

July/
August
2006

Eastern Express

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

From a Guest Administrator

Brenda Ealey, Southeast Library System

I had the opportunity to attend Law for Librarians, as a representative of Nebraska Library Association, April 4-6 in Chicago. There were representatives from all 50 states, and we were immersed in legal issues such as: the First Amendment, religious issues, Internet, CIPA, USA Patriot Act, sexual harassment, labeling, meeting rooms, exhibit spaces and literature distribution, challenges to library resources, privacy & confidentiality, youth access, advocacy and media relations. Needless to say, I've got information that would fill several pages on all those topics! Here are a few highlights:

1. Policy is key. It's the foundation you stand on regarding library services. It should be enforced consistently and be viewpoint neutral. When you write a policy you write in a means of appeal and apply it equally. Ideally, policy should be introduced in one board meeting and then adopted at the next, reinforcing an open practice and opportunity for comment. Ask, "What about intellectual freedom?" with every library policy.

2. Library actions and decisions made in order to avoid controversy often get you into trouble, particularly when you're talking about a public forum or space: bulletin boards, meeting rooms, exhibits, or literature distribution. Once you've opened up to the public you can't discriminate based on the content of their speech.

3. In the library hiring process, policy should be shared and situational questions asked to gauge understanding. This is also a good practice with library boards and administration. Review your library mission, the Bill of Rights (State and US), the Freedom to Read Statement, and an overall philosophy of your collection development based on mission and community served. From the beginning, it's important employees understand access issues and First Amendment rights.

4. Libraries are about access in every way; reading, listening and viewing are individual private matters. While anyone is free to select or reject materials for

themselves or their own minor children, the freedom of others to read or inquire will not be restricted. Library materials are not restricted, sequestered, altered or labeled by the library because of controversy about the author or the subject matter.

5. Don't use forms as a substitution for conversations with your library customers. Make sure to follow procedures even if customer complaints seem frivolous.

6. The 1st & 4th Amendments speak to the right to privacy: right to read and receive ideas without government intrusion and right to be secure against unreasonable searches and seizures by the government. Additionally, all 50 states and the District of Columbia protect the privacy of library records through statutes, or in 2 states through Attorney Generals' opinions. Library records should not be released without legal documents, such as a subpoena or search warrant. Evidence unlawfully seized can not be used in an investigation.

7. Young people have First Amendment rights. Required parental permission forms create a stigma and are a barrier to access. Information needs as adults, except perhaps on a smaller scale.

8. Librarians need to build a relationship with local media, which means making yourself easy to find. If you're not available someone else will speak for you. Letters to the editor and call-ins to radio are ways of making the library visible. Read, listen and watch media which will give you an insight to their style, type of stories, and how they work. Be prepared by identifying potential allies and adversaries, and have a crisis communication plan ahead of a crisis. Keep policies and key messages together for easy access – and practice using them.

9. The only speech not protected is obscene speech. Just because something is sexually explicit does not mean it's obscene.

10. Finally, advocacy is having a clear message and delivering it; turning passive support to active support or educated action. There should be no ask at the beginning – first go out and make friends.

Tell your story – make it personal or humanize. Be brief, appreciative, specific, and informative – be happy or at least courteous. “If you think you’re too small to be effective, you obviously haven’t been in bed with a mosquito.” (attributed to Anita Roddick, activist and entrepreneur)

I also came back with some things to follow-up on, questions to answer, and goals to achieve:

- * Nebraska needs to recruit participants in the **Lawyers for Libraries program**, an ongoing project of the ALA office for Intellectual Freedom designed to build a national network of attorneys committed to the defense of the First Amendment, Freedom to Read and the application of constitutional law to library policies, principles, and problems. We could start by sending our NLA lobbyist. (www.ala.org/ala/oif/oifprograms/lawforlib/lawyerslibraries.htm)
- * More of us need to consider being **members of the Freedom to Read Foundation**, and certainly NLA should be a member. This foundation was established to promote and defend the 1st Amendment and to support libraries in their efforts to foster individual 1st Amendment freedoms. (www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/othergroups/ftfr/freedomreadfoundation.htm)
- * Find out what the **Nebraska state law is on child abandonment**. Does Nebraska have a **harmful to minors law**? What does state law say about **holding parents responsible for children’s debts**? (<http://srvwww.unicam.state.ne.us/Statutes2005.html>)
- * **Each state is being encouraged to develop training over the next two years in the area of Intellectual Freedom**. That will be a collaborative effort that includes the NLA Intellectual Freedom Committee and the Nebraska Library Commission. First on the slate will be Candace Morgan, who will be speaking at the NLA/NEMA Conference in Omaha this fall. Morgan chairs the steering committee of the Lawyers for Libraries program and is vice president of the Freedom to Read Foundation, as well as a 40-year veteran in the library profession.
- * In brainstorming with other states in our region, we **identified multiple intellectual freedom modules for training needs**, all of which could be addressed independently, and each of which would include a library policy segment. Included were: meeting rooms and bulletin boards; challenges; labeling; USA Patriot Act; media/advocacy; confidentiality; harassment; and youth access.

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System News



Ashland

The Ashland Public Library sold cookie dough during the month of July as a fundraiser for a new library. "Dough for Dough" was a project of the library foundation and was well-received.

Scribner

The first computer class for senior citizens was held on July 10th. Through an LSTA Grant, the library was able to purchase six laptop computers. Maggie Alt is teaching the classes to people from the mid 50s to a 97-year-old gentleman. Overheard while senior citizens were waiting for their first class to start:

- * "This is so nice because I am on a fixed income and don't need to pay for gas to go out of town for classes."
- * "I'm excited to learn new things because you have to keep up with today's world."

New Director

The John Moritz Library, Nebraska Methodist College's new director is Bev Sedlacek. She has been promoted from Information Services Librarian. The library is now on the Josie Harper Campus of the Methodist Health System in Omaha.

New Children's Librarian

Keene Memorial Library in Fremont has hired Karen Choy as their new Children's Librarian. Welcome to ELS, Karen.

Bellevue University

The library has their SelfCheck System up and running. According to Robin Bernstein, library director, this technology will provide faster checkouts, improved turn-around time, more customer privacy, decreased labor costs, and will "free librarians to be librarians." Robin has noted increased circulation and increased security. And, Welcome Robin to the Eastern Library System Board of Directors. Robin was elected to serve a three-year term.

Lyons

The ribbon cutting ceremony, including Governor Heineman, was held July 2nd. Mary Fritts, Lyons Public Library director, relates some happenings in the wake of the grand opening.

1. We had a couple stop to tour (he grow up in Lyons) and they tech in an American School in Singapore so I guess they have come the farthest, so far. They

were very, very impressed and since they have a genuine interest in libraries and touring them, we appreciated their comments.

2. That was a week that we have a patron tie his horse to a tree in the Mini Green, pick up an ILL book and ride home seven miles west on his horse.
3. An extra dose of special TLC came when an elderly senior I helped with finding top 3 Medicare RX insurance companies for his meds and pharmacy of his choice. He brought me two T-bone steaks.

If you are up north, stop by 305 Main Street in Lyons, and Mary would love to show you around.



L-R— John O'Mara, Iona Long, Mary Fritts, Governor Heineman, Kate Borchman, Geraldine Peterson

Wahoo

On Sunday, July 16th, the new Wahoo Public Library was officially opened and celebrated. Governor Heineman, a Wahoo native, was among the many speakers who praised the community and its citizens for their hard work. The Governor said, "There are two important issues in Nebraska, the economy and education. This is a different world and that is why libraries are so important." Judy Coday, library director was referred to as "a petite lady who carries a big stick." Judy concluded her remarks by saying, "Welcome to your public library."



Judy Coday, Governor Heineman, Senator Chris Langemeier (in background)

Retirement



Lisa Flaxbeard, Leola Bonge, Wendy Anderson, Rose Schinker

Leola Bonge, former director of the Bennington Public Library celebrates her retirement. Lisa is the new director and Wendy and Rose offer their colleague best wishes.

Annual Meeting



The Going the Extra Mile Award was presented to Donna Robinson, Waterloo by Dorothy, ELS President.

Wine Tasting



Denise Lawver and Dorothy Willis

With help from ELS board members like Denise and Dorothy, the Wine Tasting Event was fun and a success.



The other Going the Extra Mile Award was presented to Dee Huff, Baright Public Library, Ralston.

Eastern Library System Vision Statement

The Eastern Library System, through a cooperative effort of library professionals, patrons, and public agencies, will encourage the development of leadership, foster independence, and promote public awareness to improve the quality of life.

Check out the system webpage - www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/eastern



Resources For Children's Librarians & Media Specialists

Teen Read Week, October 15-21, theme this year is *Get Active @ Your Library* and will focus on seeking to inspire teens to read for the fun of it and to use library resources to help them lead active lives while finding books on sports, fitness, and activism and more. YALSA has launched the 2006 web site at <www.ala.org/teenread> that includes annotated booklists, a list of favorites compiled by teens, and resources to help generate a buzz about libraries' teen events.

The Readers' Bill of Rights

1. The right not to read.
2. The right to skip pages.
3. The right to not finish.
4. The right to reread.
5. The right to read anything.
6. The right to escapism
7. The right to read anywhere.
8. The right to browse.
9. The right to read out loud.
10. The right not to defend your tastes.
11. Penna, Daniel, *Better Than Life*, Coach House Press, 1996. [Seen on the Teen Read Web Site]

The Perfect Tens is an annotated bibliography of books reviewed in VOYA (June 2006). VOYA rates books on quality and popularity with 5 being the highest rating. The books on this list each received a perfect 10. To interlibrary loan a copy of this article, please contact the system office.

Printable Parent Guides are available free from the Reading is Fundamental web site at <www.rif.org/parents/resources/parentguide.msp>. Choose from half a dozen

different guides that promote the habit of reading in families. Multiple copies can also be ordered. RIF's web site has many resources to help encourage reading including seasonal ideas.

Tickling the Funny Bone: Humorous Books to Read Aloud is a list of books that are good read-aloud choices for elementary through middle school ages. Each title has a "10 Minute Selection" feature that can be read aloud and sure to delight listeners when there are only a few minutes available. Kids may well want to read the rest of the book after hearing a short selection from it. Rob Reid, author of *Something Funny Happened at the Library* has compiled this list of titles.

Call the system office to interlibrary loan a copy of this *Book Links* (May 2006) article.

Less is More: A Practical Guide to Weeding School Library Collections, by Donna J. Baumbach and Linda L. Miller is a user-friendly and offers simple, practical advice along with specific criteria for weeding the school library collection. Based on Florida's popular "Weed of the Month" program, *Less is More* updates some of that program's earlier recommendations. The Nebraska Library Commission has this valuable resource available for interlibrary loan by calling 800-307-2665 or going to <www.nlc.state.ne.us/ref/ill>.

CLICK

The next CLICK (Children's Librarian's Information and Coffee Klatch) meeting will be August 7th, 9:30 a.m. at the new Wahoo Public Library. Please let Denise Lawver know if you will be attending.

denise@wahoolibrary.org

We will be discussing your Summer Reading Program, what worked, what you probably won't do again!

Worth Checking Out ✓

Professional Collection Additions

Driving Strategic Planning: A Nonprofit Executive Guide by Deborah L. Kocsis and Susan A. Waechter. Board source, 2003. A concise roadmap to strategic planning for the nonprofit board.

Strategic Planning Workbook for Nonprofit Organizations by Bryan W. Barry. Fieldstone Alliance, 2005. An easy to use primer on strategic planning that includes worksheets.

Disaster Planning by Deborah S. Halsted, Richard P. Jasper, and Felicia M. Little. Neal-Schuman, 2005. Includes a complete sample of a library response plan plus a roster of companies that specialize in disaster services.

DuPage College Teleconference Videos

Libraries, the Universe, and Everything: Google and Your Patrons. This teleconference explores the library worker's role in connecting users to high quality information in the age of "Googleization."

Google Book Search: Its Impact on Scholarship and Libraries. This program will explicate Google's vision of the future.

Information Literacy for the 21st Century Learner. Viewers will understand the relationship between information literacy and success in making the transition from high school to community college, the importance of assessment in determining information literacy skills, etc.

&

An Evening with Joseph Janes, the Internet Librarian. Spring Colloquium, April 8, 2006. (Also on DVD)

To borrow any of these new resources, please contact the system office at 402-330-7884 or e-mail Kathy or Nancy.

For your listening pleasure, *Booklist* (May 1, 2006) has selected the top ten audiobooks mysteries reviewed by them from May 1, 2005, to April 15, 2006.

1. *13 Step Down* by Ruth Rendell
2. *The Camel Club* by David Baldacci
3. *The Closers* by Michael Connelly
4. *Death Dance* by Linda Farstein
5. *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie
6. *Grifter's Game* by Lawrence Block
7. *Hour of the Cat* by Peter Quinn
8. *The Lincoln Lawyer* by Michael Connelly
9. *School Days* by Robert B. Parker
10. *Winter and Night* by S.J. Rozan

Three Cheers for the Mayor!

Muskego, Wisconsin mayor, Charles Damaske, said in a news release June 23 that he would reduce his 2007 salary of \$66,473 by half and remove himself from the city's health insurance policy to provide funds for Sunday hours at the Muskego Public Library. According to Damaske, it would cost \$28,000 to \$30,000 to open the library on Sundays during the school year, but that he did not want to increase the tax levy.

Free Poster

Google has released a free, downloadable poster with tips and tricks to help you and your customers get better Google results. The poster is available at <www.google.com/librariancenter/newsletter/0604.html>. [Seen in *Straight-Talk*, Northeast Library System]

A Best Magazines of 2005 list from *Library Journal* (May 1, 2006) is available to interlibrary loan from the system office. The ten titles include ones on ones with Rachel Ray, family life pleasures, sudoku and seven other titles sure to be of interest to library customers. Prices are reasonable with only two at \$50 a year.

If you can laugh when things go wrong, you will be more apt to find a creative solution. -

Sue Brown, UNL Extension Educator, Adams County, at the 2006 Leadership Reunion.



Database Roadshows

[Allana Novotny, Nebraska Library Commission]

We are pleased to announce that the ninth annual Database Roadshow has been scheduled for summer 2006. The five-hour Database Roadshow will provide Nebraska librarians and media specialists with an overview of the state-funded databases available through NebraskAccess. The Roadshow will also include a tour of the Librarian's Toolbox, which contains promotional and training material about NebraskAccess. As in past years, the Roadshow will be divided into segments, with each focusing on a particular database. During each segment we will discuss and demonstrate a database, and then the class will have hands-on time to practice what they've learned. Please bring any questions you may have and we will help you work through them during the hands-on time.

All sessions will run from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. There will be a one hour lunch break at approximately 11:30. Lunch is on your own. For your comfort, you may wish to bring a sweater, or dress in layers, as we are unable to make any adjustments to the temperature of the computer labs. There is no cost to attend the Database Roadshow. Five hours of C.E. credit can be earned by attending the Roadshow.

- Auburn - July 25
- Bassett - August 1
- Columbus - July 27
- Elkhorn - August 17
- Kearney - June 28
- Lincoln - August 25
- Scottsbluff - June 20
- Wayne - August 2

For more information and to register go to:
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/roadshow.html>

Customizable NebraskAccess Business Cards Make Password Distribution Easy

[Susan Knisely, Nebraska Library Commission]

Are you looking for an easy way to distribute your library's NebraskAccess password to patrons? If so, consider trying one of our new NebraskAccess busi-

ness card templates. Available in MS Word or PDF format, these templates contain ten 2" X 3.5" cards per standard 8 1/2 X 11 inch page and are designed to be customized with your library name and NebraskAccess password. Once customized, these cards can be printed on regular paper and cut apart along the dotted lines; or, if you'd like to do something a little fancier, print on special perforated or "clean edge" business card cardstock (produced by companies like Avery and available through office supply stores and online).

If you experience either software compatibility or printing problems when trying to customize and print these cards, don't hesitate to contact us for assistance. We will gladly add your library name and NebraskAccess password to one of our business card templates and provide it to you as a Word or PDF file or as a printout you can photocopy.

Links to customizable business card templates are available at <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/businesscard.html>



Questions and comments can be directed to the Nebraska Library Commission Network Services Team. Phone 800-307-2665, 402-471-2045 or email nebraskaccess@nlc.state.ne.us

The NLA Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the following as winners of the 2006 scholarships:

Louise A. Nixon, \$1000 each:
Kelly Dick, UNL Libraries
Jonatha Masters, Ralston High School
Mary Anne Smith, Schuyler Public Library

Duane Munson, \$250:
Mary Anne Smith, Schuyler Public Library

More FYI

Dewey Decimal Classification

All you need is a computer, Internet connection and a telephone, and you can join Web sessions on:

- * Assigning classification numbers when a topic might fall under more than one discipline.
- * Choosing the right number based on Notes and Manual entries
- * Building numbers using the tables
- * Looking at OCLC's Abridged WebDewey.

Devra Dragos, Cataloging Librarian at the Nebraska Library Commission is the instructor. There is no fee but you must register. There will be three sessions from 10-11:30 on July 26, August 2 and August 9. To register go to www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/dewey.html.

Golden Sower Winners

[At this point it looks like all the winners will be attending the NLA/NEMA Conference on October 27th in Omaha.]

K-3

Substitute Teacher Plans by Doug Johnson, illustrated by Tammy Smith

4-6

Escaping the Giant Wave by Peg Kehret

YA

High Heat by Carl Deuker

ELS Board Meetings

September 15—Lyons Public Library

November 17—Creighton Health Sciences Library

January 19—Papillion/La Vista South High School

March 16—Waterloo Public Library

May 18—Wahoo Public Library

All meetings start at 9:30 am.

Book Club Kits

The Nebraska Library Commission has several book club kits available for your summer adult reading groups. NLC offers flexible check-outs and no overdue fines.



A list of the kits available can be found at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/fer/bookclubkits.html

You can also contact the reference desk for more information. 800-307-2665.

Crystal Apple Award



The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has chosen Gary Hartzell, professor emeritus of educational administration at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, as a recipient of the Crystal Apple. This award is given at the discretion of the AASL president to an individual or group who has had significant impact on school libraries and students.

AASL president, Linda Williams said, "Dr. Hartzell has been a powerful voice for school library media specialists while providing the tools and instruction for them to be advocates and exert influence in their school by creating partnerships with the principal and other colleagues in their building."

Hartzell is an internationally known speaker. He is a member of the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries Advisory Committee and a monthly columnist for the *School Library Journal*. He spoke at the White House Conference on School Libraries in 2002. And, he spoke on **Exploring Influence and Working Relationships for the Librarian** at the ELS Annual Meeting in 2001.

Book lovers never go to bed alone.



Disaster Plan

What would happen if your water main breaks and floods the library, or a tornado rips off the building where your archives are stored? Two workshops were held across Nebraska to address those very issues. You may have been one of those who attended the workshop so will be prepared if a disaster happens. Some of the highlights were:

- If you have 50 to 100 items damaged, you can probably take care of the damage yourself. If you have more than 500 items, you will definitely need assistance.
- Take a 10 to 15 minute break every hour when dealing with a disaster situation.
- A snow shovel is an excellent item to have in your facility to get rid of damaged items.
- Set priorities about which things are most important (stabilize the environment first).
- Cell phones often do not work during and after a disaster.
- Wrapping books in butcher paper and freezing is a way to salvage wet books.
- Books cost approximately \$8.00 each to re-store after a disaster.
- With newer items, replacement may be the best solution.
- The optimum temperature is below 70 degrees with 30 to 50% humidity.

A list of books and materials dealing with preservation and disaster is available from the Nebraska Library Commission at this link: <<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/nsf/FAQ/preservation.html>>. NLC recently gifted the Eastern Library System with a copy of *Disaster Planning: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians with Planning Templates on CD-ROM* (2005); if you'd like to borrow it, please contact the System Office at 402-330-7884 or <ktooker@alltel.net>.

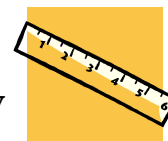
To create your own disaster plan, go to this URL and you will find a plan you can then print and use to create a disaster plan for your library: <<http://www.amigos.org/preservation/disasterplan.pdf>>. If you cannot find these files, call to e-mail the ELS office and we will send them to you.

[Reprinted in part from *ValleyTalk*, Republican Valley Library System, June 2006]

***It is a good idea to keep a copy of your disaster plan off site. If you would like, ELS can store a copy here at the office.**

Trustee Tips

By Kathy Tooker



How Does Your Library Board Measure Up?

Library trustees are responsible for the governing of a public library; that is an awesome responsibility as it is up to the board to approve policies, secure adequate funding, hire a director, keep abreast of what is happening in their community, and be vocal library advocates. To keep on track, library board members like any other entity should do a “self-check” periodically to determine if what they are doing is meeting the needs of the library and the community. A self-evaluation is one means of keeping a board healthy so that the board doesn't take their role for granted. It is important for trustees to ask themselves, what is new that we need to learn about, what is changing in our community that we need to consider, and what is happening on the state and national level that affects our library?

Some of these evaluation tools are in the form of questionnaires, others are questions where trustees rate how themselves on a scale. Some boards use these self-assessment tools as a way determining progress related to a plan or goal. Often times, the evaluation is not shared but discussed with the other board members.

Eastern Library System has on file a variety of library board evaluation tools for your board to use in determining if indeed the board and the library are functioning well. We will be happy to share these with library boards.

As administrator, I am always willing to come to your board meetings, so if you need information or help, please let me know. Call the System Office at 402-330-7884 or email me at ktooker@alltel.net.

“A Library is not simply a repository of books, it is the symbol and center of our culture...a door and a window for those who might not otherwise have such doors and windows.”

Amy Tan, author

**Eastern Library System Board Meeting
May 19, 2006
Offutt AFB Library**

Present: Becky Pasco, Nina Little, Lupe Mier, John Seyfarth, Sam McMullen, Mary Jo Mack, Denise Lawver, Becky Sims, Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer. **Guest:** Richard Miller, Nebraska Library Commission.

The meeting was called to order by Denise Lawver, Vice-President. Brief introductions were made.

The minutes of the March 17, 2006, meeting were reviewed. Motion carried to approve the minutes.

The treasurer's report for March and April 2006, were reviewed. They were approved to be filed for audit.

Correspondence: Linda Oyster, Waterloo Public Library, thanking ELS for the grant and for the used ELS computer; Yutan Public Library staff and board, thanking ELS for the grant; Betsy Lomax, South High School, thanking ELS for the grant.

Administrator's Report: See written report. Library Media Specialist Day was very successful with good comments from participants. PLA in Boston was excellent with good sessions, speakers and authors. The Snyder PL project is moving along with weeding, cataloging and rearranging of materials. The Baright Public Library, Ralston, has a new teen space. The Spring Colloquium was very well received. The Regional Library Systems have received a technology grant for iPod and mp3 players. Kathy reviewed the upcoming events including that Annual Meeting.

Committees:

- A. Fund-raising: The wine event netted \$474 in profit.

New Business:

- A. Ideas for 2006/2007: Gather input from members at annual meeting about what they would like the system to do; System board training; Retreat for library directors; CE workshops on tech services, customer services and reference interview.
- B. Federal Library Legislative Day: Kathy was able to meet with aids and/or congressmen. She thanked them for E-rate for libraries.
- C. Budget/Salaries: The budget allocation from NLC for FY 2006-2007 will be a 3% increase with an extra \$1000. The executive committee will meet to discuss salaries.
- D. Going the Extra Mile Award: There were four nominations submitted. Donna Robinson, Waterloo, and Dee Huff, Ralston, were nominated by the board. Motion carried. A motion was made to request nominations in two categories in the future – one for library employees and one for volunteers. Motion carried.
- E. ELS joining the Omaha Chamber of Commerce: There was discussion on the benefits of joining and it was decided it was worth the annual fee. John moved and Mary Jo seconded a motion to join. Motion carried.

NLC Report: See written report from Richard Miller. The Gates Rural Library Sustainability Project was a success with 113 trustees attending. The CE and Training grants given by NLC will change their matching money from 25% cash to 10% cash + 15% "in kind" match.

The board adjourned to a tour of the Offutt Library and the Offutt Language Learning Center.

Next Meetings:

June 9, 2006, Annual Meeting at Metro Community College, Elkhorn
July 21, 2006, Camp Carol Joy Holling, Ashland

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Sims, ELS Board Secretary





The Law Has Changed Open Meetings Law Workshop

In the 2006 legislative session the Open Meetings Law was changed. The Nebraska Association of School Boards is sponsoring a workshop to address these changes and the challenges of meeting OML requirements.

The workshop will be presented by NASB Legal Counsel John Spatz. Mr. Spatz has presented workshops on OML in the past that have been highly attended by public body members. This will be a very interactive workshop where the participants will leave with a new understanding of the requirements of the Open Meetings Law. Along with the interactive discussions, those in attendance will also receive a copy of the "Guidebook to Nebraska's Public Meetings Law."

In an effort to encourage ALL members of public bodies to attend, the charge for the workshop is only \$100 per public body (\$90 for NASB members). If you have a three member board or a nine member board, all will be allowed to attend for the \$100 fee. Please fax or mail this registration to the NASB address listed below.

Issues to be addressed at the workshop include:

- 1) Changes in the OML.
- 2) How to deal with problem constituents in the public meeting setting.
- 3) Closed sessions – when are they allowed?
- 4) When is a public meeting subject to the OML?
- 5) Sub-Committees.

Board/Association _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Please mark which workshop you plan to attend →
Please name the members of the board who will attend.

Please bill Check enclosed (payable to NASB)

Public Body - \$100

NASB Member Board - \$90

Please fax or mail this form to:

Nebraska Association of School Boards
1311 Stockwell, Lincoln, NE 68502
Phone: (800) 422-4572 or (402) 423-4951
Fax (402) 423-4961 or Email questions to:
vwinters@nasbonline.org

- Tuesday, July 25**
Gering
 Gering Civic Center
 1050 M Street
- Wednesday, July 26**
Kearney
 Holiday Inn Convention Center
 110 Second Avenue
- Thursday, July 27**
Lincoln
 Lincoln North Star High School
 5801 North 33rd Street
- Tuesday, August 1**
Norfolk
 Northeast Community College
 801 East Benjamin Avenue

No cancellations after July 21 for Gering, Kearney and Lincoln; and July 28 for Norfolk. \$20 fee for cancellations.

Upcoming Events

July 26—Dewey Decimal Classification Classes (Part 1) - See page 9. Parts 2 and 3— 9/2 & 9/9.

July 27—Striving Toward Your Personal Best with Pat Wagner, Lincoln. For more information contact Southeast Library System, 402-467-6188.

July 27—Open Meeting Law Workshop, Lincoln. See registration in this issue.

August 1—Open Meeting Law Workshop, Norfolk.

August 2—NLC Database Roadshow, Wayne State College. 9:30 a.m. 3 p.m. See page 8 to register.

August 7—CLICK Meeting for youth services librarians. 9:30 am, Wahoo Public Library.

August 8—NEBASE Annual Meeting, East. Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln. Contact: Jeanette Powell, 800-307-2665; jpowell@nlc.state.ne.us.

August 9—DIRECT Meeting for public library directors. 9:30 am, Lyons Public Library.

August 17—NLC Database Roadshow, Metropolitan Community College, Elkhorn, 9 a.m.—3 p.m. See page 8 to register.

September 14—Fall Colloquium—"An Evening With James LaRue," Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln. See flyer in this issue.

October 4-7—International Reading Association, Omaha. Go to www.ira.org/association/meetings/33_plains.html for details.

October 12-13—Youth Services Retreat with Judy Freeman. See flyer in next issue.

October 25- Excursion to Historic Brownville Preconference. See flyer this issue.

October 25- Blockbuster Marketing With the Hollywood Librarian Preconference. See flyer in this issue.

October 26/27- NLA/NEMA Fall Conference, Quest Center, Omaha.

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

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