

ASEA In Action

Fairbanks North Star Borough Supervisors Chapter



Retired Library Director

Greg Hill Accepts PLA Award

Greg Hill, former FNSB member and retired Library Director of the Noel Wien Library, was one of eight winners of the PLA's (Public Library Association) Innovations in Literacy Scholarship Award. Each winner was awarded \$1,000, registration and travel to the 2014 PLA Conference in Indianapolis which was held this past March.

Greg and his wife attended the PLA Conference and met hundreds of public librarians from around the country. They had the opportunity to describe how his **Guys Read** program differed from programs sponsored by other public libraries.

Almost all the other similarly titled library programs are book discussion clubs, father-son reading groups and other activities that primarily appeal to boys who already enjoy reading. Ninety-seven percent (97%) to 98% of all 4th grade boys participated in the **Guys Read** program. The end-of-

program parties encouraged boys and their families who didn't normally visit the public library to actually come and see how modern library services have changed.

The **Guys Read** program is a program led solely by male volunteers who enjoy reading. Volunteer readers contribute 30 minutes of time to the program during lunchtime. The program features books that are recent, boy friendly and with heavily illustrated pages that are projected onto a wall or screen. Multiple copies of the book(s) are part of the school library collections.

Greg reports that his **Guys Read** program has spread across Alaska with equal success and public libraries in more Alaska communities are hoping to start their own **Guys Read** programs. He has also heard from several Lower 48 libraries that are planning to start similar programs.

The **Guys Read** program depends

entirely upon private donations from local businesses, organizations and individuals.

The program transitioned from an independent nonprofit to a program of the Fairbanks Library Foundation and **Gals Read** became a program of the Literacy Council of Alaska (LCA). Both programs will continue as cooperative programs of the public library and the school district and the LCA will coordinate the programs' activities through the Library Foundation's **Guys** and **Gals Read** Committee, of which Greg is the Chair.

This year **Guys Read** was a rousing success for the eighth (8th) consecutive year. Greg thanks everyone for their support of **Guys Read**, public library books and reading!

For more information, contact Greg Hill at hilllofbooks@gmail.com.

Congratulations Greg!



*Have A Safe
& Happy
4th Of July!*

Important Dates

July 9 - ASEA / FNSB / Sponsored FOOD BANK NITE AT THE BALL PARK - come see the Goldpanners play in Fairbanks

July 14 - 18 - AFSCME 41st International Convention - Chicago, IL

Sept. 1- Labor Day Parade & Picnic - join the State Executive Board and Midnight Sun Chapter - Fairbanks

Sept. 2 & 3 - State Executive Board Meeting - Fairbanks

JULY 9 - JULY 9 - JULY 9 - JULY 9 - JULY 9

Food Bank Night

at the



GOLDPANNERS



**Entrance fee - canned food donation
to the Food Bank**



Sponsored by ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 Fairbanks North Star Borough Chapter
Food Bank: www.fairbanksfoodbank.org and Goldpanners: www.goldpanners.com

The ASEA FNSB Chapter is excited to be sponsoring Food Bank Night at the Goldpanners game on July 9th. We are asking for folks to bring a canned food donation to the ballgame in exchange for the entry fee. The Fairbanks Community Food bank collects and redistributes donated food to local families and agencies. These donations truly make a difference in the lives of our neighbors! Grab the family and come on down to the park and enjoy an evening of baseball!