

The Head Librarian

Yankton's Wibbels Takes Reins Of State Association



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Kathy Wibbels, director of the Yankton Community Library, has been elected president of the South Dakota Library Association for 2015-16.

BY REILLY BIEL
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Kathy Wibbels can now take her love of libraries to a statewide level.

Last Friday at the annual South Dakota Library Association (SDLA) conference held in Rapid City, Wibbels, director of the Yankton Community Library, was elected president of the organization for the 2015-16 year. Wibbels had previously been vice president of the SDLA for the 2014-15 year.

SDLA is an organization composed of four library groups: public, academic, private and school. Special libraries, like the ones in federal prison camps, are included.

"Being the president of the SDLA should make me better at my job here because I will be more connected with libraries throughout the state," Wibbels said. "I will also be more connected at a national level."

Wibbels' main priority as SDLA president is preparing for next year's SDLA conference in Watertown. She is in charge of finding keynote speakers to give presentations to librarians throughout

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KATHY WIBBELS

the state on a variety of issues and selecting speakers for breakout sessions that discuss topics specifically geared towards certain library groups.

Wibbels will also chair meetings with the SDLA executive board and the general session at the next SDLA conference.

As SDLA vice president, Wibbels had been in charge of keeping track of library memberships.

SDLA has an executive board that consists of a president, vice president, president elect and executive secretary.

"It'll be a good experience for me," Wibbels said. "I will get to know people and the organization better."

Though being president of an organization sounds time-consuming, Wibbels is confident her work as library director

won't suffer.

"I'll spend time here working on state matters, but that will make me better at my job here," she said.

Her position will enable her to keep better touch with library-related subjects not only occurring in the state, but nationally as well. SDLA is part of a national campaign where libraries throughout the country write letters to President Obama about wanting a degreed librarian to be named as the librarian member of Congress, as historians have filed that position for many years.

At the end of her presidential term, Wibbels will then become "past president," where she will act as a counselor on the executive board for another year. If she chooses to retire at the end of that term, she will remain part of SDLA in the category for retired librarians.

"You get to the point in your career where you're comfortable enough and have things in order, so I felt like I had the time to give," said Wibbels.

Follow @ReillyBiel on Twitter.

SD Writer Garners National Award

BY RANDY TRAMP
P&D Correspondent



Bring up work ethic to longtime South Dakota writer and syndicated columnist Paula Bosco Damon and you'll get an earful — an award-winning one at that.

The local columnist's article "Too Much TGIF, Not So Good," recently earned First Place in the 2015 National Federation of Press Women (NFPW) Communication Contest.

In the piece, Damon juxtaposes her own work ethic, which she describes as "extremely strong and maybe even over the top," to more relaxed standards more prevalent today.

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it looks like work," her article states.

Also winning first place in the NFPW contest was Damon's column "Song of My Neighbor." Inspired by the writer's longtime neighbors, Lloyd and Nancy Thompson, the column captures in great detail the ideal couple who lived across the street.

"The day the Thompsons' house was demolished was the day I wrote this piece," Damon notes, recalling the dwelling, which had been vacant since the Thompsons passed away several years prior.

"When the inspiration comes I just have to write, much like an artist has to paint," explains Damon, whose whimsical non-fiction stories — called flash non-fiction — connect with readers in a thought-provoking and sometimes humorous tone.

"My writing career is more of a calling than anything else," she explains. "I am simply using gifts God has given me hopefully to help others make it through the day or maybe even to get through life."

To enter the annual NFPW competition, contestants must win first place at the state affiliate level, which Damon won in the 2015 South Dakota Press Women competition this past spring. She also received two second place awards in the humorous and general column categories.

The 2015 NFPW honors were handed out at the national convention, held in September in Anchorage, Alaska.

"It's humbling to compete on the national level with so many outstanding journalists. I am honored to be counted among the best in the U.S., representing the great State of South Dakota."

Recently retired from a long career in communications, Damon now frequently conducts readings of her works and facilitates workshops for aspiring writers.

She has one book published, "Look. Don't Look," a compilation of her earlier columns, and three additional books in the works: a collection of recent columns, a compilation of articles about the seasons and a book of poetry.

What's new on the horizon for the South Dakota writer?

Damon and her husband, artist Brian Joel, are collaborating on creating exhibits, featuring art and literature in a synergy of story.

Now that the couple has successfully completed one show together at the Clausen Gallery in Sioux City, Iowa, the Damon's have been invited to exhibit their works at the Le Mars, Iowa, Art Center in late 2016. The month-long display will feature many pieces of new art and poetry. Watch the Le Mars Art Center Facebook page for details.

Over the years, Damon has received numerous first place awards from Iowa Press Women, South Dakota Press Women and National Federation of Press Women.

Her poems have been accepted for publication in the 2015 editions of "Scurfpea Anthology," a literary journal of University of Sioux Falls available now on Amazon.com; and "Pasque Petals," from the South Dakota State Historical Society.

Her weekly columns appear in the *Vermillion Plain Talk* and the *Carroll [Iowa] Daily Times*. For an archive of her works, visit www.my-story-your-story.blogspot.com. For more information, email boscodamon.paula@gmail.com.

HOUSEHOLD AUCTION

Sunday, October 11, 2015
1207 W 17th, Yankton, SD
12:30 pm
David Schmer, Owner

Furniture and Appliances: Oak table with 6 pressed back chairs, corner oak entertainment center, L-shaped leather sofa, entryway or sofa table, 2 chairs with matching footstools, black trestle table bookcase, walnut open cabinet country-primitive style, red-checkered sofa-loveseat and footstool, wicker loveseat, chair and footstool with blue checkered cushions, 3 pc coffee and end table set, white corner cabinet, 2 small stools, hall tree, pine chest of drawers and night stand with floral design, wood desk, office chair, 4-drawer file cabinet, green drop leaf table, GE refrigerator, newer

Household Items: Plant stand, artificial plants, lamps, pictures, Longaberger baskets, RCA color TV, enamel ware, cookbooks, kitchen wares and dishes, standing wicker basket magazine rack, books, craft and holiday decorating items, tea kettles, sunflower & poppy décor, luggage, air mattress, table cloths, small TV with built in VCR, rugs, stainless steel clothes rack, sled, wagon, snow skis, child's car seat, many area rugs

Collectibles: Old Underwood typewriter, Daisy butter churn #60, handy work, Coronet, crocks, church pew, hames, single tree, 2-man saw, hay saw

Miscellaneous: Ladies right-hand golf clubs, sturdy plastic shelving, Totes, wrought-iron patio set with glass top and rocking chairs, chaise lounge and small table, outdoor storage cabinet, plastic outdoor chairs, Dewalt Shop Vac, Scotts fertilizer spreader, 8 ft table

Auctioneer's Note: A very nice auction. David is selling his home and has some wonderful items for the auction. Please like Sherry Soukup Auctioneer on Facebook for pictures!



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