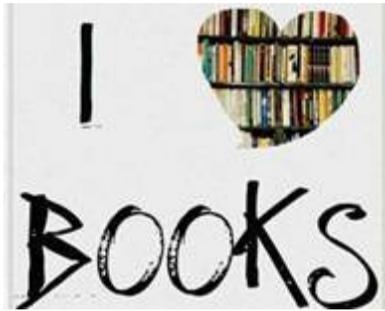


September/October 2012

# Eastern Express

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System SSN 1064-3486  
Serving Burt, Cuming, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders and Washington Counties in Nebraska



*From the Director*

**Books for Book Lovers**

Recently I read two books about book readers and the books they have read, and I thoroughly enjoyed both, you might too.

**Makkai, Rebecca. *The Borrower*. Viking, 2011.**

The choice to read this book was easy as it is the book selected for the One Book Many Libraries session at the MPLA/NLA/NSLA Conference next month. Sponsored by the SCYP section of NLA, the Southeast Library System is the organization who is the impetus behind the program that will be offered on Thursday, October 18, at 4:00 pm.

The book is fanciful and fun. Lucy is a children's librarian at a Hannibal, MO Public Library and has grown attached to one of her customers, Ian, a ten-year old boy. Ian is bright, loves to read and reads way above his age. The problem his mother, who belongs to an evangelistic church and asks Lucy to not allow Ian to check out any books about witchcraft, Halloween, magic, evolution, and no books by Roald Dahl and Lois Lowery. Ian is unhappy about being restricted on his reading and also being required to go to church anti-gay classes.

Coming to work early one morning, Lucy finds Ian has slept in the library overnight and is going to run away. Instead of driving him home as she intended, Lucy and Ian end up running away together. The questions is did Lucy kidnap Ian or did Ian kidnap Lucy? With a stop in Chicago to visit and get some help from her Russian émigré father who has some shady connections before they head off east and end up in Vermont.

Of course, Ian ends up back home with his parents, but Lucy manages to find a way to give him a list of books to read when he is 12, 14 and 16.

**Ozma, Alice. *The Reading Streak: My Father and the Books We Shared*. Grand Central, 2011.**

This book is a true story that I liked very much.

Nine year old Alice has a father who is a single parent and an elementary school librarian. He loves reading to the students in his school and often reads aloud to Alice in the evening. One evening they decide to see if they can make a goal of reading every night for a 100 nights. At the time it seems like quite a commitment.

continued on page two →

## Inside this Issue:

From the Director...	page 1
Upcoming Events...	page 2
"A Day in the Life"...	pages 3,4
ELS who are we?...	page 5
Youth Services...	page 6
Announcements...	pages 7
In the News...	page 8
Scholarships...	page 9
Pictures of Summer Reading...	pages 10, 11
Board Meeting Minutes...	page 12
ELS Board Minutes...	page 13
Preconference...	page 14
Preconference...	page 15
Fall Colloquium...	page 16
Pictures of the Youth Services Retreat...	page 17

Eastern Library System  
1929 Elm Street, Suite 18  
Omaha, NE 68144  
402-330-7884  
800-627-7884  
Fax 402-330-1859  
[www.elsne.org](http://www.elsne.org)  
Staff  
Kathleen Tooker,  
Executive Director  
[ktookер@windstream.net](mailto:ktookер@windstream.net)  
Nancy Meyer, Administrative  
Assistant  
[nrmeyer@windstream.net](mailto:nrmeyer@windstream.net)

**ELS Board of Directors  
(2012-2013)**  
Scott Berryman  
Francine Canfield  
Gail Formanack  
Marcia Jussel  
Lowen Kruse  
Tammy Lorenz  
Joyce Neujahr  
David Privett  
Gayle Roberts  
Rosa Schmidt  
John Seyfarth  
Jan Therien

When they reach the goal, they set another goal for 1,000 nights. They both enjoy the closeness reading together has given them. He must read to her before midnight and at least 10 minutes. When they meet the goal of 1,000 nights of reading, they just continue on. At times if Alice is away, he phones her, or if she is a school function that is running late, he will come to the school and find a spot where he can read to her. The last time her father reads to her is the day he takes her to college when she 18. They find an empty stairwell to sit in the dormitory and where he reads to her for the last time. The Reading Streak as they called it, lasted for over 3,000 nights.

Each chapter starts with a quote from a book that they would have read at about that time. It is a vignette about Alice and her life and their relationship. Here is an excerpt from the end of the book:

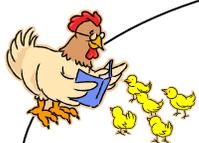
“We called it The Reading Streak, but it was really more of promise. A promise to each other, a promise to ourselves. A promise to always be there and to never give up. It as a promise of hope in hopeless times. It was a promise of comfort when things get uncomfortable. And we kept our promises to each other.

But more than that, it was a promise to the world: a promise to remember the power of the printed word, to take time to cherish it, to protect it at all costs. He promised to explain, to anyone and everyone he meets, the life-changing ability literature can have. He promises to fight for it so that is what he is doing.

Thirteen years ago, my father made the reading promise to me. He kept his word.”

Unfortunately, the father, Jim Brozina , retired early when the school decided that teaching computer skills was more important than reading aloud to children. He decided to run for the school board and visits the elderly in nursing homes where he continues to pass along his love of reading by reading aloud.

Visit Read Aloud Nebraska for more information about reading to children. <[www.readaloudnebraska.org](http://www.readaloudnebraska.org)>.



“Reading aloud to children is known to be the single most activity for building their knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read.” ~ Marilyn Jager Adams



**September 21** - DIRECT Meeting, 9:30 am - Blair Public Library

**September 24th to October 5th** – Basic Skills – Readers Advisory.

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/NBSCalendar.aspx>

**September 30th to October 6th** — Banned Books Week

[www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek)

**October 12th**—ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am—Omaha Public Library, Bess Johnson Branch in Elkhorn

**October 14th to 20th** – Teen Read Week – It Came From the Library – <http://teenreadweek.ning.com/>

**October 17th to 19th** – NLA/NEMA/MPLA at Embassy Suites Conference Center in LaVista. For more information go to:

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/triconference2012/>.

**October 22nd to November 2nd** – Basic Skills – Collection Management.

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/NBSCalendar.aspx>

**November 5th to 16th** – Basic Skills – Communication.

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/NBSCalendar.aspx>

**November 29th** – ELS/SELS Colloquium with Kathy Dempsey at Cornhusker Hotel, 5:30 to 9:30. See page 16.

**December 3rd to 14th** – Basic Skills – Finance.

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/NBSCalendar.aspx>

**December 14th**—ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am—TBD

**February 8, 2013**—ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am—Baright Public Library, Ralston

**April 12, 2013**—ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am—North Bend Public Library



A continuation of our series on “A Day in the Life” of a librarian, representing one of the four types of libraries ELS serves. This issue features a public librarian.

### A day in the Life of Denise Lawver, director of the Wahoo Public Library



Monday at the Library...When Kathy asked me to write a column for the newsletter on a day in the life of a library director I thought surely she could pick someone with a more exciting day than mine. But you never know as everyone has a different level of excitement and entertainment. I picked Monday, September 10, 2012, for my day.

**8:45 a.m.**—arrive at library; I love this time of the morning when I first come in & it is totally silent, no phones, no computers, and no noise. This only lasts for a few minutes as the phone starts to ring around 9:00. I empty the book drop; it is fairly full from the weekend & I leave the cart of check-ins for staff at 9:30. I put today’s editions of the Lincoln & Omaha papers on the newspaper holder, glancing at the headlines as I go. I also turn on the computers in the adult lab & the OPAC so they are ready when we open the door at 9:30.

I have a noon budget meeting with the Finance Committee, Mayor, and City Administrator so I need to finish up my budget narrative. I am a quarter finished when 9:30 rolls around.

**9:30 a.m.**—first staff member arrives, open the door & let the day begin. Outside the door this morning is a big box of books that someone left for us, we will sort & count these later. I have a quick discussion with Janet (my assistant) about the fear of bed bugs in book donations. A friend who lives in Washington D.C. had his apartment infested with them & they traced it to a neighbor on the first floor, this neighbor also used the public library 2 blocks away quite often & yep, he infested them too! That would put a big dent in the building maintenance line item if we had to fight off the bed bugs.

Read first batch of email of the day.

**10:30 a.m.**—story time resumes today after a summer break, I know exactly when they arrive as I hear the shouting & see the little blurs running across the library! Check out desk gets busy after story time is over so I go out to help, one patron needs to make color copies of her business cards & I get her a couple sheets of our better card stock to make them on. She is very happy when I don’t charge her extra for the card stock, what can I say, I’m a sucker for cute little old ladies. Around this time I notice the toilet in the staff bathroom is still running water & since this is the maintenance person’s vacation week guess who gets to fix it? I take the lid off & jiggle the whatchamacallit & it works just fine now!

**11:30 a.m.** - regular patron comes in & asks if he can talk to me, of course I say yes. He is trying to sell me a “flight simulator” program for a computer to raise some money for gasoline. He has a regular paper route, but he needs money for gas & since I bought 2 audio books from him a couple of months ago he thought he’d try to sell me the computer program. I tell him that I can’t purchase that as it just isn’t something we would use but I try to find him another source for gas vouchers. Unfortunately all the regular sources are out of funds until November. I am very tempted to offer to buy him a gas card myself, but I hold back, I am easily tempted into helping but I know I can’t support everyone. Maybe I’ll figure out an anonymous way to get him the card.

continued on next page →

**Noon**—Budget meeting with Finance committee, Mayor, and City Administrator. I have also asked my Board president who is new this year & the previous president to attend this meeting. I have been nervous about this meeting all morning, but it actually goes fairly well, I have great support from our City Administrator & she makes the group aware of what a great job I do & that we are very careful with our budget. They ask a few questions mainly about revenue coming in & I point out that we have already out done last year for copy & fax sales. We also discuss the new computers and the value of the grant that we received, I remind them that we will need to plan for the next 2-3years as the new computers age & need to be replaced. We also discuss the building maintenance as after 7 years in the new library, light bulbs are starting to go out & we are replacing quite a few. One box of T-3 bulbs is \$500 & I think there are only 24 to a box. Hopefully these will last another 7 years! I also mention the constant inspections with the fire alarm, fire sprinkler, & back-flow preventer companies, it seems like every time I turn around some guy in a uniform is in the library inspecting something. They seem to understand these costs so that is a relief, I won't have to operate in the dark & the fire alarms & sprinklers will be operational.

**12:20 p.m.**—head home for lunch break.

**1:10 p.m.** - back to library & since I am in a pretty good mood I decide to tackle the 4 boxes of donated books that have been piling up from the last few days. I sorted & send to recycle the books we don't want & put the rest in boxes for the book store. Over 250 items were donated many children's books & some with age that we can look up online to see if they have extra value. Our library has an in house book store so we can move items fairly quickly.

**2:30 p.m.** - tomorrow is my monthly library board meeting so I need to finish the final bill report, copy the bills & other items they may need for the meeting.

**3:00 p.m.**- the ILS program decides to stop working—halt everything & try to contact the IT support group to find out what is wrong. We are getting a message from the filter saying the site is blocked, well this has never happened before & without the program everything has to be wrote down by hand. Luckily it is quiet right now & not too many check outs. It's hard to look up books without the catalog though, but the patron who is looking for finger plays of the "itsy, bitsy spider" is in luck, we find the book she needs without the catalog. Some days you just need a really good memory to work in the library!

**4:00 p.m.** - answer email, & when I receive my monthly revenue/expense report from the City Administrator I see that we have some funds left in this year's budget, oh boy, shopping my favorite thing! We start a list of supplies that we need more title barcodes at the top of the list, it won't take long to spend that money, and I just need to make sure I have bills submitted by September 27<sup>th</sup>.

**4:30 p.m.** - start this document...

**5:15 p.m.** - holy smokes I just realized today is payroll, I totally spaced it off as I was so focused on the budget meeting. I'm surprised the assistant clerk didn't email or call me, I'm sure she was so busy she forgot too! I'll turn it in first thing tomorrow morning...

**5:30 p.m.**- evening staff arrive & we review the day; discuss overdue list & missing books with evening staff person.

**6:00 p.m.**- end of my day...go home, change into walking clothes & hit the streets!



## ELS - who we are & what we do

The following is the content of our ELS brochure which is part of the publicity we use at meetings and conferences. We thought it would be a good reminder for our members.

### *Who are we.....*

Six regional multi-type library systems throughout the state of Nebraska provide access to improved library service through the cooperation of all types of libraries and media centers. The Eastern Library System services academic, public, school and special libraries in Burt, Cuming, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders, and Washington counties.

The System is a 501 (c) (3) organization governed by a board of directors with representatives from each county including librarians.

#### **Mission Statement**

The Eastern Library System promotes and provides service to assist its membership in offering access to quality library and information services for their communities through information services, technology planning, public library certification, and continuing education.

### *What we do.....*

#### **Book Bag Program**

The Eastern Library System has purchased multiple copies of paperback books for young adults. Each set of books is in an easy to carry bag along with discussion questions, activities, reviews and author information. The book bags may be borrowed by any ELS member library for use with a middle or high school book discussion group. There is no charge for the use but the borrower must pick up and return the books to the ELS office. Length of borrowing period will be based on need and availability.

#### **Consulting and Training**

The Executive Director provides training and consulting to librarians, media specialists, support staff and trustees in all aspects of library service. Through phone conversations and personal visits, the director gives professional support to System members.

#### **Continuing Education**

Workshops and programs on a variety of topics are regularly offered to system members to increase their knowledge and give them skills to better serve their patrons. These workshops include but are not limited to: public services, collection development, budgeting, children's services, administration, technology and an annual Youth Services Retreat.

#### **Eastern Express**

The *Eastern Express* newsletter is available online on the System website. This publication promotes and publicizes the programs and services of ELS with articles on library issues and concerns, professional literature items, reviews, announcements, upcoming events and news of system member libraries. The newsletter is produced bi-monthly.

### **Eastern Library System**

#### **Promoting Library Service & Cooperation**



#### **Scholarships & Grants**

Members may request consideration for an Eastern Library System Scholarship at any time during the year. They are offered to librarians, media specialists and trustees to attend library related workshops, conferences and continuing education programs. Applications are

reviewed by the continuing education committee. A report on the event is requested from each recipient.

#### **Cooperative Resources**

The System provides services to its members including: Follett PHD, Accu-Cut dies, periodical routing, professional collection, BiFolkal Kits, Gaming Equipment, E-Readers and Book Bags, periodical routing. (a detailed list can be found on our webpage at <http://www.elsne.org>)

#### **Technology**

Technology consultations and telecommunications training are current priority needs of many system members. Workshops on automated systems and the Internet, as well as other computer related concerns are offered.

## Resources for Youth Services and School Librarians

Eastern Library System is adding three new titles to its **Book Bags for Kids** program. The books are on order and should be ready for loan to book clubs in schools and public libraries soon. Visit our web page at [www.elsne.org](http://www.elsne.org) for a list of all the titles in the Book Bag collection.

- *Red Cell*, by Omaha author, John Kalkowski
- *Divergent*, by Veronica Roth
- *Bruiser*, by Neal Shusterman

### Banned Websites Awareness Day

To raise awareness of the overly restrictive blocking of legitimate, educational website and academically useful social networking tools in school and school libraries, the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has designated one day during Banned Book Week as Banned Websites Awareness Day. On Wednesday, October 3, AASL is asking school librarians and other educators to promote an awareness of how overly restrictive filtering affects student learning. Banned Books Week is September 30 to October 6.

**Teens' Top Ten**, a "teen choice" list, where teens nominate and chose their favorite books of the previous year. Nominators are members of teen book groups in 16 school and public libraries around the country. Nominations are posted on Support Teen Literature Day, the Thursday of National Library Week, an teens across the country vote on their favorite titles each year. Readers ages 12-18 will vote online in August and September; the winners will be announced during Teen Read Week which is October 14-21. Encourage teens to vote now. The Teen's Top Ten Books can be found at [www.ala.org/teenstopten](http://www.ala.org/teenstopten).

**Teen Read Week** is an annual literacy initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), aimed at encouraging teens to read for the fun of it. Teen Read Week 2012 will be celebrated October 14– 20 with a theme of "It Came from the Library." John Green best-selling author of "The Fault in Our

Stars," has been named the 2012 Teen Read Week™ spokesperson.

### Power Up—IGD12

National Gaming Day has grown and has become International Gaming Day @ your library and will take place the first Saturday of November which is November 3rd this year. It will include traditional board game donation and national video game tournaments. Three sponsors, PopCap is donating 2,000 copies of their games *Bookworm* and *Bookworm Adventures*. Libraries can register to receive free codes to download each of these games to library computers. Ravensburger is donating 1,000 copies of its board game *Labryinth* and Game Table Options will be opening up all of the games on its site on November 3rd in support of IDG. For more information and updates and to see what libraries in Nebraska have signed up to participate go to: <http://ngd.ala.org/category/2012-international-games-day>.

**VOYA's Guide to Intellectual Freedom for Teens**, by Margaret Auguste, offers school and public librarians a solution to the challenge of book challenges. Here is a thorough explanation of the reasons young adult books are challenged; a look at censorship from the point of view of the author, the teacher, the parent, the teen, and the librarian; an examination of the tools in place to protect the intellectual freedom of teens, and an overview of several of the librarians who fought for intellectual freedom. Along with this extensive information are activities, programs, collection development resources, and more ways for librarians to take a proactive approach to educating the community to prevent challenges from occurring. VOYA Press, \$40; subscriber \$32: 978-1-61751-007

### Shape Collage

([www.shapecollage.com](http://www.shapecollage.com)) is a free software program that you can download to make picture collages in a variety of shapes with just a few mouse clicks. It has applications for creating collages of student's photos, book jackets, or other library-related projects.



[Seen in *Library Sparks*, August/September 2012]

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Finalists for 2013 One Book One Nebraska Announced

One nonfiction book and three novels—all stories with ties to Nebraska and the Great Plains—are the four finalists for the 2013 One Book One Nebraska statewide reading program. The finalists are:

- ✓ *O Pioneers!*, by Willa Cather
- ✓ *Once Upon a Town: The Miracle of the North Platte Canteen*, by Bob Greene
- ✓ *While the Patient Slept*, by Mignon Eberhart
- ✓ *The Tie That Binds*, by Kent Haruf

The choice for the 2013 One Book One Nebraska will be announced at 5:30 p.m. at the **Celebration of Nebraska Books on November 3** at the Nebraska State Historical Society's Museum of Nebraska History, 15<sup>th</sup> and P Streets in downtown Lincoln. The event, scheduled for 3:30 - 6:30 p.m., will feature a program by Joe Starita, author of the 2012 One Book One Nebraska selection, "*I Am a Man*" *Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice*. The Celebration will honor winners of the **2012 Nebraska Book Awards**, including readings by some of the winning authors. A list of winners will be posted at <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/awards.html>.

The recipient of the **2012 Jane Geske Award** will also be announced. The Jane Geske Award recognizes a Nebraska association, organization, business, library, school, academic institution, or other group that has made an exceptional, long-term contribution to one or more of these fields in Nebraska: Literacy, Reading, Book Selling, Books, Libraries, and/or Writing in Nebraska.

## Gov. Heineman Names Appointments to Nebraska Library Commission

Gov. Dave Heineman recently appointed Mary A. (Molly) Fisher, of Lincoln, to a three-year term on the Nebraska Library Commission.

Molly served as deputy director of the Nebraska Humanities Council until her retirement in 2000. She is a founding member of the Nebraska Center for the Book and is currently an ex-officio board member. She also serves on the board of the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association. She received the Mildred Bennett award, the Schwartz Prize, the Lincoln Arts Council award for literary contributions, and a Nebraska Arts Council Award. Molly and her husband volunteer with state parks across the country, with a special interest in volunteering at lighthouses. She also serves on the Friends of Beta Alpha Board and volunteers with the Lincoln City Libraries.

\*\*\*\*\*



ELS Board Member Scott Berryman and his wife, Paige, attended the reception sponsored by the Friends of the Omaha Public Library held on September 8th at the Swanson Branch for award winning author C. J. Box. Box spoke the next day at the Main Library. **Charles James Box, Jr.** is an American writer, and a native of Wyoming, who lives outside of Cheyenne with his wife and daughters. His Joe Pickett Series has 12 novels.

l-r Scott Berryman, C. J. Box, Paige Berryman



## In the News



...from Robin Clark, director of **Sump Library, Papillion**. Here was their way of promoting the library, literacy, Lions and Lions' President Madden's "Reading Action Program".

As part of this year's "A World of Service" theme, International Lions President Wayne Madden is challenging Lions to participate in the Reading Action Program to focus on increasing literacy and access to learning resources through their service. The Reading Action Program is a call to action for every Lions club around the world to organize service projects and activities that underscore the importance of reading and address specific needs related to illiteracy within their own community.

This is a wonderful opportunity for a library to work directly with a Lions group in their community - for funding for programs, materials, volunteers, etc.

Please let me know [robin.clark@sumplibrary.info](mailto:robin.clark@sumplibrary.info) if you have any questions. I think it would be great if all the Lions clubs worked with the libraries and started giving out books instead of candy in the community parades.

### North Bend Public Library

[seen in the *Fremont Tribune*, September 11 by Tammy Real-McKeighan]

The old Carnegie Library in North Bend has a future. North Bend native Jim Kruger bought the building last month. The library, built in 1913 is listed on the National Register of Historic places. He plans to restore it.



In June, area residents gathered to dedicate a new, 7,150 square-foot, library. The \$1.5

million library features a computer lab, community room and children's and adult reading areas.

Amy Williams, director, sent pictures from their dedication ceremony.

Author, N.L. Sharp, who read her book "The Ring Bear". The kids then made bear masks and flower girl bouquets. It was really fun.



### News from Omaha Public Schools - 9/14/12

Springville librarians, Jolene Langan, has already begun using World Book Science Power in her library lessons, and we have only had the subscription for a week. On her library webpage she has posted the following quotation: "People protect what they love." by Jacques-Yves Cousteau. This embodies Jolene's perspective. She loves the Springville library and protects it as a haven for readers, learners and inquisitive minds. She champions students' needs for exploration through literature, through hands on activities and lab explorations and through making her library lessons extensions of content touched upon in the classroom.

**Creighton University Health Science Library** reorganized in July. Reference and Education services were combined with Access Services to form User Services. John Mitchell was named Head of User Services. Digitization and interlibrary loan were combined with Technical Services to form Information Services. Richard Jizba was named Head of Information Services.

Pat Meeves, Head of Access Services retired July 5, 2012, after 25 years at the Health Science Library.

## Eastern Library System is offering four \$50 scholarships to ELS members

### APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION FOR AN EASTERN LIBRARY SYSTEM SCHOLARSHIP

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LIBRARY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

LIBRARY POSITON HELD \_\_\_\_\_

PROGRAM YOU WISH TO ATTEND (include date, location and sponsor)

APPROXIMATE TOTAL COST OF EVENT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BREIFLY EXPLAIN HOW THIS PROGRAM WILL BENEFIT EITHER YOU OR YOUR LIBRARY:

(attach a separate sheet, NOT hand-written)

I understand that I will be notified of acceptance or denial before the event. Scholarship monies will be awarded following my attendance at the continuing education event and that I must fill out and return a short article about the event with two months.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form at least three weeks before the event to:

Eastern Library System

11929 Elm Street, Suite 18

Omaha, NE 68144

Fax: 402-330-1859

# Summer Reading Was a Blast (but I'm glad it's over)

## Bellevue Public Library

For the last three summers we have partnered with a Bellevue summer school class that concentrates on doing community service projects. Each year we send them transparencies of the artwork from the CSRP CD and the kids get to work painting these wonderful posters which then decorate the area around our Storytime/Program room! When the pictures are ready to be delivered we invite the student artists and teachers to a simple reception at the library. We look over the paintings, take some pictures, serve cookies and juice and thank them profusely!



We started a new program this summer called Park and Read. During June and July Tammy or I visited 5 Bellevue city parks and presented a family storytime. Families were encouraged to bring a picnic lunch or supper for these noon and 6 PM programs. They could also bring folding chairs or blankets. All the children received a small prize (book, wind-up toy, stickers, pencils, etc.) We usually read 3-4 books depending on their length. Many families then stayed after to enjoy the park's playground. Along with having the info in our monthly calendar, we also had yard signs made (like campaign signs) that were displayed in the park about a week beforehand.



We invited Sarpy/Cass Department of Health and Wellness to give a (FREE!) program on Bike Safety which included a "jello brain" and a drawing for free bike helmets for some in our audience. We combined this with a visit from some of our police officers who brought a squad car, motorcycles, and freebies!

Bellevue Public Library's youth patrons are served by Alice Boeckman, Tammy Henry and Gordon Wyant.



## Bellevue (continued)

Take a roomful of children and parents, 12 teen volunteers, 6 large pizzas, 3 cameras, and 50 stuffed animals and what do you get? (besides a slight headache)? Stuffed Animal Sleepover! This program idea, borrowed from Lindsey Tomsu, was massively successful! Parents and kids - and their stuffed animals - gathered on a Friday afternoon for a 1-hour program that included a couple stories about stuffed animals, as well as songs, a chance to make a personalized beaded bracelet or necklace for their stuffed friend, and refreshments. The stuffed animals were then left behind for the night, giving the teens a chance to pose the animals doing activities in the library (eating pizza, playing Chutes and Ladders, climbing bookshelves, playing hide and seek, having a bedtime snack and story, and bedding down for the night.) Pictures were taken of each pose, then the pictures were developed (yea! for 1-hour processing) and then assembled into personalized "scrapbooks" which were then sent home with each stuffed animal when they were picked up the next day. No actual sleepover occurred - teens and Children's staff were all home before 9 PM!

Parents and kids are already asking us when we will be doing it again!!



**Jeff Quinn entertaining a crowd at Sump Memorial Library in Papillion**

**Jean Slowinski, Gretna Public Library, all wrapped up!**



**At one of the Southeast Library System's Board Meetings, board minutes was on the agenda.** [thanks to SELS for permission to reprint]

They used information from Emily Chan for this discussion and you can find all the details at: [www.nonprofitlawblog.com/home/2011/02/board-meeting-minutes.html](http://www.nonprofitlawblog.com/home/2011/02/board-meeting-minutes.html). Some information was also referenced from Blue Avocado – [www.blueavocado.org/](http://www.blueavocado.org/).

Board minutes should be kept permanently. They are considered legal documents by auditors, the IRS and courts, and they represent the actions of the board. Many assert that if it's not in the minutes, it didn't happen. Minutes should also be distributed to board members before each meeting for review.



Organizations are not required to, nor should they, record every detail or statement said at the meeting. That said anyone reading should be able to easily understand, at a minimum, what actions were taken and how they were approved. Mirror the outline established in the meeting agenda for the minute's template – that typically provides a well-organized and clear format. In the minutes include information such as:

- ✓ Date & time of meeting
- ✓ Whether the meeting is a special or regular meeting
- ✓ Names of board members in attendance and board members not in attendance
- ✓ Whether a quorum was established
- ✓ Any departures and re-entries of attendees
- ✓ Any board actions (e.g., approvals, delegations of authority, directives) – and include commitments of board members
- ✓ Include alternatives considered for important decisions to show diligence
- ✓ Attach and briefly summarize key points from any reports given to the board
- ✓ Include the library name, who called the meeting to order, when the meeting ended, and who recorded the minutes

There are also suggestions of items to leave out and **NOT** include:

- ✓ Opinions or judgments – leave out statements like “a well done report” or “a heated discussion.”
- ✓ Criticism of members should not be included unless it takes the form of an official motion.
  - ✓ Thanks or expressions of appreciation should only be included if there was a clear consensus of meeting participants.
  - ✓ Discussion: If the organization has opted to include discussion summaries do not personalize it by recording the views of individuals.
  - ✓ Extended rehashing of reports: Just hit the highlights of key facts, particularly if a written report is attached.

#### Upcoming ELS Board Meetings

- ✓ October 12th...Omaha Public Library, Bess Johnson Branch, Elkhorn
- ✓ December 14th...ELS Office
- ✓ February 8, 2013...Baright Public Library, Ralston
- ✓ April 12th...North Bend Public Library

#### ELS Board Officers for 2012-2013

**President: Rose Schmidt, director of the Oakland Public Library**

**Vice-President: Joyce Neujahr, University of Nebraska, Omaha, Criss Library**

**Secretary: Gail Formanack, library user from Douglas County**

**Treasurer: Francine Canfield, director of the Baright Public Library, Ralston**

## EASTERN LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD MINUTES

**AUGUST 10, 2012; 9:30 A.M.  
John A. Stahl Library, West Point**

Board Members Present: Marcia Jussel, Gayle Roberts, John Seyfarth, , Robin Bernstein, Scott Berryman, Rosa Schmidt, Lupe Meier, Francine Canfield. Ex-officio: Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer. Guests: Richard Miller

Robin Bernstein called the meeting to order. Introductions took place and guests were introduced.

Minutes of the April 13, 2012, meeting were discussed. John Seyfarth moved and Lupe Meier seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's reports for April, May, June & the Annual Report for 2011-2012 were reviewed and filing of same for audit approved.

Director Tooker informed the Board of thank you correspondence notes from retiring President Robin Bernstein, Gail Formanack, Amy Williams and John Kalkowski.

Director's Report: See written report. Director Tooker advised the Board of a newly hired auditor.

Guest Richard Miller, from the Nebraska Library Commission, reviewed Commission news and events.

### Committee reports:

**Fundraising:** Kathy Tooker reported on success of the 2011-2012 year. The committee will meet to continue planning for the 2012-2013 year.

**Technology:** John Seyfarth recapped the Wahoo workshop and the presentations given by Nebraska Library Commission representatives on File Management Strategies and how to "Ignite with Ice."

**Continuing Education:** Director Tooker stated that the Talk Tables continue to be a popular feature of the ELS Annual Meeting, as does presentations by Jeff Barnes.

**Advocacy:** Francine Canfield discussed and relayed information received from a discussion with Senator Steve Lathrop. At the conclusion, Nebraska hasn't enough money to go around. We need to continually advocate why libraries are a necessity.

**Old business:** No old business at this time.

### New Business:

Election of Board Officers was held. New Officers are: Rosa Schmidt, President; Joyce Neujahr, Vice President; Gail Formanack – Secretary; and Francine Canfield – Treasurer.

Robin Bernstein nominated Rosa Schmidt for President, Scott Berryman seconded. Motion carried.

Rosa Schmidt nominated Joyce Neujahr for Vice President, Robin Bernstein seconded. Motion carried.

Robin Bernstein nominated Gail Formanack as Secretary, Francine Canfield seconded. Motion carried.

John Seyfarth nominated Francine Canfield as Treasurer, Marcia Jussel seconded. Motion carried.

John Seyfarth motioned the following list of Board Alternates be accepted: Lupe Meier, Robin Bernstein and Marie Reidelbach. Francine Canfield seconded and the Motion carried. Barbara Dean and Sam McMullen were removed.

The Budget for 2012-2013 was presented to the Board. Marcia Jussel motioned the budget be approved, Francine Canfield seconded. Motion carried.

Employee contracts were presented. John Seyfarth motioned to approve the contracts and Gayle Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

Sheets were circulated for Board Members to sign up for committees. Director Tooker will send out committee assignments at a later date.

Personnel issues were brought to the Board. Nancy Meyer presented the Board with her retirement plans for the end of the year. Nancy and Kathy discussed the employee change, training schedule, etc.

Rosa Schmidt asked if there were any announcements for the Good of the Order. There being no more business before the Board, Rosa Schmidt moved and Gayle Roberts seconded to adjourn the meeting.

**Next Meeting: October 12, 2012, at the Bess Johnson Elkhorn Public Library.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Gayle Roberts  
Secretary

2012 NLA/NEMA/MPLA Pre-Conference

# RUN, RUN TO READING ALOUD!

Wednesday, October 17 – La Vista, Nebraska Conference Center

Featuring children's book authors

Jim Aylesworth & Lisa Campbell Ernst



And Nebraska  
children's book authors  
Julia Cook  
Ted Kooser  
Preston McDaniels  
& James Solheim

## AGENDA

**9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**  
Registration, Coffee and Book Sales

**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**  
One Book, One School

**11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
*The Teacher Who Became An Author*  
Jim Aylesworth

**12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.**  
Lunch on your own

**1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.**  
Nebraska Children's Book Author Panel  
with Julia Cook, Ted Kooser,  
Preston McDaniels and James Solheim

**3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
*Gifts of the Universe:  
Inspiration, Hard Work, and Grace*  
Lisa Campbell Ernst

**4:00 p.m.**  
Book Signing

## REGISTRATION

\$40 if received by July 1  
\$45 if received between July 1 and Sept. 20  
\$50 after Sept. 20  
(15% discount for MPLA members)

You can register online at  
[nebraskalibraries.org/triconference2012](http://nebraskalibraries.org/triconference2012)

For more program details or to reserve books  
by the authors please visit  
[www.readaloudnebraska.org](http://www.readaloudnebraska.org)

This workshop is sponsored by  
Read Aloud Nebraska.



Support was also received from the  
Nebraska Regional Library Systems and the  
School, Children's and Young People's Section  
of the Nebraska Library Association.

Email [info@readaloudnebraska.org](mailto:info@readaloudnebraska.org)  
if you have any questions

# The Embedded School Librarian

**Wednesday October 17, 2012 5:30 pm-8:30 pm**

**Roskens Hall Room #412 University of Nebraska-Omaha**

## **Like a splinter or like a journalist? Embedded school librarianship**

**Special Guest Speaker: Sara Kelley-Mudie**

The idea of being embedded is at the heart of much of what we believe makes school libraries effective; we don't teach skills in isolation, but rather embed them within the larger curriculum of our schools. We can take these beliefs that are at the core of school librarianship, and expand them in order to redefine--or, really, highlight--how integral librarians are to the larger mission of the school. Embedded librarianship is about moving beyond the physical walls of the library--both virtually and physically--in order make connections between the students and teachers in our schools and resources, information, and people inside and outside of the school.



In this talk, I'll outline the theory and standards that are the foundations for my practice as an embedded librarian, the tools I use to create connections and share resources, and how I've embedded myself in a variety of teaching and learning spaces in my school.

### Pre-Conference Agenda

5:30-6:00  
Light Hors d'Oeuvres  
6:00-7:00  
Guest Speaker: Sara Kelley-Mudie  
7:00-7:15  
Breakout Discussions  
7:20-8:30  
Breakout Sessions on tools and tips for  
embedded librarianship

Please register for the NSLA pre-conference on the  
Tri-Conference page. Cost \$30.

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/triconference2012/>

Please contact Stacy Lickteig at [stacy.lickteig@ops.org](mailto:stacy.lickteig@ops.org) or  
Courtney Pentland at [mrspentland@gmail.com](mailto:mrspentland@gmail.com) if you need  
any assistance or have any questions. Thank you!

Sara Kelley-Mudie is the Librarian and Educational Technology Facilitator at The Forman School in Litchfield, CT. A former high school English teacher, she has a BA in English from Connecticut College (2001) and an MLIS from Kent State (2007). Sara serves on the board for the Connecticut Association of School Librarians, and was selected as one of the American Library Association's Emerging Leaders in 2011. Sara writes about libraries, learning, and technology at [kmthelibrarian.blogspot.com](http://kmthelibrarian.blogspot.com).

Her experience working at Forman--an independent college-preparatory school for students with dyslexia, ADHD, and other learning disabilities--has shaped her beliefs about libraries, instructional design, and creating accessible learning spaces for all students. She is passionate about working with students and teachers to become independent learners with the confidence and skill to navigate an ever-changing world of information and knowledge.

### NOT ABLE TO ATTEND?

**You can still get access to the content from this great program for the low cost of just \$10! Contact Courtney or Stacy if you are interested! Access will be granted after the program date.**



SELS & ELS are proud to present the...

# Fall Colloquium

*Building Community Partnerships: 25  
Ideas in 45 Minutes with Kathy  
Dempsey*

November 29th, 2012 @ 5:30

Yankee Hill Room, The Cornhusker, Lincoln

Kathy Dempsey is a consultant and trainer through her business, Libraries Are Essential, and is the author of *The Accidental Library Marketer* (Information Today, Inc., 2009). Her work is dedicated to helping librarians and information professionals promote their value and expertise in order to gain respect and funding. Kathy has been the Editor of the *Marketing Library Services* newsletter for 18 years and was formerly Editor-in-Chief of *Computers in Libraries* magazine. She also blogs at The 'M' Word.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Send registration and \$40 by **November 21st** to:

Southeast Library System, 5730 R. St, Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE  
68505 or by fax to (402)467-6196

Select:

◇ Windsor Pork Loin

◇ Seafood Newberg

◇ Champagne Pasta

This project was supported in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

# Youth Services Retreat 2012

We learned a lot.....and had a lot of fun

YA Literature with Bridge Kratt, UNO➔



➔Marvel Maring, UNO, taught us how to make a pop-up book (or a reasonable facsimile)



Sally Snyder's book reviews are always a hit➔



➔Sarah English, Omaha Public Library, presented "Every Child Ready to Read"



Amy Mather, Omaha Public Library peeked our interest in "Pinterest"➔



Brad Hruska, Columbus Public Library was very patient while teaching us how to make balloon animals.

