



SoLiS

Newsletter of the

Southeast Library System

March/April 2004

SOWINGS

GUEST SOWINGS FROM WALLY SEILER

WALLY GOES TO WASHINGTON (OR LINCOLN, BUT THEN YOU LOSE THE ALLITERATION), THOUGHTS ON LEGISLATIVE DAY 2004

Good afternoon.

I would like to begin by welcoming to this special luncheon members of the Nebraska Legislature, members of the Nebraska library community and, especially, the eight young library volunteers who are being honored today.

It is especially fitting that we are recognizing the work and dedication of these young people from across the state because they represent a segment of the population that has received a great deal of attention from the Nebraska Library Commission and the Nebraska Library Association over the past year.

Those of use who care desperately about libraries and their future are alarmed when we hear remarks such as those recently made by Robert S. Martin, the Director of the Institute of Museums and Library Services in Washington, D.C. He pointed out that "our nation faces a quiet crises: a critical shortage of librarians". He went on to say, "as many as 58% of our nation's librarians will reach retirement age between 2005 and 2019". And we in Nebraska become even more alarmed when we realize that in our state that figure approaches 65%.

For over a year, the Nebraska Library Commission and the Nebraska Library Association have been working--in earnest and in tandem--to design programs that address the problems of recruiting and retaining librarians as well as those of recruiting and retaining volunteers. Through the use of funds that have been provided by the Nebraska Legislature as well as through grant money that we will hopefully receive from the Federal government, we stand ready to implement creative programs that, we believe, will be models throughout the library world.

A key component of our plan is the development of a mentoring program that will help feed our state's need for both librarians and library volunteers. It will be a comprehensive program that will, among other things, teach every Nebraska librarian how to recognize potential candidates for service in our state's libraries and how to be effective mentors to those prospects.

Thank goodness for some very effective mentoring that is already going on in our state. Today's honorees attest to that--they would not have been here today had not mentoring--probably from parents and librarians alike--been a part of their lives.

And how life-changing mentoring can be--especially when the mentored person is older. I know....I have seen it happen. Brian's story:

Continued on page 16



LEGISLATIVE DAY 2004



**Senator Floyd Vrtiska & Sarah Gyhra,
Pawnee City Public Library Volunteer**



**Anh Do, Lincoln City Libraries volunteer,
& Senator David Landis**



**Senator Dennis Byars
& Matt Langley, Beatrice Public Library volunteer**



NLA Legislative Day 2004 was another whirlwind experience that appears to be growing bigger and better each year. It started off with coffee and donuts with senators, librarians, trustees, legislative staff and more. A briefing that included a talk by Bill Johnson, publisher of the Lincoln Journal Star, a card carrying Lincoln City Libraries user, followed it. He mentioned sharing with his daughters about the world the library had opened up to him when he was a child, only to hear back from one of them – “You must have been a nerd, Dad!”

Ken Winston, NLA Lobbyist, shared information on bills of interest to the library world (LB 784, 879, 901, 936, 1236). Maxine Moul provided additional information on LB 879 – EndowNebraska: A Proposal for a Nebraska Charitable Tax Incentive.

Rod Wagner highlighted the proposed budget cuts from the Governor with 2.5% reduction in operations and a 1% reduction in state aid. At the luncheon the youth featured on this page were recognized, and Wally Seiler (NLC Commissioner/Alliance) addressed the group on the importance of mentoring (reprinted on page 1 – Sowings). Following lunch, Mike Nolan (Norfolk City Administrator) spoke on servant leadership and purpose driven lives. Shannon Behrhorst’s Network Services Crew from NLC, was also on hand to give demonstrations in the use of NebraskaAccess. It was a swell day!

A Word to Trustees

I want to thank Jill Bresson, Trustee at Crete Public Library, Larry Jirsak, Trustee at Fremont, Keene Memorial Library and Kristen Rogge, NLC Commissioner for serving as greeters at the Nebraska Library Association’s Legislative Day, February 19th. It gave the Senators a chance to meet the people who are responsible for supporting libraries on a local level. The Senators are well aware of the people who staff the libraries, thanks to hard work on the part of NLA Legislative Committee. They haven’t been as aware of the trustee group. This is something we would like to improve on.

Maggie Harding, NLA Executive Director

American Library Association 2004 Children's and Young Adult Literature Awards

2004 ALSC John Newbery Medal (distinguished writing for children)

- ☆ *The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo. Illustrated by Timothy Basil Ering. Candlewick Press, 2003.

2004 ALSC John Newbery Award Honor Books

- ☆ *An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793* by Jim Murphy. Clarion, 2003.
- ☆ *Olive's Ocean* by Kevin Henkes. A Greenwillow Book / HarperCollins, 2003.

2004 ALSC Randolph Caldecott Award (distinguished illustration for children)

- ☆ *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* illustrated and written by Mordicai Gerstein. Roaring Book Press, 2003.

2004 ALSC Randolph Caldecott Award Honor Books

- ☆ *Ella Sarah Gets Dressed* illustrated and written by Margaret Chodos-Irvine. Harcourt, 2003.
- ☆ *What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?* Illustrated by Robin Page. Written by Steve Jenkins. Houghton Mifflin, 2003.
- ☆ *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* illustrated and written by Mo Willems. Hyperion, 2003.

2004 SRRT Coretta Scott King Author Award (outstanding writing by a Black author)

- ☆ *The First Part Last* by Angela Johnson. Simon & Schuster, 2003.

2004 SRRT Coretta Scott King Author Award Honor Books

- ☆ *Days of Jubilee: The End of Slavery in the United States* by Patricia C. McKissack and Fredrick McKissack. Scholastic Press, 2003.
- ☆ *Locomotion* by Jacqueline Woodson. Putnam, 2003.
- ☆ *The Battle of Jericho* by Sharon M. Draper. Atheneum, 2003.

2004 SRRT Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award (outstanding illustrations by a Black artist)

- ☆ *Beautiful Blackbird* illustrated and written by Ashley Bryan. Atheneum, 2003.

2003 SRRT Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award Honor Books

- ☆ *Almost to Freedom* illustrated by Colin Bootman. Written by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson. Carolrhoda, 2003.
- ☆ *Thunder Rose* illustrated by Kadir Nelson. Written by Jerdine Nolen. Silver Whistle / Harcourt, 2003.

2004 SRRT Coretta Scott King John Steptoe/New Talent (Author) Award

- ☆ *The Way a Door Closes* by Hope Anita Smith. Illustrated by Shane W. Evans. Henry Holt, 2003.

2004 SRRT Coretta Scott King John Steptoe/New Talent (Illustrator) Award

- ☆ *My Family Plays Music* illustrated by Elbrite Brown. Written by Judy Cox. Holiday House, 2003.

2004 ALSC/REFORMA Pura Belpr? Author Award (outstanding book by a Latino author)

- ☆ *Before We Were Free* by Julia Alvarez. Alfred A. Knopf, 2002.

2004 ALSC/REFORMA Pura Belpr? Author Award Honor Books

- ☆ *Cuba 15* by Nancy Osa. Delacorte Press, 2003.
- ☆ *My Diary from Here to There / mi diario de aqui aasta alla* by Amada Irma Pérez. Illustrated by Maya Christina Gonzalez. Children's Book Press, 2002.

2004 ALSC/REFORMA Pura Belpr? Illustrator Award (outstanding book by a Latino artist)

- ☆ *Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book* illustrated and written by Yuyi Morales. Chronicle, 2003.

2004 ALSC/REFORMA Pura Belpr? Illustrator Award Honor Books

- ☆ *First Day in Grapes* illustrated by Robert Casilla. Written by L. King Pérez. Lee & Low, 2002.
- ☆ *The Pot That Juan Built* illustrated by David Diaz. Written by Nancy Andrews-Goebel. Lee & Low, 2002.
- ☆ *Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez* illustrated by Yuyi Morales. Written by Kathleen Krull. Harcourt, 2003.

2004 YALSA Michael L. Printz Award (literary excellence in young adult literature)

- ☆ *The First Part Last* by Angela Johnson. Simon & Schuster, 2003.

2004 YALSA Michael L. Printz Award Honor Books

- ☆ *A Northern Light: A Novel* by Jennifer Donnelly. Harcourt, 2003.
- ☆ *Keesha's House* by Helen Frost. Frances Foster Books / Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2003.
- ☆ *Fat Kid Rules the World* by K.L. Going. Putnam, 2003.
- ☆ *The Earth, My Butt and Other Big Round Things* by Carolyn Mackler. Candlewick Press, 2003.

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| SELS | | | |
| | Calendar Page | | |

March

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March 5th: CASTL Meeting at Deshler Public Library beginning at 10 a.m. This is an opportunity for your input on the revised Nebraska Public Library Accreditation Guidelines.
- March 12th: Joint meeting of State Advisory Council** on Libraries and Nebraska Library Commissioners in Omaha. NLC Commissioners meeting at 8:30 a.m., to be followed by State Advisory Council Meeting at 9:45 a.m. at the Millard Branch (13214 Westwood Lane).
- March 12th: Children's Internet Protection Act: "Web Filtering: Policy, Software, Staff Training"** (College of DuPage teleconference), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Beatrice Public Library (2 CE hours). Further details and teleconference materials will be posted soon at: www.cod.edu/teleconf/. Register with the SELS office at: 5730 R St., Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505 or jennip@alltel.net.
- March 17th: Paraprofessional Spring Videoconference 2004.** For additional information and registration: www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/paraconference.html.
- March 22nd: Gates Library Sustainability Seminar** in Norfolk from 10-12, 1-3, at the Northeast Community College Lifelong Learning Center. To register or for information contact Jacque Crocker, (800)207-2665 or jcrocker@nlc.state.ne.us.
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March 25th: Summer Reading Workshop at Eiseley Branch (1530 Superior Street/Lincoln) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. See page 10 and the SELS web page: www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/sesys/index.html for more information and to register .
- March 26th: Soaring to Excellence, Part III: "Professional Toolkit: Skills for Advancement"** (College of DuPage teleconference), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Beatrice Public Library (2 CE hours). Further details and teleconference materials will be posted soon at: www.cod.edu/teleconf/. Register with the SELS office at: 5730 R St., Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505 or jennip@alltel.net.

April

- April 2nd: SELS Board meeting** at Lewiston Public School, starting at 10 a.m.
- April 12th, 19th & May 10th: Organization of Materials Basic Skills Course** at Nebraska Library Commission. The main areas that will be covered in the class will include: Cataloging Process, SEARS and Dewey, Automation, Organizing Electronic Information, Sources of Cataloging and Classification. Registration will be taken by Jacque Crocker either via email: jcrocker@nlc.state.ne.us; via phone: 800-307-2665. Registration deadline is April 3, 2004. The cost of the class is \$ 35.00 for attendance at all three days. Please send payment prior to the first day of the class to: Jacque Crocker, Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N Street, Suite 120 Lincoln, NE 68508 The class will be from 10:00-12:00 and then 1:00-3:00 on each day. Lunch will not be provided.
- April 13th:** The Nebraska Literary Heritage Association's 20th annual **Adult Spelling Bee**, a popular fundraiser for the NLHA which supports the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors, will be held. Sponsor a speller. Can it *bee* anymore fun?

- ☀ **April 22nd: CASTL meeting** in Friend at the Gilbert Memorial Library starting at 10 a.m. Bring a library friend(s) and/or foundation member(s) to join in the discussion. Representatives from the Department of Revenue will attend to answer questions about lottery/raffle activities and sales tax issues for fundraising.
- ☀ **April 26th: Marketing with Pat Wagner** at Doane College. See page 11 for registration and additional information.
- April 26th: NLA Technical Services Round Table (TSRT) Spring Meeting** from 8:30 to 4:30 at the Nebraska Library Commission. The workshop is one of the SCCTP (Serials Cataloging Cooperative Training Program) courses and the trainer will be Mike Wright from the University of Iowa. The workshop is limited to 20 participants and will also be offered to states surrounding Nebraska. Nebraska participants will be given a priority if their registration is received by March 12th. More details and a registration are available at: www.nebraskalibraries.org/TSRT/TSRTSerialsHoldingsRegistrationWeb.htm, or contact Corinne Jacox with questions at: jacox@creighton.edu or (402)280-2283.

May

- May 3rd – 4th: National Library Legislative Day** in Washington, DC. (www.ala.org/washoff/legislativeday.html)
- ☀ **May 7th: SELS Training Extravaganza** at Hamilton College (formerly Lincoln School of Commerce) at 1821 K Street in Lincoln. Technology, Children's, Web page design, and Adult programs are planned for the training. Details and registration to follow at the SELS website: www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/sesys/index.html.
- May 20th: NLA Spring Meeting** in Seward, see page 9 for details.
- May 27th – 30th: Mayhem in the Midlands Mystery Conference** sponsored by Omaha Public Library and Lincoln City Libraries at the Sheraton Hotel (1615 Howard Street) in Omaha. For details visit: www.omaha.lib.ne.us/mayhem/ or contact Jennifer Kirchmann at: jkirchmann@omaha.lib.ne.us or (402)444-4828.

2003 Children's Grants for Excellence

Congratulations to the recipients of twenty 2003 Children's Grants for Excellence awarded to eighteen Nebraska libraries and library organizations for children's services. There were creative projects from all sized communities, which included the following:

- ✦ **Morton-James Public Library, Nebraska City** - \$1,080 written by Kathleen Gripenstroh. Summer Reading Program for young adults: "Get Lost @ your library" with two approaches: 1) a book club, and 2) read & explore for incentives.
- ✦ **Lincoln City Libraries** - \$2,287 written by Pat Leach. Family literacy support materials translated to Spanish for Spanish-speaking families.
- ✦ **Lincoln City Libraries** - \$1,050 written by Pat Leach. Pat attended "The 21st Century Learner: The Continuum Begins With Early Learning" Symposium in Washington, D.C. on September 18 & 19.
- ✦ **Auburn Public Library** - \$3,520 written by Sherry Black. In partnership with Peru State College they will develop 30 story time kits for daycare providers.
- ✦ **Ulysses Public Library** - \$1,000 written by Karen Schreurs. Autobiography Scrapbook, a six-week program, meeting once a week, to include: reading autobiographies, oral presentations by community members, observations, reflecting, and writing.
- ✦ **McCook Public Library** - \$1,000 written by Leila Koetter. Patterned after a 2002 grant to Central City for "Traipsing Through Tombstones," this will provide the opportunity for 20-30 4th and 5th graders to learn about local history, genealogy and cemetery etiquette.

A complete list of the grants' recipients is available at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/childrensgrants/2003Children'sGrantsforExcellenceRecipients.html. The Nebraska Library Commission awarded a total of \$44,607. To learn more about Children's Grants for Excellence, please visit www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/childrensgrants/aboutchildrensgrants.html.



News and Notes

USDA Rural Development Programs Available to Assist Rural Libraries

Economic Impact Initiative (EII) Administrative Grant Funds are available for feasibility studies, environmental reviews and architectural and engineering studies in conjunction with present or potential Community Facilities projects. Public bodies, community based nonprofit corporations, or Federally Recognized Indian Tribes are eligible to apply. Applicants must have the legal authority to own and operate the facility. Project must be located in a community with a population of 20,000 or less and serve an area with a median household income (MHI) of less than \$30,995. The maximum amount available is \$100,000 per project, with no matching requirements and no limits tied to the MHI of the service area.

Community Facility (Direct and Guaranteed) Loans and Grants provide for community service facilities in communities with populations of 20,000 or less. Facilities include fire & rescue buildings/equipment, streets, utilities, community buildings, libraries, senior citizen centers, day-care centers, airports, industrial parks, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities. Eligible applicants include non-profit groups, public entities such as municipalities, counties, nonprofit corporations, special purpose districts, and Indian Tribes. Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or to improve community facilities, purchase equipment for the operation of the facility or to pay other associated costs. Loan rates and terms are determined by the median household income of the service area.

Contact your local USDA Rural Development office for further information or contact the USDA Rural Development State Office Attn. Community Programs Division 100 Centennial Mall North Federal Building Rm. 152 Lincoln, NE 68508, phone 402-437-5556 or 402-437-5093 (TDD). Visit: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne

Golden Sower Awards

It's time to start thinking about having your students vote for their favorite Golden Sower for 2003-2004! Voting information and links to the tally sheets for reporting your students' votes can be found on the Golden Sower web site at:

www.nol.org/home/NLA/nugget/voting/vote.htm

Don't forget--all votes must be reported by April 15, 2004! And be sure to report ALL of the votes, not just the winner at your school or in your classroom--every vote counts in the statewide tally!

Follett has the following offers available through **March 31, 2004:**

1. For libraries that have never automated, Circulation Plus and Catalog Plus multi-user bundle (normally \$3590) is just \$999. This is the latest version of the software and includes one year of technical support. We also have special pricing for FSC libraries that have never upgraded from single-user to multi-user, or have only Circ Plus or only Cat Plus. And we have special pricing for libraries currently using other software but interested in switching to Follett.
2. The PHD Dolphin+ portable scanner (normally \$1595) is \$1395.
3. The Transaction Tracker receipt printer (normally \$599) is \$399.

If you are interested in any of the above contact:
Lita Madia, at (800)323-3397, ext. 7232 or at:
lmadia@fsc.follett.com.



News and Notes

MetLife Foundation Reading America Program

Libraries for the Future, with the support of MetLife Foundation, is sponsoring a national book and film discussion series for teenagers and families, especially immigrant-Americans, that will take place in public libraries.

This latest grant will enable the program to expand to 30 new library sites around the country, while continuing to support the 19 sites that participated in The MetLife Foundation Reading America Program in 2003. We are proud to be able to provide this opportunity for program expansion and invite all libraries to submit proposals for participation. The deadline for proposals is **April 9, 2004**.

The MetLife Foundation Reading America Program was developed by Libraries for the Future in response to MetLife Foundation's interest in how libraries could be helpful in mitigating the tensions that often result from the differing cultural experiences of adults and youth, especially when young people are growing up in a culture unfamiliar to their parents and older family members. The program is designed to use literature, film, and the neutral ground of the library to stimulate discussion that positively affects the relationship between generations of Americans and immigrant-Americans. The program is intended to provide a valuable addition to the exemplary work that so many libraries are already doing with new populations, families and teens. It is also intended to stimulate increased connections between local libraries and new audiences in communities experiencing significant demographic change.

The application for The MetLife Foundation Reading America Program is posted on Libraries for the Future's website at www.lff.org. If you have additional questions contact Elissa Goldman, Family Place Libraries Director, Libraries for the Future, at: 800-542-1918 or via email at: egoldman@lff.org.

A Note from the NLA Executive Director

I know that some of you have not been aware of the purpose of the NLA mailing list. The welcoming statement spells out some of the details, but I would like to emphasize these issues. The list is not a public list. It is for members of NLA only. Email addresses are not available through the list. The messages that are transmitted deal with library issues only. It is monitored closely and any abuses are handled immediately. You will not be deluged with unwanted "spam". The Association has chosen the mailing list as a way of keeping members current on the happenings of the Association and any library issues that may arise. It is a cost-effective way of reaching our membership. The numbers of emails you are likely to receive in a months' time have ranged from none to around 20. Please consider (or reconsider) keeping your name on the list. We want to keep in touch!

TUFS (Trustees, Users and Friends Section of NLA) has been working with the systems on a survey that will be coming to the trustees soon. We are trying to determine what issues you feel are important and where you would like to have more information or training. When you receive yours, please answer it and return it. This will help in planning future continuing education programs of interest to trustees.

Maggie Harding, NLA Executive Director

eLibrary for K12

The Nebraska Library Commission is pleased to announce that there will **NOT** be an increase in K12 eLibrary pricing for the 2004-2005 subscription term.

If you would like to review pricing for any K12 ProQuest eLibrary resources, formerly bigchalk.com, please call 800-307-2665 or email databases@nlc.state.ne.us. You can also visit the eLibrary Database Pricing page at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/pricing/elibrary.html



News and Notes

Grolier Online Products

The Nebraska Library Commission is pleased to announce that we are now taking orders for Grolier Online products for the subscription term running from **May 1, 2004 through April 30, 2005**.

Pricing is available for the following products:

- * Encyclopedia Americana
- * Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia
- * New Book of Knowledge
- * America the Beautiful
- * Cumbre en Linea
- * Lands and Peoples Online
- * Popular Science Online
- * Encyclopedia of American Studies (NEW)
- * Columbia American History Online (NEW)

For complete details, including pricing and ordering instructions, please see: www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/pricing/grolier.html

Orders/renewals must be received by **April 15** for access to start on May 1, 2004.

If you have any questions please contact: Susan Knisely, 402-471-3849 / 800-307-2665 (in-state) or sknisely@nlc.state.ne.us

Great Web Sites for Kids

"The Librarian's Guide to Great Web Sites for Kids" is now available on the ALSC Web site as a PDF document. You can access the brochure from a link near the top of the Great Web Sites for Kids Home Page at: www.ala.org/greatsites.

This brochure offers tips and guidelines that will help children, parents, and caregivers safely enjoy the benefits of the Internet. It includes special sites for parents and caregivers, suggested family Internet safety guidelines, suggested rules and Netiquette for children when using the Internet, and definitions of Internet terminology.

Please feel free to download this piece and distribute it at your library. Sharing this brochure with your patrons is a proactive way to assist in the positive, safe use of the Internet by children at your library.

Laura M. Schulte-Cooper, Program Officer, Communications
Association for Library Service to Children

StoryConnect Arist for 2004

Nebraska StoryArts announces the StoryConnect artist for 2004, Olga Loya of San Jose, CA. Olga is a Latina teller of great power, bilingual, with story performances for all grade levels K - 12. Check her out at her own website: www.olgaloya.com

Olga will be in **Omaha April 19 - 24th**, and is available for performances in schools, libraries, community centers and other agencies. Click this link to read about StoryConnect, why it is happening and our goals for the project. <http://nebraskastoryarts.org/story.html>

You may scroll down the page and click the link to Olga's work in Omaha, or click here to go directly to the page of details, her individual offerings, and the form for you to use to book Olga. http://nebraskastoryarts.org/sc_flyer_t1.html. Do not put off booking this magnetic teller - Make the story connection with StoryConnect.

NLA Public Library Section 2004 Spring Meetings

This year's meetings are co-sponsored by: the Public Library Section; the Trustees, Users and Friends Section; the Special and Institutional Section; School, Children's and Young People Section, and the Nebraska Library Commission.

Please join us May 17th through the 20th from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Choose one of the following two workshops:

BEING A PROFESSIONAL PERSON- IT IS NOT ALL ABOUT THE CREDENTIALS

Presenter: Mary Bushing

This one-day workshop will cover these key concepts:

1. Sociological construct of "profession" vs. professional behavior
2. Characteristics of a professional person(integrity, respect, competence, service, etc.)
3. Examination of how "being professional" plays out in various aspect of library operations
4. Influence of professionalism on how the library is characterized by others - users, nonusers, local government, etc.
5. Finding ways to be more professional in our approach to our work and positions
6. Identifying ways to help others grow and become more professional

Mary Bushing is retired as an emeritus faculty member (Head of Information Resources in the library) from Montana State University, and is still teaching part-time in the College of Education School Library Media Program and doing projects for the library. She has experience working in all types of libraries -- school, public (small and medium), special, and academic. Dr. Bushing presented several sessions at this year's MPLA conference in Incline Village.

TEEN SPACE: CAPTURING TEEN IMAGINATION IN THE LIBRARY

Presenter: Kim Bolan Taney with Sally Snyder, sponsored by the NE Library Commission

This one-day workshop will cover creating youth/adult partnerships, designing an inviting library teen space, developing a viable young adult materials collection, and marketing and customer service to teens.

Kimberly Bolan Taney is the Network Administrator and Patron Services Librarian at the Webster Public Library in New York. Her background and continuing passion is teen services. A graduate of Syracuse University's School of Information Studies, Taney continues to work as an independent young adult consultant, writing, speaking, and advising on issues related to young adult services and particularly to teen space design. Taney is the author of *Teen Spaces: The Step-by-Step Library Makeover* and has presented at the PLA National Conference in 1998, 2000, and will be again in 2004.

Please send your registration to:

Joan Birnie, Broken Bow Public Library, 626 South D. St., Broken Bow, NE 68822

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MAY 10.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ LIBRARY _____ E-MAIL _____

Please check the day you will be coming:

- Mon, May 17** Alliance Public Library,
1750 Sweetwater Ave, Alliance, NE
- Wed, May 19** Broken Bow Public Library,
626 South D. St., Broken Bow, NE
- Thurs, May 20** Seward Memorial Library,
5th and Main, Seward, NE

The tract I will attend (**please choose one**):

- Being a Professional Person
- Teen Space

Registration fee: \$15 payable to NLA Public Library Section

Morning snack and lunch provided with your registration.

Summer Reading Workshop

March 25th, at Eiseley Branch
1530 Superior Street Lincoln
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Discover New Trails @ your library™

9:45 – Trail Orientation

10-11 – Sally Snyder, the Coordinator of Children & Young Adult Library Services at NLC

- ◆ Planning & why we have a Summer Reading Program
- ◆ Emerging Trends in Children’s Library Services
- ◆ New Picture books and ideas on how to use them

11:15 – 12:15 – And, the Winners are . . . Sally Snyder book talks award winning titles

12:30 – 1:30 – Lunch with Music by Dave Marsh who plays the accordion, banjo, hammered dulcimer, piano, penny whistle, Northumbrian (English) bagpipes, spoons, bones, and bodhran. David has taken his music to thousands of children across Nebraska as an artist with the Nebraska Arts Council and Nebraska Humanities Council.

1:30 – 2 – Exploring Ellison finding new patterns and old favorites with the die cuts with Jenni and Brenda (you know who we are). We will have pre-cut samples for you to take.

2 – 2:30 – Trading Post and Die Cut time barter for your SR trinkets.

2:45 – 3:45 – Ardis Moody, a retired media specialist and teacher for 36 years

- ◆ Wisdom and love of the Fur Trade era
- ◆ 1800’s culture including dress, muzzle loading, and more
- ◆ Plus provide reference materials and contacts (including herself and the muzzle loading club as a possible program)

We will be doing a booklet of craft/program ideas and book reviews so send us your ideas when you register.



Please bring paper to use with the Ellison machines.

Name _____ Phone _____

Library _____ Email _____

Registration is \$15 due March 22. Please send your registration and your booklet ideas to Southeast Library System, 5730 R St., Suite C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505 or jennip@alltel.net. Please call us with any questions.

The Visible Library: Promoting Library Value with Marketing & Advocacy

Pat Wagner of Pattern Research, Denver, will conduct six interactive workshops throughout the state to assist Nebraska libraries in increasing visibility within their communities through creative and strategic marketing. Participants will discuss the ways in which they are already marketing their libraries, the roles research and customer awareness play in marketing, and how the library's marketing plan aligns with its strategic plan. Participants will bring real-life marketing materials to share and evaluate with the group and will be given time to complete a draft of their own marketing plan.

To be held 9:30a.m.—4:00p.m.
at a location near you:

- April 19, 2004 Gering Civic Center, 1050 M Street, Gering
- April 26, 2004 Board Room at the Perry Campus Center, Doane College Campus, 1014 Boswell, Crete (please see map at www.doane.edu/virtual_tour/index.asp)
- April 27, 2004 Midland Lutheran College, Dining Hall, 900 N Clarkson, Fremont
- April 28, 2004 Northeast Community College, Lifelong Learning Center, 801 E. Benjamin, Norfolk, NE
- April 29, 2004 Ord Township Library, 1718 M Street, Ord
- April 30, 2004 Ella Missing Community Center, 411 6th St., Arapahoe

- Registration Fee: \$15 (includes lunch)
 - CE Hours: 6
 - Participants are asked to bring examples of their marketing to share (e.g. photos of displays, flyers, brochures, press releases, etc.)
- Ideal for ALL TYPES (Library Friends, Trustees, Public, School, Academic, Special) of Nebraska Libraries and library folks.*

The Visible Library: Promoting Library Value with Marketing & Advocacy REGISTRATION FORM

Please indicate which date/location you will be attending, then mail with registration form and \$15 per person to: Northeast Library System, 3038 33rd Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601-2334. Make checks payable to: Regional Library Systems.

NAME: _____ I will attend the workshop at:

Library: _____ Gering Civic Center, 4/19
 Doane College, Crete, 4/26
 Midland Lutheran College, Fremont, 4/27
 Northeast Community College, 4/28
 Ord Township Library, 4/29
 Ella Missing Center, Arapahoe, 4/30

E-Mail: _____

Phone #: _____

Please register (no later than) one week prior to the workshop you are attending.



Sponsored by the
Nebraska Regional Library Systems
and funded through a
2003 NLC Continuing Education &
Training Grant.

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If your library is interested in joining the new WebDewey/Abridged WebDewey group, please complete the online Order Form at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/nebase/deweyorder.html.

If you have any questions about WebDewey, Abridged WebDewey or the NEBASE group, contact Christa Burns at cburns@nlc.state.ne.us, 402-471-3107, or 800-307-2665.

SELS Note: WebDewey is \$175 for a on- year subscription, and the Abridged WebDewey is \$50.

Alice series tops ALA's 2003 list of most challenged books

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor's Alice series tops the list of most challenged books of 2003 (www.ala.org/ala/pr2004/prfeb2004/AliceseriestopsALAs.htm), ending the four-year reign of J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, according to the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Intellectual Freedom. The Alice series drew complaints from parents and others concerned about the books' sexual content.

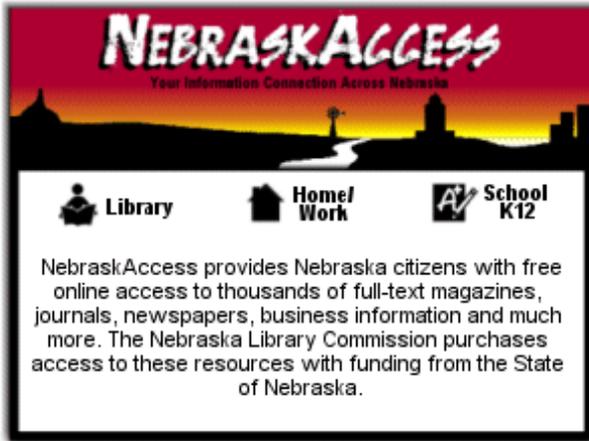
The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom received a total of 458 challenges last year. A challenge is defined as a formal, written complaint, filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness. The majority of challenges are reported by public libraries, schools and school libraries. According to Judith F. Krug, director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom, the number of challenges reflects only incidents reported, and for each reported, four or five remain unreported.

The "Ten Most Challenged Books of 2003" reflect a wide variety of themes. The books, in order of most frequently challenged are:

- Alice series, for sexual content, using offensive language, and being unsuited to age group.
- Harry Potter series, for its focus on wizardry and magic.
- "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck, for using offensive language.
- "Arming America: The Origins of a National Gun Culture" by Michael A. Bellesiles, for inaccuracy.
- "Fallen Angels" by Walter Dean Myers, for racism, sexual content, offensive language, drugs and violence.
- "Go Ask Alice" by Anonymous, for drugs.
- "It's Perfectly Normal" by Robie Harris, for homosexuality, nudity, sexual content and sex education.
- "We All Fall Down" by Robert Cormier, for offensive language and sexual content.
- "King and King" by Linda de Haan, for homosexuality.
- "Bridge to Terabithia" by Katherine Paterson, for offensive language and occult/satanism.

Off the list this year, but on the list for several years past, are "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" by Maya Angelou, for sexual content, racism, offensive language, violence and being unsuited to age group; "Captain Underpants" by Dav Pilkey, for insensitivity and being unsuited to age group; and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain, for racism, insensitivity and offensive language.

Source: ALA Press Release, February 13, 2004.



Have you had a chance to check out the new **NebraskAccess** website yet? (www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess)

If so, did you rummage through the **Librarian's Toolbox**? If not, we strongly encourage you to do so today!

The Librarian's Toolbox is a one-stop shop full of resources to help librarians **Administer, Promote, and Use** NebraskAccess. Here are a few examples of what the Librarian's Toolbox can do for you:

- Do you want to market NebraskAccess to your community? Check out our **PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL**, which includes:
 - A customizable **Press Release** you can download and distribute to local media outlets.
 - Colorful **Bookmarks, Posters, and a Brochures** you can print out.
 - A **Powerpoint Presentation** you can adapt when talking to community groups.
- Do you want to add NebraskAccess to your library's web site?
 - Read "**How to add NebraskAccess Links to your Library's Web Site.**"
 - Download **NebraskAccess Logos** to use as eye-catching links.
- Do you have patrons asking how to cite information they've retrieved through NebraskAccess?
 - See "**Citing Materials form NebraskAccess**" available under **Help**.
- Are you planning a database workshop for staff or patrons? Check out our **TRAINING** area, where you'll find:
 - Training material used in the most recent Database Roadshow, including practice questions and answers!
- Do you have questions about the NebraskAccess program?
 - Read through our **FAQS** to see if we've answered them!

Do all this AND MORE from the **Librarian's Toolbox**. Check it out today! The Librarian's Toolbox is available at: www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/.

If Bob Vila and Norm Abrams were librarians, you can bet they'd use it! ☺

Susan Knisely, Online Services Librarian at NLC

I hold a Health Care Power of Attorney for an elderly friend, John, who is a resident of a nursing home in Alliance. About a year ago, I received a call from the nursing home telling me that John had become ill and that they were transporting him to his doctor's clinic for an evaluation. They asked me to meet John at the doctor's office. When I arrived there, I was surprised to see that the person doing the transporting was Brian, a former member of the DeMolay Chapter that I serve as an advisor, who was working as a maintenance man at the nursing home and who had, temporarily, been called into action as a driver.

Because it took several hours for John to be examined by the doctor and eventually admitted to the hospital, Brian--who is one of the brightness young men I have ever known--and I had lots of time to visit. I had lost track of Brian in the 20 years since he had been a DeMolay so I was anxious to be brought up-to-date on the twists and turns of his life since he graduated from high school. Brian had graduated from Chadron State College and then, because of an early marriage, several children, and other events, had ended up working at the nursing home. He knew I was active in the project that provided Alliance with a new library and, as a part of our conversation, he thanked me for my efforts and told me that he satisfied his intellectual curiosity by spending his weekends reading at the library. He went on to say that his real dream was to become a librarian and that, once, he had even taken some graduate courses designed to eventually provide him with a Masters Degree in Library Science. Unfortunately, he had long abandoned that dream. It was at that moment that I vowed to become his mentor and to make sure that his dream of becoming a librarian was revived. He needed to know that it is never too late to become what you really want to become! Because I was able to put him in touch with people in the library world who could really assist him and because I could alert him to the availability of scholarships and on-line courses, he is now slowly, but purposefully, working toward a degree in Library Science.

As for me, I continue to monitor his progress and provide mentoring for him. As for him, this has been a life-changing experience. Brian knows now that he can, indeed, be what he always wanted to be, irrespective of some side-tracking that has gone on in his life. Eventually both Brian and the library world will be the winners!

With the development of better mentoring skills on the part of all of us, hopefully we will find other Brian's to meet the needs of our libraries. Without those Brians, the very existence of libraries is threatened. And without libraries, no matter what form they take in the future, the very existence of our democracy is in jeopardy. Without an effective mass education system that is coupled with a vibrant library system, our high literacy rate and our quest for life-long learning will not be the strong firewall we need in order to secure our democratic institutions.

That is why we are focusing so hard on a mentoring program--and that is why we have honored these eight young people today. In honoring them, we have, by extension, honored their parents and their librarians for the fine jobs they are doing as mentors. Even more, though, we have honored them for being such important parts of the education system in our country—an education system that will help insure our nation's future.

Thank you.

Wally Seiler, NLC Commissioner
Alliance, NE

→ ***To Filter or not to Filter—E-rate and CIPA Online Help:*** The American Library Association has added several on-line tools to help libraries in their quest for filtering information for decision making. The *Libraries and the Internet Toolkit* (www.ala.org/oif/iftoolkits/internet/) “includes a checklist for creating an Internet-use policy and examples of various library policies, tips for parents, information about what makes a great website for children, outreach suggestions, fast facts and a resource list.”

ALA’s E-rate Task Force has also given a sample list of questions for librarians deciding whether to filter “comparing the overall costs of filtering compared to the benefits of e-rate discounts, a sample spreadsheet, and vendor cost comparisons” (www.ala.org/cipa).

American Libraries, February 2004, pg 8

→ ***Show Libraries the Money:*** Diversified or plural funding relies on a variety of funding sources such as “memberships, major gifts, sponsorships, sales, other earned income — and taxes.” Steve Coffman in *American Libraries* suggests that libraries need to focus on new funding strategies versus “efforts that try to convince governments to give us tax monies they do not have.” He discusses Six Myths of Fundraising and urges libraries to follow in the footsteps of NPR, museums, colleges, and other institutions citing the fact that NPR has “more than tripled its budget in real dollars” in the 20 years that it has diversified its funding.

February 2004, pages 37-39

→ ***Numbers that make sense:*** Trying to discover more about the patrons that walk into your library? Don’t take them out to coffee, log on to www.geolib.org/PLGDB.cfm to find out demographic information about your library. Age-related information, language spoken, income levels, and education are available in a much friendly format than the Census. I had a little time to play with this web-site and it looks very user friendly, though I wish I had time to study the tutorial about the map. Most of you know your patrons and cities, towns, and villages well, but having a site that gives access to numbers that your boards and city offices want and that allows you to focus on service gaps or other areas of interest to your particular library always is a good idea.

Library Journal, March 1, 2004, pages 32-3

→ ***E still equals mc² doesn’t it?:*** How up-to-date are your scientific/technology books? The *Library Journal* has a great list of the “Best Sci-Tech Books of 2003.” Everything from *Napoleon’s Buttons: How 17 Molecules Changed History* by Penny Le Couter and Jay Burreson to *Y: The Descent of Men-Revealing the Mysteries of Maleness* (and boy aren’t men mysteries?) by Steve Jones to *A Short History of Nearly Everything* by Bill Bryson. Most sounded downright interesting to me and I’m normally a fiction fan, plus the publishing houses have finally figured out that scientific books should have great looking covers to get us to pick them up.

Library Journal, March 1, 2004, pages 38-40

**If you would like to ILL a copy of these articles, please contact the System office **

PROFESSIONAL LITERATURE

- The December 2003 issue of *American Libraries* included a spotlight on YALSA (Young Adult Library Services Association), a division of ALA, with a mission *to advocate, to promote, and to strengthen service to young adults as part of the continuum of total library service, and to support those who provide service to this population*. One of the links from their web site includes information on Teen Advisory Groups (TAGS), based on a survey completed by more than 700 librarians. YALSA's Teen Reading website (www.ala.org/teenread/) features the latest materials, literacy statistics, and strategies to help adults and caregivers increase the amount of reading done by teens. For more information on YALSA projects or on serving young adults in libraries, visit: www.ala.org/yalsa/.
- Quick sound bites from *American Libraries* – December 2003:
 - 90% of children between ages 5 and 17 use computers and 59% access the Internet; and, 99% of public schools provide Internet access in 2002 – up from 35% eight years ago; and, 2/3 of young white people use the Internet, while fewer than half of African-American and about one-third of Hispanic young people do. Source: National Center for Educational Statistics at: www.nces.ed.gov.
 - Law enforcement officers receive more speeding tickets than librarians, and only homemakers got fewer. Meanwhile, farmer, fireman and pilots were involved in the least accidents. (Quality Planning Corporation) Perhaps we need to use these kind of stats to lobby for lower insurance rates?????
 - AL also ran the top 10 library stories of 2003, which included: the Supreme Court Sides with CIPA, and, of course, USA Patriot Act Resistance. It also included the story of the State Library of Florida, and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's announcement to scrap the 157-year-old state library in Tallahassee and turn its collections over to other state agencies or whatever university might be persuaded to accept them.

***If you would like to ILL a copy of these articles, please contact the System office ***

PROFESSIONAL LITERATURE

Nominations for Meritorious Service and Mari Sandoz Awards

The NLA Citations Committee invites nominations for the Meritorious Service Award and the Mari Sandoz Award for the year 2004 due by May 28, 2004

The Meritorious Service Award is given annually to the person, corporation, or organization which has contributed to the improvement of library service in a local community, region, state agency, or in library legislation.

The Mari Sandoz recognizes significant, enduring contribution to the Nebraska book world through writing, film production, or related activity.

Nomination procedures:

1. The original letter of nomination should include the nominee's name, address, and telephone number, the nominee's accomplishments, and any relevant supporting documentation. The letter should include the name, title, address, and telephone number of the person or group making the nomination.
2. Also required are at least four additional letters that support and endorse the nomination. Such letters may provide further information about the nominee.
3. The NLA Meritorious Service Award may be given to an individual or group.
4. More information and lists of past recipients may be found in the NLA Handbook at: www.nol.org/home/NLA/handbook/handbk8.htm#merit
5. Nominations and letters of support must be received by Friday, May 28, 2004 and should be mailed to: Patty Birch / Chair 2004 NLA Citations Committee, North Platte High School, 1220 West 2nd Street, North Platte, NE 69101. Nominations may also be submitted via e-mail at pbirch@esu16.org

Southeast Library System Board Meeting

February 19, 2004 3:15 p.m.

Wherry Room Nebraska State Capitol

Lincoln, NE

Board Members present: Becky Baker (Seward Public Library); Rebecca Bernthal (University of NE Libraries); Sandy Elton (Lincoln Correctional Center); Deb Goossen (Lewiston Public Schools); Steve Hunt (Plattsmouth Public Library); Lisa Olivigni (Crete Public Library); Hope Schawang (Lydia Bruun Woods Memorial Library)

Also present: Brenda Ealey (SELS Administrator); Jenni Puchalla (SELS Administrative Assistant); Sandra Hartman (Falls City Foundation member); Jill Bresson (Crete Public Library Board of Trustees).

Board Members absent: Jelayne Clark (Talmage); Jan Thomsen (Alice M. Farr Library); Ken Gunselman (York College Library); Alicia Graybill (Fairbury Public Library); Wanda Marget (Fairmont Public Library); Boni Hathaway (Auburn/Peru State College).

Agenda

I. What's New Around the System: President Baker called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Board members then discussed current activities taking place at their libraries. Members also discussed what they had been reading recently.

II. Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Steve Hunt, seconded by Sandy Elton, the minutes from the December 16, 2003 meeting were approved. Motion passed.

III. Financial Report: Jenni discussed the current financial report. She noted that there had been an error on the December 2003 report indicating that SELS had received 27% of its annual funding thus far. The correct amount for the December report is 51%.

The transaction report was reviewed. There was some discussion about SELS's rotating magazine collection. Jenni mentioned that she had found some of the magazines free of charge online. There was further discussion about cost saving measures that might be possible because of the online access. Jenni will further investigate this. On a motion by Rebecca Bernthal, seconded by Deb Goossen, the transaction report was approved. Motion passed.

IV. SELS Business:

- A. Brenda and Jenni discussed a recent discourse with service assistance on the Ricoh color printer. In printing the cards for NLA Legislative Day, a question arose concerning a print job on card stock using the duplex feature. Following a letter from SELS expressing dismay with a service response contrary to features advertised with purchase and previous print jobs, we were able to resolve the problem and complete the print job successfully. Ikon, who sold and services the printer, has suggested a service agreement now that the printer is 2 years old, which seems prudent at this time. SELS has had no previous service issues or problems with the Ricoh printer.
- B. Jenni distributed copies of the SELS 2003-2005 plan with revisions from August 2003 SELS Board Planning Retreat.
- C. Jenni distributed copies of the SELS membership list and has added population figures for each member. Board members provided some additions to the membership list, which seems to be in a constant state of flux, particularly with school consolidations. Updates on the list from board members and others are encouraged throughout the year.
- D. Brenda discussed the Summer Reading Survey results for input in planning that training. The Summer Reading Workshop is scheduled for March 25 at Eiseley Branch in Lincoln.
- E. Ted Ryberg, of Ted Ryberg Enterprises, who is the technology person for Plattsmouth, contacted SELS. He is interested in providing computer and technology assistance to libraries in the region, and possibly as a regional contract. He is familiar with library automation, and will be invited to attend the Follett users meeting in Plattsmouth on March 2nd to help gauge interest and need of libraries for technology support.

V. Administrator's Report: Brenda is the Vice President of the Nebraska Library Association, so she has been working on continuing education programs for the conference in October 2004. Systems will be assisting with the pre-conference will be Hispanic Voices @ Your Library, sponsored by NLA Para Professional Section, Special & Institutional, SCYP and NEMA. She also mentioned the idea from CASTL to have a book discussion (anyone interested would read the same book) at the fall conference. If CASTL chooses to do this, a title for the program and a book for discussion will need to be chosen quickly. Brenda also discussed possible filtering products (DansGuardian, SquidGuard and Winnocence) for SELS computers to comply with CIPA guidelines for e-rate discounts.

VI. NLC Report: There was no report from the Nebraska Library Commission.

VII. Committee Meetings: Committee meetings were not possible, due to time constraints. Committee members will be in contact via e-mail as is necessary.

VIII. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m. The next SELS Board Meeting will be held Friday, April 2, 2004. Deb Goossen will be hosting.

March/April 2004

“I’m very grateful for the whole library effort because the library was something I had a strong personal benefit from, strong involvement with, and when you have a success like this where the librarians jump in and make it come together, it really motivates you to do more giving and even try some new and different things in giving.”

—Bill Gates,

Interview Why He Did It [library computerization]
in *American Libraries*, December 2003

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