



# SoLiS

Newsletter of the  
**Southeast Library System**

April 2013



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Left: Mack with Gina Mestl and Mary Hiebner from his visit to the Heartland Schools Library

Right: A painting of Napoleon and Mack



Below: Mack and the SELS Board



Check out  
Southeast  
Library System  
on Facebook!



NEH

# Bridging Cultures Bookshelf

## Muslim Journeys

**UNION**  
COLLEGE

Library

### "Understanding the Qur'an: An Introduction"

Presented by

Doug Hardt, Director, Union College Center for Interfaith Studies and Culture

April 20, 2013 at 4 p.m.

Shawnee Porter Care Room, Ortner Center, Union College Campus

For directions and more information about the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf, visit

<https://www.ucollege.edu/library/muslim-journeys-bookshelf>



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
**Humanities**

**ALA** American  
Library  
Association



Ali Vural Ak Center for  
Global Islamic Studies

The Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys is presented by National Endowment for the Humanities in cooperation with American Library Association Public Programs Office and Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies, George Mason University. The program was provided by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. Additional support for the arts and media components was provided by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

Cover: Fifteenth-century map by Piri Reis of the coastline of Andalusia and the city of Grenada. Photo ©The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore. Borders: Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.: Purchase, F1932.20, and F1931.32. Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.: Purchase—Smithsonian Unrestricted Trust Funds, Smithsonian Collections Acquisition Program, and Dr. Arthur M. Sackler, S1986.221



## Southeast Library System Front Porch Award

**Greenwood Public Library** has been selected for Southeast Library System's annual Front Porch Award. The Front Porch Award is intended to recognize a library that displays ingenuity in creating a welcoming atmosphere for customers.

Greenwood Public Library was nominated by library colleague Wanda Marget of Fairmont Public Library. Wanda shared the following about Karen Frank, Greenwood's library director:

"Karen Frank has been dedicated to the library. She has been librarian for 12 years and has served on the library board in one capacity or another since 1976. She has been proactive with obtaining grant funds for building repairs, library automation, three computers and Wi-Fi."

In a letter of support, Bonnie Vest, President of Greenwood's Library Board, said the following:

"Karen is a great librarian. Karen reaches out to the Greenwood Community by getting new books, magazines, and DVDs. The Summer Reading Program is awesome. I know as I've had three great-grandchildren going over the years. Karen gets the children from daycare so they can participate. The Village of Greenwood has been blessed to have a library since 1976, I believe with a librarian like Karen Frank, it will keep getting better."

Plans are underway for the presentation of the award on Saturday, April 20th. The celebration will take place during National Library Week.

Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries. They provide services to 15 counties of southeast Nebraska: Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Hamilton, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York. ([www.selsne.org](http://www.selsne.org))

# Call for Board Nominations



The Southeast Library System is seeking nominations of people representing member libraries to serve on the System Board of Directors. Four board members will be elected to serve three-year terms beginning July 1, 2013. Nominees

may be librarians, trustees, or library users.

Please nominate yourself or someone else you think would be a valuable addition to the board.

## Who Can Be On the Board, and What is Involved in Board Membership?

Nominations are received from 15 counties in the Southeast Library System geographic area: Hamilton, York, Seward, Lancaster, Cass, Otoe, Saline, Nemaha, Fillmore, Thayer, Jefferson, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, and Richardson. Board members should be representative of a) public libraries, b) school libraries and media centers, c) academic libraries, d) special and institutional libraries, or e) users and trustees of such libraries.

The Board governs the Southeast Library System. It is similar to a public library board of trustees or the board of any non-profit organization. Member responsibilities include approval of policies, plans and budget, and selection and evaluation of the System Administrator.

The Southeast Library System Executive Committee shall review all nominations and present the System Board with a slate of candidates to be

voted on by the System Board. Candidates with the greatest number of votes for the board position(s) to be filled shall be elected for membership to the System Board.

Members serve three-year terms and are eligible for two consecutive terms. The Board usually meets six times a year, at times and places chosen by the members. Members do not receive a salary, wage or fee for their services. Board members must have access to e-mail.

## Who Currently Serves on the Board?

**President:** Barbara Hegr, Morton-James Public Library, Nebraska City

**Vice-President:** Hilary Sire, Barnes & Noble Community Relations Manager

**Secretary:** Carolyn Bennett, Beatrice Public Library  
Becky Baker, Seward Memorial Library

Rebecca Bernthal, Love Library, UNL  
Ruth Carlock, Levitt Library Learning Center, York College

Karen Frank, Greenwood Public Library  
Kent Munster, The Clark Enersen Partners, Lincoln

Carol Oltman, Beatrice High School  
Sabrina Riley, Ella Johnson Crandall Memorial Library, Union College

Robin Sugden, Freeman Public Schools, Adams  
Jan Thomsen, Alice M. Farr Library, Aurora

Dorothy Willis, Pawnee City Public Library  
Foundation

Mail or email your nomination by May 1, 2013 to: SELS, 5730 R St., Suite C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505

wbragg@windstream.net

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: Librarian    Trustee    Library User

What special characteristics qualify this person for Board membership?

I have contacted this person and s/he has agreed to accept nomination to the Board (*circle one*):    Yes    No

Nomination submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

# **SELS Training Extravaganza**

**May 23, 2013 at Union College in Lincoln**

**Keynote Speaker: Preston McDaniels, Author/ Illustrator**

**Featuring programs on:**

**Google Apps and Tools, American FactFinder, Tools for Engaging Youth, I-to-I Tablet Programs in Schools, Genealogy, Safety and Disaster Planning and much more....**

**Official Program Schedule Coming Soon**

**Enclose \$25 registration fee (includes lunch) for each person attending. Attendees will earn 4 hours of CE.**

Registration deadline is **May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

Payment Included

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

Payment to Arrive Later

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to* **Southeast Library System**, 5730 R St., Suite C-1,  
Lincoln, NE 68505 Fax: (402)467-6196

# Aged to Perfection 2013

A fundraiser for the SELS Friends



Join the  
**Southeast Library System Friends**  
on Friday, April 19, 2013  
at the James Arthur Vineyards

**Social Hour**  
5:00 - 6:00

**Antique Check-in at 5:45**

**Dinner**  
6:00 - 6:30

**Informational/Appraisal Program by Tom Bassett**  
6:30 - 7:30

A mini-auction of donated "treasures" and other events will follow the program.

**Please consider donating items for this auction even if you are unable to attend. There will be a prize awarded for the highest selling donated item. You need not be present to win.**

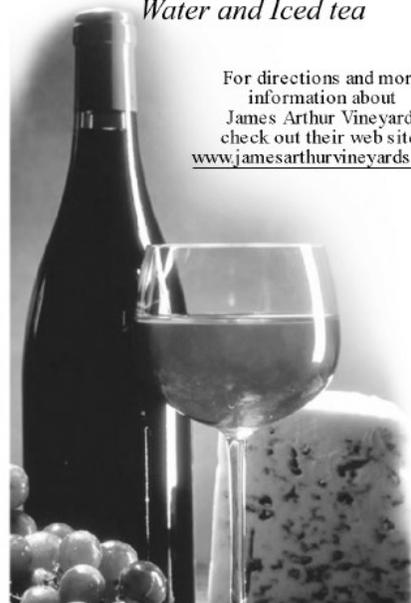


Your \$20 registration fee includes dinner and the appraisal of two antiques if you are a current SELS Friends member. If you are not currently a member, the fee includes dinner and one antique appraisal. Wine tasting and purchasing either by the glass or the bottle is an option during the event. Other beverages are also for sale.

If you have never been a member of SELS Friends, join now and your membership will extend through June 2014 and your wine tasting at Aged to Perfection 2013 will be free. For more information on joining the SELS Friends, please visit [www.selsfriends.org](http://www.selsfriends.org).

### Dinner Menu

- Chicken Salad Croissant*
- Mexican Bean dip with chips*
- Spinach Artichoke dip with chips*
- Caramel Cherry bar*
- Pecan bars*
- Fruit tray*
- Cheese and crackers*
- Water and Iced tea*



For directions and more information about James Arthur Vineyard, check out their web site: [www.jamesarthurvineyards.com](http://www.jamesarthurvineyards.com)

To register, please fill out and return this form by April 12, 2013:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

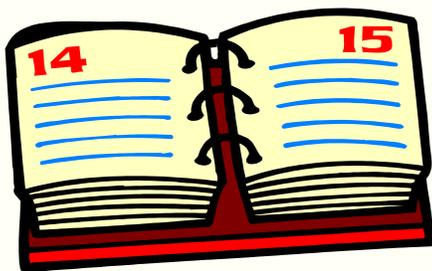
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a vegetarian meal

Please include \$20 for each person registering and mail to:

Southeast Library System Friends  
233 South 5th Street  
Seward, NE 68434

Admission will be \$15 at the door and no dinner will be included.



# CALENDAR

April 2013

**April** – School Library Month [www.ala.org/aasl/slm](http://www.ala.org/aasl/slm).

**April 4th** – PLTS Spring Meeting with Carolyn Davidson Brewer, Executive Director of North Texas Library Partners – “Help! I Am Not A Social Worker!” Meetings held at Walt Branch Library in Lincoln on April 4th, Blair Public Library on April 5th, Kearney Public Library on April 3rd, and Mid Plains Community College in North Platte on April 2nd.

**April 5 and 6** - Nebraska Book Festival

**April 8 to 19** – Basic Skills: Library Policy. For a complete list of the Basic Skills modules calendar go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/>.

**April 12th** – National D.E.A.R. Day – National Drop Everything and Read Day - [www.dropeverythingandread.com/NationalDEARday.html](http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/NationalDEARday.html).

**April 12th** – CASTL (Conversation Among Small Town Librarians) meeting at Falls City Library & Arts Center (1400 Stone St.), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We’ll have Amy Mather (Omaha Public Library) join us in the morning to talk about Pinterest and how to use in your library. Book talk topic for the month is to read a book with a name in the title. You can find a good list of suggestions at: [www.goodreads.com/list/show/4728.Novels\\_With\\_People\\_s\\_Names\\_in\\_the\\_Title](http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/4728.Novels_With_People_s_Names_in_the_Title). We’ll also have the round robin in the afternoon to share ideas, ask questions, tell us what’s new. Please let the SELS office know if you plan on attending and remember you are welcome to join us for part or all of the day.

**April 14 to 20** – National Library Week – [www.ala.org/nlw](http://www.ala.org/nlw).

**April 19th** – SELS Friends Aged to Perfection at James Arthur Vineyards, in Raymond— see page [6](#).

**April 19th** – Read In – see page [17](#).

**April 20 to 27** – Money Smart Week® - [www.moneysmartweek.org/ala](http://www.moneysmartweek.org/ala).

**April 22 to May 3**— Basic Skills: Communication. You can register online at the Nebraska Library Commission Training Calendar (<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/calendar/>) starting March 15<sup>th</sup> and ending April 12<sup>th</sup>. For a complete list of the Basic Skills modules calendar go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/>.

**April 30th**— El dia de los ninos/El dia de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) – <http://dia.ala.org> - The celebration emphasizes the importance of advocating literacy for every child regardless of linguistic and cultural background.

**May 6 – 17** – Basic Skills: Reference. You can register online at the Nebraska Library Commission Training Calendar (<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/calendar/>) starting March 29<sup>th</sup> and ending April 26<sup>th</sup>. For a complete list of the Basic Skills modules calendar go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/>.

**May 10th** – C&U/ITART Spring Meeting

**May 17th** – Nebraska Library Commissioners meeting at the Nebraska Library Commission. The meeting is open to the public and runs from 9:30 a.m. to 12. For more information contact Sue Bilottoft, (402)471-4007 or [sue.bilottoft@nebraska.gov](mailto:sue.bilottoft@nebraska.gov).

**May 23rd** – SELS Training Extravaganza at Union College— see page [5](#).

**May 31st** – CASTL Meeting at Seward Memorial Library – Golden Sower Book Review

By Brenda Ealey and William Bragg

Fairbury's Karen Fox and Janice Olberding hosted this month's CASTL (Conversation Among Small Town Librarians) in March. The topic was utilizing Facebook. The group watched a webinar and Brenda gave a summary of a program she had been to during the ALA Midwinter in Seattle. The webinar, *How to Create An Epic Presence on Facebook for Your Non-Profit* with John Haydon (Founder of Inbound Zombie – a non-profit social media consultancy in Cambridge, MA, also author of *Facebook Marketing for Dummies*), offered some of the following advice:

Use **SWAT** Analysis to Assess:

**Strengths** – What do you do better than other similar organizations? What do your constituents say your strengths are?

**Weaknesses** – What do you want to accomplish with social media? What do you want supporters to do? How will you measure your objectives?

**Opportunities** – Who is your audience (Personas are helpful here)? What social media channels do they



CASTL meetings are open to librarians of all types, library trustees and library friends or supporters. The meetings typically start at 10:00 a.m., and wrap up by 3:00 or 3:30. Each meeting has a dedicated topic of focus, as well as a round robin for discussion and sharing of current issues, topics and library happenings. Attendees earn continuing education hours and you are welcome to join us for all or even part of the day.

- April 12<sup>th</sup>—Falls City
- May 31<sup>st</sup> (June meeting) – Seward (Golden Sower)

actively use? Who are the online influencers in your cause space?

**Threats** – What obstacles do you face on a daily basis?

**POST** Method to help you understand what you should be doing with social media:

**People** – (start here, with people) Who is your audience? What social media channels do they actively use? Who are the online influencers in your cause space?

**Objectives** – What do you want to accomplish with social media? What do you want supporters to do? How will you measure your objectives?

**Strategies and Tools** – How will you launch your campaign and then continue to engage your people? What will keep them interested and motivate them to act? How will you be creating, curating and sharing content? What tools will you use to measure results?

Free workbook for creating a plan:  
<http://zmb.me/FBMarketingWorkbook>

**Configuring your page for engagement:**

**Posting ability** – Allowing users to post increases exposure for your org through virality.

**Post visibility** – If your organization has a thriving community of customers, displaying this section on your Page will help amplify your community's voice on your Facebook Page simply because what they post on your Page will have more visibility.

**Tagging Ability** – This creates viral exposure when people tag their friends.

**USE PHOTOS AND IMAGES.** You can also post images on Pinterest that link back to your Facebook photos.

# CASTL Wrap Up

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Experiment with using Facebook ads. They can be set up for a particular audience and amount of money to spend on the ad.

The full webinar can be found at: [http://nonprofitwebinars.com/past\\_webinars/developing-an-epic-facebook-strategy-for-your-nonprofit/](http://nonprofitwebinars.com/past_webinars/developing-an-epic-facebook-strategy-for-your-nonprofit/) (Nonprofit Webinars – nonprofitwebinars.com) .

Here are a few other tips that Brenda picked up from the presentation *Outreach 2.0: The Digital Revolution of Public Relations* with Ben Bizzle@benbizzle and David Lee King@davidleeking at ALA Midwinter in Seattle, January 2013:

**Ben Bizzle** – [www.libraryinjonesboro.org](http://www.libraryinjonesboro.org) and [www.benbizzle.com](http://www.benbizzle.com)

[www.facebook.com/ccjpl](http://www.facebook.com/ccjpl) - **Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library Facebook Page**

Library's website, mobile site, Facebook - 3 platforms for outreach. There's a tremendous shift in medium.

Uses Facebook ads to build new fans - \$10 a day – ad shows until you hit the \$10 mark.

If you post something and it doesn't get engagement immediately it disappears.

Make 'em laugh and pull heart strings. During the day we put up one or two things about library events. During the evening hour we put out something funny.

Get outside the box when asking questions - like, ask for favorite book title, and then add phrase "with a chainsaw". I.E. the zombies are going to attack right now - look to your right and that would be your weapon - what is it?

Facebook is not something that you archive, it's a conversation. For example you don't archive reference conversations. Facebook captures an online conversation.

**David Lee King** – <http://tscpl.org/> and [www.davidleeking.com](http://www.davidleeking.com)

[www.facebook.com/TopekaLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/TopekaLibrary) - **Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library Facebook Page**

How to post?

1. Be human! Don't write like a brochure or a formal business letter. Type like you talk - full of conversational sounding text. If it doesn't sound like something you'd say than rewrite.
2. Think business casual
3. Think short! Less than 3 lines of text.
4. Be visual. Add a visual element. Simple images. You can embed a youtube video, or upload to Facebook video.
5. Audience participation - need that to make it work. Encourage interaction - ask a question, maybe fill in the blank - my favorite author is\_\_\_\_\_.
6. Call to action. Providing the next step - tell them what you want them to do next.
7. Let them participate. Look at privacy settings - people can leave comments and add videos...
8. When to post? It varies - but in general Facebook use is highest is around 9 to 10 p.m. Facebook at work, too! People check Facebook at work.
9. How many posts per day? At least one. Ask customers if you are posting enough. Be consistent - post at same time of day.
10. Connect the dots between website and Facebook page. Like us on Facebook. You can include urls in a Facebook page that leads back to your website.
11. What to measure. Measure likes, and unlikes, comments... Create buzz around library and weave social media throughout your organization.

{ **CASTLE** Wrap Up }



## AMONG TREASURED FRIENDS

SELS Friends had a great turnout for Oz: the Great and Powerful private movie showing in March. Thank you to all of those who came out to enjoy the “uplifting” show!

On April 19 we are hosting this year’s Aged to Perfection event at James Arthur Vineyard (see page 6). Please sign up to come – it is a most enjoyable time. The evening ends with an auction of donated items, some of which can be seen at <http://selsfriends.org/atp13.html> - and more items will be coming so check back often. If you have a white elephant you would like to donate, please let us know as soon as possible at

[info@selsfriends.org](mailto:info@selsfriends.org). If you are interested in any of the items shown but cannot make it on April 19, you may submit your bid to that same email address and we’ll be happy to bid on your behalf.

Thanks for supporting the Southeast Library System!

SELS Friends Board

Becky, Tom, Lisa, Karen and Jan



## HELP FOR SOMEONE WHO STRUGGLES WITH PRINT

David Oertli, Director

Talking Book and Braille Service, NLC

You probably know this person. She is a retired teacher who began reading large print books because of macular degeneration. The selection of titles is limited, and she has been asking about other resources so she can keep abreast of current bestsellers.

Or you might know this gentleman. After a long career as a salesman, he has been looking forward to leisure time when, as a history buff, he can explore books about the settlement of the American West. But a stroke affected his ability to handle a book.

The Talking Book and Braille Service is free for any Nebraskan

- Who cannot read regular-sized print because of visual impairment;
- Who cannot hold a book or turn its pages;
- Who is unable to read or handle books due to accident, illness, surgery, or medication, even if the disability is temporary;

Who has been certified by a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy as having a reading disability, such as dyslexia.

The Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service, working with the Library of Congress, offers a wide collection of audio books that includes bestsellers, short stories, westerns, biographies, history, mysteries, and romances. This national collection is supplemented by books and magazines about Nebraska or the Great Plains, recorded in the Library Commission's own studios. The collection includes many of the selections used in community book clubs.

A digital player is loaned to each reader. Designed for ease of use and excellent sound quality, it has large buttons and can accommodate headphones for private listening. All materials are mailed directly to borrowers and returned postage-free.

Individual application forms for free talking book service can be downloaded and printed from: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/TBBS/applyforservice.aspx>; or a supply of application forms will be mail to your library upon request. If the individual qualifies because of visual or physical disability, the front of the application can be certified by a librarian, or by a medical doctor, eye doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, rehab counselor, or social worker. Reading disability such as dyslexia must be certified by a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy.

For additional information, please contact 1-800-742-7691, or [nlc.talkingbook@nebraska.gov](mailto:nlc.talkingbook@nebraska.gov).

# Does your library need a Web site?

## The Nebraska Library Commission can give you one for free

Michael Sours

The Nebraska Libraries on the Web project has been around since 2010 and is open to any public library in the state of Nebraska. If you're looking to move your library's Web site away from the version created with FrontPage back in 2002, have more than just a single page on your city or town's Web site, or create your library's first Web presence this service is for you.

As a participant here's what you get:

- Nebraska Libraries on the Web uses the open source WordPress platform which currently supports more than 63 million Web sites around the world.
- WordPress is nearly infinitely customizable with more than 1,700 base themes to choose from and more than 24,000 plugins that can add nearly any feature that you'd want. If you need more server space or a new feature just ask.
- Multiple user accounts for your staff are available, providing you the ability to give different staff members different levels of access to your site.
- When you sign up the Nebraska Library Commission will provide you with some default content including a contact form and a calendar for your site. From there all you need to do is supply any additional information you'd like. All work is done through simple forms; no coding experience is needed.
- NLC staff provides all of the support and training you'll need along with a community of more than 50 other Nebraska libraries who currently host their Web site with us.
- NLC staff takes care of all of the software updates, security issues, and backups. All you need to do is provide the content.
- The system is hosted in-house at the Nebraska Library Commission and is connected to the Internet through the network of the State of Nebraska. This guarantees both highly reliable speeds and up-time of any service provider in the state.

And how much will it cost your library to participate? Nothing! We provide all this at no cost to you. All we ask is that you keep up with posting new content to your site on a regular basis and allow us to insert a small link back to the project's site and the NLC.

If you are interested in signing up or want more information head over to <http://libraries.ne.gov/> and click on "Want to Participate?" You can also contact Michael Sours via e-mail at [michael.sours@nebraska.gov](mailto:michael.sours@nebraska.gov).

## Nebraska Learns 2.0:

### An Ongoing Learning Resource for the Nebraska Library Community

By Christa Burns

The Nebraska Library Commission's online learning program, Nebraska Learns 2.0, debuted in 2008. The program is still going strong today and, over the years, we have been thrilled with the participation and conversations that have developed.

Nebraska Learns 2.0 (<http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nelearns/>) is an ongoing self-discovery program which encourages participants to take control of their own learning and to utilize their lifelong learning skills through exploration and PLAY. The goal of the program is to encourage participants to experiment with and learn about the new and emerging technologies that are reshaping the way people, society and libraries access information and communicate with each other.

There are no formal classes or workshops offered to support this program. Instead, participants are encouraged to work together and share with each other their discoveries, techniques and "how to's", both in person and through their blogs.

Nebraska Learns 2.0 participants are offered an opportunity to do a new Thing each month. In Nebraska Learns 2.0., a "Thing" is essentially a Lesson. Participants have all month to complete that Thing and receive one CE credit. If you are busy one month, or taking a month long vacation, that's OK. You can just skip that month's Thing

and participate again the next month. Participants are always welcome to go back and do Things they missed, however CE credit will only be award for completing the current month's Thing during that month.

Another facet of Nebraska Learns 2.0 is BookThing. Each month we pick a single title that we feel has relevance to librarianship and/or information theory. Some of the titles will be very obviously related, while others may not seem so on the surface, but there is a connection. Your assignment will be to read the book and create a blog post answering some questions about the title. Each title will be assigned a variable number of CE credits based on the length of the book. If you've previously read the month's choice, that's great! You don't have to re-read the book, unless you really want to. You are still welcome to participate by sharing your thoughts on the book.

If you are new to Nebraska Learns 2.0, your first assignment is to sign up to participate at: <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nelearns/sign-up-2/> Then check out this month's Thing and BookThing on the program website at <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nelearns/> This program is open to ALL Nebraska librarians, library staff, library friends, library board members and school media specialists.

We hope you'll join your library colleagues in the fun as you learn about new and exciting technologies!

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## National Library Week Celebration is April 14-21

### News Around the System

By Charlotte Baldinger

Seward Memorial Library celebrates National Library Week each year during April. The library will kick off the celebration on Sunday, April 14 with Book Review BINGO at 2 p.m. On Monday at 7 p.m. the library will host Shane Tucker, the Nebraska Highway Paleontologist who will share fascinating stories of roadside discoveries. The week will include some in-house activities and surprises as well as a special "Construction" themed Story Time.

Seward Area Chamber members are invited to a Business After Hours: "A Toast to Ten"

champagne event on April 18. Staff will enjoy a "Read In" day on April 19. The York College Traveling Children's Theatre will perform "Stuart Little" on Saturday, April 20 at 1 p.m. The week will conclude with a special Sunday evening after-hours travelogue on southern Italy at 6:30 p.m. on April 21. Seward Memorial Library will celebrate with all ages offering a variety of events throughout the week.

# News Around the System

## Spring Break at Plattsmouth Public Library

By Evis Zamora, Plattsmouth Public Library

The library offered a number of different activities for students during spring break. Speed Stacking was a great hit with the children. The Plattsmouth Library now owns two Speed Stacking games.



Above- Julia tries her hand at Speed Stacking



Left- Young library patrons making hidden treasure boxes.

## Everything Chocolate at the Plattsmouth Public Library



Left- The winner of "Everything Chocolate" Fudge Lover's Strawberry Truffle Cake.

Right - Kenda receives her 1<sup>st</sup> place prize from the library director, Karen



# News Around the System

## St. Patrick's Day Story time



By Glenda Willnerd

Ten little leprechauns visited the Palmyra Memorial Library story time on St. Patrick's Day. They were left to right- (back row) Christian Jensen, Tyler Jensen, Kyla Davis, Maggie Broening, Josie Pierce, Grant Tetzlaff, (front row) Saralynn Thomson, Jackson Mulhair, Kayley Thompson and Jaisah Huber.

## Groundbreaking News from Seward

By Charlotte Baldinger



It is happening! The lower level refinishing and the main floor remodeling has begun. "Spring cleaning" has a new meaning for the library staff. The materials stored in the lower level had to find new homes in other locations, including a special construction storage unit in the parking lot. Shelves had to be moved and the collection condensed so the floor for the open staircase could be cut out. There are new sounds drifting around the library, but the atmosphere is full of anticipation as the staff begins the journey through this major construction period. Scheduled programs will not be interrupted and patrons will continue to be well served. The staff is excited about the coming changes and improvements, and we are asking the community to be patient as everyone adjusts.



SELS Minutes  
 December 14, 2012  
 Union College Library – Lincoln

Board members present: Barbara Hegr, Becky Baker, Karen Frank, Rebecca Bernthal, Jan Thomsen, Carolyn Bennett, Sabrina Riley, Kent Munster, Dorothy Willis, Carol Oltman, Robin Sudgen, Ruth Carlock.  
 Also present: Brenda Ealey, William Bragg, Molly Fisher.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Barbara Hegr. Board members shared what is happening in their libraries. Molly Fisher was welcomed. She is newly appointed to the Nebraska Library Commission and was pleased to learn what is happening in libraries in southeast Nebraska.

A correction to the minutes of October 24, 2012 – meeting called to order by Carolyn Bennett, not Baker. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Rebecca Bernthal, seconded by Ruth Carlock. Motion carried.

There was discussion about the financial reports. The budget report clearly shows what is being spent, but there seems to be some confusion on the itemized category report on the expenses & income sheet. The transaction report may be a better explanation of what is left in the budget. Some of the confusion happens when certain items are reimbursed at a later time.

The SELS Administrator's report included lots of information about the activities in the SELS office. A recording on personnel policies and a handbook template have been developed. The recording will be used along with print materials for training with boards and library directors.

A grant was written to the Nebraska Library Commission to charter a bus to ALA in Chicago June 27-July 2, 2013.

Continuing Education hours are recorded and kept on file at the NLC. Please note that continuing education is not recorded if the person is not part of the NLC certification program. An article about certification in the newsletter might help to answer questions.

SELS Friends had a profit of \$98.00 at the Barnes & Noble Book Fair on November 23. Sixty people planned to attend the showing of "The Hobbit."

There was no report from the Nebraska Library Commission.

Committee Meetings were held with the following reports back to the entire board.

Marketing/Promotions – Front Porch award nominations due in March. Send web-site ideas to William at the System Office. The group would encourage scheduling an Open House at the System Office the next time the Nebraska Library Association Conference is in Lincoln. January 30 is Advocacy Day with the Legislature. This would be a good time to work on the image of the Southeast Library System, the Nebraska Library Commission and the Nebraska Library Association.

Continuing Education – The Extravaganza will be held on May 23 at Union College in Lincoln. CASTL topics may include the use of pre-recorded webinars. NSLA (Nebraska School Library Association) and SELS will have a joint meeting to be scheduled for an evening in March.

The next CASTL meeting is scheduled for February 14 in Tecumseh.

The next SELS Board Meeting will be scheduled for a date in February to be held at Seward Memorial Library.

What's your library's plan for National Library Week? Kicking back with a good book and a nice cup of tea? You *wish* you had that kind of time at work? This year, find a little time for yourselves on April 19th and celebrate Southeast Library System's second annual...

# READ IN



Contact SELS for more information and ideas on how to celebrate the Read In at your library.

## CHALLENGING LIBRARY STEREOTYPES ONE PAGE TURN AT A TIME

## Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties  
of:

Cass • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton •  
Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster •  
Nemaha • Otoe • Pawnee •  
Richardson • Saline •  
Seward • Thayer • York

### Editors

William Bragg

### Mailing Address

5730 R St., Ste. C-1  
Lincoln, NE 68505

### Phone Numbers

Local: 402-467-6188  
Toll Free: 800-288-6063  
Fax: 402-467-6196

### E-mail

[wbragg@windstream.net](mailto:wbragg@windstream.net)  
[selsne@gmail.com](mailto:selsne@gmail.com)

### Website

<http://www.selsne.org>

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## April 2013

*A Library is  
a place to explore  
the world while sitting still*

— Martha Storey

Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries (Membership list with populations from 2000 Census are on the SELS web page: [www.selsne.org](http://www.selsne.org).) Membership includes 12 academic institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, four private colleges, three community college campuses, a state college and a technical school. Fifty-four public libraries are system members. The majority of these libraries (34) serve populations fewer than 1,000. The system counts 146 school media centers among its members, 54 that are Lincoln Public Schools, with most of those belonging to Class 3 schools (population areas between 1,000 and 100,000). Fourteen of the school media centers are parochial. The system has 28 special and institutional members, most of which are located in Lancaster County.