

# Republican Valley Library System



# VALLEYTALK

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We reserve the right to  
edit or refuse  
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## Board Members

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Mo Khamouna  
Vicki Perrie  
Sky Seery  
Dana Wade  
Barbara Whitehead  
Claudette Wielechowski

## Pinterest—Social Networking with a Practical Purpose

Have you ever seen a recipe, a craft, or a program idea on the Internet and wished you had someplace to save it without having to print it out for your files? (Because, let's face it, you know that even if you get it filed, you will not remember that you have it.) If the answer is yes, Pinterest is the site for you! Pinterest is a social networking site that allows members to create and organize online bulletin boards.

Librarians and teachers have found many practical uses for Pinterest. It is easy to create Boards to promote new materials by pinning covers and book trailers; to suggest resources for class projects; to gather purchase requests from students and patrons; and, to feature quotations about reading. After hearing about Pinterest from Amy Mather, the Manager of Adult Programs and Lifelong Learning for Omaha Public Library, I decided to set up an account for RVLS. I have a Board for Book Trailers, one with ideas to celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, another with craft projects related to the Summer Reading program, and several more.

Joining is easy. Originally, if you wanted to become a member, someone had to issue an invitation. Now, you go to [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com) and select the "Join Pinterest" button at the top of the page. You can register via Facebook, Twitter, or an email address. Enter some basic information and you are ready to start pinning. All you need to figure out is how many Boards you want. Here are some ideas:

Pin book covers to attract readers to books they might not otherwise find.

Create reading lists.

Gather research information on a collaborative board.

Collect ideas for library displays.

Show off pictures of your local community.

Share craft projects and recipes.

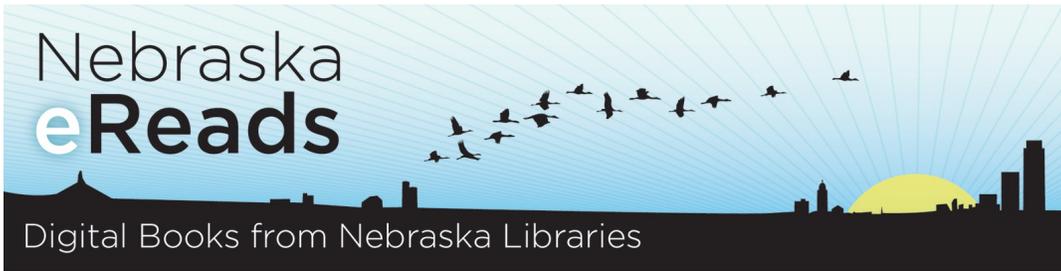


Central City Public Library, which is located in central Nebraska, developed a popular program with their Pinterest site. Every month, the library hosts a Pinterest Party. Staff members pin interesting crafts and recipes to the account. One idea is chosen and a message is posted letting patrons know what the project is, and what materials they should bring to the party. Since the participants bring their own supplies, the class cost is very low—usually around \$1.00.

At one point, there were concerns about copyright. Pinterest has addressed this by providing the source-link for images automatically. They also offer an online complaint form for anyone who believes their copyright has been infringed.

There are many practical reasons for establishing a Pinterest account: connecting with your students and patrons, collaborating with your coworkers, organizing ideas without paper, but best of all...its fun. Go to the RVLS website to follow me on Pinterest.

Happy Pinning!



Guest Editorial by  
**Mary Jo Ryan**, Nebraska  
Library Commission

## Today's Libraries Connect (E-)Readers but Face Roadblocks

Nook. Kindle. iPad. Your local library. You've heard of all of these and you know that all four deliver digital content. But, according to the Pew Internet Project, most people don't know that U.S. public libraries provide ebooks and other digital resources. They are unaware of the fact that today's libraries offer books in a variety of formats—and so much more! Our Nebraska libraries continue to change and offer new services and programs to meet the ever-changing needs of our communities. The number of Nebraska public libraries offering e-books has more than doubled in the last two years, with fifty percent now offering the service. This is just the latest chapter in the story of our commitment to reading, knowledge, imagination, and lifelong learning for all Nebraskans.

Libraries help readers find authors, and authors find readers. We do this by selecting locally relevant materials, and through programs like One Book One Nebraska, as well as other collaborations with authors and publishers. Libraries also are engaged in growing and supporting the next generations of readers – encouraging children and young adults to read for fun and for success in school and life. But libraries face roadblocks. For the first time ever, we are barred from purchasing some materials our communities deserve. Right now, several of the largest trade publishers (known as “the Big Six”) refuse to sell e-books to public libraries. As a result, Nebraskans are not getting a fair deal. If our libraries' digital bookshelves mirrored the *New York Times* fiction bestseller list, we would be missing half of our collection on any given week due to these publishers' policies.

On the other hand, other publishers – including hundreds of smaller, independent presses and a rising tide of self-published authors – do understand the value of placing books in libraries. A recent report from *Library Journal* found that more than half of all library users report purchasing books by an author they discovered through the library. Publishing is not just another industry. It has special and important significance to society. Libraries complement and actively support this industry by supporting literacy and seeking to spread an infectious and lifelong love of reading and learning. Library lending encourages sampling new authors, topics, and genres. This experimentation stimulates the market for books, with the library serving as a discovery, promotion, and awareness service for authors and publishers. Every publisher must allow libraries to lend e-books so libraries can continue to work toward the mission of access for all.

But even if the publishers change their policies tomorrow, Nebraska libraries would have difficulty accessing the local funds to purchase all the ebooks and audio books that library customers need. Library customer demand continues to outpace supply. To address this, the Nebraska Library Commission has requested direct

state funding to expand ebook and audio book borrowing access for Nebraskans. With an investment of less than 50 cents per person, Nebraskans can be assured that local libraries will do their best to continue their commitment to reading, knowledge, imagination, and lifelong learning for all Nebraskans. For more information about Nebraska eReads, contact Francine Canfield, NE Library Association Advocacy Chair, 402-331-7636, [fcanfield@cityofralston.com](mailto:fcanfield@cityofralston.com).

### Supply Not Meeting Increasing Demand



Increased use of downloadable digital books by Nebraska public library users



Increase in number of times Nebraska public library users had to wait for downloadable digital books



Increase in number of downloadable digital books held by Nebraska public libraries

(Five-year trends)

## Public Libraries Invited to Apply for Internship Grants

Applications due Feb. 15, 2013

The Nebraska Library Commission's *Cultivating Rural Librarians' Technology Skills* program offers support for internships through grants to accredited public libraries. In partnership with the Nebraska Library Association and funded through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, the internship grants increase awareness about library professions and education and the opportunities for employment in Nebraska libraries.

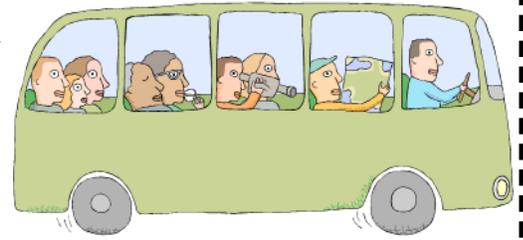
### So, what can your library do with the internship program?

- Share your enthusiasm for library education and the library profession
- Expand your programming
- Bring in fresh faces
- Show interns what happens behind-the-scenes
- Partner with other library types to show the variety of work settings

Internship grants range from \$500 to \$1,000. A library may provide one 100-hour internship during the summer months that might last eight weeks, or two 50-hour internships during the school year that might last ten weeks, depending on the needs of the library and the scheduling needs and qualifications of the internship candidates. Library grantees will recruit, select, and hire their interns. Usually, interns are hired as contract workers and paid on a stipend rather than an hourly wage, but the terms of employment are determined by the library's governing body. Interns provide valuable assistance with library service activities and local library programming. Library staff help introduce interns to the joys of library service careers. Partnership projects involving collaboration between a public library and another type of library will be given special consideration.

**To apply:** Applications are now being accepted. The deadline for applications is **February 15, 2013**. More information is available on the Now Hiring @ your library® website, at <http://nlc1.nlc.state.ne.us/nowhiring/Internships.asp>.

Road  
Trip  
to  
ALA!



The American Library Association Annual Conference is being held in Chicago this summer. The Nebraska Library Association and the Nebraska Regional Library Systems just got word that we received a grant from Nebraska Library Commission to help with the costs of chartering a bus for library staff that want to attend. As a requirement for the grant we'll need to get at least 30 Nebraska riders – which we're pretty confident we can accomplish. Plans are to leave on June 27<sup>th</sup> and return on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. We're not sure at this point whether or not we'll need to charge riders a fee – but if we do, at the most it'd be in the range of \$50 to \$100. **If this sounds of interest, please call or email the RVLS Office and let us know as soon as possible.**

## Census Statistics

Go to [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) to see the demographics of your service area. The depth of detail is surprising. You can find out the ethnic diversity, education level,



household income, and business information.

It is free and easy to use.

## Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting

January 11, 2013 10:00 am

### Teleconference

**PRESENT:** Beth Falla, Jody Crocker, Claudette Wielechowski, Sky Seery, Tim Johnson, Mo Khamouna, Steve Batty (NLC Commissioner), Denise Harders (Systems Administrator), Laura Johnson for Richard Miller (NLC Rep)

**ABSENT:** Dixie Codner, Jane Hilton, Annette Eisenhart, Vicki Perrie, Dana Wade, Barbara Whitehead

### Agenda

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** Mo Khamouna called the meeting to order at 10:13.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** (11.2.12) will be reviewed and approved in March due to low attendance.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** 50% through the year. Total overall budget is 52% used.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Thank you for scholarship from Marsha Wortman and Carol Eshleman. Also received a Christmas card thanking system for services from Vicki Casper.

**ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:** New directors in Alma and Beaver City. Ereader workshops, youth services workshop, tech workshop. Pinterest account for the system. See the button on the RVLS website! Change in office hours to accommodate for PTO hours, please call ahead to make sure someone is in the office. Systems services survey will be arriving soon. Keep an eye out for it.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**Summer Reading Workshop:** Will not be in Holdrege due to facilities. Will be held at the Lutheran Church in Elwood, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Annual Meeting Location:** Superior? What about Hastings? Thoughts, opinions are welcome.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**RVLS Week of Weeding:** March 4-8, 2013 it was a success the first time around. Kindle Paperwhite is the grand prize and any library is welcome to participate.

#### Upcoming Events:

Feb 28 – Big Talk from Small Libraries Online Conference

April 1-5 – Spring Meetings (various locations)

Help! I'm a Librarian, not a Social Worker!

Carolyn Brewer, ED, North Texas Library Partners

April 18 – Baby & Me Storytimes Workshops

Grand Island Public Library

Alice Boeckman

**Teaching Basic Skills Online:** Directors are going to teach occasionally. First class Denise is teaching is **Li-brary Policy**, April 8-19.

**ARSL Conference: Sept. 25-28, 2013** Omaha at the Double Tree. Accepting registrations for lodging, Denise is on the Gifts and Introductions for Speakers Committee.

(Minutes continued on Page 5)

(Board Meeting Minutes 1-11-13—continued)

**NLC REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: NLC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT:** Reminder to sign up for Advocacy Day. Need CE credits? Check out some of the different workshops.

**NLC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT:** Big Talk from Small Libraries is back for 2013. Free workshop online – Serving Spanish-Speaking Populations on Jan. 16 & 23. NLA Advocacy Day, Jan. 30 – “Libraries: Your Community Connection”. Teen Tech Week is March 10-16, 2013 – Check In @ Your Library! Find more info at ALA website. Fall Colloquium on Tape, Kathy Dempsey’s program, find more info at NLC. US Census Bureau has new web app called Easy Stats. “Let’s Build Nebraska” new resource to train, enhance skills of volunteers, nonprofit staff. Get your NCES Academic Library Survey in through Feb. 26, see NLC website or John Felton. Public Libraries Survey is due by Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, same contacts. *O Pioneers!* Is the 2013 One Book One Nebraska, support materials can be found at [onebook.nebraska.gov](http://onebook.nebraska.gov). The 2012 Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study has been released, see ALA website. Reminder, ALTAFF changed their name to United for Libraries: the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations. The Basic Skills classes schedule is posted, visit the NLC Website for more details. Talking Books and Braille Service (TBBS) has a new service application forms, please recycle the old forms. TBBS also has forms in Spanish. NCompass programs are every Wednesday from 10AM to 11AM CST, if you are interested in presenting contact Christa Burns at the NLC office. Internship Grants to Public Libraries applications are due Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact Kathryn Brockmeier for further info.

The meeting adjourned (unofficially) at 10:51.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** March 8<sup>th</sup> via teleconference.

## It's Your Birthday



If you want to have a Birthday-themed storytime, here is the perfect snack to serve. First you prepare the cake mixture and put it in snack-sized baggies. Give each child a baggie, a microwavable mug, and a party hat. Provide canned frosting and fun toppings and you have the makings of a great party!

### Cake Mixture

Mix 1 box Angel Food cake mix with 1 box any flavor cake mix.  
Store in an air tight container.  
3 Tablespoons cake mixture = 1 serving

### Directions

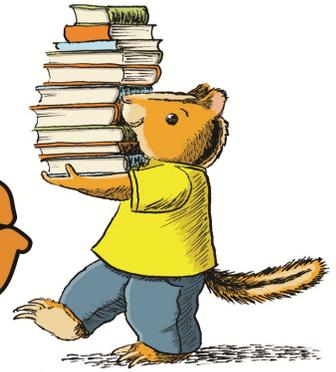
Mix cake mixture with 2 Tbl. water in microwavable mug.  
Stir well.  
Heat in microwave for 1 minute.  
Serve with icing and other toppings of your choice.



**(ARSL Session)**

# Summer Reading Workshop

# Dig Into READING



**When:** March 8, 2013

**Where:** Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
704 Smith Ave.

**Elwood, NE 68937** (Presented by Republican Valley Library System)

## AGENDA:

9:30—10:00 a.m. Registration and Coffee

10:00—12:00 a.m. Make & Take with Jody Crocker,  
McCook Public Library

12:00-12:45 p.m. Lunch and Sharing Time

All participants are encouraged to bring  
craft ideas to share with others.

1:00—2:30 p.m. "Dig Into Reading" with Sally Snyder,  
Nebraska Library Commission

2:30-?? Complete Evaluation and  
Use the Ellison OR Network with other participants

Earn 4 CE's
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**Summer Reading Workshop –Please Register by March 1, 2013**

Send to: Republican Valley Library System  
2727 West 2nd St. #233  
Hastings, NE 68901

Workshop Fee: \$15.00 (includes lunch)  
Phone: 402-462-1975 or 1-800-569-4961  
or e-mail [rvlsasst@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsasst@inebraska.com) or  
[rvlsadmin@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsadmin@inebraska.com)

# Mark Your Calendar



- Feb.11-22** Basic Skills Class—Customer Service
- Feb. 15** Public Library Annual Statistical Survey is due (see page 13)
- Feb. 25–Mar 22** Basic Skills Class—Organization of Materials
- Feb 28** Big Talk from Small Library Online Conference
- Mar 1** RVLS Board Meeting—Teleconference
- Mar.4-8** Week of Weeding (see enclosed flyer)
- Mar. 8** Summer Reading Program Workshop, Elwood (see page 6)
- Mar. 10-16** Teen Tech Week (<http://teentechweek.ning.com>)
- Mar. 21** NLA Paraprofessional Spring Meeting, *Learn From Experience @you Library*
- Mar. 25-Apr. 5** Basic Skills—Leadership
- Apr. 1-5** NLA Spring Meetings—Help! I’m Librarian, Not a Social Worker, Carolyn Brewer
- Apr.5-6** Nebraska Book Festival, UNO Thompson Alumni Center
- Apr. 8-19** Basic Skills Class—Library Policy (taught by Denise)
- Apr. 18** Baby & Me Storytimes Workshop, Grand Island Public Library (see page 9)
- Apr.22-May 3** Basic Skills Class—Communication
- May 6-17** Basic Skills Class—Reference
- June 7** RVLS Annual Meeting—Location TBA –Open to the Public

## Disc Cleaning and Repair



- From July 1, 2012 thru June 30, 2013, each RVLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings.
- If you have more than 10 discs that need fixing, you may send them to us and we will repair them and send them back with an invoice for 50 cents per disc.
- If you come to the RVLS Office in Hastings and pick up the repaired discs, the charge is 35 cents per disc.

A similar service at a retail video outlet costs more than \$5.00 per disc!

The RTI ECO Auto-Smart is amazing! It will repair almost all scratches, no matter how deep. However, if the disc is cracked, we cannot fix it.



## On the Bookshelf

The following audiobooks have recently been added to the RVLS Collection:

- ***Absent One*** by Jussi Adler-Olsen
- ***And When She Was Good*** by Laura Lippman
- ***Angels at the Table: A Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy Christmas Story*** by Debbie Macomber
- ***Black Box*** by Michael Connelly
- ***Bone Bed*** by Patricia Cornwell
- ***Bridge*** by Karen Kingsbury
- ***By Starlight*** by Dorothy Garlock
- ***Cabinet of Curiosities*** by Douglas J. Preston
- ***Cross Roads*** by William Paul Young
- ***First Prophet*** by Kay Hooper
- ***Gone Girl*** by Gillian Flynn
- ***In Sunlight and in Shadow*** by Mark Helprin
- ***In the Tall Grass*** by Stephen King
- ***Kiss the Dead*** by Laurell K. Hamilton
- ***Life of PI*** by Yann Martel
- ***Lifeboat*** by Charlotte Rogan
- ***Memoirs of an Imaginary Friend*** by Matthew Dicks
- ***Private London*** by James Patterson
- ***Racketeer*** by John Grisham
- ***Running Wild*** by Linda Howard
- ***Two for Texas*** by James Lee Burke
- ***Valley of Ashes*** by Cornelia Read
- ***You Don't Want to Know*** Lisa Jackson
- ***Young Philby*** by Robert Littell

## Children's Services Workshop

April 18, 2013 from 9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Grand Island Public Library, 211 North Washington

### Morning:

Storytelling Tips and Techniques

Presented by Sandra Wallick

Lincoln City Libraries



### Afternoon:

Babies and Me Storytimes

Presented by Alice Boeckman

Bellevue Public Library

(Bring a baby doll with you for practice!)

### Registration Form

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

Library: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration form plus \$10/person to:

Meridian Library System  
816 E 25th Street, Suite 7  
Kearney NE 68847

Lunch is on your own.

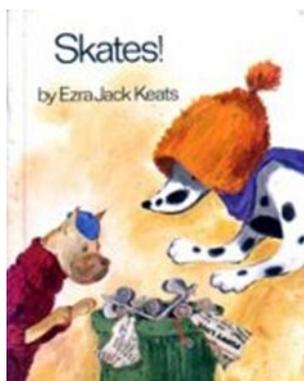
## Big Talk from Small Libraries



February 28, 2013  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Online Conference

Would you like to enjoy this conference with a group? Would you be willing to host a “watch party” at your library? Maybe a pot luck?

Call the RVLS office and we will help organize the day...and will provide some prizes for party guests.



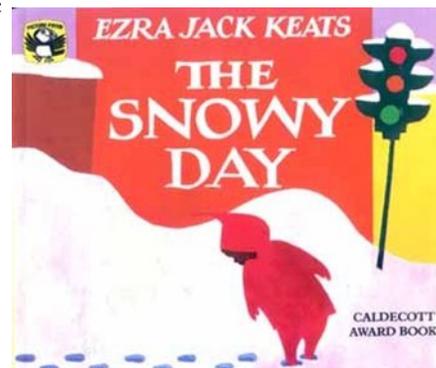
### Ezra Jack Keats Minigrant Program for Public Libraries and Public Schools

Public education is one of the greatest legacies of our country, one that benefits children from every walk of life. For Keats, it was at public school that he received his greatest encouragement to pursue his vocation as an artist. And the public library was a haven that introduced him to the wonders of art history.

To offer a similar experience to new generations, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation created a funding initiative called Minigrants, through which awards of \$500 are given to public schools and public libraries for projects that foster creative expression, working together and interaction with a diverse community. They also represent an opportunity for educators, whose efforts are often inadequately funded or recognized, to create special activities outside the standard curriculum and make time to encourage their students.

Please Note: This program is to fund programs, not books, equipment, or general operating costs.

Go to: <http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/minigrant-program/> for complete information and the application form.



**Application deadline: March 15, 2013.**

## Term Limits for Library Boards

Many boards find that setting term limits can be beneficial.

### Advantages of a Term Limit Policy

Bringing diversity onto the board is easier.

The board has a built-in balance of continuity and turnover.

Passive, ineffective, or troublesome board members can be more easily rotated off.

The board has the possibility of working with active community members who can devote only a few years to board service.

Board members experience a better rotation of committee assignments.

A regular infusion of fresh ideas and new perspectives is brought onto the board.

The board gains a regular awareness and pays attention to the changing group dynamics.

Limits present an opportunity for the board and the retiring board member to reassess a mutual willingness to continue working together with the possibility of enlarging the circle of committed supporters by keeping retired board members involved.

### Disadvantages of Term Limits

The loss of expertise and organizational memory.

The board spends more time dedicated to recruitment and orientation.

Additional efforts are needed to keep the group cohesive.

### Disadvantages of Not Having Term Limits

Stagnation if no change occurs among the board members.

Perpetual concentration of power within a small group.

Intimidation of the occasional new member.

Tiredness, boredom, and loss of commitment by the board.

Loss of connection to the constituency due to a change in demographics or environmental factors.

Charles F. Dambach, *Structures and Practices of Nonprofit Boards* (BoardSource 2003).

<http://www.boardsource.org/>

Reprinted in: *The VOICE for America's Libraries* (United for Libraries newsletter), Volume 13, Issue 6,



**Communities Matter @ Your Library**

**National Library Week**

**April 14 – 20, 2013**

# RVLS HAPPENINGS

## Nebraska Youth Academy Volunteer Honored



Photo Courtesy of Hastings Regional Center

**Karen Baisinger** was recognized by the **Nebraska Library Association at Advocacy Day in Lincoln on January 30, 2013**, for her service as a volunteer at the **Nebraska Youth Academy** which is housed at the **Hastings Regional Center**. Karen retired as a high school librarian about seven years ago and has worked in the academy's library for five years. She was nominated by her supervisor, Sherry Block, the activities director at the Regional Center. Karen organized the collection after it was moved, makes book purchasing decisions, enters circulation data into the computer, reshelves returned material, and helps youths find books...all in two or three hours on Wednesday afternoons. Without Karen as a volunteer, the academy's library would have no staff due to job cuts by the state of Nebraska. Karen says that what she does is "nothing special" but we all know how important library services can be to young adults.

**Thank you for your service, Karen!**

## RVLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Up to \$100.00 per event for registration, mileage, meal, etc.

Only one scholarship per person per fiscal year

All member libraries eligible

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date of event \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship requested for \_\_\_\_\_ (meal, room, etc.)

Amount requested \_\_\_\_\_

Other information:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Send your request to:** Republican Valley Library System  
 2727 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Suite # 233  
 Hastings, NE 68901

## Ellison on the Move

Here's the schedule for the Ellison, if you want on the schedule please contact us, or if it is near you, perhaps you could work out something with your neighbor.

**Feb 1, 2013—Curtis Elementary School**

**Mar 1, 2013—Fairfield Public Library**

**Apr 1, 2013—Hastings Memorial Library-Grant**

**May 1, 2013—Hastings Middle School**

**Jun 1, 2013—Dundy County Library, Benkelman**

The Ellison is available July, Sept, Oct, Nov. & Dec, 2013

If you would like to schedule a time for your library to use the Ellison.

Please email us at:

[rvlsasst@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsasst@inebraska.com) or  
[rvlsadmin@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsadmin@inebraska.com)



### Great Websites for Kids

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association, maintains an online resource containing hundreds of links to exceptional websites for children. Here are a few recently-added sites:

Bedtime Math – <http://www.bedtimemath.org>

Climate Kids – <http://climate.nasa.gov/kids/>

Computer Science Student Network (CS2N) – <http://www.cs2n.org/>

Fred Rogers Center—Early Learning Environment – <http://ele.fredrogerscenter.org/>

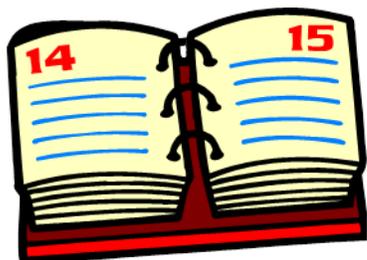
Kids Think Design – <http://www.kidsthinkdesign.org/>

Turtle Diary – [www.turtlediary.com](http://www.turtlediary.com)

The complete list of great sites, with annotations, can be found at <http://greatsites.ala.org>.

## Don't Forget!

The Public Library Annual Statistical Survey is due on Friday, February 15, 2013. You can find resources to help complete the survey at: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/stats/bibliostatcollect.aspx> or by contacting John Felton, Planning & Data Services Coordinator, at the Nebraska Library Commission at [john.felton@nebraska.gov](mailto:john.felton@nebraska.gov) or 800-307-2665.



## Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting

November 2, 2012 10:00 am

Arapahoe Public Library

302 Nebraska Ave Arapahoe, NE 68922

**PRESENT:** Vicki Perrie, Jody Crocker, Dana Wade, Claudette Wielechowski, Beth Falla, Sky Seery, Tim Johnson, Dixie Codner, Annette Eisenhart, Jane Hilton, Steve Batty (NLC Commissioner), Denise Harders (Systems Admin.), Richard Miller (NLC Rep)

**ABSENT:** Barbara Whitehead, Mo Khamouna

**ALSO PRESENT:** Cheryl Ahrens Arapahoe Library Director

### Agenda

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Vicki Perrie called the meeting to order at 10:13.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** (9.7.12) Dana Wade moved to accept minutes as written, Jane Hilton seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** 33% through the year. Prof. Development is pretty well used due to ARSL and NLA. Right on track w/ spending.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Lots of thank you notes! Keri Anderson, Terri Johnson, Lisa Fortkamp, Beth Falla, Sharon Axthelm, Mo Khamouna – for scholarships and Elizabeth Karre for CCC Foundations class. Director at Columbus, Jill sent thanks for an in-service day.

**ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:** Busy lady! Axtell director, Janice Soderquist has retired, Dori Ropers is new director. Beaver City, Betty Oliver left as director. Met w/Systems Directors about employment law w/lawyer. Filmed the session for future presentations. Stapleton and Fairfield have new automation systems, Denise is helping with that.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**ARSL Conference:** Association of Rural and Small Libraries, BEST CONFERENCE! Held in Raleigh, NC. This month's newsletter shares some ideas. More to come! 2013 conference is in Council Bluffs in September. ALA Conference in Chicago, trying to get a grant for a bus trip {road trip, y'all!!} Lots of Midwest conferences next year. Midwest represent!

**NLA/NSLA/MPLA Tri-Conference:** 13 scholarships from RVLS. 30 people came to the Take a Break w/RVLS. Sky won the backpack...and she *loves* it! Participated in a Dine Around, 3 cars drove folks to an Italian restaurant.

**2012 Audit/Financial Reports:** Net Worth looks startling, but when you look at the big picture its okay. Nothing removed from the CD, since the car. Talk of saving what we haven't used for future. Cushion money.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**New Service for RVLS:** Workshop on Displays – an idea from an ARSL presentation. Denise is going to email library display ideas for the month and it will be ongoing...*awesomesauce!* December was sent out on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. January ideas will be sent out on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Upcoming Workshops:** Some fall on the line of Meridian, but that's cool. They will split mileage, teamwork.

Youth Services Day, Nov. 8

Veterans Day, Nov. 12 – RVLS CLOSED

Thanksgiving, Nov. 22-23 – RVLS CLOSED

Valley Visit – Advocacy Basics with Francine Canfield in Gibbon, Nov. 30

Christmas, Dec. 24-25 – RVLS CLOSED

Keeping up with Technology at UNK, January 4<sup>th</sup> (Lots of great classes!)

RVLS Board Meeting, Jan. 11 (**Date change!**)

Advocacy Day, Jan.30

**Summer Reading Workshop:** Jody Crocker is going to do the craft session again. {Yay!} March 8<sup>th</sup> possibly at Holdrege.

**Annual Meeting Location:** Let's hear it for east side! Ideas?

(Minutes continued on page 15)

(Board Meeting Mins. 11-2-12—continued from page 14)

**NLC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT:** NCES Academic Library Survey is arriving. Public Library Survey for FY opening Nov. 13. Celebration of Nebraska Books is Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. NEH Grants due Jan. 9, 2013. Natasha Trethewey named Poet Laureate. Trustee Academy available through 2012. Basic Skills are online, Customer Service will be offered again in February. Talking Book and Braille Library is now all digital. New members of TBBS Advisory Committee. Please make sure your TBBS application form is up to date.

**NLC REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:** NCompass Live good way to keep up. Free! High School students putting together ebooks about NE History, for 4<sup>th</sup> graders, creating content as we speak.

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 and we enjoyed lunch at Cunningham's Feed thanks to Denise and RVLS. Special thanks to Cheryl Ahrens of APL for the morning coffee and rolls!

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** January 11<sup>th</sup> {take note, that's the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday!} via teleconference.

## Flu Preparedness



The online version of *American Libraries*, the magazine of the American Library Association, regularly publishes a column titled, "Ask the ALA Librarian." Recently, a library staff member asked the following question:

One of our regular library visitors asked about the library's plan for preventing the spread of the flu. He asked whether we wipe down the books daily or otherwise clean them to prevent transmission. Does the ALA have information to help libraries on this subject?

The answer is that ALA generally leaves detailed guidelines to the individual libraries and their communities. However, according to an official at the Illinois Department of Public Health, "Books do not need to be wiped down and books will not cause flu. Almost all flu is passed directly from person to person through droplets such as when someone sneezes and coughs on you." He also provided the 3 C's for prevention:

- Clean – Encourage people to wash their hand frequently, in the bathroom and before eating.
- Cover – Encourage people to cover their coughs.
- Contain – Don't go to the library or anywhere else if you are sick.

According to Dr. James M. Steckelberg on the Mayo Clinic website, "It's easy to catch the flu or a cold from rubbing your nose after handling an object an infected person sneezed on a few moments ago. But personal contact with an infected person—a handshake, for example—is the most common way these germs spread.



Republican Valley Library System  
2727 West 2nd Street St. # 233  
Hastings, NE 68901-4684



Serving Counties:

Adams  
Chase  
Clay  
Dundy  
Franklin  
Frontier  
Furnas  
Gosper  
Harlan  
Hayes  
Hitchcock  
Kearney  
Lincoln  
Logan  
McPherson  
Nuckolls  
Perkins  
Phelps  
Red Willow  
Webster

A library is not a luxury but one of  
the necessities of life.

~Henry Ward Beecher

## RVLS Services Survey

1. What type of library do you work in?

Academic

Public

School

Special/Institutional/Other

2. Which of the following RVLS services have you used in the past year?

- I attended an in-person class or workshop provided by RVLS.
- I applied for an RVLS Scholarship.
- I read the *ValleyTalk* Newsletter
- The RVLS Director visited my library in person and provided information or consulting assistance.
- The RVLS Office provided information or consulting assistance to my library via mail, phone, or email.
- Our library participated in the Bulk Loan program.
- I participated in the Cooperative Puppet Order.
- I used the Disc Cleaning/Repair Service.
- I used a display idea from those suggested in the monthly "Display Ideas" message.

3. How would you rate the quality of the in-person classes or workshops provided by RVLS?

Poor

Average

Excellent

I did not attend any classes or workshops.

Comments:

4. How would you rate the usefulness of the *ValleyTalk* Newsletter?

Very little useful information

Some useful information

Lots of useful information

Comments:

5. How would you rate the quality of the information or consulting assistance provided by RVLS?

Poor

Average

Excellent

Our library did not request assistance from RVLS.

Comments:

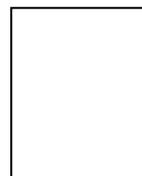
6. Which of the following materials, if any, did you borrow from RVLS in the past year?

- Book Sets for Discussion Groups
- Book from RVLS Professional Collection
- Professional Journal (Library Journal, School Library Journal, Booklist, etc.)
- Wii Gaming System and/or games
- eReader Kit
- Ellison Die Cut Machines and Dies
- Laptop Computer and Projector
- "We Speak Your Language" Spanish Language Kits
- Flip Digital Video Cameras
- Audiobooks

7. Which of the following communication methods do you use to get information from or about RVLS?

- Phone Calls
- Email (one-to-one emails)
- RVLS Email List
- RVLS Website
- Pinterest

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Do you have any suggestions for workshops RVLS could provide?

Do you have other comments or questions about RVLS?

# Week of Weeding

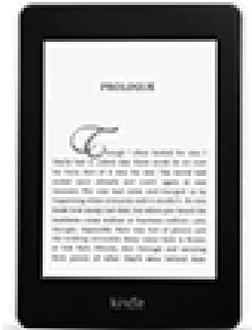


**The Republican Valley Library System is declaring March 4-8, 2013, a “Week of Weeding”!**

We want to encourage everyone to participate by agreeing to weed a section of their library that they have been avoiding. You know what it is—that corner, that shelf, that genre of books that you have put off weeding for a while. Now’s the time! **ALL** Libraries in RVLS are eligible to participate!

## How to Participate:

1. Call the RVLS Office (800-569-4961 or 402-462-1975) or send Denise an email at [rvlsadmin@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsadmin@inebraska.com) to let us know you want to participate.
2. If you need extra encouragement or help deciding what to weed, let Denise know. She will be visiting 4 libraries during this week to lend a helping hand.
3. After you finish your weeding project, fill out the form below.



Those who submit their forms to the RVLS Office by March 15<sup>th</sup> will be entered into a drawing for a Kindle Paperwhite eReader! The winning library will be selected in a random drawing on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Week of Weeding Participation Form

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Section Weeded \_\_\_\_\_

How many books were weeded? (approximately) \_\_\_\_\_

Best (or worst) thing that was weeded out? \_\_\_\_\_

We’d love to see some “before and after” photos of your project! You can email digital pictures or submit printed photos with this participation form. (Pictures are not required and will not affect your library’s chance to win the eReader.)

Return form to: Republican Valley Library System, 2727 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street #233, Hastings, NE 68901