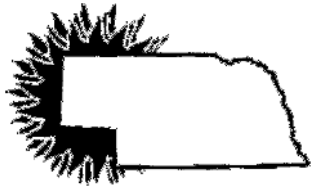


# Panhandle Sun



*The Newsletter of the Panhandle Library System*

December 2007/January 2008

## Check-out What the Panhandle Library System Has to Offer

The Panhandle Library System has many, many resources for library staff to use in administration, planning, collection development, public services, and professional enrichment. There are books, videos, software, equipment, and other items for library staff to borrow. It's easy. We can either mail you what you need or, in some cases, we can hand deliver the resource to your door.

PLS recently acquired the [ALA READ Box Set with Photoshop Elements](#) for any member library to borrow and use. The CD set gives you the tools you need to design your own READ posters and bookmarks. You may use the software at the PLS office or in your own library.

The PLS office also has excellent collection development resources available to borrow to help librarians in budget management, weeding collections, and selecting materials. A recent addition to our collection is [Publishers Weekly](#). Many librarians use Publisher's Weekly (PW) to stay abreast of current publishing trends and bookselling buzz. The journal also reviews popular fiction and nonfiction

and may be used in selecting materials. PLS subscribes to these other professional journals:

- Library Journal
- School Library Journal
- American Libraries
- Public Libraries
- Friends of Libraries USA News Update
- E School News

All our journals are available for you to use. We realize that many libraries cannot afford the exorbitant subscription price of professional journals, yet they are valuable resources in collection development. Please tell us which issues you would like and we will be happy to bring them over to your library!

Besides professional journals, PLS has "best of" reference books to help you decide what to keep in your collections. They are also useful for updating a particular subject area. PLS recently added the new [Senior High Core Collection](#), 17th ed. to our professional materials collection. Other titles available include:

- Children's Catalog
- Middle and Jr. High School Catalog
- Fiction Catalog
- Best Books For Children

Please use our professional resources. Just call or email the PLS office.



## In This Issue:

- PLS gets new inventory scanner
- 2007 NE Book Awards winners announced
- What is Whyville and the Whybrary
- Book Group Kits
- Selecting music
- Library blogs

## Panhandle Library System Receives New Follett Panther Scanner

PLS has obtained the new Panther scanner from Follett. We will schedule a workshop in the near future that demonstrates how the Panther works. It is a bit different from the Follett Dolphin, which is probably the scanner you previously borrowed from PLS. Our older Follett Dolphin is in disrepair and may be out of commission for good. With the Follett Panther, staff can take inventory from anywhere. Circulation Plus/Catalog Plus users can execute essential inventory and circulation functions through the Follett Remote application, then upload transactions via a batch process. It connects to a Windows Desktop or Laptop using Microsoft's ActiveSync software to allow seamless upload of data from your Panther into Circ/Cat. Please notify the PLS office if you would like to borrow the Follett Panther.



## Public Librarian's Meetings Are Being Scheduled

One of the number one areas of interest among public librarians in the Panhandle is networking. Based on a survey of PLS public librarians, 27 public library directors expressed an interest in attending regular meetings with fellow public librarians to share ideas and concerns. Various topics of interests for discussion were suggested including patron privacy issues, behavior problems in the library, computer usage issues, security concerns and many, many others. Several librarians have even offered to host meetings! We have divided the Panhandle into three regions and will schedule a meeting in the same region once every three months. PLS will coordinate the agenda for the meeting based on the group's topics of interest.

## January - March 2008 Meeting Schedule

- **January 23 at Chadron Public Library;** Time: 3:00 -5:00 PM.; Topic: Computer Use Issues
- **February 6 at Gering Public Library;** Time: 3:00-5:00PM; Topic: Patron Privacy Issues
- **March 20 at Goodall City Library, Ogallala;** Time:10:30AM-12:30PM; Topic: Behavior Problems in the Library

Refreshments will be served. Lunch or dinner arrangements may be made following the meeting. Please contact the PLS office if you would like to attend any of the scheduled PLS Public Librarian's Meetings.

## Lyman Public Library Gets Bigger!

Keitha Green, Library Director, is thrilled to announce that the Lyman Public Library will be expanding. Money for the project is being obtained through a grant. Keitha states that an addition to the library will be made through the back of the building. If all goes well, the project will begin this summer. The Library will not only have room for additional library materials, furniture and equipment, but the Library Board is also looking at the possibility of automation. This is truly an exciting time for the residents of Lyman!

## Meet the New Director of the Goodall City Library

Kendra Caskey began work as the Goodall City Library Director in Ogallala October 10. She is quickly being acclimated to libraries and city government work. With a BA in International Business, a solid sales background, and business management experience Kendra is well suited for the many faceted position of library director. Perhaps you had an opportunity to speak with Kendra at the NLA/NEMA Conference. She also attended Basic Skills a few weeks ago. Please join us at Goodall City Library in March for the PLS

## PANHANDLE LIBRARY SYSTEM UPCOMING EVENTS

**Jan. 8, 2008:** PLS Board Meeting

Location: Bluffs Business Center,  
1517 Broadway, Suite 129,  
Scottsbluff, Main floor conference room  
10:00 a.m.

**Jan. 16, 2008:** "Serving Your Spanish Speaking  
Community"

Includes a free lunch and prizes!

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Scottsbluff (specific facility to be deter-  
mined)

**Jan. 17, 2008:** "Serving Your Spanish Speaking  
Community" includes a free lunch and prizes!

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Alliance, (specific facility to be deter-  
mined)

**Jan. 23, 2008:** PLS Public Librarian's Meeting –  
Northern Panhandle Region

3:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Chadron Public Library

Topic: Computer Use Issues

**Jan. 25, 2008:** Automation Vendor Day

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Seward Memorial Library

**Feb. 6, 2008:** PLS Public Librarian's Meeting –  
Central Panhandle Region

3:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Gering Public Library

Topic: Patron Privacy Issues

**Feb. 8, 2008:** College of DuPage; Soaring to Excel-  
lence;

"People watching with a purpose: Meeting needs  
before they need it"

10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (MST)

Webcast.

Register with Nebraska Library Commission at:  
[www.nlc.stat.ne.us](http://www.nlc.stat.ne.us)  
and click on "Library Training" or call 800-307-  
2665

**Feb. 12, 2008:** NLA Legislative Day; Lincoln

**Mar. 7, 2008:** College of DuPage  
Library Challenges and Opportunities; "Library  
Spaces: Future needs:

10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (MST)

Webcast

Register with Nebraska Library Commission at:  
[www.nlc.state.ne.us](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us)  
or call 800-307-2665

**Mar. 18, 2008:** PLS Summer Reading Program

10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Scottsbluff Public Library, 1809 3rd Avenue,  
Scottsbluff

**Mar. 19, 2008:** NLA Paraprofessional 2008 Spring  
Meeting

9:00 a.m. to noon (MST)

Videoconferences across the state

[www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/  
paraspringmeeting.html](http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/paraspringmeeting.html)

**March 20, 2008:** PLS Public Librarian's Meeting –  
Southern Panhandle Region

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Goodall City Library, Ogallala

Topic: Behavior Problems in the Library

**Mar. 25—29, 2008:** PLA National Conference  
Minneapolis, MN

[www.placonference.org](http://www.placonference.org)





## Books Honored by Nebraska Center for the Book

The 2007 Nebraska Book Awards program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book (NCB), recognizes and honors books that are written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or concerning Nebraska. This year's winners are:

- **Children/Young Adult:** *Tomorrow the River*, Dianne E. Gray, Houghton Mifflin Company
- **Cover/Design/Illustration:** *Things We Don't Know We Don't Know*, Matt Mason, The Backwaters Press
- **Fiction:** *The Floor of the Sky*, Pamela Carter Joern, University of Nebraska Press Flyover Fiction Series
- **Fiction Honor:** *The Cleanup*, Sean Doolittle, Bantam Dell, a Division of Random House, Inc.
- **Nonfiction:** *The National Grasslands*, Francis Moul, Photography by Georg Joutras, University of Nebraska Press Bison Books
- **Nonfiction Honor:** *Toast to Omaha: A Cookbook*, Junior League of Omaha, Quebecor Books
- **Poetry:** *Things We Don't Know We Don't Know*, Matt Mason, The Backwaters Press

The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at the Nebraska Library Commission and brings together the state's readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. The Nebraska Center for the Book is supported by the Nebraska Library Commission.

### Virtual World Library Book

#### Discussions For Tweens in Whyville

Whyville, the American Association for School Librarians, Alliance Library System, the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County,

and TAP Information Services will host a library book discussion of *Voyage of the Dawn Treader* by Clive Staples Lewis for tweens ages 9-13 in the Greek Theater in Whyville. The discussions are being held as a kickoff activity to offer library services for children at a Whybrary, which is currently under construction. In addition to the debut of the Whybrary and the book discussion group in Whyville, the event will launch a fund raising initiative so that additional programs and activities can be planned for participating libraries. Interested librarians may also join a google group for on-going discussion of Whyville at <http://groups.google.com/group/whybrary>.

#### WHAT IS WHYVILLE?

Since its inception in 1999, Whyville has grown to a population of almost 3 million registrants and a run rate of 35 million page views per month. Every day, tens of thousands of children from around the world visit to interact, have, and explore topics in science, economics, citizenship, and more. They become Whyville citizens by creating avatar-base personas and earning virtual "clam" salaries by participating in educational activities. They design rocket engines, fly hot air balloons, start their own virtual businesses, and even campaign for a seat in the Whyville Senate. The Whyville Times, the town newspaper, is filled with articles written by the citizens on town issues as well as world events. Whyville's activities are interactive, open ended, and foster creativity. Whyville has also been rated "Best on the Internet" for child safety by iParenting for two years in a row.

#### A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

"We hope this will be the beginning of a collaborative effort between libraries of all kinds to promote books in all formats, information and

fun for kids and young adults spending their time online,” said Dr. James Bower, Founder and CEO of Numedeon Inc., the company that runs Whyville. This is where many of our next generation and future tax payers are, on the net in social networking sites with their friends,” state Kitty Pope, Executive Director of the Alliance Library System. “We have worked with librarians from all over the world to pioneer library services in virtual worlds for teens and adults. It’s now time to reach out to kids.” “Whyville is a perfect fit for libraries since it’s such a safe and educational platform. Adapting library services to where youth are is a win-win for all!” said Kelly Czarnecki, Teen Education Librarian at PLCCMC.

#### JUST IMAGINE—THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

Imagine a virtual world filled with library materials in all formats (print, audio, video) and programs of all types, from story hours and book discussions to natural history to art to science and technology. Children from around the world visit regularly, exploring materials and participating in activities together. The education in Whyville is designed to be hands-on, inquiry based and constructivist. They can attend a live or video story hour, browse stories in many formats, and look at exhibits. They can meet other children from all over the world. They go on a virtual dig as archaeologists in a museum of natural history. They attend a live discussion session on carbon dating at a virtual open air theater. They can create their own stories and share them in whatever format they choose. Libraries are about books, stories, and community—books and stories in a variety of formats be it print, a movie, a video, a cd-rom, DVD, or storytelling. This favorite web destination for children serves as a virtual space where experiences from a recent library visit can be shared and extended. It supports a “between-visit” experience that strengthens the relationship between libraries and the communities they serve. Sound far fetched?

Not all! Whybrary is an extension of Whyville.net, the premier educational virtual community for children.

#### ABOUT NUMEDON AND WHYVILLE

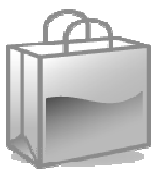
Numedeon specializes in the design and operation of virtual worlds. It is the parent company of Whyville.com which remains the only learning-based virtual world for today’s digital kids. Whyville is an environment that engages its vested “citizens” to learn about life, while having fun. Numedeon’s technology enables organizations to be on the inside of virtual worlds, and in the case of Whyville, providing them with the means to truly interact with the hard-to-reach demographic of 8 to 15 year olds. Sponsored programs in Whyville include: Reading programs (supported by Scholastic); pop music concerts (EMI, Virgin records, Hollywood Records, Radio Disney); investigations of important issues like global warming (An Inconvenient Truth/Penguin Books), and immersive activities involving automobile engineering (Toyota), human disease (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and biotechnology (Texas Workforce Commission), to name only a few. For more information contact Lori Bell at: [alliancelibrarysystem.com](http://alliancelibrarysystem.com).

*Printed with permission from Lori Bell, Director of Innovation, East Peoria, IL Alliance Library System*

#### **Please Take Our Survey!**

The PLS Board of Trustees would like your opinion on how you prefer to read and receive the PLS newsletter. Due to an increase in postage and other expenses, viewing and printing the newsletter online is an option. An online newsletter could be more colorful and provide active links to Web resources. Of course, there are disadvantages as well. The PLS newsletter is a very important resource and we want to keep it that way. You will receive the survey via email soon. Please let us know your opinion!

## Book Discussion Group Kits Available for Loan



Are you having trouble obtaining numerous copies of books for patrons who participate in book discussion groups? Perhaps the book club even meets at your library. There is no need to worry any longer! There are a few easy ways to borrow popular reading group titles for your patrons.

**Scottsbluff Public Library** has *Book Club Packets* available for checkout. The packets consist of a Scottsbluff Public Library bag containing eight copies of a certain title, a folder with author and book information, book club resource information, a readers' guide and a book checkout sheet for the reading group leader to keep track of who checks out each copy. Each packet checks out for six weeks. Titles available include:

- Carol, Joy- *The Fabric of Friendship*
- Cather, Willa- *My Antonia*
- Chessman, Harriet- *Lydia Cassatt Reading the Morning Paper*
- Connelly, Michael- *Closers*
- Sandoz, Mari- *Crazy Horse*
- See, Lisa- *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*
- Stewart, Rory- *The Places in Between*
- Walls, Jeanette- *The Glass Castle*

**The Nebraska Library Commission** also has Book Club Kits available to borrow. They have *A Child Called It* by Dave Pelzer, *The Divine Secrets of the YA YA Sisterhood* by Rebecca Wells, and *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Plus many more! For a complete listing go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/ref/bookclubkits.html>. Contact the Information Desk at the Library Commission to check out a Book Club Kit.

Another source for reading group kits is the **Chadron Public Library**. The following titles are available:

- Sandoz, Mari- *Crazy Horse*
- Grisham, John- *Bleachers*
- McCall Smith, Alexander- *Full Cupboard of Life*
- Albom, Mitch- *For One More Day*
- Bach, Richard- *Illusions*
- Garcia Marquez, Gabriel- *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
- Kingsolver, Barbara- *Pigs in Heaven*
- Shreve, Anita- *Pilot's Wife*
- Kidd, Sue Monk- *Secret Life of Bees*
- Oates, Joyce Carol- *The Falls*
- Kidd, Sue Monk- *Mermaid Chair*

Chadron Public Library also has four "Business Book Club Kits" available for loan.

## Traveling Kits Available Through Nebraska Folklife Network



The Nebraska Folklife Network is a nonprofit arts and humanities organization dedicated to advancing cross-cultural understanding and equity in a diverse society. This is done through education and preservation efforts. The Nebraska Folklife Network is currently producing cultural encounter kits for use in schools, libraries, and museums to help children learn about specific cultural groups such as Iraqi, Swedish and Vietnamese Nebraskans. These traveling kits will include samples of folk arts, media presentations and other classroom resources. For more information about the Nebraska Folklife Network go to [www.neflklife.org](http://www.neflklife.org) or call 402-420-5442.

## Selecting Music For Your Library

Purchasing musical recordings for your library can be a very important part of collection development. It can also be one of the most difficult areas for librarians to develop due to the vast scope of the field and limited knowledge. Fortunately, there are some great websites and print resources available to help librarians in selecting musical recording from all genres.

### WEBSITES

- **All Music Guide Online :** <http://wm04allmusic.com>  
- Original publisher of the All Music Guide reference books. Lists top artists and top albums within genre
- **Radio and Records:** <http://radioandrecords.com>–  
Includes news, charts, and ratings
- **CD Hotlist:** <http://cdhotlist.btol.com> - Baker & Taylor's list of new releases for librarians. Includes comments
- **ADDreviews:** <http://www.addreviews.com> -  
Includes short, concise music reviews
- **Spanish Multimedia.com:** <http://www.spanishmultimedia.com> - Has a large selection of Spanish music
- **NPR Music:** <http://www.npr.org/music/> - Lists best CDs of the year, provides news and reviews
- **Grammy.com;** <http://www.grammy.com> - Lists Grammy and Latin Grammy award winners
- **Gramophone:** <http://www.gramophone.co.uk/> - Includes news, reviews, and interviews with classical music artists

### PRINT MATERIALS

- The New York Times Essential Library series. Critic's guides to Jazz, opera, and classical music
- [Penguin Guide to Recorded Classical Music 2008](#)
- [NPR Guide to Building A Classical CD Collection](#), 2nd ed. By Ted Libbey

## Library Blogs

Are you blogging? Do you know how a blog works? According to Wikipedia, "A blog is a website where entries are written in chronological order and commonly displayed in reverse chronological order. Many blogs provide commentary or news on a particular subject; others function as more personal online diaries. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, web pages, and other media related to its topic. The ability for readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs." Many blogs are authored by librarians. Blogs provide an excellent forum for sharing ideas and information and for professional development. Online Education Database (OEDb) recently ranked the most popular librarian blogs based on visitor traffic and site backlinks.

### Top 7 Librarian Bloggers

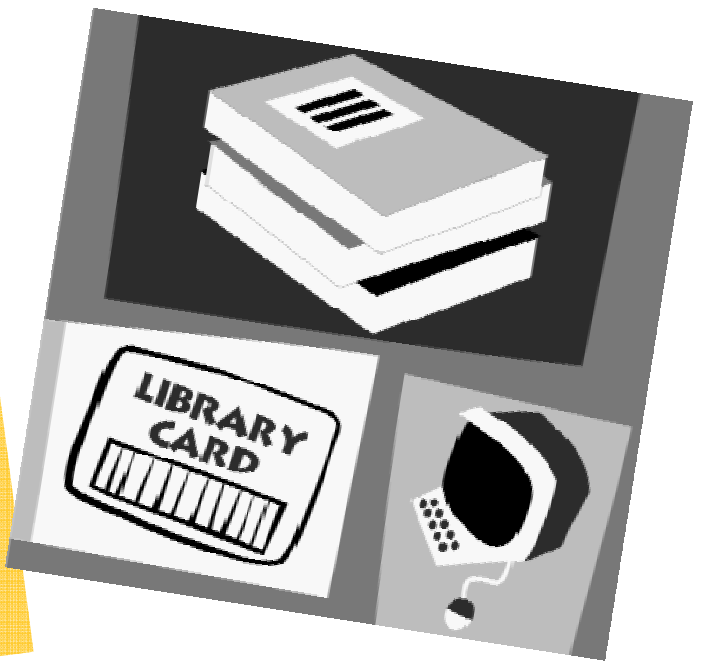
1. Librarian.net– <http://librarian.net>
2. The Shifted Librarian - <http://www.theshiftedlibrarian.com>
3. LibrarianInBlack- <http://librarianinblack.typepad.com/>
4. Free Range Librarian - <http://freerangelibrarian.com/>
5. Law Librarian Blog - [http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/law\\_librarian\\_blog/](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/law_librarian_blog/)
6. The Librarian's Guide to Etiquette - <http://libetiquette.blogspot.com/>
7. The Travelin' Librarian -<http://www.travelinlibrarian.info/>

For the methodology used and a complete list of the top 25 librarian bloggers go to: <http://oedb.org/library/features/top-25-librarian-bloggers-by-the-numbers>.

Nebraska Regional Library Systems Present:

# Automation Vendor Day

Friday January 25, 2008  
Seward Memorial Library  
233 S 5th St, Seward NE  
Registration Fee: \$10  
Includes lunch



**Schedule:**

9:30—10:30 a.m.	Clark Charbonnet, Biblionix
10:40—11:40 a.m.	Troy Mohrman, Polaris
11:40—12:45 p.m.	Lunch
12:45—1:45 p.m.	Online Nebraska Library (ONELibrary Consortium)
1:55—2:55 p.m.	Follett
3:00—4:00 p.m.	3M: RFID

This Workshop is for you if:

- ◆ You are considering automation
- ◆ You are considering changing your automation vendor
- ◆ You want to learn about RFID (radio frequency identification)

Send registration form with fee by Jan. 20th to:  
Meridian Library System  
1015 Central Ave, Suite B  
Kearney, NE 68847

Name:
Library:
Phone:
Email:





# On Our Way to PLA 2008!

## OF COURSE THERE'S A BUS TRIP!

This will be the fourth annual Road Trip– we're heading up north for the Public Library Association 2008 Conference.

## March 24-March 29, 2008

Use the bus trip to network with your peers, catch up on your sleep, finish that book, or watch a movie. But most of all, use the bus for the opportunity to attend a national conference for **FREE!** That's right, thanks to the Nebraska Regional Library Systems, and to a grant\* from the Nebraska Library Commission, there will be no cost for the bus ride. (Riders are responsible for their own hotel arrangements and conference registration.)

The PLA National Conference has a reputation for excellence and offers attendees more than a hundred high-quality educational programs, world speakers, a bustling exhibits hall, and countless networking opportunities and social events, making the conference one of the most popular and successful events for the public library world. The 2008 conference promises more of the same in Minneapolis, a city that continually tops travel destination lists for its cutting-edge architecture, vibrant arts scene, award-winning theatre, tax-free shopping, and renowned restaurants. Bookmark [www.placonference.org](http://www.placonference.org) and check back often for updated information on registration, conference programming, special events, travel, and insider tips on everything Minneapolis has to offer. **John Wood**, former executive with Microsoft and founder of Room to Read, will help kick off the conference with an inspirational account of how he left his corporate job to change the world. **Kevin Nealon**, of 'Hanz & Franz' fame, will do the closing keynote.

Early Bird registration for the PLA conference ends January 18, 2008.

Pick-ups for the bus will be in Lincoln, Omaha, & South Sioux City.



## So sign up today to join Road Trip 2008!

Please let us know your serious interest as early as possible, so that if we need to reserve a larger bus we can!

Sign up deadline: March 3rd, 2008

Contact Jenni Puchalla, 5730 R St., Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505  
jennip@alltel.net or 800-288-6063/467-6188

\*This project was supported in part by a Continuing Education and Training grant, awarded by the Nebraska Library Commission.

\*\*If space permits, each rider may bring a non-library affiliated guest, who, according to grant stipulations, would be required to pay \$100.

## Scotland Tour

### Itinerary: July 19th-August 1st

**Day 1** Fly from U.S.A. to Glasgow International Airport.

**Day 2** Met by our tour guide, Mr. Iain Macdonald, for the journey into Ayrshire and Burns Country. We will visit the cottage where Scotland's National Poet was born. The museum contains some priceless manuscripts and the Passport ticket includes entrance to the other Burns attractions. We then drive the Electric Brae to visit Culzean Castle before returning to our hotel.

**Day 3** Journey north from Ayr via the Erskine Bridge over the river Clyde. We head for Luss on the bonny banks of Loch Lomond. From there we will visit Inverary and Lochgilphead before passing through Kilmartin Glen. Travelling northward, we arrive at Oban for two nights.

**Day 4** Full day tour to Mull and Iona where St. Columba introduced Celtic Christianity to Scotland in the 6th Century.

**Day 5** Today we visit Glencoe, the scene of the 1692 massacre, when the Macdonalds were massacred by the Campbells. From there we travel through Fort William to Glenfinnan. It was here in 1745 that Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard to try to recover the throne of the United Kingdom.

**Day 6** Inverness is today's destination. We pass through Kyle of Lochalsh and travel to Dornie where we will visit one of the most Donan. From there we travel through Glen Shiel to Invergarry and travel north through the Great Glen and along the banks of Loch Ness to Clansman harbour where we will have a one hour cruise on the Loch and then on to Inverness for a two night stay.

**Day 7** Inverness area. Today we will visit Culloden Battlefield and then visit Clava Cairns, another 3000 BC burial site. This site played a vital part in Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* series of books. We then visit Cawdor Castle, home to the Campbells of Cawdor and one of the most livable castles in Scotland. We return to Inverness in the afternoon for free time to visit the city.

**Day 8** We leave Inverness for our journey to Aberdeen. We will travel via Grantown on Spey and pay a visit to Glenlivet Distillery. We then travel via Huntly and on to Aberdeen, the oil capital of Scotland. There will be time for a tour of the Granite City where you will see the largest granite

building in the U.K., its University dating from 1500, St. Machairs Cathedral and the very quaint "Footdee" (pronounced Fitty) a small fishing village in the heart of the city.

**Day 9** Royal Deeside, Crathes Castle, Ballater (lunch), Craithie Church, Braemar and back to Aberdeen.

**Day 10** Depart Aberdeen and visit St. Andrews. Not just the home of golf but a place steeped in history with Scotland's oldest university (1400) and one of the hotbeds of the 16th Century Reformation in the Scottish Church. From there we head to Stirling, an area central to William Wallace (Braveheart) and King Robert the Bruce. We will visit its castle before continuing to Edinburgh.

**Day 11** Today we visit the Scottish Borders. Our first visit will be Rosslyn Chapel made famous by the book, *The Da Vinci Code*. From there we will pass through Peebles and on to Melrose with a visit to its Abbey where the heart of Robert the Bruce is buried. After lunch in the town, we will visit Abbotsford, the home of Sir Walter Scott. His library contains over 9000 books and manuscripts plus an amazing collection of historical relics. From there we return, via Scotts View, to Edinburgh.

**Day 12** Today we have a tour of Edinburgh, including visits to its historic castle which dominates the city and the ex Royal Yacht Britannia.

**Day 13** Free day in Edinburgh to explore its nooks, crannies and shops at your leisure.

**Day 14** Transfer and depart to USA from Edinburgh or Glasgow, depending on carrier.

Air arrangements will be made on your own when the registration deposits have been received in January, 2008. Airfare will be in addition to the land cost. *Tour must have 12 people. If less than 12 people register, the tour will be cancelled.* Land cost is \$3000.00/person in shared rooms. Single supplement is \$650/person. If you wish to have a roommate assigned, please let us know. *Deposit of \$500 is due by January 31, 2008.* Full payment is due June 15, 2008. We accept personal checks or purchase checks on credit card accounts. The land cost includes the following: Twelve nights accommodation with accompanying breakfast, bus, driver/tour guide, dinner on six nights and entrance/tour fees. The tour is open to anyone interested in Scotland. Questions? Call Sharon Osenga at Meridian Library System: 308/234-2087

Panhandle Library System Board Meeting  
Tuesday, September 11, 2007 – 10:05 A.M.  
Bluffs Business Center Main Floor Conference Room  
1517 Broadway, Scottsbluff, Nebraska

President Diane Downer called the meeting to order. Board members present were: Terry Christensen, Lillian Diedrichsen, Diane Downer, Glenda Gamby, Eileen Nightingale, Vickie Retzlaff, Jane Schlager, Jim Soester, and Ruth Walker. Members absent: Kathy Terrell. Diane had all the board members introduce themselves to Marjorie Harrison. Jim Soester made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting; Ruth Walker, 2nd. Minutes were approved with one correction being made. There was discussion on the open meeting law and Marjorie Harrison will check as to whether it needs to be posted or not.

A note was read from the Oshkosh Public Library thanking the System for the \$150 grant they received for the Summer Reading Program. Round Table – Public Librarians: Vickie Retzlaff: library budget passed, annual fund raiser a Halloween Bake & Craft Sale, looking for library aide; Eileen Nightingale: crochet club, host NE traveling art show, book sale, Saturday programs, new windows, working on building program, coffee bar, Runza Great Books for Kids Program; Jane Schlager: fund raising activities for library expansion; Runza program, book sale with food booths; Diane Downer: all library computers on same operating system, Friends raising funds to buy a server, and inventory.

The Nebraska Library Commission report was given by Marjorie Harrison in the absence of Rod Wagner. The Coordinator's Report was given by Marjorie Harrison. Ben Mikaelson will be giving performances at Ogallala High School and Goodall City Library in Ogallala in April. The Nebraska Library Commission is paying all expenses. The Panhandle Library System will be receiving several new pieces of equipment from the Nebraska Library Commission which include: two computers, laptop, Follett scanner, and digital camera.

Diane Downer brought up that the bylaws concerning the use of the system car by the coordinator needed to be revised to say that the coordinator is able to drive the system car to and from work. Jim Soester made the motion that the section in the bylaws about the system car needs to be reworded and voted on at the next meeting; Ruth Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed with all ayes. The car lease will be up in June. The system car has about 40,000 miles on it and the lease allows the car to be driven 15,000 miles a year with miles over that amount costing extra. There was discussion by the board concerning the car lease. Marjorie Harrison will visit with Rod Wagner about lease versus purchase along with the office rent which has increased.

Marjorie Harrison gave the Budget Report with an opening balance of \$7,693.78. She also presented the Budget for this year. A motion was made by Eileen Nightingale to accept the budget; Ruth Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Motion passed with all ayes. Committees: Annual Meeting: Add Kathy Wasserburger and Jane Schlager and remove Glenda Gamby; Scholarship Committee: Add Pat Gross. Annual Meeting Survey was discussed and it was agreed that all members of the PLS area be given the survey because of only 16 libraries responding. The Plan of Service will be updated at the next meeting with sections being assigned to small groups. Marjorie Harrison will send a copy to members ahead of time.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at the Bluffs Business Center Main Floor Conference Room. Meeting adjourned at 11:57 A.M.

Lillian Diedrichsen  
Secretary

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Deuel, Garden, Grant, Keith, Kimball,  
Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan and Sioux

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