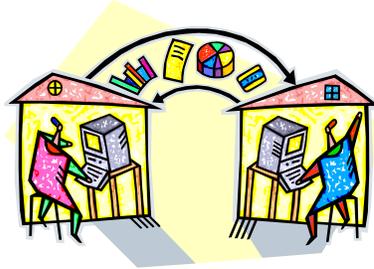


The Newsletter of the Panhandle Library System

August/September 2010

Panhandle Library System Works to Form a Shared Automation System for Nebraska Libraries

The Panhandle Library System has been working on a shared automation project for the past year. Many of our member libraries have expressed interest in developing an environment where libraries can view neighboring library's catalogs and share resources. Last September the PLS C.E. Tech Committee decided to focus its efforts on shared automation and changed its name to the PLS Technology Committee. Within the past three months, the PLS Technology Committee has grown from six members to twenty-five! The Panhandle Library System Shared Automation Project is moving forward full speed ahead.



Although PLS plans to initiate the development of the shared automation system, any library in the state of Nebraska is able to participate in the shared environment. The PLS Technology Committee has a diverse membership group from all types of libraries; public, school, special, and academic. Many of these libraries neighbor libraries in other Nebraska Regional Library Systems, such as RVLS and MLS. Participation in the shared system is not exclusive to PLS member libraries. Once the PLS Technology Committee makes some final decisions, The Panhandle Library System plans to open participation to libraries across the state.

PLS received several quotes from vendors regarding start-up, data migration, and hosting fees. Vendors were asked to provide tiered pricing for annual hosting/technology support fees. A tiered pricing scale reduces the library's annual fee based on the number of libraries participating in the shared system, i.e. the more libraries involved, the cheaper the price per individual library. Most of the libraries interested in the shared automation project are small libraries with limited funds. Some libraries have not yet automated and this will be their first online catalog. Pricing is a top priority for our libraries. Many of these libraries may not be able to afford to automate, or move to a web-based platform, without consortium pricing. Luckily, a number of vendors provided us with tiered pricing.

The PLS Technology Committee met May 21, 2010 to work toward finalizing the shared automation project. The committee developed a list of questions to ask our selected vendors, and invited three vendors to come to Scottsbluff to demonstrate their product and answer questions. Book Systems – Atrium; COMPANION Corporation – Alexandria; and Mandarin-Oasis came to WNCC-Scottsbluff July 28 to present to the PLS Technology Committee.

The PLS Technology Committee will meet again in September to work toward finalizing the project. Please feel free to contact the Panhandle Library System with any questions regarding the PLS Shared Automation Project.

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Upcoming Events

EBSCO K-12 Database Training For Media Specialists, K-12 Teachers and Tech, Staff

Location & Dates: (Choose one ½ day training)

ESU 13 Scottsbluff Computer Lab, 4215 Avenue I, Tuesday, August 31st, 9:00 – 11:30 am

ESU 13 Scottsbluff Computer Lab, 4215 Avenue I, Tuesday, August 31st, 1:00 – 3:30 pm

ESU 13 Sidney Computer Lab, 1114 Toledo Street, Wednesday, September 1st, 9:00 – 11:30 am

Contact: Sandy White, Media Services

Ph 308-254-4677 or swhite@panesu.org or swhite@esu13.org

Panhandle Library System Board Meeting, Lunch, & Committee Meetings

Date: September 14, 2010

Location: Bluffs Business Center, 1517 Broadway, Scottsbluff, Main Floor Conference Room

Time: 10:00 am to 12 noon – 12:00 to 1:00 PLS will provide lunch and a drink; at 1:00 pm each committee will meet.

Please RSVP to the System office by Sept 6th if you plan to eat lunch.

Contact PLS Office 308-632-1350 or 888-879-5303 or jlapper@panhandlelibsys.org

Bridging the Gender Gap: Enticing Boys to Books, Presenter: Carole Fiore

Date: September 14 & 15, 2010

Carole D. Fiore holds a BS in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Temple University and an MS in Library Science from Drexel University.

Carole will teach you how to:

Increase your knowledge and skill level in connecting boys and books.

How to evaluate and purchase materials attractive to boys.

Types of activities that will attract boys to libraries and reading.

Understand boy's developmental progression.

Locations: Sept 14th – Aurora Public Library, 1603 "L" Street, Aurora, NE

Sept 15th – Ole's Big Game Steakhouse & Lounge, 123 North Oak, Paxton, NE

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (both days) Cost \$20.00 (includes lunch)

Register and mail check by September 1, 2010 to:

Republican Valley Library System, 2727 W. Second Street #233, Hastings, NE 68901-4684

800-569-4961 or 402-462-1975 or E-mail: rvlsasst@inebraska.com

The Association for Rural and Small Libraries and the Association of Bookmobiles and Outreach Services Conference 2010

Dates: October 14 – 16

Location: Denver, CO. Plans are underway for this conference at the Crown Plaza Hotel-Airport. Keynote Speakers: Dr. Loriene Roy, past president of ALA and Pat Wagner from Pattern Research. Mark your calendar now! More info to come. Contact: www.arsl.info

The Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska Educational Media Association Conference 2010

Dates: October 13 – 15

Location: Grand Island, NE The 2010 Annual NLA/NEMA Conference in Grand Island theme is Celebrating the Past, Creating the Future: <http://nebraskalibraries.org/conference/2010/> Contact: Michael Straatmann, Executive Director. NLAexecutivedirector@gmail.com

Basic Skills: Public Library Administration

Dates: Wednesday, November 3, 10, and 17

Time each day: 10:00 am to Noon and 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Location: Alliance Public Library, 1750 Sweetwater Ave, Suite 101, Alliance, NE

Cost: \$35 (includes class materials) for all three classes, payable before the first class.

To register go to the NLC website at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us> and click on "Library Training". Registration will begin after LABOR DAY!

Celebration of Nebraska Books Planned for Nov. 6, 2010

A new event hosted by the Nebraska Center for the Book will highlight 2010 One Book One Nebraska, honor winners of the 2010 Jane Geske and Nebraska Book Awards, and announce the book choice for the 2011 One Book One Nebraska. The *Celebration of Nebraska Books* will be held at the Nebraska State Historical Society's Nebraska History Museum, 131 Centennial Mall North, in Lincoln, from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. on **November 6, 2011**.



The celebration is open to the public and will include a program by Dr. Joseph J. Wydeven on *The Home Place* by Wright Morris, the **2010 One Book One Nebraska**. One Book One Nebraska is a statewide reading program encouraging all Nebraskans to read and talk about the same book. Throughout 2010, Nebraskans have been reading, discussing and learning about Wright Morris, *The Home Place*, and the interaction between photo and text. 2010 One Book One Nebraska is hosted by the [Lone Tree Literary Society](#) and is sponsored by the [Nebraska Center for the Book](#), [Nebraska Humanities Council](#), [Nebraska Library Association](#), [Nebraska Library Commission](#), and the [University of Nebraska Press](#). Public nominations for the **2011 One Book One Nebraska** were submitted in June and July. Finalists will be revealed in the fall and the 2011 selection will be announced at the Nov. 6 celebration.

The celebration will feature presentation of the Nebraska Book Awards and Jane Geske Award. The **2010 Nebraska Book Awards** honor authors and publishers of books with a Nebraska connection published in 2009. Featured winning authors will read from their work and sign copies of their books. The **2010 Jane Geske Award** will be presented to an organization, business, library, school, association, or group that has made an exceptional contribution to literacy, books, reading, libraries, or literature in Nebraska. The Jane Geske Award commemorates Geske's passion for books, and was established in recognition of her contributions to the well-being of the libraries of Nebraska. Jane Geske was a founding member of the Nebraska Center for the Book, former director of the Nebraska Library Commission, and a long-time leader in many Nebraska library and literary activities.

The **Nebraska Center for the Book Annual Meeting** will also be held at the November 6 celebration. An **Awards Reception** honoring the winning authors will conclude the festivities. For more information contact [Mary Jo Ryan](#), 402-471-3434 or 800-307-2665 or see <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/index.html> or the [Facebook](#) pages (www.facebook.com) of the Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Library Commission, and One Book One Nebraska.

PLS Libraries Join Nebraska Libraries on the Web Project

Ten Panhandle libraries will participate in phase 2 of the Nebraska Libraries on the Web project sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission. Public libraries without websites that are open more than fifteen hours per week were invited to join the project. The Nebraska Library Commission is sponsoring Nebraska Libraries on the Web in an effort to help public libraries without web pages have a presence on the web. The ultimate goal is for all public libraries in Nebraska to have library websites. The Panhandle Library System was the first library to be a part of the project. Phase 1 began in northeastern Nebraska with seven participating libraries. Michael Sauers came to western Nebraska last week to train ten new participants from the Panhandle on how to use WordPress. Libraries participating in the Nebraska Libraries on the Web project will design a web site in WordPress. For more information on WordPress and the Nebraska Libraries on the Web project go to <http://libraries.ne.gov/projectblog/>. You can also access the blog from the front page of the PLS website under "Links."

Annual Highlights from Panhandle Libraries 2009-2010

Chadron Public Library – Rossella Tesch

The library has added a new computer. Now we have eleven computers linked to the internet for public use. Summer Kick-off was May 22nd. Three firefighters were there to show their truck and equipment to the children and parents. So far sixteen kids have enrolled. We have implemented a new way to back-up our data by storing on portable external drives. To protect our computers from viruses, we have installed Ubuntu as OS in four of them and have not experienced any major problems since then. Our Book Club and Knitting/Crocheting Club are in their fourth year of existence. We offer our services free of charge to neighboring communities. For the first time we offered English as Second Language classes. We did this in co-operation with Job Corps.

Chappell Memorial Library – Dixie Riley

We are still working on repairs in the basement from last summer's water damage due to a broken sprinkler head. We did a reading contest for classes K-4th with a party given to the winners and their teacher. The very competitive Kindergartners were the honorees and we had a May Day tea following table top displays with all sorts of household collections with a People's Choice Award given.

Gering Public Library – Diane Downer

This summer we had a teen program called Teen Iron Chef in which over 45 teens participated. Suzanne Myers, Gering Library Board Members, and ProStart culinary instructor at Scottsbluff High Scholl helped Beth Trupp with this program. We had ten teams compete to create a dish that included pound cake, pudding, whipped cream, strawberry preserves, nuts, chocolate chips, and a secret ingredient, which was Swedish fish. They were judged on appearance and plating, creativity, taste, and teamwork and presentation. Recycled bicycle parts were made in to library art. Doug Hoevert chaired this project and sculptured five bicycle racks. He used the summer reading program theme for his inspiration. He sculptured a shark, lobster, clown fish, seahorse, and a rainbow trout. They were then painted by local artists from the North Platte Valley Artist Guild. Sandy Strey, our Public Services Librarian, painted the rainbow trout.

Hemingford Public Library – Deb Finley

Hemingford Public Library Frank Duhon Memorial Unveiling was presented on April 24, 2010. Among those in attendance were State Senator LeRoy Loudon, Mrs. Mildred Duhon, artist Aaron Wade, and Marjorie Harrison of the Panhandle Library System. Mr. Duhon had left a trust to the library for a permanent historical display. After many years of trying to come up with ideas for a fitting display, we asked area artist Aaron Wade what he could do with our wall.

Kimball Public Library – Jan Sears

Hosted the Workshop Internet Technology in March which seemed to be enjoyed by all. Introduced the Teen and Adult Summer Reading Programs that are being well- received for the first year. Carolyn Brown's retirement, training Jan Sears, and the process of getting used to a new director with many changes. The installation of 3 new public computers with the availability of wireless for the first time, and 2 new staff computers, updating to Circulation Plus and Alliance Plus and the training of staff on new cataloging processes.

Annual Highlights from Panhandle Libraries 2009-2010

Lied Scottsbluff Public Library – Bev Russell

Completed successful fundraising for the library building project with a \$600,000 grant from the Lied Foundation Trust. Renamed the library to Lied Scottsbluff Public Library. Broke ground on February 23, 2010 on the expansion and remodel of the library.

Mitchell Public Library – Maryruth Reed

Michelle Buckley and Priscilla Carrillo have both completed the basic skills offered by NLC. Congratulations Michelle and Cilla! The library has applied for a \$307,000 Community Development Block Grant; if funds are awarded, we will start construction on an addition to the library this summer.

Ogallala Elementary Schools – Betty Armstrong

On February 8, 2010 Kim Brown, Marc Brown's sister, came and visited with the students at Progress Elementary. The character D.W. in Marc's books is based on Kim. The students really enjoyed the presentation. In March, Prairie View again hosted the March Madness reading contest in which the students were divided into 12 teams for 2 ½ weeks. The winning team and the team with the highest number correct enjoyed ice cream sundaes. This year Prairie View students who met certain goals point-wise were treated to a breakfast of muffins, caramel rolls, juice and fruit for the first semester. Second semester those meeting their goals were treated to ice cream sundaes.

ESU 13 Media Services – Sandy White

Esu 13 Media Services worked with 19 area school libraries to form a consortium to cooperatively purchase K-12 EBSCO databases for the 2010-11 school year (at a great price). The subscription starts in July, and training will take place on August 31st and September 1st. Databases include: ERIC, Health Source: Consumer Edition, Newspaper Source, Professional Development Collection, TOPICSearch, MAS Ultra-School Edition, Middle SearchPlus, and Primary Search.

Sidney Public Library – Doris Jensen

The "Class in a tote" has been the newest and most exciting project. Teachers may request books on a certain subject and grade level. The staff selects the material and the tote is ready for the teacher on a certain date. They may also be delivered on the bookmobile route. The library hosted four authors. An adult book discussion group was started in June 2009 and recently a teen book discussion group was started for this summer's reading program.

WNCC Library – Sidney – Merrillene Wood

Library Services Presentations/Trainings: The library was able to facilitate training in library and computer services for incoming freshmen and for other classes each semester. We also facilitated training for online classes, email and student portals. Art Display in the Library: For the first time, the library displayed student/faculty/staff artwork in the library during the academic year. The library hosted a Southern PLS Librarians Meeting.

This summer the Panhandle Library System sponsored a summer reading program event for twenty-nine public libraries in the Panhandle. Mr. Conrad's Musicademy performed *Jump-On-In* to tie into the 2010 statewide "Make-A-Splash" SRP theme.



Chappell Memorial Library



Minatare Public Library



Kimball Public Library



Paxton Public Library

NEMA/PLS Workshop August 3, 2010



Joyce Neujahr, Director of Patron Services with UNO, talks about eBooks and circulating eReaders in the library



We celebrated Pat Gross's retirement at the NEMA/PLS workshop.



Networking with other Panhandle librarians at the NEMA/PLS workshop

Nebraska Library Commission Awarded Prestigious Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to Support Library Education.

Thanks to a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Nebraska Library Commission will administer funds to provide scholarships, internships, stipends, and value-added educational experiences to foster the recruitment, education, and 21st century skills development of pre-professional and professional students in Nebraska.

Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner commented, "The Nebraska Library Commission is pleased to receive a 2010 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant. The Commission's Cultivating Rural Librarians' 21st Century Skills program will support the education of Nebraska students engaged in pre-professional and professional programs. The focus on 21st century skills is essential to meeting the library service needs of Nebraska's diverse and changing population. We have high expectations that our program will equip hundreds of students with essential skills leading to higher quality library services across Nebraska."

"Library services are in great demand as evidenced by the growing numbers of patrons turning to the library to meet their education, workforce, and health information needs. At the same time, information technology has transformed library service and opened the doors to innovation so that libraries can reach diverse people more effectively. In this fast-changing environment, providing training and educational support for librarians and library staff is more important than ever," said IMLS Acting Director Marsha L. Semmel.

The Nebraska grant begins **November 2010** and is supported by the following partners: Central Community College, Nebraska Educational Media Association, Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska's Regional Library Systems, RSL Research Group, University of Missouri, and University of Nebraska at Omaha. This is one of thirty-eight awards made to libraries and education institutions across the nation. This national, multifaceted grant program supports tuition assistance, curriculum development, service expectations, job placement, recruitment of non-traditional library students, and support for doctoral candidates to teach library science and research. In 2002 First Lady Laura Bush announced the President's multimillion-dollar support of an initiative to help bolster the library profession. Since then, IMLS has helped fund the education of 3,220 master's degree students, 186 doctoral students, 1,256 pre-professional students, and 26,186 continuing education students.

As more information becomes available about Nebraska's Cultivating Rural Librarians' 21st Century Skills program, it will be posted on the website, [NowHiringAtYourLibrary](#) or [NowHiring.nlc.state.ne.us](#)

Institute for Holocaust Education offers “The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey’s Journey from France” Exhibit.

The exhibit tells the story of the Margaret and H.A. Rey, the authors of the Curious George book series, who managed to escape from the Nazis with the manuscripts for their original stories. This exhibit features 25 framed art prints by artist Allan Drummond and supplemental archival images from the extraordinary holdings of the DeGrummond Collection of Children’s Literature at the University of Southern Mississippi. The exhibition is based in part on the 2005 publication, *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*, written by Louise Borden and illustrated by Allan Drummond (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York). The exhibition is organized and curated by Beth Seldin Dotan, Director of the Institute for Holocaust Education in Omaha, Nebraska.

More than just the tale of a rousing escape from occupied France, this exhibition celebrates a timeless survival story, one that serves as a potent reminder of the power of human creativity and the cost when voices and visions are silenced by the impact of war.

Content: 25 framed art prints, 8–10 archival reproductions, and 6 interpretive panels. Run Feet: 100-125.

The Institute for Holocaust Education is offering this exhibit at a reduced fee for Nebraska locations during a 2012-2013 tour. The cost for a 5 week rental is \$2,000 and available for the following dates:

September 1, 2012 – October 5, 2012

October 14, 2012 – November 23, 2012

December 8, 2012 – January 19th, 2013 (extended to accommodate school break)

February 3, 2013 – March 10, 2013

For more information or print samples contact Ilana Weiss at the Institute for Holocaust Education at 402.334.6576 or iweiss@adl.org. Information about the exhibit and the Institute for Holocaust Education can be found at www.ihene.org.



Vickie Retzlaff, Grant County Library Director and President of the Panhandle Library System, is presented with the 2010 PLS Distinguished Leadership Award at the Annual Meeting



Nebraska OverDrive Libraries Group - New Term Begins October 1, 2010

If you've been thinking about joining the Nebraska OverDrive Libraries Group in order to provide your patrons with access to its *shared collection of downloadable digital audiobooks and eBooks*, now would be a great time to do so!

Why now?

Because the Nebraska OverDrive Libraries Group participation term runs from October 1 through September 30, and joining at the beginning of the term gets you a full year of access for your participation fee! (Note: OverDrive will set up new participants quarterly, in October, January, April, and July, but if you join mid-term your participation fee won't be prorated.)

Currently, 47 libraries participate in the Nebraska OverDrive Libraries Group. As of today, the shared collection contains 2,520 audiobook titles and 180 eBook titles (we just started adding eBooks in July!), with more titles added weekly.

Even if you're not a member of the group, you can search or browse the Nebraska OverDrive Libraries catalog to see what's currently included: <http://nebraska.lib.overdrive.com/>

To learn more about the Nebraska OverDrive Libraries group, including how much it costs to participate, which libraries currently belong, and how to sign up, see: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/pricing/overdrive.html>

Deadline: Participation forms and purchase agreements need to be turned in to NLC by August 31 if you'd like your library to be set up during October 2010.

Please feel free to contact Susan Knisely, Online Services Librarian (susan.knisely@nebraska.gov) or Devra Dragos, Technology and Access Services Director (devra.dragos@nebraska.gov) with any questions you might have about OverDrive, in general, or the Nebraska OverDrive Libraries group in particular.

eBooks are now a part of the Nebraska Overdrive Libraries group:

Susan Knisely, Online Services Librarian with the Nebraska Library Commission, said this regarding eBooks- "*The group just added a starter collection of eBooks in July to see how they work, and how popular they are. They are EPUB and PDF format. The intent is to evaluate response, and buy additional eBook titles in the new year based on demand and feedback. The group will probably retain an audiobook emphasis since that's what we started with, but we certainly do plan to add more eBooks, especially if we see demand.*"

FYI – the eBooks do not work with Kindles. Here's OverDrive's official list of compatible eBook devices: <http://www.overdrive.com/resources/drc/compatibleebookdevices.aspx>

If you want to see what titles are available in eBook format, go to <http://nebraska.lib.overdrive.com/> and click on the "Advanced search..." link (right beneath the search box). On the advanced search screen you can select "All eBooks" from the Format menu and then click "Search."

Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read - Sept. 25–Oct. 2, 2010

Written by, Mary Jo Ryan, Communications Coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission, The Atrium, 1200 N St., Suite 120
Lincoln NE 68508-2023, 402-471-3434, 402-471-2083-FAX

Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read and the importance of the First Amendment. Held during the last week of September, Banned Books Week highlights the benefits of free and open access to information while drawing attention to the harms of censorship by spotlighting actual or attempted banning of books across the United States.



Intellectual freedom—the freedom to access information and express ideas, even if the information and ideas might be considered unorthodox or unpopular—provides the foundation for Banned Books Week. Banned Books Week stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of unorthodox or unpopular viewpoints for all who wish to read and access them.

The books featured during Banned Books Week have been targets of attempted banning. Fortunately, while some books were banned or restricted, in a majority of cases the books were not banned, all thanks to the efforts of librarians, teachers, booksellers, and members of the community to retain the books in the library collections. Imagine how many more books might be challenged—and possibly banned or restricted—if librarians, teachers, and booksellers across the country did not use Banned Books Week each year to teach the importance of our First Amendment rights and the power of literature, and to draw attention to the danger that exists when restraints are imposed on the availability of information in a free society.

Banned Books Week is sponsored by the [American Booksellers Association](#); [American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression](#); the [American Library Association](#); [American Society of Journalists and Authors](#); [Association of American Publishers](#); and the [National Association of College Stores](#). It is endorsed by the [Center for the Book in the Library of Congress](#).

For more information on getting involved with Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read, please see [Calendar of Events](#) and [Ideas and Resources](#). You can also contact the ALA [Office for Intellectual Freedom](#) at 800-545-2433, ext. 4220, or E-mail: bbw@ala.org.



Pat Gross Appointed to Nebraska Library Commission



Governor Dave Heineman recently appointed Pat Gross to a three-year term on the Nebraska Library Commission. Pat Gross served as the chair of the Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries and as a member of the Panhandle Library System Board. She was elected by Nebraska school librarians to serve six years on the board of directors for the Nebraska Educational Media Association. Pat is a retired school librarian and teacher, serving for five years in the Mitchell Public Schools and for fifteen years in the Gering Public Schools. She was also employed at the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library. We are so lucky to have Pat as our Nebraska Library Commissioner representing the Panhandle.





PANHANDLE SUN

FREE WEBINARS

<http://nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/ce/webinars.html>

Laura Johnson, Continuing Education Coordinator with the Nebraska Library Commission, maintains a monthly listing of free webinars. A new list is posted each month. The list is arranged chronologically by date. The following webinars are listed on the website from August 18 through August 31, 2010. Septembers list will be posted the last week in August.

8/17/2010: 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. (CDT) - [How to Make Your Library Entrepreneur-Friendly](#) (WebJunction)

Part of the Libraries and Economic Development Series. The Business Special Interest Group (BSIG) from the Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL), the Colorado State Library, and the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) are pleased to offer a series of three free 30-minute webinars on Tuesday afternoons in August that will discuss how you can play a role in the economic development of your community. During this first session with Christine Hamilton-Pennell you will: 1. Learn how important entrepreneurs and small businesses are to economic growth. 2. Hear case studies of several public libraries and librarians across the country that have developed successful initiatives to support local entrepreneurs. 3. Understand the traits and motivations of library staff who have successfully developed partnerships and service offerings with the local business community. 4. Identify specific steps your library can take to connect with and support your local business community.

8/18/2010: 10-11:15 a.m. (CDT) - [Fantasy Football, Flash Mobs, and Fanfiction: Pop Culture Programming in Your Library](#) (Texas State Library)

Want to give your programming a spark and bring together patrons of all ages? Integrate pop culture into your library's events! By using elements of the mainstream media in your programs, you can draw in new interests and invigorate your library. In this webinar, you'll get step-by-step suggestions for creating pop culture programs for children, teens and adults. Get advice on adapting ideas from the book [Pop Goes the Library!](#) to suit your community, and discover the pitfalls to avoid in pop culture programming. Book clubs and storytimes are great--but let's show the world that the library is for fun, too! Melissa Rabey has been a contributor to Pop Goes the Library since 2006. For nearly ten years she's worked with children and teens in libraries across the Mid-Atlantic region. For the last three years, she has worked as a teen librarian with the Frederick County (MD) Public Libraries. Her work in YALSA has included serving on the Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults committee. Currently, she is a member of the 2011 Michael L. Printz Award committee and is finishing revisions on Historical Fiction for Young Adults: A Genre Guide.

8/18/2010: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. (CDT) - [Free Learning: Developing No Cost, Online Learning for Patrons and Staff](#) (Georgia Public Library Service)

Jay Turner, maverick Training Manager of the Gwinnett (GA) Public Library (and current ALA Learning Round Table Board Member) knows that keeping library staff current and up-to-date when valuable resources (time and money) are decreasing can be challenging but not impossible. He uses free and low cost authoring tools to create customized e-learning courses to meet his library's specific learning needs. Attend this webinar and learn how you, too, might use these tools to your library's advantage!

8/18/2010: 10:15 -11:15 a.m. (CDT) - [Tech Tips Training Series](#) (Georgia Public Library Service)

The "Tech Tips" series at the Athens-Clarke County Public Library was created in 2009 to provide public and staff training on current software, technology, and social media trends. "Tech Tips" sessions have included live, how-to demonstrations including Facebook, Adobe Photoshop, Skype, Twitter, Podcasting, YouTube, eBay, etc. as well as recorded sessions available for those unable to attend the face-to-face training sessions. Join Karen Douglas, Technical Trainer at the Athens-Clarke County Public Library as she describes various aspects of this highly successful program.... including finding trainers, scheduling sessions, necessary equipment, advertising and creating a video recording of the session. You'll leave with an arsenal of tips for setting up your own version of "Tech Tips" in your library.

8/18/2010: 11:00 - Noon—[Advocacy for Libraries: In our Own Interest](#) (SirsiDynix Institute)

As promised at the event on Capitol Hill in D.C. at ALA Annual 2010, SirsiDynix and Gale Cengage Learning present a webinar on advocating for libraries. Advocacy has two main goals - to promote the library and to gain support, funding and endorsement of libraries' roles in our communities and society. Stephen Abram has been involved in both internationally for his entire career. This session will explore both tried and true methods as well as some of the emerging strategies that are gaining traction. As the world of information and technology changes rapidly, it is even more critical that libraryland positions itself well for the future. Libraries matter.

August/September 2010

8/19/2010: 2:00 -3:00 p.m. (CDT) - [Teen Book Buzz Fall 2010](#) (School Library Journal)

How do you satisfy the inexhaustible reading hunger of young adults and teens? Get them something new! Register for this Teen Book Buzz webcast and get the early word on the season's biggest hits and forthcoming titles that you are just going to have to stock to keep those voracious teen readers happy. Our participating publishers always make it entertaining to hear about their titles, and you'll get the inside story on authors, read-alikes and next in series news. Get the buzz behind the big hits and find out what is in the YA pipeline for 2011!

8/24/2010: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. (CDT) - [Fantastic Fall Fiction for Youth](#) (Booklist)

Temperatures may be starting to drop, but fall reading is hot! Autumn ushers in some of the most exciting youth fiction titles of the publishing season, and this free Booklist webinar will give you a head start on books to watch for from our sponsors, Egmont USA, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, and Albert Whitman and Company. Middle-school librarian Cindy Dobrez will offer tips on using fiction in library programs and getting kids hooked on reading. Join us for an hour that will get you ready for a new season of reading!

8/24/2010: 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. (CDT) - [Turning Your Databases into Business for Your Customers](#) (WebJunction)

Part of the Libraries and Economic Development Series. The Business Special Interest Group (BSIG) from the Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL), the Colorado State Library, and the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) are pleased to offer a series of three free 30-minute webinars on Tuesday afternoons in August that will discuss how you can play a role in the economic development of your community. During this second session, Terry Zarsky and Kathleen Rainwater will help you: 1. Identify the best business databases for each type of business question. Databases to be covered include Reference USA, Business Decision, All-in-One (EBSCO's, which includes Business Source, MasterFile, Regional Business News, Newspaper Source) and Business Plans Handbook. 2. Locate libraries near you that have business databases available for use. A handout will cover all Colorado libraries with a website.

8/25/2010: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. (CDT) - [Tech Talk with Michael Sauers](#) (Nebraska Library Commission)

In this monthly feature of NCompass Live, the NLC's Technology Innovation Librarian, Michael Sauers, will discuss the tech news of the month and share new and exciting tech for your library. There will also be plenty of time in each episode for you to ask your tech questions. So, bring your questions with you, or send them in ahead of time, and Michael will have your answers.

8/25/2010: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. (CDT) - [Digitization & Preservation Symposium](#) (WebJunction)

WebJunction is hosting a two-hour symposium that will feature four presentations on current trends and practical approaches to library digitization and preservation projects. Our guest panelists will address:

- Designing a digital preservation system using a framework that includes all stakeholders, from library administrators to archivists to IT workers to vendors.
- The difference between access and preservation tools, and why we need to consider both.
- Harvesting social networking websites for preservation.
- The organizational "long-view" of preservation resources, technology, costs and policies.

8/26/2010: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. (CDT) - [Conducting a Successful Capital Campaign](#) (Texas State Library)

Capital campaigns are not rocket science but conducting a successful campaign involves many activities and a lot of hard work. Done well, conducting a successful campaign can go way beyond building a new library building – it can position your library for great fundraising into the future. Library Strategies consultant, Sue Hall, will lay out all the activities in a capital campaign – including the feasibility study, setting a campaign goal, recruiting campaign leadership, creating a compelling campaign case, soliciting major donors and all the campaign activities. Sue Hall is the coordinator and lead consultant with Library Strategies, a consulting group of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library. Sue has worked with libraries and library organizations across the country specializing in all aspects of fundraising including feasibility studies and capital campaigns, special events and creating comprehensive fundraising programs.

8/31/2010: 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. (CDT) - [Going to Your Customer - Outreach and Strategic Partnerships](#) (WebJunction)

Part of the Libraries and Economic Development Series. The Business Special Interest Group (BSIG) from the Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL), the Colorado State Library, and the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) are pleased to offer a series of three free 30-minute webinars on Tuesday afternoons in August that will discuss how you can play a role in the economic development of your community. During this third session, Suzanne Kaller and Colbe Galston provide an overview and tips for how your library can: 1. Assist the business community it serves. 2. Create and implement a business outreach plan to a Chamber of Commerce, small business development center, community group or government entity.



Library & Information Services

Online Course Offerings

Fall, 2010

August 23 – December 16

LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

This course, the first in the Library and Information Services curriculum provides introductory information in multiple areas.

- History of libraries
- Types of libraries
- Technology
- Physical environments
- Library policies
- Information Databases

LIBR 2250 Leadership & Management in Library & Information Agencies

Joyce Sharon Neujahr, Instructor

This course includes the theories, concepts and activities integral to leading and managing 21st Century libraries and information agencies.

- Leadership principles
- Management strategies
- Policies & procedures

Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services.

LIBR 2210 Cataloging and Classification

Ruth Carlock, Instructor

This course will include theories, concepts and activities for cataloging and classifying materials in the 21st Century. It includes the following topics:

- the bibliographic record
- Sears and Library of Congress subject headings
- Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems
- the MARC record
- Anglo-American Cataloging Rules
- and authority control
-

Prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services.

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact:

**Mary Young
Admissions/Recruiting Director
myoung@cccneb.edu
(402) 562-1296**

Nebraska Regional Library System Snowman Raffle



The Nebraska Regional Library Systems are raffling the following collection of snowman items:

- an 18 1/2" X 22 1/2" framed cross stitch picture (pictured above) cross stitched by Sharon Osenga, Meridian Library System Director
- a snowman mug with lid and infuser
- a snowman and Christmas tree snow globe (pictured right)
- an 8" X 10" snowman plaque.



The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress in partnership with Target presents

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

Letters About Literature is a national reading and writing promotion program. Sponsored in cooperation with the Nebraska Center for the Book, the Nebraska Library Commission, and Houchen Bindery Ltd.

Participation Guidelines for Readers

Books have wings. You can't see them, but they are there just the same. On books' wings, readers can soar to new places where they meet intriguing characters and experience exciting adventures. But a book's wings can also help a reader rise above difficult situations so that they see the world — or themselves — with new understanding. Has a book touched your life in a personal way? If so, we invite you to enter this year's LAL competition. Have you ever felt the power and lift of literature?

How to Enter

First, determine your competition level. Letters About Literature welcomes entries from all readers — reluctant as well as enthusiastic — on three Levels of Competition. Entrants must be at least 9 years old and fall into one of the following categories:

Level 1 — Grades 4–6

Level 2 — Grades 7–8

Level 3 — Grades 9–12

Second, reflect and connect! Select a fiction or nonfiction book, a short story, poem, essay or speech (sorry, no song lyrics) you have read and about which you have strong feelings. Explore those feelings and why you reacted the way you did during or after reading the author's work. Consider one or more of these questions when writing your letter:

Did the characters, conflict or setting mirror your life in some way? If so, how? If not, why not?

What strengths or flaws do you share with a character or characters in the book?

What did the book show you about your world that you never noticed before?

What surprised you about yourself while you were reading this book? Why was this work meaningful to you?

Your letter need not answer all of these questions, of course. These are just starting points to spark ideas.

Third, write a personal, reflective letter (not a fan letter or a book report!) Express yourself! A letter is less formal than an essay or research paper. Write honestly and in your own voice, as if you were having a conversation with the author. Those are the best letters to read and the most fun to write! Keep in mind these two tips:

Correspond, don't compliment! Your letter should inform rather than flatter the author.

Do not summarize the book's plot! The author wrote the book and knows what happened. What the author doesn't know is how the book affected *you*.

Our judges do not count words but we do have recommended lengths: Entries for Level 1 should be no less than 100 words and no more than 400 words. • Entries for Level 2 should be no less than 300 words and no more than 600 words. • Entries for Level 3 should be no less than 500 words and no more than 800 words. Please refer to the Contest Entry Guidelines in Rules #4 of the Official rules found at www.lettersaboutliterature.org for complete information on how to prepare your letter.

Fourth, submit your letter by December 10, 2010, using the required entry coupon. (See next page!)

STATE AND NATIONAL AWARDS

LAL awards prizes on both the state and national levels. Each state center has its own panel of judges who select the top essayists in the state. State Winners will receive a \$50 Target Gift Cards and additional prizes, and then advance to the National Level Judging.

On each competition level, a panel of national judges for the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress will select **six (6) National Winners** (2 per Level of Competition) and **twelve (12) National Honorable Mention Winners** (4 per Level of Competition). The National Winners will receive a \$500 Target GiftCard, plus each will secure a **\$10,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grant** in his/her name for a community or school library so that others can experience personal relationships with authors and the stories they tell. The National Honorable Mention Winners will each receive a \$100 Target GiftCard, plus each will secure a **\$1,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grant** in his/her name for a community or school library. The community or school library selected for the National Winners and National Honorable Mention Winners is at the Sponsor's sole discretion. Refer to the National Level Judging in the Official Rules for more details.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. A Purchase will not enhance your chances of winning. **MANY WILL ENTER, FEW WILL WIN.** Open to legal residents of the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands enrolled as a student in grades 4-12 during the 2010-2011 school year, 9 years or older as of 9/1/10. Contest Starts 8/1/10 and ends 12/22/10. Void where prohibited. Subject to Official Rules found at <http://www.read.gov/contests>.

How to Submit Your Letter

RETURN ADDRESS. Print your name and complete return address (either home or school) in the upper right corner of the first page of your letter. Letters without a return address and adequate contact information will be disqualified.

ENTRY COUPON. Each letter must be accompanied by an entry coupon (below). Staple the coupon to the last page of your letter. Should you win a state or a national prize, your State Center for the Book will contact you using this information, so be sure your coupon is complete and legible!

MAILING ENVELOPE & ADDRESSES. Entries should be mailed in a flat 8x10" envelope or larger. Please indicate the competition level — either 1, 2 or 3 — on your envelope. Include a complete return address on your mailing envelope.

Letters About Literature

Competition Level (Indicate level 1, 2 or 3)
P.O. Box 609, Dallas, PA 18612

DEADLINE: Your Entry must be postmarked by December 10, 2010, (and arrive at LAL Central no later than December 20, 2010).

ASSESSMENT. All entries will be judged on the following criteria:

Content (the writer's achievement in addressing the contest theme).

Writer's Voice (the writer's style and originality of expression).

Exposition (the writer's use of language skills, organization and grammar).

Each criterion will be scored on a scale of zero (0) to five (5), where five (5) is excellent and zero (0) is not fulfilling the judging criteria.

OWNERSHIP. All letters become the property of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Please make a copy of your entry as no letters will be returned.

NOTIFICATION & CONTACT. State Centers for the Book will notify state winners on or about 3/21/11. The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress will notify National Winners and National Honorable Mention Winners on or about 4/21/11. www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/letters.htm. For program updates, please see www.lettersaboutliterature.or or centerforthebook.nebraska.go, or e-mail lal@epix.ne.

Note for Teachers Submitting Class Sets:

- When mailing class sets, please include a cover letter that lists the names of each child who has written a letter. Mail class sets in one flat envelope rather than individual envelopes. Use one envelope for each level. Cover letters DO NOT take the place of entry coupons, however. Each letter must also have a complete **entry coupon**.
- Please do not assign the same book to an entire class, as this misses the spirit of the program — identifying a personal relationship with an author and/or book. Likewise, rather than assigning the same opening paragraph or topic sentences, encourage students to express themselves individually.
- Visit www.lettersaboutliterature.or for free teaching materials, including lesson plans, assessment checklists, writing samples, plus teaching tips from our many LAL teachers who have participated in the past.

Letters About Literature 2010-2011 Entry Coupon (cut & staple to letter)

PLEASE PRINT. Often our failure to contact you is due to incomplete or illegible information on the entry coupon.

Name _____ Age _____ Home Phone (optional) (_____) _____

Grade (circle one grade only): **Level 1:** 4 5 6 **Level 2:** 7 8 **Level 3:** 9 10 11 12

Book/Story Title _____ Author _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Parental Signature (required if submitting as an individual entry): _____

IMPORTANT! If submitting through a school or library, please complete the additional information below:

School/Library: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

School/Library Telephone: (_____) _____ School/Library E-mail: _____

Teacher/Librarian Contact: _____

Meridian, Northeast, Panhandle and Republican Valley Library Systems Present:

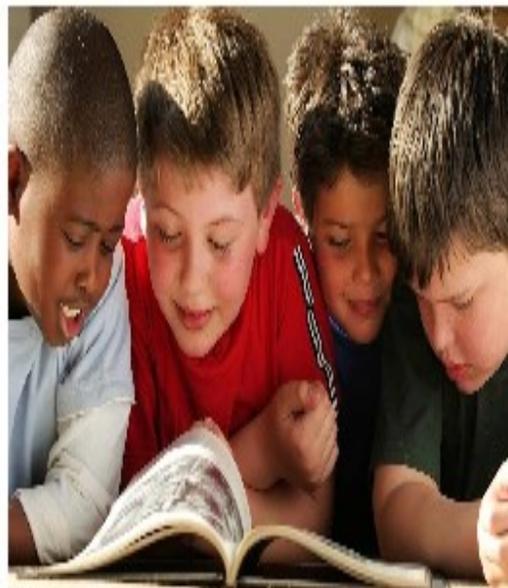
Bridging the Gender Gap:

Enticing Boys to Books

Presenter: Carole Fiore

September 14th and 15th, 2010

9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Carole D. Fiore holds a BS in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Temple University and an MS in Library Science from Drexel University. Carole was a public library consultant with the State Library and Archives of Florida where she directed the award winning Florida Library Youth Program (FLYP). She also served as the Library Services and Technology Act Grant Coordinator and liaison consultant to libraries and library systems in rural, suburban, and urban areas.



September 14th
Aurora Public Library
1603 "L" Street
Aurora NE

September 15th
Ole's Big Game Steakhouse & Lounge
123 North Oak
Paxton NE

Carole will teach you how to:

- Increase your knowledge and skill level in connecting boys and books.
- How to evaluate and purchase materials attractive to boys.
- Types of activities that will attract boys to libraries and reading
- Understand boy's developmental progression.

This program is sponsored in part by the Nebraska Library Commission and funded in part with state funds allocated through the Nebraska Legislature.

Registration:	Mail check and registration by
Name: _____	September 1, 2010 to:
Library: _____	Republican Valley
City: _____	Library System
Phone: _____	2727 W Second, Suite 233
Email: _____	Hastings, NE 68901-4684
	800-569-4961
	402-462-1975
	Email: rvlsasst@tcgcs.com

Panhandle Library System
Board Minutes, Tuesday, May 11, 2010
Bluffs Business Center, Scottsbluff, NE

President Vickie Retzlaff called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Board members present: Rick Caudillo, Terry Christensen, Lori Hartman, Glenda Gamby, Floyd Smith III, Vickie Retzlaff, Dixie Riley, Sue Shaver and Beth Trupp. Kendra Caskey was absent. Also present were Margie Harrison and Rod Wagner.

The May 11, 2010 agenda was approved by the board.

The minutes from March 9, 2010 were approved with a motion from Beth and seconded by Floyd. The motion carried.

Round Table: Terry reported that Alliance Public Schools has AR online. There were fifteen applicants for the library director position at the Alliance Public Library. Sue has seen an increase in circulation in the Hemingford school libraries. She is busy with inventory. Rick stated that Banner County is also ending the school year. They are having AR prizes.

PLS Committees:

Annual Meeting Committee - The annual meeting will be in Alliance on July 23, 2010. The theme is "Safari So Good." Speaker is Isabel Hoy, director of the Goshen County Library.

CE/Tech Committee - There will be three vendors at the West Nebraska Family Research and History Center on May 21 demonstrating shared automation systems. There is interest from several libraries for this service. Also will be discussion on a universal library card.

Nominating Committee - Slate of proposed officers are Floyd Smith III for president, Beth Trupp for vice-president and Terry Christensen for secretary.

Public Relations Committee - The committee has decided to have the author tour in the Fall of 2011.

Scholarship Committee - There are two scholarship applicants for \$150. per applicant. They are Kelly Dible and Michelle Onstott who both are employed by the Sidney Public Library. Both applicants would like to attend the Heartland Conference in Omaha on June 14 and 15. Glenda moved for acceptance of both applicants. Dixie seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Nebraska Library Commission: The Nebraska Unicameral cut state funding an additional 2%. With the new fiscal year beginning July 1, there will be an additional 5% budget cut. The Nebraska Library Commission is 65% funded by the state and 35% by the federal government. The staff is working on a broadband grant that will be partly funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Nebraska is one of 14 states to receive matching funds from the Gates Foundation. If the state receives the grant, the funding will pay for computers, laptops, furnishings, and the upgrading of broadband. The state will know in September if the grant has been approved. The state is also working on a grant for scholarships and internships for recipients who are working in libraries or furthering education in the field. Services for talking books, Braille and digital talking books are going well.

PLS Coordinator's Report: Margie reported that Liz Kupper is the new director for the Arthur County Library. Tech Day will be in Sidney at the WNCC campus on August 3. She has been scheduling Conrad for the libraries in the Panhandle for his visits during summer reading. The journal collection rotation is going well. Margie attended the open house for the dedication of a mural in the Hemingford Public Library. The mural was a donation from a patron.

Budget: Margie presented the financial report to the board. A copy had been provided to the board in their packets.

Old Business:

Discussion of Policy for PLS DVD Collection: The results of the survey were positive. Most were very satisfied with the collection. There was interest in the collection having more family orientated and children's dvd's. Most responding prefer the collection to be rotated rather than selecting certain titles. It was thought the collection be limited to movies and not include tv series. A policy will be ready this September.

PLS Member Survey: Survey results from members rated general help with questions or issues as very important. This was followed by continuing ed training and workshops and networking. Lowest results were the annual meeting, author tour and assisting library boards.

New Business:

Presentation of Proposed Budget - FY 2010-2011 With a 3.9% to 5% cut in funding from the state to PLS, Margie proposed a budget cut of 5% from last year's budget. After discussion, Glenda moved that the proposed budget presented by Margie be approved. Beth seconded the motion. With a roll call vote, the budget was approved.

Approval of Wage Increase for Administrative Assistant - FY 2010-2011 A 2.5% increase in salary was discussed. This increase follows the State of Nebraska Labor Contract. Floyd moved that the assistant have a 2.5% salary increase. The motion was seconded by Lori. After a roll call vote, the motion was approved. The increase in salary will begin July 1.

PLS Ballot Results: Sara Brennemann, a trustee from Grant County Library, Merrillene Wood, Library Director of the WNCC Sidney Campus and Terry Christensen, elementary media/librarian for the Alliance Public Schools were elected to the PLS Board. Their terms begin July 23, 2010.

Approval of Slate of Officers for FY 2010-2011 PLS Board: This item of the agenda was discussed with the Nominating Committee report. No action was taken.

Upcoming Events/Announcements: Meeting with the vendors concerning shared automation, Heartland Conference in Omaha, annual meeting in Alliance and the Tech Day in Sidney are upcoming events.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

The next PLS board meeting will be the annual meeting on July 23, 2010. This will be in Alliance at the Alliance Learning Center.

Terry Christensen

Secretary

Panhandle Library System
1517 Broadway, Suite 129
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Telephone: 308-632-1350
Toll Free: 888-879-5303
Fax: 308-632-3978
Website: libraries.ne.gov/pls



PLS Board of Trustees:

Floyd Smith III, President
Beth Trupp, Vice President
Terry Christensen, Secretary
Sara Brennemann
Kendra Caskey
Rick Caudillo
Lori Hartman
Dixie Riley
Sue Shaver

Counties Served:

Arthur, Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes,
Deuel, Garden, Grant, Keith, Kimball,
Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan and Sioux

Marjorie Harrison, PLS Coordinator
E-mail: marjorie.harrison@nebraska.gov
Jeralyn Clapper, Administrative Assistant
E-mail: jclapper@panhandlelibsys.org

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August/September 2010