Executive Board positions, these lunches will be a great way to learn about the work of the association and meet members from across the state. Drop in, stay as long as you like—all are welcome!

Next lunches are:

- March 10
- April 14
- May 12

Tune in via [Zoom!](#) Questions? Contact NMC chair [Amanda Walch](#).

## Intellectual Freedom Committee

The Intellectual Freedom Committee has been creating a collection of [Intellectual Freedom Resources](#).

If you are facing a materials challenge, please fill out a [Challenge Incident Report Form](#). Information about challenges is shared with the North Dakota State Library and ALA for tracking purposes, but will not be publicized without your permission. Reporting challenges helps us to spot trends and take action.

Help with managing challenges and other Intellectual Freedom issues is available. We can provide moral support and advice, and connect you with legal and mental health resources.

Depending on where you're located, committee members may be able to visit in person to give presentations on Intellectual Freedom topics or to provide support at hearings. If you have questions, please contact the [Intellectual Freedom Committee](#).





# Committee Blotter

## Legislative Committee

With the legislative session starting on January 3, 2023, NDLA's Legislative Committee has been hard at work tracking legislation and providing updates to NDLA's membership. On top of making sure that the State Library budget passes (SB2013), 3 major anti-library bills have been introduced: [SB2123](#), [SB2360](#), and [HB1205](#). Two of the anti-library bills have even made national news.

There are also a small number of other bills, including [SB2247](#), that the Legislative Committee is watching as they affect academic freedom, taxes, library friends' groups and foundations, and the ability to serve immigrant populations. NDLA is currently coordinating with the American Library Association and other major national and regional organizations.

For updates from the Legislative Committee, please make sure you subscribed to the main NDLA listserv. Updates will also be posted on NDLA's Facebook page.

The Legislative Committee appreciates the continuing effort NDLA membership has put into reaching out to their legislators, submitting testimony, and other takes to make sure North Dakota citizens are aware of library-related legislation.

The legislative session ends April 28, 2023. The next session starts in January 2025.





# On the DOCKet

**Submission by Brian Garrison, UND Chester Fritz Library and Susanne Carro, Government Information Librarian, NDSU**

Select Committees or Special committees are appointed to tackle topics for which there are no standing committees. In the two years covered by the first congress (1789–1791), there were six hundred select committees. The 1821 committee on the admission of Missouri lasted only seven days and helped draft the Missouri Compromise. With the increase of regular standing committees the number of select committees has decreased. Some of these committees have been charged with investigating specific events.

House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) was established in 1938 and charged to “investigate the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our constitution...” HCUA became a standing committee in 1945 and wasn’t disbanded till 1975. This committee would issue a number of reports from lists of organizations they believed to be communist to hearings on suspected Communist activities. Members of unions, people involved in theater, movies, and government employees were only a few of the groups investigated. In 1947 the committee focused on Hollywood and asked the now infamous question “Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party of the United States?” Although often seen as an example of McCarthyism the Senator never served on the House committee.

The United States House of Representatives Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) was established in 1976 to investigate the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr.. The committee report was 12 volumes and a single-volume summary report but when first issued some material was redacted. Their findings were similar to those of the President’s Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (Warren Commission).

# On the DOCKET

**Continued...**

Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities (Watergate Committee) was founded in 1973 by Senate Resolution 60 to investigate the Watergate scandal. Hearings lasted for two weeks and were aired on national television. The committee's final report including legislative recommendations were submitted on June 27, 1974

.In the years following Watergate, the most high profile select committees have taken on a decidedly partisan tone, with one side often claiming government wastefulness or that their future candidate is being unfairly targeted while the other insists that their investigation gets at the very heart of executive abuses of power or malfeasance. The select committees and their resulting reports on Iran-Contra, Benghazi, and most recently the January 6th insurrection have unfortunately begun to define an era of ever-increasing schism and inability to work across the aisle

It's worth remembering that there are less high-profile, but still important select committees, like the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, that are established now-and-then to address the most critical and urgent problems of our time.

For a more extensive and thorough history of select committees over the entire length of US history, please visit the National Archives guides to the records of the Senate and the House on the history of their select committees.

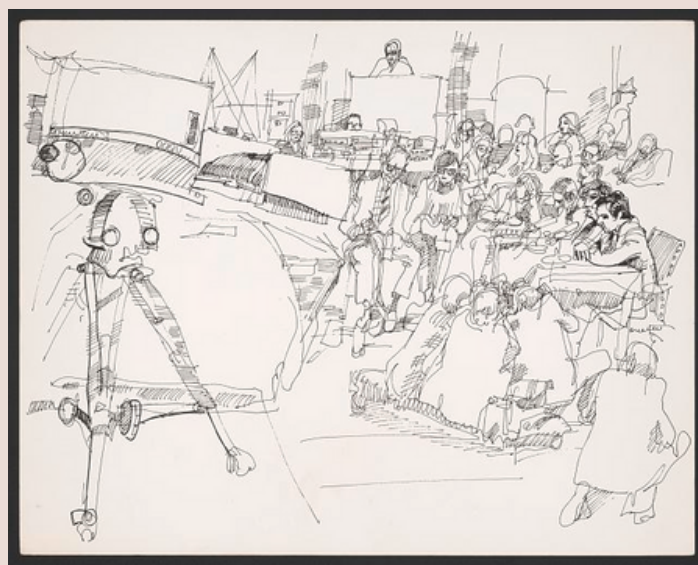
# On the DOCKET

Continued...



*Warns Dies Committee. Washington, D.C., Aug. 18. Surrendering the Labor Department's complete file on Harry Bridges to the Special House Committee on Un-American activities today, Thomas B. Shoemaker warned the investigators that revelation of its contents might result in violence to persons involved. Chairman Dies said the committee would comply with the request as far as it is possible as witnesses in the bridges investigation have been threatened. 8/18/ 38\ . hec 24965*

*// hdl.loc.gov/ loc.pnp/ hec.24965 <https://loc.gov/pictures/resource/hec.24965/>*



*Press room, perhaps in the Senate, during the Watergate hearings. LC-DIG-ppmsca-53339*

*<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017659349/>*

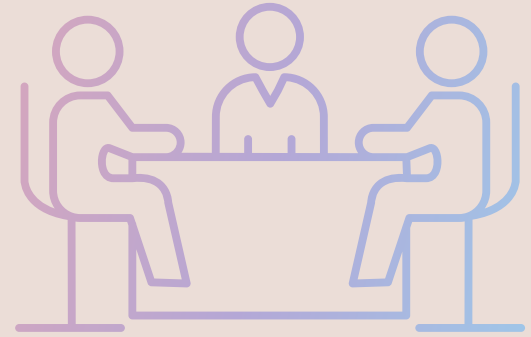


# ALA report

## Submission by Sara Westall, UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, ALA Chapter Councilor

Hello from your ALA representative! I hope you have all had a great start to 2023 so far.

I wanted to talk a little about LibLearnX and some of the happenings both during the conference and at the Council meetings.



First off, ALA's LibLearnx had around 2,600 attendees. Numbers haven't been broken down into those who attended virtually and those who attended in person. It is a little down attendance-wise from its predecessor ALA Midwinter, but again, this is only the 2nd year of LibLearnX.

There were also many great speakers and sessions. Keynote speakers included Ani Di Franco, Ibram X. Kendi, and Nic Stone. There were learning labs, shoptalks, and places to exchange ideas, exhibitors, etc. If you attended LibLearnX either virtually or in-person, I would like to hear your experience.

### Some highlights:

There were three Council meetings that took place over the weekend. A lot of work has been done on ALA's Constitution and Bylaws. At this meeting, Councilors were asked to look over the changes and to have the Constitution and Bylaws Committee make any housekeeping changes.

The Resolution on Human Rights and Freedom of Speech and Expression in Iran was passed by the Council. FY 2024 ALA Budget priorities include rebuilding membership base and developing new budget metrics.

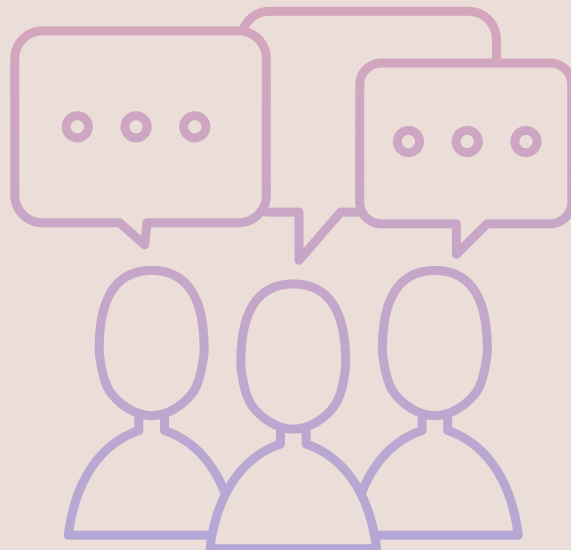
# ALA report

**Continued...**

ALA's Intellectual Freedom Committee reported on the creation of a Challenges to CRT and Diversity Training Toolkit. "The Challenges to CRT and Diversity Training Toolkit subgroup, under the able leadership of Rhonda Evans, has nearly completed the final draft of the toolkit. The toolkit will be an aid to library workers addressing censorship resulting from challenges to 'critical race theory' claimed to be in school and university curricula, as well as challenges to anti-racist materials and staff trainings addressing equity, diversity, and inclusion. The subgroup will present their draft to the Intellectual Freedom Committee for review and approval at ALA's Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois."

Check out my weekly updates for more information!

Next year's LibLearnX will be held in Baltimore, Maryland.



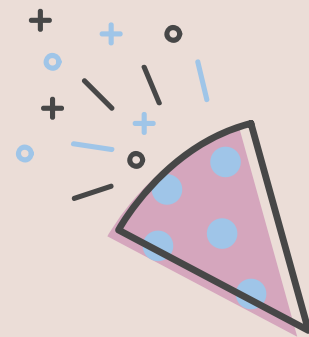
# MPLA Report

## Submission by Randi Monley, Minot Public Library, MPLA Representative

Why now is the BEST time to renew your Mountain Plains Library Association Membership:

### Number one!

The next MPLA conference will be in Norman, Oklahoma from March 8 - 10, 2023. MPLA is excited to CELEBRATE our 75th Anniversary!



### Number two!

MPLA Chew & Chats are another great opportunity to learn from librarians all over the region. These informal discussions are led by Jake Rundle from Colorado and Mary Soucie. They take place on the 4th Wednesday of each month. If you want to try one out before you renew your membership, [shoot me an email](#).



### Number three!

The MPLA Newsletter is chock-full of information from around the MPLA region. Not only do I highlight what is going on in North Dakota, but every representative from the 12-state region also highlights cool programs that libraries are doing. I get so many great ideas from this part of the newsletter.

Now is the time to renew your MPLA membership or get half off your first membership! More about [MPLA Membership](#).

# EDI Corner

## Submission from the NDLA EDI Committee

Ever heard the term “gaslighting?” Not sure what it means or how to identify the signs? It can be difficult to see what gaslighting looks like, even if you are familiar with the signs. **Gaslighting is an intentional form of manipulation, where individuals will attempt to confuse others by denying their experiences and lying to them.** This leads the receiver to feel confused and they will often question their reality and memory.

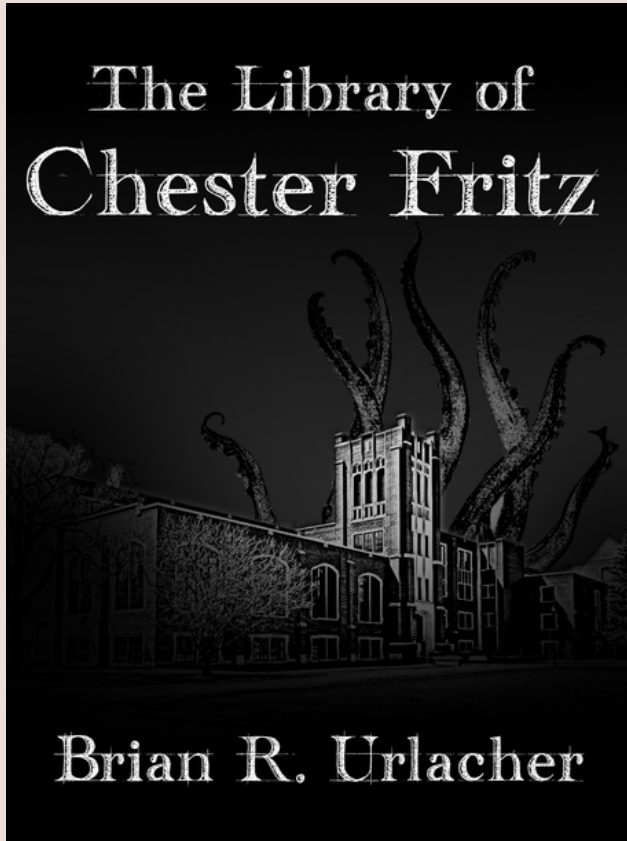
According to [Psychology Today](#), individuals who gaslight others do so in an attempt to control or maintain power over others. Gaslighting can be unintentional, but the distinction is that **a gaslighter enjoys wielding power and control over others.** This comes up often in interpersonal relationships and is very problematic because it erodes trust in the individual and with others. Gaslighting can look like “you know I would never do that to you. I could never hurt you,” or “you’re making this up; it’s all in your head.”

To read more about how gaslighting affects the workplace, see [Psychology Today’s article titled “7 Signs of Gaslighting at the Workplace.”](#) Even if someone doesn’t directly experience gaslighting in the workforce, it can still sometimes lead to a negative work environment. **Recognizing the signs is helpful for everyone.** If it seems like someone is dealing with this, don’t be afraid to check in, see how they are doing, and if needed, provide support and resources.



# Good Stuff Around ND

## Chester Fritz Library, UND



Chester Fritz Library (CFL) hosted the inaugural Randy Rasmussen Memorial Lecture on January 26th. This was the first lecture in a series formed to honor Randy's life and legacy. CFL intends to reinvigorate the library as a place for academic and community engagement by holding events with guest lecturers as well as showcasing the talents of scholars around the greater Grand Forks community and the region. Randy Rasmussen, a beloved and longtime staff member at CFL, had an affinity for film and many of his intellectual pursuits revolved around film studies. In addition to film, Randy also had a passion for fine arts, fantasy and science fiction, fan/popular culture, military history, meteorology, libraries and institutions of memory, and publishing.

During the inaugural lecture, CFL hosted Brian Urlacher, chair of the Political Science department at UND, for a reading and discussion of his new book, *The Library of Chester Fritz*, which recasts the career of CFL's namesake as a globetrotting dark adventurer. William Caraher from the Digital Press at the University of North Dakota - which published *The Library of Chester Fritz* - and Patrick Henry from the Department of English joined him for a panel discussion of their plans to advance scholarly and literary publishing at UND in a changing publishing landscape.

A community of people who share a love for Randy, a passion for communicating research, and an intellectual curiosity for alternate history and literary publishing came together to make a successful event. We hosted 70 people that night, with 50 in person and 20 on Zoom. A recording of the presentation will be available on the UND Scholarly Commons.

The next lecture will take place on April 13th at 4:30pm. CFL will welcome UND Provost Eric Link to present on "Understanding Science Fiction." In this illustrated talk, Link will introduce audiences to the field of science fiction film and literature. More information can be found on the Randy Rasmussen Memorial Lecture Series webpage.



# Good Stuff Around ND

## Williston Community Library

Last August, Mobile Library Coordinator, Tori Lee of the Williston Community Library in Williston, North Dakota wrote a grant to the Robert E. Herman Family Foundation for the amount of \$10,000 for the purchase of early literacy kits. We were awarded the grant in December 2022 and are so very excited to get started putting these together for access to our community. The Robert E. Herman Foundation has been a tremendous supporter of our library for the past six years and we are so grateful to them. With the addition of these early literacy kits, we are going to be able to serve families, daycare facilities, and preschools with emerging readers in so many different aspects all across Williams County.



**Treasurer's Report**  
**As of December 31, 2022 (End of 4th Quarter)**  
**By Aaron Stefanich, NDLA Treasurer**

<b>CHECK BOOK 12/31/2022</b>	<b>Beg. Balance</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>End. Balance</b>
<b>NDLA Funds</b>	<b>\$55,437.45</b>			
Annual Conference 2025	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$2,500.00	-\$2,500.00
Annual Conference 2022	\$0.00	\$33,870.00	-\$25,706.17	\$8,163.83
Annual Conference 2021	\$8,852.11	\$435.00	\$0.00	\$9,287.11
Book Sales	\$1,116.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,116.32
Dues		\$12,505.00		\$12,505.00
HSIS Partner Account	\$6,969.19			\$6,969.19
Investment Account Transfers		\$500.00	-\$26.65	
Other receipts/disbursements		\$3,002.65	-\$13,368.63	
<b>NDLA Funds Subtotal</b>		<b>\$50,312.65</b>	<b>-\$41,601.45</b>	<b>\$8,711.20</b>

**Check Book Balance 12/31/2022** **\$64,148.65**

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<b>MONEY MARKET &amp; CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS</b>	<b>Beg. Balance</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>End. Balance</b>
<b>NDLA Bank Money Market Ready Cash</b>	<b>\$12,333.21</b>			
Interest		\$1.18		
Deposits		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$12,334.39
<b>Professional Development Bank Money Market RC</b>	<b>\$11,689.32</b>			
Interest		\$1.09		
Deposits		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$26.65	-\$500.00	
				\$11,217.06
<b>NDLA CD</b>	<b>\$21,824.24</b>			
Interest		\$19.29		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$21,843.53
<b>Professional Development CD</b>	<b>\$15,023.12</b>			
Interest		\$7.39		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$15,030.51
<b>TOTAL investment accounts</b>	<b>\$60,869.89</b>			<b>\$60,425.49</b>

**TOTAL EQUITY 12/31/2022** **\$124,574.14**



# Executive Board

## Voting

President: Kerriane Boetcher  
Ward County Public Library

President-Elect: Tammy Kruger  
North Dakota State Library

Past President: Will Martin  
Chester Fritz Library  
University of North Dakota

Secretary: Tonya Palmer  
Grand Forks Public Library

Treasurer: Aaron Stefanich  
Grand Forks Public Library

ALA Councilor: Sara Westall  
SMHS, University of North Dakota

MPLA Representative: Randi Monley  
Minot Public Library

Academic & Special Library Section:  
James Murphy  
North Dakota State Library

Health Science Information Section:  
Devon Olson  
SMHS, University of North Dakota

Public Library Section: Morgan Keyser  
Williston Public Library

School Library and Youth Services  
Section: Jennifer Hess  
Fargo Public Schools

## Non-Voting

Bylaws and Policy Committee Co-chairs:  
Virginia Bjorness  
North Dakota State Historical Society

Kristen Borysewicz  
Chester Fritz Library,  
University of North Dakota

Nomination, Voting, and Election Committee  
Chair: BreAnne Meier  
North Dakota State Library

Finance Committee Chair: James Murphy  
North Dakota State Library

Archivist: Trevor Martin  
North Dakota State Library

Membership Committee Chair: Liz Mason  
ODIN

State Librarian: Mary Soucie  
North Dakota State Library

