

Eastern Express

May/June 2009

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System—ISSN # 1064-3486

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Annual Meeting
June 12, 2009

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 Rosa Schmidt
 John Seyfarth
 Jan Therien
 Carrie Turner

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From the Executive Director

Kathy Tooker

Recently I have had the opportunity to visit with several groups of librarians and we all agreed that librarians in Nebraska have a special relationship with each other that may not be found in other places. A librarian friend that has left the state has commented on that he misses the networking that happens here. Nebraska librarians do network! If you have a problem or question, all you have to do is put it out there online or by word-of-mouth and your colleagues from across the state will respond with suggestions. Librarians will share ideas, programs, solutions, suggestions with each other. I am sure this is not unique to Nebraska, but I don't think we can take it for granted either.

Another way that Nebraska librarians stand out is the generous way give of their time and talents. Since Eastern Library System sponsors many workshops it seems as though I am constantly calling on my colleagues and asking them to do a presentation, workshop, program, etc. And the response is almost always, "Yes, I can do that and thanks for asking me." It never ceases to amaze and delight me when I hear a response like this.

I would like to thank these wonderful librarians who have graciously said yes when asked to present a program for ELS in just this last year. Some of the programs were done in cooperation with the Southeast Library System.

Nebraska Librarians are the Best

- **Sandi Belfi**, Sump Memorial Library - children's programs
- **Melissa Cast-Brede**, University of Nebraska at Omaha - plagiarism
- **Francine Canfield**, Ralston Public Library - budgeting
- **Scott Childers**, University of Nebraska in Lincoln - pod casting
- **Paul Christopherson**, Omaha Public Library, young adult book reviews
- **Devra Dragos**, Nebraska Library Commission - open source software
- **Gail Formanack**, Omaha Public School - teaching multiple literacies
- **Linda Francois**, Keene Memorial Library - READ software
- **Richie Graham**, University of Nebraska in Lincoln - graphic novels
- **Karen Hein**, University of Nebraska at Omaha - technology tools and copyright
- **Nancy Larimer**, Lincoln Public Schools - collection evaluation
- **Becky Pasco**, University of Nebraska at Omaha - for help in making arrangements
- **Deb Pearson**, University of Nebraska Lincoln - library safety issues
- **Toni Reese**, Sump Memorial Library - storytelling
- **Marie Reidelbach**, Nebraska University Medical Center - copyright

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- **Gayle Roberts**, Blair Public Library — technology and book repair
- **Mindi Rush**, Kutak Rock Law Library - open meeting laws
- **John Seyfarth**, Sump Memorial Library technology
- **Kimberley Shelley**, Lincoln City Libraries - GLBT issues
- **Sally Snyder**, Nebraska Library Commission - children's and young adult book reviews
- **Michael Straatmann**, University of Nebraska—Lincoln - disaster planning
- **Lisa Voss**, Lincoln City Libraries - social networking
- **Ann Stephens**, Keene Memorial Library - facilities management
- **Dorothy Willis**, retired (sort of) - public service

The number of librarians on this list is not unusual, it happens every year and not only in ELS. Every year, in the other five regional library systems, there are librarians who do the same and share their time and their talents.

So, when you see one of these people, tell them you appreciate what they are doing to help provide quality programs that will expand our knowledge base and improve library services. And, when I call you and ask if you can be a presenter, say yes!

*If I have neglected to include someone, it was not intentional, just faulty memory.

Thank You
Thank You

Trustee Tips

[Seen in *Library Administrator's Digest*, April 2009]

Board Member Self-Assessment

- I support the mission/values of this library.
- I am willing to further the work of this library with my time, skills, and financial support.
- I understand the role of the board and my legal and ethical responsibilities as a trustee.
- I have attended the majority of regular and special board meetings and other events requiring board participation.
- I prepare for meetings by reading background materials and researching issues for discussion.
- I actively participate in board meetings by listening, discussing, and presenting complete information as required.
- I carry out my other board responsibilities (e.g. committee member, fund-raising, advocacy and/or education) in an effective and timely manner.
- I am willing to support and help other trustees in their development.
- I am interested and willing to participate in development opportunities including workshop, information sessions, conferences, and taking on new roles.
- I try to be an objective decision maker, considering the impact of issues on individuals, the organization, and the community
- I avoid participation in board issues which are self-serving or may be perceived as a conflict of interest.
- I recognize the board must “speak with one voice” and I avoid taking action on issues unless instructed to by the board.
- I enjoy my service as a trustee for this library. If not, I am actively working to change the issues and/or activities which are a barrier, or I am reconsidering my commitment to this organization.

Worth Checking Out

Professional Collection Additions

Targeting the Ages: Programming Hits the Mark (DVD) teleconference. Some general rules for developing and executing a successful program.

Black Belt Librarians: Every Librarian's Real World Guide to a Safer Workplace by Warren Graham. Practical advice to make the library a safe place for everyone.

To interlibrary loan these resources call the system office at 402-330-7884.

CREW Manual

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission has made the latest edition of *CREW: Weeding Manual for Libraries* available for free in PDF at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/crew. This is an excellent guide to weeding.

Library Commission's New Grant Schedule

* Continuing Education & Training Grants
Available: November 3, 2009
Due: December 17, 2009
Recipients Announced: January 15, 2010

*Library Improvement Grants
Available: October 1, 2009
Due: December 4, 2009
Recipients Announced: February 16, 2010

*Youth Grants for Excellence
Available: August 14, 2009
Due: October 2, 2009
Recipients Announced: November 20, 2009

For more information go to
www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/grant.html.

Want to Hire A Senior? Stimulus Funds May Help as tucked into the federal stimulus package is an additional \$120 million to fund part-time jobs for up to 24,000 senior citizens, some of whom could be working at a library. The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) provides subsidized,

part-time, community service work-based training for low-income age 55 or older who have poor employment prospects.

Libraries do not hire the workers directly. Of the total funding, 78 percent goes to 18 national nonprofit organizations and the rest to 56 state and territorial governments. In most states, the American Library Association reports, the governor has selected the State Office on Aging to administer the program. The U.S. Department of Labor offers contact information for all existing grantees.

[Taken from *Library Journal*, April 1, 2009]

Fun Stuff

From the January 2009 *Library Journal* Newsdesk as seen on Publib, some the best reference questions. The librarians on Publib have been tossing around the "best reference questions ever." Among the most entertaining

- "Can you give me a map that tells where I can find caves that haven't been discovered yet?"
- "Is Martha's Vineyard named after Martha Stewart?"
- "What is the medical term for boogers?"

Patrons at the Forbes Library in Northampton, MA can now check out ukuleles and instructional DVDs.

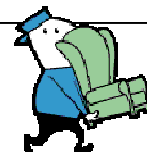
Editor's Note:

We're Moving to Suite 18

The Eastern Library System office is moving - all the way downstairs. We were able to obtain much larger office space in the same building we are in now. The extra room will allow ELS to hold meetings in the office, have easier access to materials, and, best of all, we will not have to lug books and other stuff up and down stairs.

Kathy and I have been in our current office for 14 years and we have discussed how much younger we were then. This is kind of like moving to a ranch house from a split entry....easier on the back and knees.

We will host an open house during the holidays, but you are welcome anytime.



System News

Art Exhibit

A contemporary Native American art exhibit is now open and free to the public at the Neihardt State Historic Site in Bancroft. The exhibit features pieces from the University of South Dakota Oscar Howe Gallery collection. Hours of operation are 9-5, Monday through Saturday, and Sundays from 1:30-5. The exhibit will be open through May 31st.

Grants

The Nebraska Library Commission 2009 Library Improvement Grants have been awarded. Following are the recipients in ELS:

- Bennington Public Library, audio books collection
- Blair Public Library, portable computer lab
- Keene Memorial Library in Fremont, photo digitization
- Hooper Public Library, Spanish and computer lessons
- Wahoo Public Library, computer for local corrections center

Lyons

The Lyons Public Library had a very successful teen activity. At closing time, Geraldine (asst. librarian) discovered a body in the library. Teams under Sherlock Holmes, Magnum PI, and NCIS entered the darkened library in search of clues from titles and author's names to discover the necessary who, what, when, and why for the crime. Returning to their separate headquarters, each team was then given a list of suspects and they were to create alibis for all but one who would be the murderer. Fifteen minutes later, at a late breaking news conference, each team then learned they had been working on totally different murders as they each presented what they had learned during their investigation.



Scribner

Jeanette Groppe, library director for 33 years has retired. Jeanette began her career by volunteering as a storyteller for the Keene Memorial Library in Fremont. A few years later she began working at the Scribner Public Library which was open 12-15 hours per week. Her first desk is now housed in the Scribner's Musbach Museum.



Jeanette has done a terrific job of increasing the programs and services the library offers to the community. "We were one of the first libraries in the state and one of the smallest in the nation to do inter-library loan electronically," she said. "It was exciting to take part in that. I've loved this job beyond what I ever imagined. It's very difficult for me to leave, but it is time and I will enjoy my retirement"

Nebraska Educational Media Association (NEMA), Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to our spring Scholarship recipients!

Courtney Pentland, Omaha Public Schools, received the Continuing Education Scholarship

Theresa Gosnell, Westside High School, received the Presenter Scholarship (Theresa will be presenting at the Fall AASL Conference)

It's never too early to start working on your applications for the next go around of Scholarships and Awards. The deadline is August 15 and application information can be accessed on the NEMA web site at <http://schoolibrariesrock.org/index.html>

**ELS Annual Meeting
June 12, 2009**

UNO

Resources For Youth Services Librarians & Media Specialists

Authors' Names Pronunciation Website

Here is an informative and engaging website that features authors and illustrators pronouncing their names and telling stories behind their names. You'll enjoy these audio clips (try our Sherman Alexie's narrative as an exemplar of what you will find). The site is packed with great stories and illustrators we know and love.

<www.teachingbooks.net/pronuciations.cgi>
[Thanks for Becky Pasco for sharing this interesting and useful site]

The Golden Sower Committee is pleased to announce the 2009 award winners and honor books!

Primary Winner:

If I Built a Car by Chris Van Dusen

Primary Honor Books:

Fancy Nancy by Jane O'Connor, illus. by Robin Preiss Glasser

Library Lion by Michelle Knudsen, illus. by Kevin Hawkes

Intermediate Winner:

Satch and Me by Dan Gutman

Intermediate Honor Books:

Room One: A Mystery or Two by Andrew Clements

Rules by Cynthia Lord

Young Adult Winner:

Twilight by Stephenie Meyer

Young Adult Honor Books:

Heat by Mike Lupica

Life as We Knew It by Susan Beth Pfeffer

Target Store Grants

Target will accept applications for Early Childhood Reading Grants until May 31, 2009. The grant is for programs taking place between October 1, 2009, and September 30, 2010. The grants average between \$1000-\$3000. Go to: <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821> for more information. You can apply online.

"I like reading to dogs because they are warm and soft." Eight-year old Molly Wilkerson, participating in the Fowlerville (Mich) district Library's therapy dogs program where students boost their reading comprehension by settling in and reading to dogs. [*American Libraries*, May 2009]



Upcoming Events

June 12—ELS Annual Meeting, UNO (see page 8)

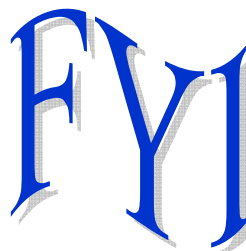
June 25—Farewell to NEBASE event. Go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/libcal/cal.pl> for more information

July 9-15, 2009-American Library Association 2009 Conference, Chicago
<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>

July 20-24—Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (see webpage www.elsne.org)

August 7—CLICK Meeting, Gretna Public Library—9:30 am. Summer Reading—what worked and what did not work

September 10-11 -Youth Services Retreat, Camp Carol Joy Holling and Retreat Center, Ashland



Gates Foundation and OCLC will develop Community Based Awareness Campaign

DUBLIN, Ohio, USA, 14 April 2009 - Today, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced a \$5 million grant to the OCLC library cooperative to develop a public information campaign that will help public library leaders heighten awareness of the needs of local libraries and increase support for the services they provide during these challenging times. OCLC will pilot the campaign in select areas of Georgia and Iowa starting this summer as well as a limited number of other communities which will be selected later this spring. Later in the year, OCLC will make available community awareness campaign materials and other guides to assist library leaders throughout the country in their efforts to strengthen support for local libraries.

The current economic crisis has led to dramatic increases in library visitation across the nation, as people rely on libraries for free computer and Internet access to conduct job searches, access government services, learn new workforce skills, and use other resources they can no longer afford at home.

The tightening economy has also put library funding - 80 percent of which comes from local sources - at risk. Many library systems predict deep state and local funding cuts in 2009, a growing burden for the roughly half of all libraries struggling against declining or flat budgets.

Read the full press release at:

<http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200924.htm>

NLA Public Library and Trustee Spring Meeting Report On Open Source Software [by Mary Jo Ryan, Communications Coordinator for the Nebraska Library Commission]

The Public Library and Trustee Section (PLTS) of the Nebraska Library Association (NLA) held Spring Meetings this year at Wahoo Public Li-

brary, Bridgeport Public Library, and the Lexington Public Library. The meeting included a program on **Nebraska's Open Source Integrated Library Systems Statewide Project**, presented by Greg Mickells, Assistant Library Director, Lincoln City Libraries.

Greg Mickells spoke about the option of open source software (OSS) for cooperative library catalogs. Open source software replaces the standard model of purchasing software and doing only what it allows you to do, with free software that allows you to change it to fit your needs. However, as it has been said, OSS is not free as in beer, but free as in kittens. There may be no up-front costs, but that doesn't mean there will be no costs in the long run. However, software customization and maintenance costs can be shared by partners using the system. This dynamic, flexible, affordable, Web-based option will be tested in Nebraska in the near future. Mickells described the pilot collaborative effort in Nebraska and the activities underway through the Nebraska Pioneer Project, including:

- A core group of seven libraries of all sizes (Omaha Public Library, Lincoln City Libraries, St. Paul Public Library, Gretna Public Library, Grand Island Public Library, Bellevue Public Library, and Holdrege Area Public Library) has been formed. This partnership will be formalized through interlocal agreements, currently underway.
- Koha (www.koha.org) has been selected as the software to use to build the system.
- The partnership wrote a \$100,000 grant and received funding through the Nebraska Library Commission's IMLS-funded Library Improvement grant process.
- The next step is a scoping study.
- The partnership expects to have a viable product available for testing by September.
- Additional Nebraska libraries will be invited to join the partnership at some time in the future.

Influenza A [H1N1] Flu Information Resources

[from CHIRS - Consumer Health Information Resource Service, McGoogan Library of Medicine at the Nebraska Medical Center]

- Note: The World Health Organization has said that they would refer to the 'swine flu' as Influenza A [H1N1]
- Nebraska Dept of Health & Human Services
<http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/H1N1Flu/>
- MedlinePlus <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/swineflu.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/?s_cid=swineFlu_outbreak_001
- U.S. Government
<http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>
- World Health Organization
<http://www.who.int/en/>



Here is the link to our new Lib-Guide on H1N1 (Swine Flu):

<http://unmc.libguides.com/h1n1swineflu>

→→→ Please Note:

Our email addresses have changed

Kathy—ktooker@windstream.net

Nancy—nrmeyer@windstream.net

Kris Rogge passed away on April 29, 2009. Kris was a long-time library supporter, serving as a Nebraska Library Commissioner, a member of the State Advisory Council on Libraries, and a former board member of the Southeast Library System.



For those who wish to make a contribution to the Nebraska Library Association's Legacy Fund in Kris's memory, make your memorial contribution payable to the Nebraska Community Foundation and note that the contribution is for the NLA Legacy Fund. You may send your memorial to:

Julee Hector
Treasurer, NLA
c/o Eisely Branch Library
1530 Superior Street
Lincoln, NE 68521

NCompass Live is the Nebraska Library Commission's weekly online event. NCompass Live covers NLC activities and library topics presented by NLC staff and guests. The free one-hour sessions are offered every Wednesday at 10:00AM (CT) and include a mixture of presentations, interviews, book reviews, Web tours, mini training sessions, and Q & A sessions.

Upcoming NCompass Live events include:

- Leading a Book Group – May 20
- The New and Improved Library and Information Services Program – Jun 10

To register for the NCompass Live events go to:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/ncompass/ncompasslive.asp>

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Nebraska Library Commission
1200 N Street, Suite 120
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-471-7740 or 800-307-2665
Fax: 402-471-2083



Eastern Library System Annual Meeting

June 12, 2009

Thompson Alumni House
University of Nebraska Omaha Campus

8:30 am Registration, Exhibits, Coffee
9:15 Welcome
9:30-10:30 Pat Wagner, Pattern Research

Ethical Dilemmas: What Should I do?

- Should I spend more money on books for seniors or for teens?
- Is respecting the privacy of library users more important than helping the police investigate a child pornography ring?
- Is it rude or ethical to tell my best friend I won't wave her library fines?
- Do I risk making the dean angry—and losing the new library building if I refuse to reveal student borrowing records?
- If I really believe the writings of an author are unethical, is it unethical to buy his book for the collection?

Library ethics is about how we make decisions and take action. It is the study of right and wrong, good and bad, morality and the law. It is more than what we feel, and it is rarely simple or easy. One of the best ways to understand library ethics is to practice with case study discussions. Learn the foundations of library ethics and practice applying them to real-life issues. Pat has been conducting workshops on ethics and decision-making for library staff and boards for 20 years, and plans to keep studying ethics for a least another 20. Pat is a frequent visitor to state and national library conferences and is known for her good-humored and practical programs

10:30-11:00 Break, Exhibits
11:00-Noon Pat Wagner
12:00-1:00 Lunch
1:00-1:45 ELS Business Meeting
Going the Extra Mile Award
2:00-3:00 Pat Wagner

There will be "Carnegie Library" calendars and note cards for sale along with raffles of two beautiful baskets.

Scholarships are available for first time attendees. To apply go to the ELS webpage www.elsne.org and click on Scholarship Policy and Application

6 hours of Continuing Education Credit

Cost—\$20 Make check to ELS and mail to:
Eastern Library System
11929 Elm Street, Suite 18
Omaha, NE 68144

Deadline for registration June 5th

Name_____

Library/School_____

Phone_____

Email_____

Eastern Library System Board Minutes Buffet Middle School, Omaha April 10, 2009

Board Members: Jan Therien, Mary Jo Mack, Joyce Neujahr, Gayle Roberts, Denise Lawver, Rosa Schmidt, Lowen Kruse, Marie Reidelbach *Alternates*: Dorothy Willis, Sam McMullen. Ex-officio: Kathleen Tooker, Nancy Meyer. Guests: Karen Hein, Gail Formanack.

The meeting was called to order by the past president Denise Lawver. Karen Hein, UNO and representing the State Advisory Council and Gail Formanack, Omaha Public Schools, were introduced.

Gail Formanack shared information about the Buffet Middle School Library where we enjoyed having our Board meeting.

Lowen Kruse motioned to approve the minutes of February 20, 2009, and Joyce Neujahr seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's reports for February and March 2009 were reviewed. The reports were approved to be filed for audit.

Kathy Tooker shared thank you notes from librarians and students from the LTA program.

Highlights from the Administrator's Report included:

- The "Visions of the Universe" ALA exhibit was held at the Snyder Public Library. Over 400 visitors attended the exhibit.
- Kathy attended the Mountain Plains Library Conference in Wichita, KS. She was very impressed with the pre-conference and several of the authors presentations.
- The Spring Colloquium has 50 registrants and the Media Specialist training day has 44 registered. Kathy will be attending the National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. on May 11/12.

Karen Hein, representing the State Advisory Council Report, shared comments regarding the state appropriations. How to survive in tough economic times was the main focus of the meeting. Richard Miller shared there were \$300,000 worth of requests made by libraries for Literary improvement Grants, but only \$181,000 is available. The education stimulus package is primarily supporting education in lieu of libraries. The June SACL meeting will be in Elmwood and the November meeting in Lexington. These are open meetings if anyone would like to attend.

No report from the Nebraska Library Commission or the Nebraska Library Commissioner. The NLC Commissioners will meet again on May 8. Visitors are welcome to attend.

Committee Reports

Continuing Education – Denise Lawver – Evaluations compiled after the Facilities Workshop held in Fremont were favorable. Two ideas for future workshops included the future of libraries in tough economic times and grants for building projects.

Nominating – Slate of candidates for the board included the following: Robin Bernstein, Marie Reidelbach, Gail Formanack, and David Privett. Jan Therian motioned to approve the candidates and Dorothy Willis seconded. The motion carried.

Technology – Karen Hein reported for John Seyfarth. Karen will be a presenter on technology tools at the Media Specialist Day.

Fundraising – Marie Reidelbach reported the calendar and note cards representing Carnegie Libraries across the state is progressing smoothly and will be ready for sale at the annual meeting.

Advocacy – Scott Berryman – No report.

Old Business

The new office has been painted, carpeted and cleaned. Plans are underway to move in mid May and have an open house in December.

New Business

Going the Extra Mile Award will include two \$25 gift certificates, one to a library employee and one to a volunteer who have done a great job worthy of recognition. Denise Lawver and Rosa Schmidt volunteered to serve on this committee. The awards will be given at the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Thompson Alumni Center on the UNO Campus. The theme is on ethics.

John Seyfarth was recognized for the \$500 donation given to the Eastern Library System. The generous donation will assist in covering expenses for the Eastern Library System.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Reidelbach
ELS Board Secretary

Next Meeting: June 12, 2009, 8 am - before the Annual Meeting, UNO Alumni Center