

**July/August**  
**2005**

# Eastern Express

## The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

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### **Nebraska Library Leadership Institute**

by Nancy Meyer

Some people are “born leaders.” Some people develop their leadership skills over time. And still others take advantage of training that will enhance and develop the “leader” inside. My definition of a good leader is someone I can trust, look up to as a mentor, be good at decisions and earns my support. I also think that you must want to be a leader. In Nebraska we need library leaders across the state, now probably more than ever. This is the primary reason that the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute began its successful venture in 2001, continued in 2003 and will hold its third one the last week of July.

The Institute is held at the St. Benedict Center, 4 miles north of Schuyler. It is a beautiful place both inside and out and is a perfect setting for study, reflection, soul-searching and laughter. This year there will be a special treat one evening involving everyone - a Murder Mystery.

The facilitators are veterans at this. Becky Schreiber and John Shannon (who are married to each other) have over 50 years of combined experience in helping people and organizations become more effective in their chosen field. They provide an enormous amount of information in a dynamic and memorable way. The days build on one another and end with a graduation ceremony. Everyone takes with them an unforgettable experience.

Thirty participants are divided into groups headed by a mentor. These mentors are not there to give all the answers but rather are a valuable resource for encouragement and will share their stories and love for libraries. This year’s mentors are:

- Jim Bothmer
- Nancy Busch
- John Dale
- Brenda Ealey
- Becky Pasco
- Kris Rogge
- Ted Smith
- Myrna Tewes
- Kathy Tooker
- Rod Wagner

If you ask the class of 2001 and 2003 if the Institute made a difference in their lives and in their work they most assuredly will say yes. That is probably why there are 34 coming back to Schuyler for a refresher and reunion gathering the days following the Institute. Besides meeting the new graduates and bidding them farewell, they will join John and Becky in considering how their leadership skills have developed over the years.

All of this has been made possible by a very generous allocation of funds from the Nebraska Library Commission. There are also two corporate sponsors, infoUSA and Beringer Ciaccio Dennell Mabrey, Inc.

## Great Ideas

by Matt Rohde, Day Circulation Supervisor, University of Nebraska at Omaha Library

Our Interim Dean (Dorothy Willis) and I were stumped. We had thousands of dollars in outstanding books, items that had been checked out and never returned. I and my predecessor had been sending out yearly statements of outstanding items, with mixed results. It really got us a lot of flack from people who would say “I returned that long ago.” This left us without the item, and very little hope of ever seeing it again. We decided to draft a letter from the Dean to include with this year’s statements. This was in hope that a “letter from the Dean” would be more effective than just a statement of charges. The letter was worded very carefully and offered an amnesty for those items still outstanding and returned during the month of April or this year. We would include a book mark that would identify the item. When the items were returned, with the bookmark, the patron’s account was adjusted for the returned book and any fine for that specific item was waived. The circulation staff members helped stuff envelopes, print letters, and we sent out over 900 bookmarks. Each bookmark stood for a particular book. Our results were extraordinary! We received 218 books back to date, and received payment of over \$500. This was an amazing return when compared with past years. While we probably won’t offer the exact same program next year, we are considering sending a “letter from the Dean” to each person who has an item that is about to be declared lost. This program also coincided with another program we ran for nearly a year. We decided to offer a “mulligan” for fines—that program ended April 30, 2005. In essence, if you returned long overdue items, you could be excused fines for those items, once and only once, during your association with the University. This meant that just like in golf, if you have kind people around you, you could make a mistake and still get to play. This program was wonderful, it gave people who made an honest mistake an opportunity to get past large fine amounts, once and only once, without having to pay them. Now that both programs are over, it is back to business as usual. But, just wait, Dorothy and I might come up with another idea, or we might use an idea we heard of from someone else. If anyone is interested in more information about either of these two programs, please don’t hesitate to contact me at 402-554-3214 or by email at [mrohde@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:mrohde@mail.unomaha.edu).

**Happy summer everyone.**

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# Firefox Browser “Tabbed Browsing” Features

by John Seyfarth, Sump Memorial Library,  
Papillion

The new Firefox browser is worth considering both for your public and staff computers. The browser is free, and all you need do is to browse to **www.mozilla.org** and download it, and install it. I have found it to be faster than Internet Explorer, and the updates for detected security problems are available almost the next day. My favorite feature on the browser is the “**tabbed browsing**” feature. I can have several websites open at once and **tab** between them as needed. Indeed, I have my options set so that all the sites come up when I launch Firefox.

## Setting up tabs during a session:

- When you have Firefox running, to add a tab, simply click on **File**→**New Tab** and then type in the URL in the address line at the top, and press the <ENTER> key. You now have two tabbed sites that you can just click on the tab at the top to switch between sites. You can add them at will and add as many as you want using the same procedure.

## Setting up Firefox to have multiple “default home” pages open at once:

- If Firefox is running, click on **Tools**→**Options** and then on the **General** item on the left column.
- Then just type in the website URLs

you desire to come up automatically, each separated by a pipe (|) character [**Shift – Backslash**, which is the key just to the left of **Backspace**]. An example for three sites would be:

**http://www.yahoo.com|http://www.google.com|http://www.msn.com**

- In the example above, Yahoo, Google, and MSN would automatically come up as three tabs when you launch Firefox. Once you have typed in the URLs, click on **OK** at the bottom to close the Options menu.
- Exit Firefox, and then relaunch it. The multiple websites that you have designated will all come up as tabs, and you can simply switch between them by clicking on the appropriate tab at the top.

## Do you know what this means????

When speaking computer jargon we think we know what it means but do we really?



URL-uniform resource locator  
IM-instant message  
ISP-Internet service provider  
LAN-local-area network  
JPEG-joint photographic experts group  
USB-universal serial bus  
EULA-end-user license agreement  
OS-operating system  
CD-R-CD-recordable  
PDF-portable document format  
CPU-central processing unit  
DVD-digital video disc

# System News



## Omaha Public Library

The Washington Branch held their 3rd annual “Job Fair Under the Tent,” at a nearby church this year because of their library remodeling project. Over 25 major businesses reserved booths. Job searchers were encouraged to use online resources as well as the thousands of career and job-related books in the Omaha Public Library’s collection.

### NEW System Member

Countryside Community Church in Omaha is the newest ELS member. Welcome to the James Hicks Memorial Library.

## Going the Extra Mile Award Winner

Lorraine Urban, Wahoo Public Library trustee and super-volunteer, was given the award at the ELS Annual Meeting in June. Lorri has spent many hours in support of the Wahoo Public Library Project.

## Bellevue Public Library

The library debuted their marionette collection and new equipment, purchased with funds from the Youth Grants for Excellence program, at a special program in June. The show “The Reluctant Dragon,” was performed by the Bellevue Public Library Marionette Troupe. The members are middle and high school students.

## CHIRS New Book List: Collection Development Timesaver

*[from the free newsletter about the Consumer Health Information Reference Service]*

“This CHIRS story comes from Rose Schinker, Director of the La Vista Public Library. She has integrated the information included in the Year of CHIRS newsletter into her library’s consumer health collection development process. *The New Book Section lets me know what is new and current, so we can add the appropriate titles to our library’s collection, Rose said. This saves our staff time.* The La Vista Public Library has also added a CHIRS subject heading in their online catalog, for their patrons can easily search the collection for additional consumer health materials.”

## Wahoo Public Library

Wahoo held their ground-breaking ceremony on May 27th. The new library will be a wonderful addition to this community.

## Waterloo Public Library

The Agnes Robinson Waterloo Public Library held their ground breaking celebration on June 20th.



**Linda Oyster (library director) Donna Robinson (trustee) Julie Jorgensen (asst. librarian) Governor Dave Heinemann & Stan Benke (Village Board)**



**Proposed building and the “golden” shovels**



**Ceremonial Ground Breaking**

## What the Heck is a Bi-Folkal Kit?

A Bi-Folkal kit is a packaged program designed to bring back memories on a particular time or topic.

The kits are a product of Bi-Folkal Productions, Inc., a non-profit corporation around since 1976. At the center of their work and at the center of their name is the FOLK tradition of handing down stories. Their goal is to:

- Share memories across generation
- Preserve culture
- Provide education,
- Develop wisdom.

Each kit comes in a sturdy bag and contains everything needed to present a program (videos, cassettes, slides, things to touch, activities such as skits, quizzes, puzzles and picture sets) to trigger memories and transmit information. BiFolkal kits are great for older adult and intergenerational programs.

Eastern Library System has eight different kits you may borrow at no charge for a library program.

- School Days
- Pets
- Work Life
- Fun & Games
- Christmas
- Food
- Remembering the Fashion
- Remembering Farm Days

Chris Christensen, assistant director of the Gretna Public Library, recently used the Remembering Farm Days kit and has this to say about the experience.

**“The kit was easy to use with more stuff than I could use, and the people at a program for older adults loved it.”**



Visit the BiFolkal website for more information at [www.bifolkal.org](http://www.bifolkal.org). and give us a call if you would like to use one for a program. There is no charge but you must make arrangements to pick up and return the kit.

## Nominations Wanted

Nominations for the Houchen Bindery Beginning Professional Award NE/NRMT and Mentor of the Year Award must be received by August 15, 2005. Information as well as the nomination form can be found at: [www.nol.org/home/NLA/NMRT/awards.html](http://www.nol.org/home/NLA/NMRT/awards.html).

If there is someone you know who has helped new librarians or media specialists, nominate them for the Mentor of the Year award and nominate the new librarian or media specialist for the Beginning Professional Award. You must know some deserving people. There are lots out there.

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The Public Library Section of NLA is looking for nominations for the Excalibur Award (outstanding public librarians.) The deadline for nominating is August 1, 2005 so get with it. Contact Julie Simpson at Lincoln City Libraries. [j.simpson@lincolnlibraries.org](mailto:j.simpson@lincolnlibraries.org)

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There is still precious little time to nominate a deserving paraprofessional for the Para of the Year Award. If you know a paraprofessional you want to nominate contact me ([nrmeyer@alltel.net](mailto:nrmeyer@alltel.net)) as I am citations chair for the Paraprofessional Section. Those nominations have to be to me (Nancy) by July 31st so you really have to get on the ball with this one.

All awards are presented at the NLA/NEMA 2005 Fall Conference on September 28-30 at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln.



## For Children's Librarians & Media Specialists

"All These Teens are Coming in My Library, Now What Do I Do With Them?" was the title of a Nebraska Library Commission teleconference held on May 25. The System office now has a video tape of the conference as well as the handouts. Presentations included:

- Sally Snyder—Introduction & Welcome
- Carol Eshleman (North Platte Public Library) - Teen Services Brochure and Teen Café activities
- Susan Steider (Lincoln City Libraries) - Successful Approaches in Working With Teens
- Nancy Escamilla (Scottsbluff Public Library) - Teen Group in Action
- Toni Reese (Sump Memorial Library, Papillion) - Making Teens Welcome @ your library®

To borrow the video and handouts, please call the System office.

*Effie's Image*, a new book by Fremont author, N.L. Sharp, is about an elderly woman who renews her interest in life when she becomes a volunteer at the elementary school. Nebraska artist, Dorothea Rohner, illustrated the book. Ordering information is available at the author's website [www.NLSharp.com](http://www.NLSharp.com); it is also available from Baker & Taylor.

*VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates)* magazine reviews books using a Book Review Code based on quality, popularity, and grade level interest. Each of these criteria is rated on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest. A book a rating of 5Q 5P means that that it is hard to image a better written book and every YA who reads

was dying to read it yesterday. The June 2005 issue has "The Perfect Tens List of the Top 11 Book Reviewed in *VOYA* in 2004." Grade level is included.

1. Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Bucking the Sarge*. (7-12)
2. Earls, Nick. *48 Shades of Brown* (10-12)
3. *Girlsources: A Book by and for Young Women About Relationships, Rights, Futures, Bodies, Minds, and Souls*. (6-12)
4. Harder, Jens. *Leviathan* (7-12/adult-marketed book recommended for YA)
5. Jinks, Catherine. *Pagan in Exile*. (6-9)
6. Karras, Erika & V. Shearin. *Mean Chicks, Cliques, and Dirty Tricks: A Real Girl's Guide to Getting Through the Day with Smarts and Style*. (6-12)
7. Korman, Gordon. *Son of the Mob: Hollywood Hustle*. (7-12)
8. Lisle, Janet Taylor. *The Crying Rocks*. (7-12)
9. Nimmo, Jenny. *Charlie Bone and the Time Twister*. (7-12/adult-marketed book recommended for YAs)
10. Rucker, Rudy. *Frek and the Elixir*. (7-12)
11. Zeiss, Lara M. *Contents Under Pressure*. (6-12)

**New Teen Read Week Website**—The 2005 YALSA Teen Read Week website ([www.ala.org/teenread](http://www.ala.org/teenread)), which carries the theme "Get Real! @ your library," is now available. The site includes information annotated lists of recommended reading; tips for planning and promoting special events; products available for purchase; links to the Teen's Top Ten, a list of book favorites chosen by teens; and professional resources for librarians, teachers, and parents. TRW registered participants can also download the "Get Real! @ your library" logo.

**Teen Read Week is October 16-22.**

## Nebraska Library Association/ Nebraska Educational Media Association 2005 Fall Conference

This year's conference will be held on September 28-30, at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln. Registration forms are available online at [www.nla-nema2005.info](http://www.nla-nema2005.info). And the conference program can be found at [www.papillion.ne.us/~nla-nema2005/ata glance.html](http://www.papillion.ne.us/~nla-nema2005/ata glance.html). The keynote speakers are:

- ☞ Barb Stripling, director of Library Services at the New York City's Department of Education.
- ☞ Martha Choe, director of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Libraries Program.

### Attention Trustees:

Are you TUF enough? Mark these dates on your calendar to attend the NLA fall conference, September 29-30, 2005, at the Marriott/Cornhusker Hotel, in Lincoln.



The Trustee, Users and Friends Section (TUFS) of the Nebraska Library Association is offering some exciting programs of particular interest to board members at the fall conference. They are designed to help you puzzle through some questions that you may have encountered in your service on the library board.

### Thursday, September 29 –

- \*You mean we owe sales tax?; 8:30-9:20. How about those services you charge for?
- \*How to handle raffles; 9:40-10:30. Raffles help you raise \$\$\$\$. Do it right.
- \*What's your ethics IQ; 1:50-2:40. Explore conflict of interest, open meetings, personnel issues, privacy issues, to mention a few.

### Friday, September 30 –

- \*Meet the Nebraska League of Municipalities. 8:00-8:50. How they play a role in your community and why you should care.
- \*Trustee Luncheon; 12:00-1:30. Meet your TUFS officers and the Trustee Citation Award winner.
- \*Keynote speaker will follow the luncheon. There is a full schedule of sessions on both days, so your time will be well spent. Please plan to attend both days, or at least one day, of the conference and see what your fellow board members are up to.

*Here are two Sessions you  
won't want to miss*

**Sponsored by the College and University  
Section and the Nebraska Regional Library  
Systems**

Friday morning sessions (8-8:50 am and 9:10-10:00 am) will feature Constance Steinkuehler, a popular presenter and writer on gamers and gaming. Her first session will deal generally about this phenomenon and her second session will deal with the subject from the point of view of the library. Ms. Steinkuehler is a researcher at the University of Wisconsin and writer online for *Joystick 201* and *Terra Nova*.



The April 15, 2005, issue of *Library Journal* contained an article "Meet the Gamers," that she co-authored with Kurt Squire. She also presented at an OCLC Symposium at ALA Midwinter this year.

# NLA/NEMA Award Banquet & Post-Banquet Dance

Thursday September 29th, 2005  
6:30 p.m.—Until you can't dance anymore

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"I cannot call to mind a single instance where I have ever been irreverent, except toward the things which were sacred to other people." — Mark Twain

With two books on ALA's list of Most Frequently Challenged Books, Mark Twain seems an obvious choice to speak at a library banquet during Banned Books Week. The great American Humorist



mostly enjoyed the publicity that banning one of his books provided him, saying that more novels would be sold as people "read it, out of curiosity, instead of merely intending to do so." He turned to lecturing as a method of making money and in 1867 the New York Times reported that "Mr. Twain's style is a quaint one, both in manner and method, and throughout his discourse he managed to keep on the right side of his audience and frequently convulsed it with hearty laughter."

Listen to **Wally Seiler**, as Twain, present some of Twain's best-loved writings as they might have been heard on the lecture circuit. The presentation is funded by a Nebraska Humanities Council Speakers Bureau grant, and is open to the public.

Immediately following the banquet.....**Love To Dance**



These boots were made for dancing!

**Break out your Nehru jackets and go-go boots!  
And prepare yourselves to dance the night away to the boss  
sounds of the sixties!**

*Whether you have a duck tail, a flat top or long hair you'll be jazzed to hear  
Jimi, Aretha, Peter, Paul, and Mary, the Beach Boys, the Beatles, and  
the Grateful Dead.*

The library band, the BookEnds, not yet a banned band, will be making an appearance as well.

***It'll be outta sight! You dig?***



Sponsored by  
Davidson Titles, Inc.  
Gerald Donlan

## Announcements



### From Network Services & the Nebraska Library Commission

Allana has created a new access database for us to use for workshop registrations. So far we are using it for the Database Roadshow, Books in Print and HeritageQuest Online training sessions. The database allows for online registrations to go directly into a spreadsheet rather than hand transferring the information coming in online to an excel sheet as we did in the past. Because of this it would be best for anyone registering to complete the online registration via the web rather than calling us directly. If you can all give folks a push to use the online registration we would be very grateful. The newest registration forms are found at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/trainmaterials.html>. Please let me know if you have any questions. Of course, if someone does not have access to the online, we would gladly add them to the training registration by phone.

*Shannon Berhorst, Nebraska Library Commission.*

## Literary Events

### Norfolk Public Library's 11th Annual Literature Festival

On Saturday, July 30, 2005 from 9 am—4 pm at the Northeast Community College in Norfolk, you could enjoy three award-winning authors, book displays and discount sales, autograph sessions, Golden Sower sales, and receive five CE hours. The authors are: Candace Fleming, Marion Dane Bauer and Neal Shusterman. They are all Golden Sower Award nominees. Contact Karen Drevo for advanced ticket sales (402-844-2100 or [kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us](mailto:kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us).) And...there are door prizes.

### Plum Creek Festival

The 10th Annual Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival is scheduled for September 22-24, 2005, at Concordia University in Seward. The three-day event is designed to foster interaction between nationally acclaimed authors and illustrator and the children and adults of Nebraska. This year's featured personalities include Janet Stevens, Susan

Crummel, Pam Munoz Ryan, Eliza Carbone, W. Nikola Lisa, and Stephen Swinburne. For complete information and the official registration brochure, go to [www.cune.edu](http://www.cune.edu) and click on Plum Creek.

### Readers don't grow on trees.



Jim Trelease is coming to Seward on October 19, 2005. This event is sponsored by the Seward Memorial Library and will be held at Concordia University. For more information go to [www.sewardlibrary.org](http://www.sewardlibrary.org) and for more information on Jim Trelease go to [www.trelease-on-reading.com](http://www.trelease-on-reading.com)

**Mary Ehlers has updated the Golden Sower Webpage. Be sure to look at it. [www.nol.org/home/NLA/golden/sower.htm](http://www.nol.org/home/NLA/golden/sower.htm).**

## Grants Schedule

(Nebraska Library Commission Grants)

- ☺ Youth Grants for Excellence are available August 17, 2005 and are due October 21, 2005
- ☺ Continuing Education and Training Grants were available May 16, 2005 and are due August 1, 2005.
- ☺ Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grants are Available October 3, 2005 and are due on December 29, 2005

Funds are available for accredited public libraries, regional library systems, and state-operated institutional libraries to improve library and information services to Nebraskans.

# FYI

## The International Reading Association announced their 2005 Children's Book Awards.

📖 Primary Fiction—*Miss Bridie Chose a Shovel* by Leslie Conner

📖 Primary Nonfiction—*Eliza and the Dragonfly* by Susie Caldwell

📖 Intermediate Fiction—*The Golden Hour* by Maiya Williams

📖 Intermediate Nonfiction—*Buildings in Disguise* by Joan Marie Arbogast

📖 Young Adult Fiction—*Emako Blue* by Brenda Woods

📖 Young Adult Nonfiction—*The Burn Journals* by Brent Runyon

## Golden Sower Winners

☺ K-3 *Togo* by Robert Blake  
Honor books: *Clarence the Copy Cat*; *Dear Mrs. LaRue*; *Letters from Obedience School*

☺ Grades 4-6 *Loser* by Jerry Spinelli  
Honor books: *The Ghost Sitter*; *The Summer of Riley*

☺ Young Adult *Mississippi Trial 1955* by Chris Crowe  
Honor Books: *Ashes of Roses*; *Things Not Seen*

## Census Facts

[from Beth Goble, Government Information Services Director at the Nebraska Library Commission]

### The 4th of July Cookout

- 150 million hot dogs are consumed and there is about a 1-in-4 chance that the hot dogs made of pork originated in Iowa.
- The steaks and burgers on your backyard grill probably came from Texas.



- The odds that the beans in your side dish came from North Dakota, Michigan or Nebraska, which produced 58% of the nation's dry, edible beans in 2004.
- 1/2 of the nation's potatoes are produced in Idaho or Washington. Potato salad and potato chips are most popular at July 4th barbecues.

### Hispanic Population

- The nation's Hispanic population has surpassed the 40 million mark.
- Hispanics, who may be of any race, accounted for about 1/2 of the national population growth of 2.9 million in 2004.
- The Hispanic growth rate of 3.6% over a 12-month period was more than three times that of the total population.
- The federal government treats Hispanic origin and race as separated and distinct concepts. In surveys and censuses, separate questions are asked on Hispanic origin and race. The question on Hispanic origin asks respondents if they are Spanish, Hispanic or Latino. Starting with Census 2000, the question on race asks respondents to report the race or races they consider themselves to be. Thus, Hispanics may be of any race.

### Nebraska Letters about Literature Winners

The Center of the Book sponsors the national reading and writing program for children and young adults. Entrants write letters to authors, living or dead, describing how the authors' books of stories changed their way of viewing the world. Locally the contest is sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Library Commission and Houchen Bindery, LTD. The winners were treated to a luncheon and a copy of their letters were signed and will be included in the archival collection at the Lincoln City Library. Winner & alternate in ELS are:

- Fiona Loggie from Omaha for a letter to Diane Gray
- Alex Totusek from Omaha for a letter to Montrew Dunham

## Worth Checking Out

### Worth Checking Out



#### Additions to the Professional Collection:

##### Video tapes

*Bridging the Digital Divide in the Spanish Speaking Community*, produced by the Colorado State Library, features several Colorado libraries and their staff discussing the ways in which they've reached out to the Spanish speaking community and made the library a destination of choice for that community.

- ✓ *Library As a Place: where People Want to Be*
- ✓ *Reference Tools for the Information Age: Consumer Medical Resources*

##### Books

- ✓ *101+ Great Ideas for Libraries and Friends* by Sally Gardner Reed, et al.
- ✓ *Junior League of Omaha Nebraska Foundation Directory*

**EndowNebraska**, LB 28, was signed into law by Governor Heineman in June after the bill was passed on a 39-4 vote by the Nebraska Legislature. The provisions will become effective January 1, 2006. EndowNebraska supports a Nebraska charitable tax credit and includes:

- a maximum annual credit of \$10,000 for individual Nebraska taxpayers and corporations doing business in Nebraska and paying state corporation taxes
- a 30 percent credit for the present value or irrevocable planned gifts from individuals
- a 20 percent credit for outright gifts from corporations
- a sunset of January 1, 2010.

**Updated State Government Website**— [www.Nebraska.gov](http://www.Nebraska.gov) is now the address of a redesigned site of government information. New features include many "How Do I...?" items; a Live Help link to connect people with an operator who can help find them the right service or contact during business hours; and connections to nearly 300 online services, such as renewing professional licenses, searching for specialty plates and buying hunting and fishing licenses. [Seen in the *Omaha World Herald*]

#### A Few Things to Avoid

Job interviews can make even the calm and cool slightly apprehensive at times. But your chances of landing that new position will be infinitely better if you avoid the following interview foibles, collected from more than 600 hiring managers by Chicago-based Career-Builder.com, a job search site. The following are actual accounts of what recruiters have seen:

- Candidate admitted she would not pass the mandatory drug test.
- Candidate disclosed she only wanted the job for the employee discount.
- Candidate brought his mom.
- Candidate asked for directions to another interview.
- Candidate forgot what position she was applying for but wanted to know how soon she could have the interviewer's office.
- Candidate came in wearing pajama bottoms and flip-flops.
- Candidate sang the national anthem to make himself memorable. Well, he was memorable.
- Candidate brought wine, offered the interviewer a glass.

[*Baltimore Sun*, May 18, 2005, seen in *Library Administrator Digest*, June 2005]

#### Weddings & the Library

Staff at any public library have helped many an excited bride-to-be or a nervous groom locate materials on planning a wedding and wedding etiquette. *Library Journal* (May 15, 2005) has a listing of 14 titles recommended for public library collections. Not only are the standard planning books included, but also a title on gay weddings, buying for wedding on e-Bay, and the thrifty wedding. Call the System office if you would like to interlibrary loan a copy of this list.

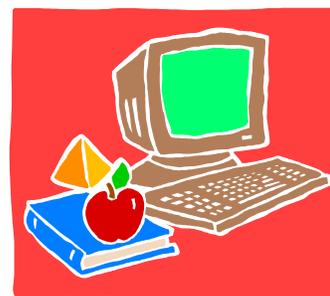
#### A Nifty Idea on Wedding Gifts

Two thirty somethings who decided they didn't need anymore stuff when they married, informed their wedding guests, "Instead of the traditional wedding gifts, we would like to offer you this special opportunity to donate to the Saint Paul Public Library Friends." The bridal couple established a website inviting guests to buy specific books or donate to the Friends' general fund. Guests contributed \$3,846 and will be recognized with personalized book plates.

**"If you have a garden and a library you have everything you need." - Cicero**

## LTA Update

by Pam Scott, Continuing Education Coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission



Have you heard about library science courses that are now being offered through the Nebraska Community College system? You can either take the courses to enhance your education in various subject areas or obtain an associate of arts degree in Library Science Education with the Library Technical Assistant emphasis. This degree option has been developed through a partnership of the Nebraska Community College System, Nebraska Library Commission, and the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The courses are mainly being made available through the online format so that a student anywhere in Nebraska will have access to this type of library science education. As of spring 2005, 62 students have participated so far in one or more of the classes that are being offered through the community colleges. Who has been signing up for these courses? Currently employed librarians, a hotel manager, school paraprofessionals, college library staff, school media specialists, and individuals that are interested in pursuing a library career are enrolling in the coursework.

This summer two additional courses were provided through Central Community College: *Reference Services in Library & Information Environments* and *Introduction to Children and Young Adult Services* with a total of 13 and 9 students registered respectively in each course. This fall, Northeast Community College will offer *Administration of Library and Information Environments* and Western Nebraska Community College will offer *Introduction to Technical Services—Cataloging*. Metropolitan Community College will also be providing the *Introduction to Library and Information Services* this fall. The *Capstone Practicum* course will be added to the offerings through Metropolitan Community College this coming January 2006.

Are you looking for financial assistance pertaining to library technical assistant coursework? Don't forget about the Library Technical Assistant Coursework Scholarship that has been established by the Nebraska Library Commission for the purpose of supporting students pursuing community college level library science education. Information about the scholarship and application requirements is located at the following website address: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/LTA/ltascholarship.htm>. We have awarded 24 scholarships so far. We will be reviewing our guidelines pertaining to the scholarship program later this summer. Be sure to also contact the financial aid departments at each community college for any other financial assistance that might be available through their institution.

You may have heard about the scholarships or any other information related to the library technical assistant courses through your regional library system newsletter and other library-related publications, the published course flyers from the individual community colleges or even electronically through email or a website. We are going to expand the coverage for promoting these courses by developing a booklet to be distributed through the community colleges as a part of student recruitment. The content of the booklet will be reviewed by members of the Library Technical Assistant Task Force. The current brochure of the library technical assistant coursework will be updated too in the near future for re-distribution. The Nebraska Community College Association (NCCA) will also host a section on their website devoted to state-wide programs including the Library Technical Assistant option.

If you are interested in pursuing any of the library technical assistant courses contact your regional library system administrator or Pam Scott, Continuing Education Coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission via email: [pscott@nlc.state.ne.us](mailto:pscott@nlc.state.ne.us) or via phone: 800-307-2665 for additional information.

**Eastern Library System Board Minutes  
May 20, 2005  
Scribner Public Library**



Present: Becky Pasco, Dorothy Willis, Lori Long, Sam McMullen, Kenny Oyer, Tammy Lorenz, Nina Little, Lynn Schnoor, Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer

Introductions were made as well as comments by Jeanette Groppe, Scriber Public Library Director, and Richard Miller, Nebraska Library Commission.

The minutes of the March 18, 2005 meeting were approved.

The treasurer's reports for March and April, 2005, were discusses and approved. They will be filed for audit. Nancy provided a table showing actual receipts compared with budgeted receipts.

Correspondence: A thank-you note was read from Kay Stork, director of the Arlington Public Library.

Administrator's Report: See written report. Kathy highlighted the past 2 month's activities and upcoming events.

**Committee Reports**

Continuing Education: Possible future workshops include – End-of-life resources, book repair and reference.

Technology: The system has purchased some new hardware and software that John Seyfarth will install.

Nominating: 136 ballots were emailed or mailed with 33 responses to date.

Old Business: The Wine and Whimsy and Spring Fling events were very successful and enjoyed by all who attended.

**New Business:**

- A. Going the extra mile award. A motion was made by Tammy and seconded by Kenny to present the award to Lorraine Urban, Wahoo trustee. Motion carried.
- B. System Plan and Budget. This is on hold pending final figures from the Nebraska Li-

brary Commission. The executive board and any other board members will help the administrator with the System Plan.

C. Appointments to the Board. Kenny moved and Sam seconded to appoint John Seyfarth to a 1-year term. Motion carried. Kenny moved and Tammy seconded to appoint Carrie Turner to a 1-year term. Motion carried.

D. Contracts/Salaries. The executive committee went into closed session.

Discussion was held on a Strategic Plan. The board will consider possible changes to the mission and vision statements of ELS. Continuing Education goals could include trustee training, cooperation, and networking. In the future the board needs to be more involved in the negotiations and planning.

Kenny moved and Tammy seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Meyer, Administrative Assistant

Next Meeting:  
July 15, 2005  
Tekamah Public Library

**ELS Board Meetings 2005/2006**

- September 16 - Sump Memorial Library, Papillion
- November 18 - Blair Public Library
- January 20 - McGoogan Library, UNMC
- March 17 - Wahoo High School
- May 19 - Offutt AFB Library

You are always welcome to attend any or all of the ELS Board Meetings. They begin at 9:30 am and usually last about 2 hours followed by a chance to go to lunch together.

## Upcoming Events

July 25-29 - Library Leadership Institute at St. Benedict's Retreat Center, Schuyler

July 27 - Database Roadshow, Elkhorn Valley Metro Community College. To register:  
[www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/roadshow.html](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/roadshow.html)

July 29-30 - Library Leadership Alumni Reunion. St. Benedict's Retreat Center

July 30 - Norfolk Literature Festival (see page 9)

August 1 - CLICK Meeting at Sump Memorial Library, Papillion, 9:30 am

August 17 - Nebraska State Date Center Summer Conference, Girls & Boys Town Conference Center. Contact: Melanie Kiper, 402-561-7585

September 7 - DIRECT Meeting, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion, 9:30-11:30 am

September 9 - NLA board Meeting, Alliance Public Library

September 16 - ELS Board Meeting, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion, 9:30 am

September 28 - Bridges Out of Poverty Preconference (see fler this issue)

September 29-30 - NLA/NEMA Annual Conference, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln

October 12-15 - MPLA Conference, Jackson Hole, Wyoming (The Regional Library Systems will be sponsoring a bus again this year. More information coming soon)

*For more information on any of these events, call the System Office.*

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