This month’s bit from me is a little different than usual. In this month, I’m expressing some gratitude to a group of folks who have done a lot to help our organization.

This last year the SELS Friends have decided to disband. This group of librarians have spent a lot of effort over the years to help make sure that we had the funds to handle all sorts of things, and to also help find ways to have some fun.

The SELS Friends group spun out of a SELS committee over a decade ago when funding for all the Systems was rather tight. Much like the friends, foundations, or other support groups many of you have for your library – the SELS Friends helped with being able to provide for some of those costs that the regular operations budget couldn't handle.

The SELS Friends have helped pay for office maintenance (painting and carpeting), portable tables, registration and insurance for the first van, attendance at conferences for SELS staff, wine at NLA book discussion events, and other smaller purchases of equipment. They have also hosted, or helped host, various special events.

A few years ago, the Systems reorganized – going from six down to four. This meant each system got a larger percentage of the total funding available.

Some other changes also freed up some of the budgetary limitations as well.

Due to these changes this band of stalwart librarians decided that now might be a good time to fold the Friends, after over a decade of work. I do say they have earned that right. They have also earned our gratitude.

To Becky Baker, Tom Schmitz, Lisa Olivigni, Karen Frank, & Jan Thomsen – the long term officers of the SELS Friends Board - and all the people who were a member or attended an event, thank you so very much. Your generosity over the years has helped so much and won’t be soon forgotten.
Calendar

July 11, Patricia Poacco’s Birthday
July 12, National Paper Bag Day
July 20, International Chess Day
July 26, CASTL, Superior Public Library, “Dealing with Bugs”
July 26, James Berenstain’s Birthday
July 27, National Walk on Stilts Day
July 28, Beatrix Potter’s Birthday
July 31, J.K. Rowling’s Birthday
August 3, National Watermelon Day
August 4, National Friendship Day
August 8, National Happiness Happens Day
August 10, National Bowling Day
August 10, Suzanne Collins’ Birthday
August 29-30, Joint Youth Services Retreat, Camp Carol Joy Holling
September 13, Building and Maintaining a Library Website with Wordpress

Photo of the Month

This is a bulletin board whose aliens were created by teens who participate in Art Lab at the Gere branch of Lincoln City Libraries. The largest ones are about 11” tall. —Provided by Sandy Wallick
CASTL Wrap-Up

The June 28th CASTL was hosted by Heather St. Clair at Ashland Public Library. The subject matter dealt with trauma, abuse, how to recognize trauma and abuse, and what to do about it.

Trauma is additive, that is, the more Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs, you have, the greater risk to your physical and mental health. ACEs can be physical, emotional, or sexual abuse; neglect or abandonment; poverty, homelessness, or lack of basic needs; divorce; alcoholism or drug addiction in the family; family violence; family member in prison; a family member with a mental illness; or less often mentioned items.

Among the results of cumulative ACEs may be suicide or substance abuse (as self medication).

Trauma is often overlooked because behavioral responses resemble common misbehaviors or even delinquent behaviors and are not identified as trauma symptoms. So instead of receiving help, children, teenagers, and even adults may be punished even more, adding to the problem. Therefore, it is important for library staff to judge behavior from a trauma informed perspective. When patrons act out, library staff should be asking themselves what might be the root cause of the behavior instead of judging the person.

A newer therapy was demonstrated to the CASTL group (EMDR, or Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing). This therapy works for most people with trauma and when it does work, it is the quickest and most effective therapeutic method for dealing with trauma.

In Nebraska every person is a mandated reporter of abuse, which includes library staff. If you suspect abuse, you should attempt to form a relationship with the person and establish trust, so that if something is happening, that person will potentially confide in you. Any abuse of minors must be reported to the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline at: (800) 652-1999.

Upcoming CASTL Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 26</strong></td>
<td>Superior Public Library</td>
<td>“Dealing with Bugs”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 23</strong></td>
<td>Dvoracek Memorial Library, Wilber</td>
<td>“Free Programs: Game and Parks and more”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September 20</strong></td>
<td>Yutan Public Library, Mead Public Library</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 25</strong></td>
<td>Wymore Public Library</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>November 15</strong></td>
<td>Geneva Public Library</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

To see the list of upcoming classes, click here. Here’s what’s coming up next:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates of Class</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Registration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 29—August 9</td>
<td>Library Policy</td>
<td>July 1—July 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 19—August 30</td>
<td>Collection Management</td>
<td>July 22—August 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 9—Sept. 20</td>
<td>Programming and Outreach</td>
<td>August 12—August 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
News Around the System

Astronaut Training Day at Hebron Secrest Library

Story and pictures by Judy Kassenbaum

We had a wonderful time at Summer Reading on “Astronaut Training Day”. Nine training locations were available with most of them outdoors. The weather was perfect for the “astronauts” to train.

The first picture is of the Space Shuttle Repair station. Notice how hard the “astronauts are working”. The second picture is the Rocket Ship flying course. The third picture is the Astronaut Agility/Fitness course. The fourth picture shows Low Gravity Skills, where the kids had to complete mazes, etc. over their heads. And the fifth picture is Moon Rock counting using moon dough.
The Grand Opening for the Innovation Studios makerspace at Beatrice Public Libraries was held on June 15th, coinciding with the Beatrice Public Library 126th Birthday Celebration. The event kicked off with a ribbon cutting for the makerspace. Afterwards patrons were invited to tour the space and watch demonstrations on the laser cutter, vinyl cutter, and 3D printer. Commemorative buttons, magnets, and mirrors for the event were available and patrons were encouraged to create their own with the button maker.

*The Nebraska Library Innovation Studios: Transforming Rural Communities* project is supported in part by the Nebraska Library Commission, partnering with the University of Nebraska Lincoln Nebraska Innovation Studio, Nebraska Extension, and Regional Library Systems. The project is funded through a National Leadership Grant awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
News Around the System

Plymouth Library Summer Reading Program

*Story and photos by Ellen Vorderstrasse*

Plymouth Library held Summer Reading Program events during the month of June. Some of the fun activities included entertainment by Aaron Fowler and his dog, Bella, and a visit to the Plymouth Fire Department to learn about firefighters and fire safety. Crafts of making rockets, solar system mobiles, and moon and stars jars were artistically designed by the kids. We had a great SRP!

Stromsburg Public Library Busy During Swedish Festival

*Story and photos by Monica Tidyman*

Stromsburg Public Library had a very busy and eventful Swedish Festival week this year! Kicking it off was the LEGO Guy, Curtis Mork, on Wednesday morning. The children had a great time building with 1,000's of LEGO and the parents enjoyed learning the history of the classic toy.

Friday morning, Jim and Jan Campain, stopped by to hold a young writer's workshop for elementary aged children. Jim is the author of "The Mysterious Miss Snoddy" books and a native of Osceola.

Friday afternoon, Kris Rystrom Emmert was here for a book signing and program as she told the story of her Navy husband’s short life in her book, "Providing Promise." Jon was born and raised in...
(Continued from p. 6)

Stromsburg and still has family here.

Finally, Saturday, we held our annual Swedish Festival Humanities program with Darrell Draper performing his "The History of Nebraska as told by Peter Sarpy." Adults and children had so much fun they requested we bring him back this fall.

I wish I could say that after all of this we took Monday off, but let's just say we learned a valuable lesson for next year!

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Star Wars Fun at Crete Public Library

*Story by Laura Renker, photos by library staff*

At a special program at Crete Public Library, the children were able to participate in a variety of Star Wars related games, activities and crafts. Included in the photos is a picture of three youngsters who made Yoda headbands and one participant who visited with Yoda himself.
News Around the System

Library Offers Summer Escapes

By Charlotte Baldinger

Children and teens are getting up early and heading to Seward Memorial Library on Monday through Saturday mornings this summer. They excitedly enter the library when the doors open. The children head to the lower level where their 2-6 member team gathers for the Escape Room adventure. They are greeted by a librarian who explains their dilemma and challenges them to find a way to escape their situation in less than 45 minutes. The team listens carefully before entering the dimly lit room where during the month of June they need to open unique locks on closed boxes to obtain the 3 necessary power cells which will boost their damaged rocket back into space and safely return them to home. After the experience is completed the team’s picture is taken with their finish time recorded and posted. The librarians on duty throughout June have enjoyed watching the children think through the puzzles and solve the problems. Everyone is looking forward to a new adventure in July when the participants enter Dr. Grimley’s attic. By the way, no child was left stranded in a broken rocket during the “Return from Mars” challenge... just a few adults who accepted the risk.

Mountain Plains Library Association Report

The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is a 12-state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals, and friends of libraries in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. My name is Evonne Edgington and I am the MPLA Nebraska Representative. I report to MPLA about Nebraska Libraries events and news.

One of the goals for the President of MPLA is to increase membership in the organization. I would urge everyone to go to the MPLA website to learn more about MPLA and how to join: https://mpla.us/ A little about me: I work for Omaha Public Library as a branch manager at the Millard Branch. I have been with Omaha Public Library for almost 18 years. If you have any questions that I can answer about MPLA, please contact me. My email: eedgington@omahalibrary.org

MPLA annual conferences are held jointly with a member state. This year it will be with New Mexico State Library Association in Albuquerque, NM, October 30 through November 1.
News From Your SELS Office

Scholarships for Youth Services Retreat, NLA/NSLA Conference, and other Educational Experiences

The Southeast Library System provides scholarships to pay for registration or travel costs for continuing education events and/or course work in library science.

Applicant Eligibility

- Applicants must be residents of the area served by the Southeast Library System or work in a library within the System.
- Preference is given to those who have not ever received a scholarship from SELS in the past, and to first-time attendees at the event requested.

Eligible events

- First priority is given to applications for in-state events, including the NLA/NSLA annual conference or System sponsored events (SELS must at least be one of the sponsors). Examples include the Training Extravaganza, the Youth Retreat, the Summer Reading program, etc.
- Second priority is given to regional or national conferences, such as ALA or MPLA.
- Third priority is given to academic courses that have a direct impact on the applicant’s job.

Scholarship Information

- The maximum amount to be awarded to an individual is $200 per application.
- The money is to be used for registration and/or travel fees.
- Recipients are expected to report back on their experience and possibly write a short blurb for the system newsletter about the event (if applicable)

Application Process

- Print out and complete the scholarship form
- Write a brief (one or two paragraphs) on the benefit you or your library will gain from your attendance at the event or course
- Send both to the SELS office
25TH ANNUAL YOUTH SERVICES RETREAT!

August 29-30
Camp Carol Joy Holling
Ashland, Nebraska


# Day 1: Youth Services Retreat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30</td>
<td>Breakfast for those who arrived on site Wed. evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 9:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 9:00 – 9:50   | **Recommended Children’s Books 2018-2019**  
This session will focus on recommended books for grades K-6 published October 2018-August 2019.  
Alysia Bousquet |
| 10:00-10:50   | **Copyright for Youth Services**  
Print, digital and visual media are vital tools for Youth Services staff. We will review some of the particular copyright issues with presentations, reading programs and online resources. We will also look at Creative Commons, clip art licenses, Fair use, and other aspects of copyright.  
Eric Jones |
| 11:00-11:50   | **Intellectual Freedom and Youth**  
Young people have first amendment rights, too.  
Brenda Ealey |
| 12:00 - 1:30  | Lunch                                                                |
| 1:30 - 2:30   | **“Booktalk” your Favorite Ideas, Resources, or Solutions**  
In this session, retreat participants will be the presenters. Each person will have a few minutes to present their favorite websites, resources, program and craft ideas, or solutions to challenges or problems.  
Participants |
| 2:45 - 3:45   | **Recognizing Trauma in Children**  
In this session you will learn about the signs of abuse, the different types of abuse, and what to do when you suspect abuse.  
Michelle Book |
| 4:00 – 6:00   | **Storytelling: A Personal Touch in this Digital World**  
In a time when the world has become most impersonal because everyone is connected, entertained, and communicating through electronic devices, there is a need for the personal touch of storytelling. We will look at storytelling...the who...the why ...the what ...the how. We will look at ways for you to take the step from reading to telling. This will be a participation workshop. It would be good for participants to have a folktale that they enjoy, or a personal story to share. Oh, yes...And we will have fun!  
Diane Cox |
| 6:00 - 7:00   | Dinner for those staying overnight                                   |
| 7:00 – 10:00  | Time to exchange ideas, hang out, play games                         |
# Day 2: Youth Services Retreat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 – 8:30</td>
<td>Breakfast for those who stayed overnight</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:50</td>
<td><strong>YA Literature and the Teen Brain</strong>&lt;br&gt;Amazing changes happen to the brain as teenagers grow into adults, so it’s only logical that those changes would impact the reading interests of adolescents. Learn what transformations occur and what they mean for selection and reader’s advisory. We’ll connect popular titles to teen brain growth, plus make recommendations for current titles that address the different pieces of teen brain development.</td>
<td>Dr. Melissa Cast-Brede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:50</td>
<td><strong>SPICE UP Your Programming for Young Children with SPANISH LANGUAGE EXPERIENCES</strong>&lt;br&gt;A presentation for librarians who speak little or no Spanish: An introduction to easy ways you can immediately add some Spanish language experiences to your usual programming for young children.</td>
<td>Karen Drevo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:50</td>
<td><strong>Great Books for Tweens and Teens with Sally Snyder</strong>&lt;br&gt;There’s always some new treasure to be discovered during Sally’s showcase of books!</td>
<td>Sally Snyder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 1:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 2:45</td>
<td><strong>The Story of the Orphan Grain Train: An Example of Storytelling</strong>&lt;br&gt;How many were there? At least 200,000, but maybe as many as 500,000. Fending for themselves on the streets of New York, homeless children were given a chance for a new life in America’s heartland by riding the orphan train. Orphans who remember the experience come to life and share a heartrending and forgotten part of history.</td>
<td>Pippa White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 – 3:15</td>
<td>Giveaways, Evaluations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We must leave the premises by 3:45 pm.</td>
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</tbody>
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Building and Maintaining your Library Website with WordPress

This workshop will be a mixture of instruction and hands-on practice. For those who do not already have WordPress accounts, dummy accounts will be provided. Those looking for a refresher are welcome as well. The first 10 registrations will be accepted, and after that a waiting list will be established. Register at http://bit.ly/LibraryWP

Seward Memorial Library
Computer Lab
September 13, 1 pm—4 pm
Instructor: Amanda Sweet
University of Missouri–Columbia
School of Information Science
and Learning Technologies
(SISLT)
Virtual Open House

Saturday July 20, 2019
2-3:30 pm

Zoom (https://mizzou.zoom.us/j/958886333)

Join us for an open house and learn about the opportunity
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Laura England-Biggs
Program Liaison, SISLT

Phone: 402-250-3969
E-mail: englandle@missouri.edu
System Spotlight

Need to do Inventory? We can help!

If you feel an inventory is needed at your library, there are two things we can do to help:

- Loan you a scanner and/or laptop, as needed.
- Demonstrate in person, at your library, how taking inventory works. That way we can get you up and running so that you can perform your inventory with confidence!

It is easiest if you have a cart on which you can transport the laptop and scanner as you move along your shelves—it makes inventory much faster!

Southeast Library System

http://libraries.ne.gov/SELS/

Butler • Clay • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton • Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster • Merrick • Nemaha • Nuckolls • Otoe • Pawnee • Polk • Richardson • Saline • Saunders • Seward • Thayer • York

Staff:

Executive Director—Scott Childers
scott.childers.sels@gmail.com

Assistant Director—Todd Schlechte
todd.schlechte.sels@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant—Winter Daniel
winter.daniel.sels@gmail.com

Contact Us:

Local Phone: 402-467-6188
Toll Free Phone: 800-288-6063
Fax: 844-270-7004
selsne@gmail.com

5730 R St. Suite C-1
Lincoln, NE 68505