

Republican Valley Library System



VALLEYTALK

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We reserve the right to
edit or refuse
all contributions.

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Nancy Sherwood
Dana Wade

Featured Librarian: Patty Hall McCook Public Library

Patty Hall is retiring.

Patty Hall is moving to Wyoming. Patty Hall is changing her life significantly. Most of us have ideas about what we are going to do when we retire such as where we are going to live, when we are going to travel, etc. As Patty and I both know, these plans can change in an instant, and sometimes, the only constant in life over 60 is change.

When I interviewed Patty, I was struck by the similarities in our lives. We were both flower children of the 60's married to men in the military. She lived in Germany for two years and her son was born in Germany. My daughter was born on a military base in Rapid City, SD. The similarities continue, but this is Patty's story. Patty was taking Library Science courses from the University of South Dakota at Vermillion and she worked at the University Library before she moved to Germany. When she returned, she went back to her job at the University Library for three more years working in almost every department. During that time, the library changed from Dewey to Library of Congress. What a job that was, computers were merely a bright vision in the future, so people in libraries pulled cards, erased numbers with an electric eraser and bottles of white-out, retyped and re-filed the



cards....oh, the memories. The University of South Dakota even employed outside cataloguers to help make the change, but Patty was totally involved in the work. While at the University, Patty continued to take classes from USD including one where she had to write a paper defending a banned book. She chose *The Carpetbaggers* by Harold Robbins and can remember writing page after page defending the book to the irate public.

Working in a college library is a totally different job than working in a Public Library. Many jobs in a college library do not involve working with the public and almost every job in a small public library requires one to work with the public. In 1985, Patty, by now a resident of McCook, NE, started working at the Public Library. She worked in Technical Services until 2000, and then became the Director of the McCook Public Library. She has loved the

Continued from page 1

job, even though; there were times of political upheavals and tumultuous happenings. Soon, she learned the political game, and always struggled to maintain the credibility of the Public Library. Patty says her Public Library is a noisy place which is nothing like the libraries of the past. It is a recreational place where people want to stay awhile. Since McCook has an advisory Library Board rather than a governing board, Patty is a City Employee who attends weekly meetings with the other city department heads. She manages a very large budget and has worked with great city managers. These managers believed in libraries and believed libraries are an integral part of the community.

Patty is moving to Gillette, WY with her daughter Sarah and Sarah's husband Jay, and her three grandchildren Keegan, Chloe and Cooper. Jay works for the Burlington Railroad, Sarah is a nurse and Patty, the person who likes to take care of people, will be the live-in

nanny. (What a son-in-law!) Patty's son Chris is staying behind in McCook so she will have a reason to return for a visit.

Patty's departing words of wisdom are "Every small town deserves a library. People need to do whatever it takes to have a library. If you catch the children while they are young, they will grow up to be readers even if they grow away for a time, they will come back to reading" As Walt Sehnert, a Foundation member told Patty "you are a good tightrope walker" you know there is a place for both technology and books and you have learned balance in the library.

RVLS members say "So long; have a great time....and don't forget your heavy parka for Wyoming".

Sherry Houston—System Director



2009-2010 RVLS Board Meetings

President -Judy Grandstaff

Vice-President -Patty Hall

Secretary -Suzann Christensen

Members:

Tony Anderson, Vicki Casper, Beth Falla,
Jane Hilton, Terri Johnson, Mo Khamouna
Mary Nelson, Sylvia Person,
Nancy Sherwood, and Dana Wade

All meetings begin at 10 am.

Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed!



Friday, January 8, 2010

Hastings Public Library —Hastings

Friday, March 5, 2010

Lied Imperial Public Library—Imperial

Friday, June 4, 2010—Annual Meeting

North Platte, NE



RVLS NEWS

Hastings College Perkins Library has been carrying on some beloved traditions during the 2009-2010 school year, including a staff/student assistant potluck, observing International Talk Like a Pirate Day (observed on September 18, complete with display, eye patches and pirate medallions), and co-hosting a **Banned Books Week** event with Sigma Tau Delta. The theme of the library's BBW display was "hunger for intellectual freedom" and incorporated soup cans with faux labels made to match ALA's trio of posters for the 2009 observance.

Each soup can sported the title of a book that had been challenged during the 2008-2009 year and the back of each can contained a faux-nutritional grid. Instead of reveal-



ing caloric and other information, each label listed the title's year of publication, author, call # (if owned by Perkins Library), and the reasons for challenge/restriction/ or banning.

On Friday, October 2, a group of 40 students, staff, faculty and guests—including staff from **Hastings Public Library**—gathered to soothe their souls with readings from banned books and homemade soups, locally made bread, and cookies. Attendees, in addition to satisfied tummies, received an



array of door prizes, including gift certificates from The Crimson Cup, Hastings College's student-run coffee shop, the Back Alley



Bakery, the Blue Moon, and three books from the 08-09 banned list. The soup cans used in the display were donated to charity. -
submitted by Susan Franklin

Judy Grandstaff has been teaching **Basic Skills** at the Landmark Center in Hastings for the last three weeks. The lively class has learned about Collection Development, when to weed, what to order and any other life advice Judy has to offer.



Tony Anderson, RVLS board member will be traveling to the Baltic states with the Nebraska LEAD program in January 2010.

Deb Alberts from **Palisade Public Library** has taken a job at the Public School so is no longer with the Public Library. Good luck Deb! We will miss you!

Marilyn Bannister from **Dundy County—Stratton Schools** has retired and **Nathan Behlke** is the new Media Specialist. Enjoy retirement Marilyn! Welcome to RVLS Nathan.

Abi Bauer from **Oxford Public Library** has decided to retire and travel



with her husband. First stop Corpus Christie, TX where it will be much warmer than Nebraska! We will miss Abi and her cheery presence in RVLS, but think her plans sound wonderful! Cheryl her creative assistant made her this sign.

John Green, the husband of **Clay Center Public Library Director Cheryl Green** died Nov. 19th of suspected carbon monoxide poisoning. Cheryl was life flighted to Omaha, but thankfully seems to be doing well.



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

RVLS Calendar

January

29—Cook 'n the Books, Hastings Public Library (see insert)

February

9— Library Legislative Day, Lincoln, NE

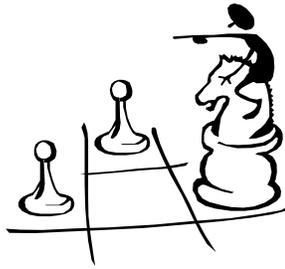
March

19—Summer Reading at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 704 Smith Ave, Elwood, NE

GATES WORKSHOP

RVLS librarians and community members drove, bussed, and flew to the Gates workshop in Sioux Falls, SD, November 17 and 18th. The workshop incorporated library advocacy with the importance of play. The nationally renowned keynote speakers inspired the attendees so they are super-charged to create good things for libraries. Attending from RVLS were **Linda Gooder, Franklin Public Library; Nana Real, Florence Parker, and Edwina Roesener from Dundy County Library, Benkleman; Vicki Perrie and Peggy Lipker from Superior Public Library; Betty Oliver and her husband from Beaver City Public Library; Marcia Wortman from Klyte Burt Memorial Library, Curtis; and Matt Fong, Amy Greenland and Don Reynolds from Hastings Public Library. Congratulations** to these RVLS libraries for qualifying for the Gates computer grants as well as **Cambridge and Nelson.**

It's Your Move



2008-2009 Public Library Statistical Survey due February 1, 2010

The Nebraska *Public Library Statistical Survey* that gathers data from the 2008-2009 fiscal year was released on Monday, November 16th, 2009 and is due on Monday, February 1st, 2010. Data for this survey are collected through the use of Bibliostat™ Collect, a web-based program that can be accessed at <http://collect.btol.com>. User names and passwords for logging on to this program are the same as those used last year. For additional information about the annual library survey, check out our web site at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/statistics/BibliostatCollect.html> or contact [John Felton](#), Planning & Data Services Coordinator, 402.471.3216, 800.307.2665

FREE LESSON PLANS from the National Library of Medicine.

A handout with links to free lesson plans from the National Library of Medicine: [<http://nmlm.gov/ner/training/material/NLMLessonPlans.pdf>
<http://nmlm.gov/ner/training/material/NLMLessonPlans.pdf>



The Nebraska Library Commission's Books in Series Website at www.nlc.state.ne.us/ref/booksinseries/index.html lets readers search book series by author, series name, or book title. This is a terrific resource for those who read voluminous series such as Star Wars and Star Trek or who are beginning a new series. At this site you are able to quickly find the title of the next book in your series.

Another source of series information is Kent District Library—KDL What's next. This is a really good site for series information and you can search by author, title or subject. The link is: <http://ww2.kdl.org/libcat/WhatsNextNEW.asp>

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.

December 1st, 2009—
Red Cloud Public Schools—Red Cloud, NE

January 1st, 2010—
(Available)

February 1st, 2010
(Available)

March 1st, 2010—
Central Community College—Hastings, NE

April 1st, 2010—
Hastings Memorial Library—Grant, NE

May 1st, 2010
(Available)

June 1st, 2010
(Available)

If you would like to schedule the Ellison for your facility, please e-mail us at

rvlsasst@inebraska.com
or

rvlsamin@inbraska.com

On the Bookshelf



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

- ***Half Broke Horses*** by Walls, Jeannette

New Professional Collection

- **Even More Great Ideas for Libraries and Friends**—by Sally Gardner Reed and Beth Nawalinski
- **Searching 2.0** by Michael P. Sauers

A complete listing of our Professional Collection is on our web page nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican under Services

Another great website for fiction is *Fantastic fiction* brought to us from the UK:
<http://www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/>

Save Five Fridays!

College of DuPage Teleconferences 2009-2010

Another season of great programming for librarians is coming up! Again this year, on behalf of all Nebraska libraries, the Nebraska Library Commission has subscribed to the teleconference series put on by the College of DuPage.

Programs can be accessed via Webcast or via satellite downlink. Every program is on a Friday at 11 a.m. (10 a.m. Mountain time) and lasts 90 minutes. Register for each program—free to you!--on the Nebraska Library Commission Training calendar at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp>

Host a group! Enhance the learning by sharing and discussing the program with others. Only one person per site needs to register.

Programs:

- Millennials in the Library Friday, November 13, 2009
- Making the Best of a Shrinking Budget: Creative Practices in a New Economy January 29, 2010
- Cataloging: Where are we now? Where are we going? February 19, 2010
- Information Literacy Education: A National Overview March 12, 2010
- Technology Trends in Libraries: Tools, Skills, Staffing, Training April 9, 2010

More information on program contents will be forthcoming. We will post the information in the Library Training Calendar and at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/ce/dupage/coldupage.html>

Watch these at your computer or we will have the DVD a few weeks after the presentation.

You get 1.5 CEU's for each program. These all sound good to me!

Sherry





Susan Franklin, Hastings College Public Service Librarian was awarded **The Houchen Bindery Beginning Professional Award** at NLA/NEMA in LaVista. This award is given to a beginning librarian or media specialist who has made significant contributions to library and/or media services in the early stages of his/her career by creating innovative programs or services which have improved library service in Nebraska, made exceptional use of local, state, or national library resources including special grants, made significant contributions toward the betterment of library and community relations, and been active in professional library organizations on a local, state or national level. RLVS is very pleased that Susan, who worked for RVLS only a few short years ago, received this award. **Congratulations Susan!**



Congratulations!

The **Golden Sower Committee** which is sponsored by the School, Children's and Young People's section of the Nebraska Library Association received the **Jane Geske Award** at the Nebraska Book Festival on November 14th in Lincoln. The Jane Geske award is presented to a Nebraska group who has made an exceptional, long term contribution to Literacy, Reading, Book Selling, Books, Libraries or Writing in Nebraska. The Golden Sower award was started in 1981 by Karla Wendelin and Dee Storey and its mission is to stimulate children's thinking, introduce different types of literature, encourage independent reading, increase library information skills, and foster an appreciation for excellence in writing and illustrating. In 1981, when the award was started 4,185 students voted for the Golden Sower award. This year 66,648 students voted for the award. **Kathy Schultz** from **Hastings Public Library**, who is the long time chair person of the Golden Sower Committee and Karla Wendelin, one of the original founders received the award at the Book Festival.



A World of Stuff

By Cathy A. Leininger-Mohnike

The Homer and Langley in the title of E.L. Doctorow's new book, "*Homer and Langley*", were brothers who were raised in an upscale 5th Avenue mansion. The brothers had a happy, privileged, and rather normal upbringing. The good life starts a downhill slide as Homer gradually loses his eyesight. The downhill slide gains momentum when Langley returns from the Great War suffering from exposure to mustard gas. Langley began travelling to the local newstand every day for every edition of every newspaper that he can buy. Langley's project is to make the ultimate newspaper. One newspaper that you could read over and over for the rest of your days since he believes that is the way of life—the same event or type of event happening over and over. He started to travel out at night scavenging the streets for treasures that might be of some use in other projects. This junk began to fill up the mansion – every room eventually piled to the ceiling with stacks and stacks of the flotsam of life. This made it very difficult for Homer, who by now was completely blind, to navigate the once familiar terrain of his childhood home. In fact, Homer becomes confined to smaller and smaller areas of the mansion since he can no longer make it through the clutter.

Wait a minute! This is starting to sound familiar. Not the going blind part but the increasing amount of clutter part. My once tidy house is becoming increasingly stuffed to the gills. My wardrobe used to contain itself neatly in one closet, but with the children out of the house my clothes unaccountably scampered off into every available closet. The photographs that were previously labeled according to season, holiday and participants then lovingly put into albums are now stuffed into drawers in astonishing amounts. And could we just pause a moment to talk about my book overflow? One set of bookshelves downstairs and a small container upstairs used to be plenty of room for my personal library. Now I have seven bookshelves upstairs and numerous cute little totes all over the place that are full of books. I've even cleaned out other spaces to stuff them with books. Who needs that family heirloom! I need the space for books. I knew that things had gotten out-of-hand when I jokingly told my husband that we could buy a new house and just keep this one for storage. After looking around his comment was, "It wouldn't be enough space." Geesh!

Homer and Langley eventually become virtual prisoners in their home due in part to the copious amounts of junk contained within.

Yikes! Is this where I am headed? Please, friends, if you don't see me for awhile come check on me. But when you make your way through the maze of clutter don't be surprised to find me well-dressed and well-read.

Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting**November 6, 2009 10:00 a.m.****Hoesch Memorial Library****Alma, NE**

PRESENT: Vicki Casper, Judy Grandstaff, Patty Hall, Terri Johnson, Mo Khamouna, Mary Nelson, Nancy Sherwood, Dana Wade

ABSENT: Tony Anderson, Beth Falla (listened to part of meeting via Skype connection), Jane Hilton, Sylvia Person, and Suzann Christensen

ALSO PRESENT: Sherry Houston (System Director), Keri Anderson, (Hoesch Memorial Library), and Steve Batty (NLC Commissioner)

Agenda

Pre-Meeting Topics of Discussion: Library fundraisers, including book-themed baskets, bargain bazaars, and underwater pitch tournaments using water tanks; contrast of weather from last meeting's fog to the beautiful day today; and new books at RVLS by authors we've actually met (Michael Sauer's *Searching 2.0*, and Sally Gardner Reed's *Even More Great Ideas for Libraries and Friends*)

The board thanks the staff at Hoesch Memorial Library for hosting our meeting and Sherry for stopping at Eileen's Cookies.

Call to Order/Introductions/Roll Call: President Judy Grandstaff called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. Judy introduced Steve Batty, the new library commissioner from McCook. Since Steve spends his summers in Colorado, he has so far attended commissioner's meeting via telephone. Board members present introduced themselves which took care of roll call. Keri Anderson, former board member and Alma librarian attended while husband Tony attended another meeting instead of ours. Beth Falla, after sorting out microphone problems, greeted us briefly on Skype via Sherry's laptop and listened in on part of the meeting. We received a phone call that Jane, unfortunately, went to the wrong library.

Approval of September 11, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes: The minutes stand approved as written and were filed.

Financial Report: Sherry handed out an updated *Percent of Budget Used* report. The library commission paid her way to ALA so these costs were removed from Administrator Expenses, greatly decreasing this line in the report. She reported that she created new folders shown in the Promotion line. We have used 30% of our budget to date. The audit was finished and is fine but the hard copy of the report hasn't arrived yet. The state is proposing cuts of 2.5% immediately but it isn't known how this would affect RVLS since some of our funding comes from LSTA which is federal funds. A brief discussion of funding and ways we could cut took place.

Correspondence: Thank you notes were received for scholarships, book calendars, and from Pat Bonge, who is feeling better, and author Ellen Klages, who thought Sherry was a great "handler." Sherry shared copies of letters sent by Suzanne's students thanking NLC and the Nebraska Humanities Council for funding Klages' visit to their school.

Administrator's Report: (*A detailed copy of the administrator's report is in each board member's packet.*) With all Sherry's road time, she was asked if she had hit any deer-yes, but not with the current system vehicle. Sherry said her library visits are appreciated and there are a few new directors. Several RVLS libraries qualified for the upcoming Gates computers program. Many are going to the Gates training next week. Board members received updated RVLS directories.

OLD BUSINESS

Library Survey: Survey answers were included in each packet. There were 68 who responded. Sherry will put the survey online and share link. Patty and Mary thought results could help with city council and patron discussions.

Calendars: Sherry has 1/3 of her personal deliveries of calendars done. Non-librarian board members also received a calendar. Short discussion of other uses of the calendar pages ensued.

National Book Festival: Sherry reported the festival was amazing! 130,000 attended on the Washington D.C. Mall with lots of authors present and booths from all the states and U.S. territories.

The Nebraska Book Festival is next week and includes a writer's workshop.

Strategic Plan: Progress has been made but it isn't quite done. We will vote on it at the January meeting. Sherry asked for input.

NEW BUSINESS

NLA/NEMA Report: La Vista had a great facility for the conference. Eleven scholarships were given. Terri submitted a written report of the conference for the newsletter, Valleytalk, as the Biblionix stipend winner.

Meeting with Skype: Skype and conference calls were discussed as options for the January meeting because of potential bad weather. No decision was made.

Winter Workshop: Tentative date is January 29th in Hastings. Program will include Pam Bohmfalk talking on fictional books with recipes, Morris Press, cake decorating by Vicki Perrie's daughter-in-law, and a wine shop visit.

Annual Meeting: Terri will check on the price and availability of the Patty Birge room at the North Platte Playhouse and then travel to the Golden Spike Tower for a tour as the last event of the day.

Early Election of Officers: Since all of the officers' board terms expire in June, having new officers elected in March was suggested so old officers could mentor new ones. Bylaws dictate elections to be 1st meeting after annual meeting so discussion was dropped.

NLC Commissioner Report: Steve Batty reported nothing new except for budget cut discussion. He encouraged us to contact him with ideas as he can take our ideas to the Commission. At the 2009 NLA/NEMA conference, he learned that Census 2010 is proposing paid (\$14.00/hr) census information people to be placed at libraries. He encouraged libraries to look into this to bring more people into our buildings. Steve will be "trained" next week and will attend the colloquium and Book Festival.

NLC Representative Report: There was no NLC Representative present to give a report as NLC staff can't attend due to budget cuts. Several online sessions are available including Ncompass Live, College of DuPage, and ALA booklist online.

Business Meeting Adjourned at 12:17. A card and gift were presented to Patty Hall who has retired from McCook and will be moving to Gillette, Wyoming to be a nanny to her grandchildren.

Terri Johnson, Acting Secretary



www.cccneb.edu

Starting January 11, 2010

LIBR 2150

Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies

Online class

Spring Term, 2010

Monday, January 11, 2010 – Thursday, May 6, 2010

This course will provide students with an understanding of managing collections in libraries and information agencies, including:

- Basics of Collection Management (terminology, models)
- 21st Century Literacies
- Community Analysis
- Selection (All resources, for all age levels)
- Acquisition
- Collection Analysis
- Deselection / Weeding
- Intellectual Freedom
- Copyright
- Resource Sharing

LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services is a prerequisite **required** for this class.

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact:

Mary Young

Admissions/Recruiting Director

myoung@cccneb.edu

800- 402-562-1296

For questions regarding course content and organization, contact:

Patty Birch

Instructor, LIBR 2150

Central Community College

308-532-8667

pbirch@esu16.org

Celebrating Native American History Month at the UNK Library

Looking for resources to meet the needs of area educators, homeschoolers, and parents celebrating or exploring Native American History Month? Consider directing your patrons to UNK's Calvin T. Ryan Library!

This month the Curriculum Department is celebrating Native American History Month with a display of teaching resource materials, juvenile literature, and non-book items. Some of the items on display are:

- **Teaching Resources:** *Reading Native American Literature: A Teacher's Guide*, by Bruce A. Goebel, published in 2004 by the National Council of Teachers of English. In this work the author explores methods for teaching Native American literature. *Multicultural Voices in Contemporary Literature: A Resource for Teachers*, by Frances Ann Day, was published by Heinemann, in 1994. In it the author provides a wide-ranging list of multicultural authors, including Native American writers. She annotates each author's entry with biographical information, the title's of works associated with the author, and suggestions for the classroom.
- **Juvenile Literature:** The Juvenile Literature collection has a wealth of great materials related to Native Americans. Examples are *The Return of the Buffaloes* by Caldecott Award winner Paul Goble, Brent Ashabranner's *A Strange and Distant Shore: Indians of the Great Plains in Exile*, and a collection of lullabies titled *Weave Little Stars into My Sleep: Native American Lullabies*.
- **Non-Book Items:** Just two examples will give a sense of the variety of non-book materials available from Calvin T. Ryan Library. The first is a tape recording of Native American Music (*Music of the Sioux and the Navajo*). *Native American History* is a DVD aimed at a juvenile audience with the goal of increasing awareness of Native American culture.
- And, of course, there are many, many more works available at the library related to Native American history.

The University of Nebraska at Kearney's Calvin T. Ryan Library (2508 11th Avenue) welcomes all library users. Any Nebraska resident, 18 years or older, may apply for a special borrower card. Just fill out an application at the Circulation Desk and present a valid Nebraska photo ID. Community members are allowed to borrow five circulating items at a time. What circulates? Most books, books on tape, videos, CDs, and lots of other information resources!

Parking on a university campus is always a challenge! We can help to ease this difficulty by sending you a temporary parking permit, directions, and a campus map with the appropriate parking lots marked. To request a permit, please contact Jennifer Harvey (harveyjs@unk.edu; 308-865-8276) or Rochelle Krueger (krueger@unk.edu; 308-865-8819). There is also street parking on the south side and east side of the campus, if you don't mind a little walk! Many of our resources can also be borrowed through your local library's interlibrary loan service.

We hope to see you soon!

--Jennifer Harvey, Curriculum Librarian, harveyjs@unk.edu

Library Boards:

Create discussion, earn CE credits

Create conversation, empower the library

Earn 1 CE

Our Shared Vision for Library and Information Services **Nebraska Libraries Future Search Con-**

Vision statement: Front Porch: *My library provides an inviting and welcoming front porch where the community comes to learn, play and investigate. People come first in this nurturing and enriching gathering place for all.*

The public perceives the library as a neutral place and it is a natural meeting place for divergent cultures, ideas and groups to meet. Libraries should be sensitive to the changing nature of our communities due to immigration and cultural values shifts.

In an article on gaming in libraries from the August/September 2009 American Libraries, Jenny Levine suggests some possible goals:

- Offer recreation around content (book discussion groups; craft classes)
- Offer social communal space (adult programming; rooms for knitters)
- Offer literacy programs (storytime)
- Offer interactions between different demographics (family events, multigenerational programming)

Suggested activities for the library as Front Porch:

- *Grandparents reading to kids*
- *Singing*
- *Chautauqua*
- *Serve seasonal beverages*
- *Read around the posies*
- *Local art displays*
- *Rock-a-thon*
- *Make your own video*
- *Kool-Aid stand*
- *"Fine front porch" - less formal entry*
- *Birdhouses*
- *Drinks and books*
- *Ice cream socials*
- *Bluegrass*
- *Greeters*
- *Gaming bees - "Wii-Bee"*
- *Shoebox social*
- *Wii tournaments*
- *Open microphone events*
- *Curbside service on roller skates*
- *Film festival - outdoors; make community films*
- *Historical reenactment*
- *Facebook, Myspace; and whatever is next*
- *Posters where our neighbors are*
- *Have experts make visits to make suggestions on making physical space more hospitable*
- *Outreach to determine what is done (especially diverse populations)*

Things to think about and discuss:

What are the emerging groups in your community? Don't just think of ethnicity but of other groups such as latchkey children, the unemployed and young mothers.

What programming are you offering throughout the year to these various communities?

Do you offer materials and services for the informational, recreational and social needs of your community?

What ideas from those listed above could you use to create a front porch atmosphere at your library?

When you think of front porch, don't forget how your library looks. Do a "walkabout" and assess how friendly and welcoming your facility is. What can you do to make it more welcoming?

Discuss the following from the South Carolina State Library blog: The fact is, people all around us are connecting in so many new ways. Mostly younger people, at least for now. The USA Today survey that told us that college students would rather give up beer than Facebook. It gave us the news: These kids are not out on the porch, and they are not in the public library...not even in the college library. They are chatting it up, making friends, and passing information around online. Of course, they could be online in the public library. The public library as front porch for the community...something to think about.

Rethink having staff behind desks. Wander around the library offering assistance and guidance. If no one is in need of help, it's a great time to make some impromptu displays.

Dewey Decimal Classification Online Sessions

4.5 CE

Description: Does this book on houseplants go in gardening (635.9), botany (581.6), or interior decorating (747)? If you have a nodding acquaintance with Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index but would like to feel more comfortable using this important tool, join us for a series of three one-and-a-half-hour online sessions.

Sessions will include discussion on assigning classification numbers when a topic might fall under more than one discipline, choosing the right number based on Notes and Manual entries, building numbers using the tables, and a look at OCLC's Abridged WebDewey.

This workshop is approved for the [NLC Cataloging Certificate Program](#).

- **Prerequisite:** Basic Skills "Organization of Library Materials" or some library experience.
- **Class Format:** Online Session
- **Dates:** 1/7/2010, 1/14/2010, 1/21/2010
- **Time:** 10-11:30 am (Central Time)
- **Cost:** No Charge
- **Presenter:** Emily Nimsakont, Cataloging Librarian, Nebraska Library Commission
- **CE Hours:** 4.5



At the **Nebraska Book Festival**, the **One Book-One State 2010 book** was announced by Nancy Johnson from the Wright Morris Society in Central City Nebraska.

The 2010 book is *The Home Place* by Wright Morris. The Barnes and Noble review about Home Place says "This account in first-person narrative and photographs of the one-day visit of Clyde Muncy to "the home place" at Lone Tree, Nebraska, has been called "as near to a new fiction form as you could get." Both prose and pictures are homely: worn linoleum, an old man's shoes, well-used kitchen utensils, and weathered siding. Muncy's journey of discovery takes the measure of the man he has become and of what he has left behind"

As a fun way to create interest for *The Home Place*, libraries might want to consider incorporating this book with photography or photo-journalism programs during the year.



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**“One kind
word can
warm three
winter
months. ”**

— Japanese proverb