

MERIDIAN MONITOR

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2005

Your System Board:

Joan Davis
Maxine Erpelding
Gail Irwin
Penny Jeffrey
Mary Koch
Laura Martinsen
Kristina Owen
Michelle Self
Stacy Vogel



Regional Library System Administrators and "friends" at the NLA/NEMA Sock Hop

Meridian Library System
Suite B
3519 Second Avenue
Kearney NE 68847

Phone: 800-657-2192
Phone: 308-234-2087
Fax: 308-234-4040
Email:
sosenga@frontiernet.net
Website: www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/Meridian

System Awards Youth Service Grants

Congratulations to the following libraries and school media centers on being awarded a \$500 Youth Services Grant from the Meridian Library System:

Howard Elementary School Media Center, Grand Island for establishment of a Reader's Theater.

Gibbon Public Schools Media Center for the Fiesta of Books project to purchase bilingual materials.

Shelton Township Library for the Club Discovery: A Story Time of Adventure project.

Sargent Public Schools Media Center for the Accelerated Reader Enhancement Program.

Online Health Information Tool Encourages Partnerships

"Public Libraries and Community Partners: Working Together to Provide Health Information," a new online resource from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, encourages health information partnerships between public libraries and local community organizations. Six extensive guides show how to deal with the growing demand for health information, how to provide health information services, how to develop a community based program, how to develop partnerships, and other valuable resources. The site: nnlm.gov/libinfo/community, also contains a section for funding opportunities through the National Network.

University Press Books Selected for Public and Secondary School Libraries Bibliography

Each year, librarians who work with students and the general public select, review, and rate hundreds of books from scholarly presses. The results are published by the Association of American University Presses in an annual volume. For the first time this collection development tool is also being made available online at: www.aaupnet.org/librarybooks

The almost 500 books listed in the 2004 edition include works on a wide variety of topics: Eskimo architecture, zinfandel, camembert, Spanish-language science fiction, dragons, mummies and the American presidency, to name a few.

ALA Announces Award Winners

Newbery Medal: Cynthia Kadohata, *Kira-Kira*

Honor Books:

Gennifer Choldenko, *Al Capone Does My Shirts*
Russell Freedman, *The Voice That Challenged a Nation*

Gary D. Schmidt, *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*

Caldecott Medal: Kevin Henkes, *Kitten's First Full Moon*

Honor Books:

Barbara Lehman, *The Red Book*
Jacqueline Woodson (Author), E B Lewis (Illustrator), *Coming on Home Soon*
Mo Willems, *Knuffle Bunny*

Coretta Scott King Award:

Winner (Author):

Toni Morrison, *Remember*

Winner (Illustrator):

Kadir Nelson, *Ellington Was Not a Street*

Winner (New Talent Author):

Barbara Hathaway, *Missy Violet & Me*

Winner (New Talent Illustrator):

Frank Morrison, *Jazzy Miz Mozetta*

Honor Books (Author):

Shelia P Moses, *The Legend of Buddy Bush*
Sharon G Flake, *Who Am I Without Him?*
Marilyn Nelson, *Fortune's Bones*

Honor Books (Illustrator):

Jerry Pinkney, *God Bless the Child*
Leo Dillon and Diane Dillon, *The People Could Fly: The Picture Book*

Michael L. Printz Award:

Winner: Meg Rosoff, *How I Live Now*

Honor Books:

Kenneth Oppel, *Airborn*
Gary D. Schmidt, *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*
Allan Stratton, *Chanda's Secrets*

Reader's Digest Condensed Books

Are you looking for something to do with all those Reader's Digest Condensed books (RDCB) that never sell at your book sale? Look no further! Here is an easy way to make sure these books find a good home and earn a little money for your Friends group at the same time!

Books of Love, a company based in Davenport, FL, uses Reader's Digest Condensed books to create hand molded, antiqued and lacquered books and scrolls containing original poetry and artwork. The company is looking for a mass quantity of RCDBs. The books need to be the 500+ page size volumes, measuring approximately 1-1/4" thick x 5-1/2" wide x 7-5/8" tall.

Books of Love will pay \$0.50 each for a book with a good cover. It does not matter if it has a slip cover or writing in it, etc. It has to have a good spine, not cracked or split.

Depending on your location, Books of Love will mail you a check for the books along with a pre-paid UPS address label (they pay the freight). So you get your check, put the label(s) on your box(es), and drop them at a UPS drop-off. Books of Love will provide a list of drop-off points in your location. If there is not a suitable place within reason to drop them off you can call UPS for a pick-up at your location. If UPS comes by your location on a regular basis, you can just give them to any UPS driver as well.

For more information, contact Aaron Bond at Books of Love, Inc., 4 Page Road, Davenport FL 33837; e-mail: aaronbond@booksoflove.com; website: www.booksoflove.com

(FOLUSA newsletter, December 2004)



**Meridian Library System
Board Meeting Minutes
Conference Call January 13, 2005**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Kristina Owen at 3:32 pm.

ROLL CALL: Board members answering roll call were: Kristina Owen, Gail Irwin, Maxine Erpelding, Stacy Vogel, Michelle Self, Laura Martinsen, Mary Koch, Penny Jeffrey, and Administrator Sharon Osenga. Joan Davis phoned in at 3:42.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Two items added to the agenda were an up-date on the disability insurance for Sharon and the resignations from the board by Pam Miska and Judy Coan. Mary Koch moved that the agenda be accepted, second was by Penny Jeffrey. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: With no additions or corrections, Gail Irwin moved the minutes be approved as mailed, second by Stacy Vogel. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence was from Pam Miska regretfully resigning from the board; a thank you received from Carol Hammond, past MPLA President, for Sharon's participation at MPLA convention; thank you's from Penny Jeffrey and Gail Irwin for the calendars.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Penny Jeffrey moved to approve the treasurer's report and the bills for November and December, second by Gail Irwin. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Workshops: The Winter Workshop was a success. Because we shared with Republican Valley System, the cost will be split. Many of the speakers didn't charge. The Summer Reading Workshop will be in Oconto on March 17. No other workshops have been scheduled yet.

MPLA Joint Conference: Sharon will be gone the last week of January to attend. It will be a planning conference for the October joint conference.

Continuing Education: Nebraska Library Commission will be paying Sharon's attendance at the International Reading Association's 50th Annual Conference in San Antonio in May.

Basic Skills: Sharon will be teaching the next basic skills classes on April 8, 15 and 22.

Computer: Sharon experienced a real serious lock up on her computer right after Thanksgiving. However, the problem has been fixed and everything is back to nor-

mal.

Grant: The Regional Library Systems have written an LSTA grant for external hard drives for the desktop computers for in-house backups, flash drives for backups and USB hubs and cards for laptops. If the grant is not received, we may look at doing this on our own through budget. The cost is within our means and it is important to be able to minimize the loss of records by backing up both in-house and off-site.

Leadership Institute: It will be held July 25-30 at the St. Benedict Retreat Center in Schuyler. Please encourage anyone interested to attend. Watch the newsletter for information.

SYSTEM BUSINESS:

Board Member Resignations: We received a written resignation from Pam Miska. Judy Coan has verbally resigned. Laura Martinsen from St. Paul and Michelle Self from Shelton have been appointed to fill the seats on the board.

Disability Insurance: At the suggestion of the auditor, we are looking into disability insurance for Sharon. So far, only one bid has been received. By the March meeting we should be ready for a discussion on this matter.

Technology Plan: Sharon will meet with Pam Scott from the commission about updating our tech plan. This is necessary if we are to continue to receive E-rate funding. A draft should be available at the next board meeting.

Board Meeting Costs: A cost comparison with round trip miles to Burwell and Broken Bow and a conference call was discussed. The conference call is by far the cheapest way to conduct a board meeting. Broken Bow is the least expensive on-site meeting place. The consensus was that the conference call meetings were acceptable but not preferable for every meeting.

Youth Services Grants: This year's grants were awarded to Gibbon Public Schools, Howard Elementary in Grand Island, Shelton Public Library and Sargent Public School.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be March 18 at 10:00am in Broken Bow.

ADJOURNMENT: Stacy Vogel moved for adjournment, second by Mary Koch. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Maxine Erpelding, Secretary/Treasurer

Louise A. Nixon Scholarship Fund

Have you ever wanted to attend the "Woodstock for Capitalists" weekend in Omaha? Had a yen to hear the "Oracle of Omaha" and his sidekick, Charlie Munger, make their annual financial forecasts? This might be your year to attend the Berkshire Hathaway Annual Meeting at the Qwest Center in downtown Omaha on April 30th.

Make a \$5.00 donation to the Louise Nixon Scholarship Fund to enter your name in a drawing for two tickets to the Berkshire Hathaway Annual Meeting on 30 April 2005. For each additional \$5.00, another chance will be added to the drawing. If you make a \$10.00 donation, your name is entered twice in the drawing, \$25.00 gets you five chances, \$75.00 gets you 15 chances, etc.

Warren Buffett always plans a full weekend for his shareholder guests. Typical events include shopping at the Nebraska Furniture Mart with the employee discount, a cocktail reception at Borsheim's, and a chance to tour NetJet's business jets. Various Berkshire Hathaway companies always have booths at the Annual Meeting. Past exhibitors have included Dairy Queen, Fruit of the Loom, Geico Insurance, The Pampered Chef, and See's Candies.

You can't catch a glimpse of Warren Buffett if you don't donate. Send your check payable to **NLA – Nixon Fund** (It would be very helpful if you also write **Louise Nixon Scholarship Fund Winter 2005** on your check's "For" line.) and mail it to –

**Maggie Harding, NLA Executive Director
Louise Nixon Scholarship Fund Winter 2005
P.O. Box 98
Crete, NE 68333-0098**

The winner will be notified by 7 April 2005. The Berkshire Hathaway meeting credentials will be mailed to the winner by 15 April 2005.

Reaching Out @ your library™ Wednesday, March 16, 2005 10 am-1 pm CT Paraprofessionals Spring Meeting

- Session I - **The Virtual Patron: Distance Learning** - innovations in the field of distance education, and how libraries can support the patrons who never cross our front door
Speaker: Dorothy Willis, University of Nebraska-Omaha, University Library
 - Session II - **Collection Development Now** - current trends in the field of collection development, new access points, and working to reconcile access for all.
Speaker: Heather Buckwalter, Creighton University Law Library
 - Session III - **Teens and Computers** - providing materials and access for teenage patrons, and maintaining a useful environment with teenagers present.
Speakers: Debra Grove and Janie Botsch, Papillion-LaVista High School
- Paraprofessionals Spring General Meeting, following above sessions, Maria Medrano-Nehls, Chair of Paraprofessionals, will guide us through our annual spring general meeting. For details and registration form please see the following web site: <http://www.nol.org/home/NLA/PARA/paraconference.html>



Thinking About Going Wireless?

Check out the information at these sites:

<http://people.morrisville.edu/~drewwe/wireless/wirelesslibraries.htm>

<http://webjunction.org/do/DisplayContent?id=8211>

<http://www.networkcomputing.com/netdesign/bb1.html>

http://reviews.cnet.com/4520-3243_7-5021297-1.html?tag=ft

Attention library staff and public library board members!

Are you looking for a way to learn more about copyright?

Copyright Basics for Libraries

How about a course that you can take at home or at your library?

You'll even earn 2 hours of continuing education credits!

The Nebraska Library Commission, in cooperation with the Regional Library Systems, will provide you access to the course "Copyright Basics for Libraries" through an online class being offered by the *Library Education @ Desktop (LEAD)* program from the University of North Texas School of Library and Information Science. More specific information about each course is available at: <http://www.leadonline.info/>

Normally the cost of these courses is \$ 7.00 each. But the Nebraska Library Commission is purchasing slots for 10 people within each Regional Library System area. So there is no cost for you to participate.

What if I have never participated in an online course?

That's ok. Your Regional Library System office staff will provide you with assistance if you need it.

Can completion of the course be applied toward the Public Librarian Certification program or the Public Library Board Certification program?

Yes. If a participant has applied for the certification program, the person will receive 2 hours credit toward the appropriate certification, whether it is Public Librarian or Board certification.

When will the class start?

The class listed above will begin **February 10th, 2005**. You will have until **March 23rd, 2005** to complete the course.

When and where can I register for the course?

The Regional Library System offices will take registrations until February 7th, 2005.

There are just 10 seats (at no cost to you) available in each Regional Library System. They are offered on a first come basis – so don't delay. If you are interested in registering for one of the courses listed above, contact your Regional Library System office before **February 8th, 2005**.

What if I have more questions?

If you have any other questions pertaining to this opportunity, contact Pam Scott, Continuing Education Coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission via email: pscott@nlc.state.ne.us or via phone: 800-307-2665.



Join NLA

If you have not joined for 2005 or you were not planning on joining, please re-consider. There are many good reasons to join the Nebraska Library Association. You will receive:

- NLAQ-a quarterly publication with lots of great information from your colleagues.
- A biennial membership directory.
- A reduced rate to the annual Fall Conference.
- Discounted prices at selected Nebraska businesses.

But, most of all, you will be a part of a large organization whose primary function is to support and promote all Nebraska libraries.

Please consider also offering this opportunity to your staff and be sure to have them join the **Paraprofessional Section!!!!**

For a membership form go to:
www.nol.org/home/NLA/membership.html

WEB SITES OF THE MONTH

Better Googling: Things You Didn't Know

Google Does: Power tips for getting the most from the Google search engine, from toolbars to using Google as a calculator or to look up phone book entries. Includes tips for journalists on using Google to research stories. From Sree Sreenivasan, "Tech Guru" for New York's WABC-TV.

<http://www.sreetips.com/google.html>

Preventing and Thawing Frozen Pipes:

Provides "suggestions about how to prevent water pipes in the home from freezing, and how to thaw them if they do freeze." Also discusses what not to do, such as using a blowtorch to thaw frozen pipes. From the American Red Cross.

http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/0,1082,0_579_,00.html

Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs:

A companion to an "exhibition of more than 130 treasures from the tomb of the celebrated pharaoh Tutankhamun (King Tut), other Valley of the Kings tombs and additional ancient sites," which will tour the United States in 2005-2006. The site features a timeline, information about Thebes (modern day Luxor, called the Valley of the Kings), King Tut, the discovery of his tomb in 1922, and the alleged curse. Also includes a bibliography and selected images.

<http://www.kingtut.org>

Knighthood and Orders of Chivalry:

Devoted to "knights and knighthood, as well as the related concept of order of knighthood, both in its original form as a medieval institution, and its modern form as an award of merit." Contains information on women and knighthood in the middle ages, the orders of chivalry, and the legitimacy of orders. From Heraldica.

<http://www.heraldica.org/topics/orders/>

Knighthood, Chivalry and Tournaments:

Read how a squire was trained, how a coronation ceremony was conducted (in both modern and Middle English), or what the code of chivalry is. See photos of arms and armour (some reproductions), view the complete text of the Magna

Carta, and a biography of Charlemagne by Will Durant. A special *Chivalry Kidzone* is also offered; plus extensive glossaries on *Arms & Armour* and *Knighthood, Chivalry, & Tourney*; and tournament and jousting rules. Many of the documents are contemporary to the Middle Ages. Perfect site for re-enactors.

<http://www.chronique.com/>

Legends: Information and related links on Robin Hood, King Arthur, Hamlet and Macbeth, Blackbeard, Sir Francis Drake, the Three Musketeers, Beowulf, Vikings, Knights, El Cid, William Morris, and "other swashbuckling characters of balladry, fiction, and film, from the shores of Avalon to the dungeons of Zenda."

<http://www.legends.dm.net/>

Castles on the Web: Tours of some 50 castles and palaces, a collection of other castles sites on the Internet, pictures of castles, a section just for children, a glossary of terms, and a bibliography for more reading.

<http://www.castlesontheweb.com/>

Paper Toys: "Paper stuff for kids and grown-ups." Discover the wonderful world of paper folding and construction. Find plans for creating paper castles, homes, cars, musical instruments, motorcycles, and flags. Models range from simple to ambitious. Browse through the models listed, find a schematic of the work, print it, and go!

<http://papertoys.com/>

Swing Into Spring Cleaning: This site provides quick and easy spring cleaning ideas, including homemade cleaning recipes, professional tips, chore checklist, and more. Also includes a 14-week spring cleaning plan adapted from the book "Cleaning Grand Plan." From Organized-Home.com.

<http://organizedhome.com/clean/>

(Copyright Librarian's Index to the Internet, lii.org)



**Sign Up for NLA's Legislative Day
February 23, 2005 - Lincoln**

The Nebraska Library Association Legislative Day theme is: Literacy & Learning @ your library™, and will focus on the role libraries play in providing reading skills for all ages and ethnic backgrounds in order to prepare both kids and adults for the challenges of today's society. At the luncheon we will again recognize youth for their involvement with a local public or school library.

Coffee & Doughnuts 8:30 am Room 1023, State Capitol, 1445 K Street, Lincoln

Start the day off with refreshments and a visit with your senator and staff. Please invite him or her!

Briefing 9:30 am Room 1524, State Capitol, 1445 K Street, Lincoln

You will receive information on current legislation and library issues from Ken Winston, NLA's lobbyist and Rod Wagner, director of the Nebraska Library Commission. After the briefing, you will have time to meet with your senator, senator's staff, and/or visit the legislative chamber while it is in session.

Luncheon Noon Cornhusker Hotel, 333 South 13th Street, Lincoln

Take your senator out for a great lunch. The cost is \$15 per person - please offer to pay for your senator's lunch and escort him/her to the luncheon. If the senator is unable to attend, invite his/her legislative aide - they are important contacts for successful lobbying. Plan to bring a local city official (mayor, city administrator, or council member) and your library board or library supporters with you as well.

Seminar 1:30-3:00 pm Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln. Lynn Rex, Executive Director of the League of Municipalities will speak on Leadership, Libraries, and Legislation.

Public library continuing education credit is available: 3 hours for the morning and lunch and 3 hours for the afternoon session.

Literacy & Learning @ your library™

Registration Form NLA Legislative Day - February 23, 2005

_____ 8:30-9:30 am Coffee and Doughnuts in Room 1023, State Capitol

_____ 9:30 am Briefing at the Capitol, Room 1524

_____ Noon Lunch at the Cornhusker Hotel

_____ 1:30 pm NLA Legislative Seminar

_____ \$15 for my participation

_____ \$15 for the Senator's lunch

_____ \$15 for each additional city official or library trustee

_____ contribution toward lunch for other participants \$_____

You can find your senator's phone number at www.unicam.state.ne.us (click on senators and districts).

Name _____

Library _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

State Senator _____

City Official _____

Library Trustee _____

Make Checks Payable to: Nebraska Library Association (please respond by February 16, 2005)

Mail to:

NLA Legislative Committee

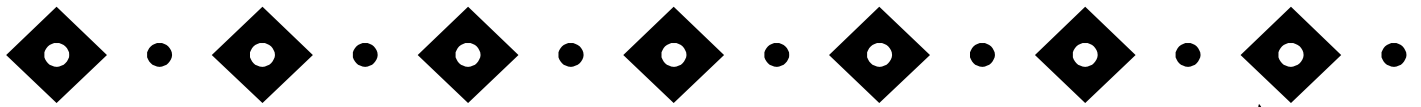
Kathleen Tooker

Eastern Library System

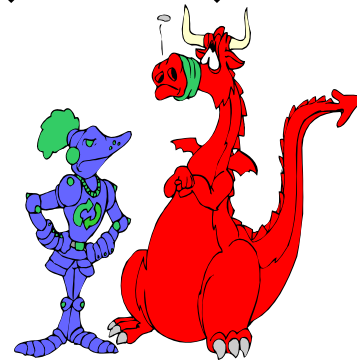
11929 Elm Street, Suite 12

Omaha, NE 68144

6 CE hours for public librarians and trustees



Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds Summer Reading Program Workshop 2005



Meridian Library System requests the honor of your presence:

Thursday, March 17, 2005 at the Sconto Community Center

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

9:00-9:30 Registration and Refreshments



Wizards and unicorns and dragons, oh, my!
Plan to attend for summer is nigh!

Come to explore the magical world of Summer Reading 2005. Patti Sinclair, editor of the 2005 Summer Reading Program Manual, will offer ideas, examples, and enthusiasm to help you plan your summer library program based on "Dragons, Dreams, & Daring Deeds". A former children's librarian and former editor of Children's Magazine Guide, she is also the author of *E for Environment, an Annotated Bibliography of Children's Books with Environmental Themes*. She is from Madison, WI.

Sally Snyder, Children & Youth Services Coordinator for Nebraska Library Commission, will discuss "Why Do We Have Summer Reading Programs?" and book reviews with this theme.

Bring your manual and craft kit to create a kingdom for your own royal readers. Cutting machines will be available.



Register by March 10th:

Cost \$15/person

Meridian Library System
3519 2nd Avenue, Suite B
Kearney NE 68847
Phone: 800-657-2192
308-234-2087

Fax: 308-234-4040

Email: sosenga@frontiernet.net

In case of inclement weather, please call the System office to see if the workshop has been rescheduled.

Name _____

Library _____

Phone _____

MERIDIAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

3519 Second Avenue, Suite B
Kearney NE 68847-2911

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Books are not rolls. only to be devoured when they are hot and fresh. A good book retains its interior heat and will warm a generation yet unborn.

—Clifton Fadiman

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